

Proclamation

City reads proclamation for Hispanic Heritage Month. See page 4A.



Sports

Meriweather featured at the Froggers spirit night See page 1B.



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Volume 102 Number 39

Friday, September 27, 2024 / 50 cents

City Council passes millage rate with 5-0 but FY 2025 budget with 3-1 vote

By Teresa Sargeant
Apopka Chief Staff

The Apopka City Council adopted, 5-0, the millage rate of 4.6876 for fiscal year (FY) 2025 (2024-2025), but voted 3-1 on the total FY 2025 budget of \$201,720,799, in two

separate resolutions at the Council's final budget hearing on Wednesday, September 25.

City Commissioner Nick Nesta recused himself from voting on the FY 2025 budget, and Commissioner

See BUDGET Page 3A

Council discusses getting impact fee moratorium

By Teresa Sargeant
Apopka Chief Staff

A moratorium for temporarily halting development in Apopka so the city can assess impact fees is being considered for the Wednesday, October 2, City

Council agenda.

During her council report at the Wednesday, September 18 City Council meeting, Commissioner Diane Velazquez reintroduced a previously-held

See CITY Page 7A



Photo courtesy of Apopka Fire Department

The Apopka Fire Department celebrated the graduation of its newest probationary firefighters at the Apopka Community Center on September 13.

Probationary firefighters graduate

On Friday, September 13, the Apopka Fire Department celebrated the graduation of its newest probationary firefighters at the Apopka Community Center.

"We are excited to officially welcome them to the Apopka Fire Department as they begin their journey to serve our community. These 10 individuals are stepping into a role that requires more than just physical strength and

technical knowledge. They will face situations that will test their resolve, but most importantly they will also experience the profound satisfaction of making a difference in people's lives, often at their most vulnerable moments," states an Apopka Fire Department press release.

The event included remarks from Mayor Bryan Nelson and Apopka Interim Fire Chief Wil Sanchez, who recognized and

welcomed the ten newest members of the Apopka Fire Department. Chief Sanchez also expressed the positive impact that adding these 10 new firefighters will have on the Apopka Fire Department and our community.

Graduates

Pedro Berio, Orlando

Pedro Berio pursued a career as a firefighter because he wanted to be part of something he could take

pride in. As a probationary firefighter with the Apopka Fire Department, Berio enjoys the camaraderie and family aspect that defines the fire service.

Brandon Colina, Apopka
Brandon Colina became a firefighter in search of a fulfilling career. As a probationary firefighter with the Apopka Fire Department, Colina feels the

See AFD Page 8A

City hosts artist reception for Hispanic Heritage



In celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month, the city of Apopka hosted a reception for the artwork of Alberto Gómez-Gómez, now on display in the Apopka City Hall atrium through October 15.

The reception took place on Tuesday, September 24, in the atrium at Apopka City Hall.

Artist Alberto Gómez-Gómez was born in Bogota, Colombia and became a U.S. citizen on July 29, 2011. He now lives in Deltona, where he has resided since 1997.

Gómez-Gómez's career has spanned over 41 years and he has received both national and international recognition for his artwork including paintings, drawings and murals.

His artwork can be found in many prominent cities throughout the U.S. including New York City, Washington, D.C., Orlando and Miami.

HOA forum to be held October 3

Apopka Mayor Bryan Nelson and State Representative Doug Bankson will host a forum for local homeowner associations (HOAs) to learn more about how recent legislative changes are impacting HOAs.

The forum will take place on Thursday, October 3, 5:30-6:30 p.m. at the Apopka Community Cen-

See HOA Page 3A

Offices open following Helene

Following Hurricane Helene, Apopka City Hall, city offices, and city parks and recreation facilities are scheduled to reopen on Friday, September 27, after being closed on Thursday, September 26, due to

Hurricane Helene.

As of 5 p.m. on Wednesday, September 25, all city parks and recreation facilities closed.

See HELENE Page 5A

Affordable housing for Old Dixie Hwy to get \$5.75M county funding

The Orange County Board of County Commissioners voted unanimously on Tuesday, September 10, to award developers nearly \$21 million in funding, enabling the construction of five affordable housing communities in Orange

County totaling 573 units, including one development for Apopka.

Southport Development, Inc. will receive \$5.75 million toward 100 units at 2020 Old Dixie Highway.

According to informa-

tion from Orange County, Southport Development will be located at 2020 Old Dixie Highway. The property fronts the south side of Old Dixie Highway between Boy Scout Boulevard and Errol Parkway. Forty-four percent of units

– 44 units – will target very low-income families.

The grant money will be disbursed during the construction process.

"This approval is another testament to the

See HOUSING Page 4A

Wayfinding signage set up all over downtown

This month, the city installed wayfinding signage around downtown Apopka (such as across the street from City Hall on Main Street/U.S. Highway 441 and at Kit Land Nelson Park on Park Avenue) as part of the city's efforts to revitalize this area.

\$65,000 was budgeted in the Apopka Community Redevelopment Area's (CRA) budget for fiscal year 2025 for the wayfinding signs.

The project was spearheaded by late city administrator Edward Bass with former city transportation coordinator Pamela Richmond.

The wayfinding signs were installed at various points in the CRA District such as the museum, Kit Land Nelson Park, and police and fire departments.

The city worked with FastSigns on the signage installations.



New wayfinding signs were set up all over downtown Apopka this month, including on Main Street (l) and at Kit Land Nelson Park (r).

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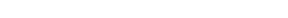
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Find Public Notices
Online at: TheApopkaChief.com/
public-notice OR
FloridaPublicNotices.com



Apopka Event of the Week

2024 'Apopka Proud' concert set for October 5 at the NW Recreation Complex amphitheater, 3710 Jason Dwellley Parkway, beginning at 5:30 p.m. with Sawyer Brown and John Anderson performing. Tickets available at eventbrite at short-url.at/Ex4Ci

Quotable

Routh's cell phone records indicated he had been camped out from 1:59 a.m. to 1:31 p.m., according to a criminal complaint filed earlier in the federal case.

Indictment made on man indicates length of time he waited to attempt assassination of Trump

Opinion

The Apopka Chief

A weekly newspaper founded in 1923

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Mar. 5, 1940 - July 16, 2024

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Our position

Indictment: Routh charged with attempted assassination of Trump

By: Dan McCale and

Brett Roiland

The Center Square –

Federal authorities on Tuesday secured an indictment charging Ryan Wesley Routh with the attempted assassination of former President Donald Trump.

The indictment also charges Routh with four other counts, including knowingly possessing a firearm during a crime of violence; and forcibly assaulting, intimidating and interfering with a Secret Service agent.

“On or about September 15, 2024, in Palm Beach County, in the Southern District of Florida, the defendant, Ryan Wesley Routh, did intentionally attempt to kill former President of the United States Donald J. Trump, a major Presidential candidate,” the indictment reads.

Trump was playing golf at his club in West Palm Beach when a Secret Service agent scouting the course about a hole ahead of the Republican candidate for president spotted a rifle sticking out from the tree line. The agent fired in the direction of the rifle before a witness told authorities Routh sped away in a Nissan sport utility vehicle. Local police pulled Routh over and arrested him a short time later.

Routh's cell phone records indicated he had been camped out from 1:59 a.m. to 1:31 p.m., according to a criminal complaint filed earlier in the federal case.

A photo of the nest showed two bags hanging from a fence off the sixth hole. An FBI agent said the bags contained plates that could stop small arms fire. In between the two bags was an SKS rifle with a scope. Agents matched a fingerprint on the rifle to Routh, The Center Square previously reported.

Prosecutors said Routh had been planning to kill the former president for months.

Agents found in Routh's Nissan Terra a handwritten list of dates in August, September, and October 2024 and venues where Trump had appeared or was expected to be present.

Routh, resident of Hawaii and North Carolina and participant in the latter's March 5 primary, left the note with a person federal prosecutors described as a civilian witness several months before the Sept. 15 incident. According to court records filed Monday, the person reached out to law enforcement on Wednesday. The letter offered money to anyone who would finish the job.

The letter reads in part, “This was an assassination attempt on Donald Trump but I failed you. I tried my best and gave it all the gumption I could muster. It is up to you now to finish the job; and I will offer \$150,000 to whomever can complete the job.”

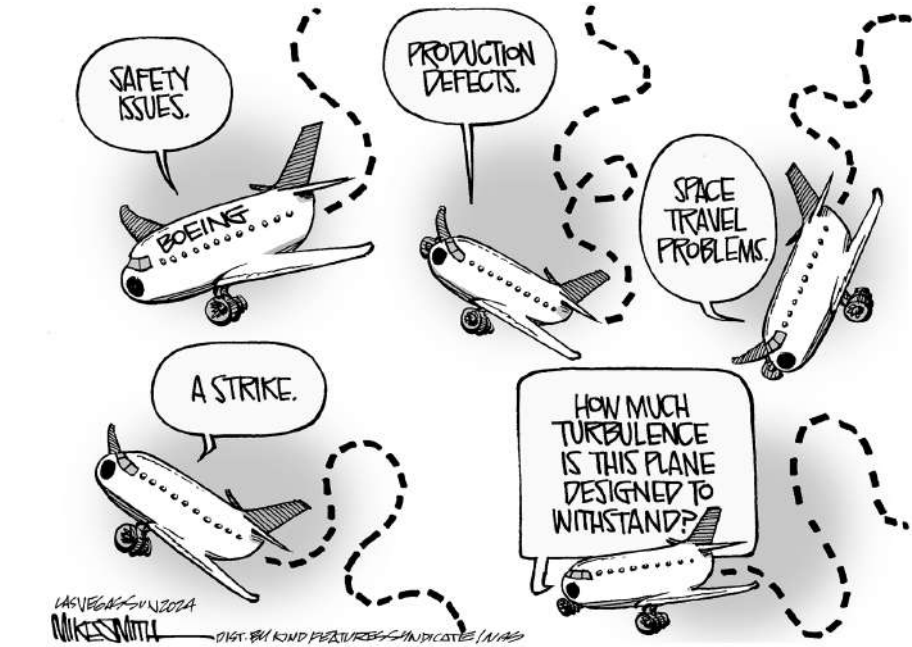
Routh's attorney chalked it all up to a publicity stunt.

Previously, Routh was charged on two weapons counts; possession of a firearm by a felon and possession of a firearm with an obliterated serial number.

If convicted on the attempted assassination charge, Routh faces life in prison.

Routh's alleged attempt on Trump's life was the second in about two months.

On July 13 at a campaign rally in Butler, Penn., Trump was grazed in the ear by a sniper on a metal rooftop near the venue. One man was killed and two others were injured in the July attempted assassination.



Plans are made to combat threats

As you probably know, several of our local schools received threats over the last couple of weeks. Actually, schools all over the nation have experienced a rise in school violence threats since the school shooting in Georgia.

It's not only upsetting and scary, but it is a significant drain on both school and police resources when these unfounded threats are made by students. Our school administrators have done a fantastic job of following protocols and handling these situations as they arise with confidence and grace. Our local police departments have acted swiftly and have been tremendous partners as we navigate these problems.

As a community and especially as parents, these situations are very unsettling and I want to take some time to share with you how these threats are dealt with and what the schools do when these situations arise to keep all our students and staff safe.

Orange County School Board, District 7



Melissa Byrd

First, when someone hears about or sees a threat posted on social media, they can and should immediately report the threat on the Fortify Florida app. This app is available to every student, staff, parent and community member.

This is an application provided by the State of Florida used to report suspicious activity that is immediately relayed to the appropriate law enforcement agency and school officials. This approach works very well and our students use it very well. All of the threats that have been happening have been reported quickly and responses happen very fast as they should.

When a threat comes in it is handled in three ways simultaneously. It goes to law enforcement and they instantly respond to the school in question with the extra police as well as notify the School Resource Officer at the school. They also begin their investigation. If the

See BYRD Page 4A

Budget cycle begins in February

In county government, the budget cycle begins in earnest in February with final adoption in late September. The BCC approved a final \$6.9-billion budget on September 19, 2024 at 5:01 p.m. I had multiple briefings throughout the year from each department, and by the time the meeting was held last week, I had no more questions. And in fact, no one from the community was present to give public testimony.

The millage rate was passed without fanfare at 4.4347 mills which is a 5.05-percent increase over the rollback rate. The rate

County Commissioner District 2



Christine Moore

has held steady the entire time I have served on the BCC. If a jurisdiction votes for the rollback rate, it means the municipality will collect the exact same amount as was collected the previous year. The increased amount collected even with the same mill-

age rate is due to additional properties paying taxes on the tax roll, and, in this environment, increased home values.

However, if your home is homesteaded, you can only be required to pay an increase of 3 percent of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) more in taxes. This is why you might find long-term homeowners paying \$50 in property taxes, and a neighborhood renting or just purchasing the property paying \$2,500 more in property taxes.

It is interesting to look

See MOORE Page 4A

Everybody has an opinion. Why not share yours?

Send a letter to the Editor online
www.theapopkachief.com

This Week In God's Word

Who is wise and understanding among you? Let them show it by their good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom.
James 3:13

Mema Says

Pay close attention to the details.

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Schools have books on witchcraft, but will not have the Bible

“Once upon a time, in a faraway land...” So started some of our favorite childhood stories, and the starting sentence always produced an expectation of mysterious characters working both good and evil toward a spectacular ending.

So, it was with the development of our beloved United States of America. We were the “faraway” land and seen as an easy income by the government of England for the more dignified, cultured, educated,



Ike Hayden

and profoundly more genteel of their kingdom (British government's determination).

The taxes and tariffs they placed on merchandise we bought from England tended to affect what

we bought for our family's use, and many times our families went wanting.

What has changed? Our economy is in a freefall. Every reason we fought the War of Independence for – and won – has been replaced with complacency, selfishness, irresponsible ethics, and no moral compass. Our national pride has been replaced by a hatred for the USA, and we have allowed it to happen.

Many of our schools will keep the book of

Witchcraft in its library and allow Satan to be worshipped in a school setting but the Bible, GOD's Word, is not allowed. In one of our major northern cities, a bell is rung five times daily and the city stops all activity for Islamic prayers to be offered to Allah.

In a nation founded on Judeo-Christian values, we can't even pray in our schools in the blessed name of our Savior, Jesus Christ, but we can be taught all the dos and don'ts of all other world views.

What's changed? Our Constitution has not changed. Added to, yes, but not changed. We are still a nation of law, but we have been hijacked by those we trusted to fill the office and responsibilities we hired them to do.

No longer do “We the People” steer the course, as it should be. With lies and deception, this administration has led us into poverty and ruin. Now, the second-in-command (VP Kamala) promises she will straighten everything out if we will

hire her for four years as Commander-in-Chief.

With “Sleepy Joe” at the beach or stumbling around the White House grounds without direction, Kamala could have instigated any of her future promises at any time, but she never made the effort. Now her highness (cackle, cackle) insults our intelligence by feeding us the lies that she will now do it, IF we hire her – and she expects us to believe that!

See HAYDEN Page 4A

Budget: Nesta recuses himself from voting on 2025 budget, Velazquez votes ‘nay’

Continued from page 1A

Diane Velazquez cast the ‘no’ vote on the budget.

Nesta said he recused himself because city attorney Cliff Shepard wasn’t present to advise the members on the millage rate and the budget, or answer any of the members’ questions.

Velazquez said she would vote ‘nay’ on the budget. She spoke with the chief administrator that morning explaining why she wouldn’t approve the budget, and even provided the individual with that list of reasons.

The 4.6876 millage rate per \$1,000 of assessed value generates approximately \$32,079,073 in property tax revenues and

is a 22.12-percent increase over the rolled back rate of 3.8384.

The \$201,720,799 FY 2025 budget represents an increase of \$35,891,811 or 21.6 percent from the FY 2024 (2023-2024) budget.

Resolution No. 2024-32 is for setting the FY 2025 millage levy at 4.6876. Resolution No. 2024-33 is for adopting the annual FY 2025 budget.

In accordance with the Truth in Millage (TRIM) statutory requirements, the city must adopt a millage rate before adopting the annual budget, as well as the annual budget itself before the beginning of each fiscal year.

On September 18, the City Council adopted the

tentative millage rate of 4.6876 for FY 2025, and the tentative FY 2025 budget of \$201,720,799.

The FY 2025 budget includes \$100,480,450 in general fund, \$33,536,047 in special revenue funds, and \$67,704,302 in enterprise funds.

The current year gross taxable value of property within the city is \$7,203,568,089, which includes \$753,851,204 for new construction, annexations, and deletions, according to Resolution No. 2024-32.

With the figures provided by the Orange County Property Appraiser, the rolled back millage rate has been computed at 3.8384, representing that amount

which will provide the same revenue to the city as was received by the city for the 2023-2024 budget year, according to Resolution No. 2024-32.

Resolution No. 2024-32 further states that City Council has studied the revenue needs set for the fiscal year 2024-2025, and determined that the amount needed from ad valorem tax revenue is \$32,079,073, which can be provided with a millage rate of 4.6876.

The Orange County Property Appraiser and the Florida Department of Revenue will be notified of said millage rate for the purpose of extending and approving the tax roll.

HOA: Registration is required

Continued from page 1A

ter, 519 South Central Avenue, Apopka.

This event is open to all individuals living in Apopka area HOAs. Property management compa-

nies are also invited to attend.

Visit shorturl.at/tqkji to fill out the City of Apopka Homeowners Association Registration List form. One form submission per HOA is accepted.

Recovery At The Hope conference is Sat., Oct. 12

New Hope Missionary Baptist Church, is presenting Recovery At The Hope (R.A.T.H.) Conference on Saturday, October 12, from 8:30 a.m.-12 noon, at 927 South Central Avenue. There will be a free breakfast at this free event.

The community is invited (youth, teens and adults) to come to hear information and testimonies from special guests as to how to prevent, identify, deal with and resolve addictions. An addiction is not always centered on drugs and alcohol. It can be any-

thing keeping someone from developing a closer relationship with God.

If you are not able to attend, send someone that may need a listening ear or who may be experiencing anxiety, depression, domestic violence, child abuse, or bullying.

Hope is available. Call Rev. Alexander H. Smith, RATH Pastor at 407-721-4759 or Dr. Yvonne Holmes, Ph.D., RN, Mental Health and Christian Counseling, 407-579-1339 for more information and assistance.

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**Patti
Bankson**

Who We Are
With today's technology, information can reach the whole world instantly, leaving you with a huge load of something you need to process dumped in your lap all at once. And, sometimes before you've had a chance to digest one event, here comes another. I'm thinking of the second attempt to assassinate President Trump. The event itself is enough. The political/journalistic response is a whole other thing. Digesting all that will require a whole lot of Alka-Seltzer.
The "corporate" attitude after the first attempt was what we'd reasonably expect ... some expressions of sympathy. Media reports and comments about it being a terrible thing, and about tamping down the toxic rhetoric, which has become acceptable and common-place. Then it morphed into something radically and unfathomably different. More in line with the Left's ideas about limiting, or eradicating, free speech rights, affording them to only those whose views match their own.
Here's where I'd like to mention one of my pet peeves ... when I hear those who *should* know better refer to our government as a "*democracy*". Maybe they know better, but are pretending ignorance? Maybe they really *don't* know better. Or. Maybe they know that most Americans don't know better, either. Whatever ... we're *not* a democracy. We are a Constitutional Republic.
A Constitutional Republic is a form of government in which the people elect representatives, and those representatives execute their duties under the constraints of a prevailing Constitution which specifies the powers and limits of government. The Electoral Process distinctly forms the basis of the U.S. as a Republic. Citizens *do not* vote directly for laws and policies but instead elect representatives who make these decisions on their behalf. This filter theoretically places an informed decision-making

body between the populace's desire and the law, which aligns with the characteristics of a republic. *This is why we must not let those in power discard the electoral college. If you live in a big city like New York or San Francisco, you'd be fine ... not so those who live in sparsely populated cities and states. This process helps to ensure your vote counts!*

Another important fundamental principle of our actual form of government is the **protection of minority rights against the potential tyranny of the majority**. Our U.S. Constitution contains checks and balances intended to prevent any branch of government from gaining absolute power thus protecting individual rights from being infringed upon by majority vote. *If you don't recognize how our current political "culture" has perverted this, you may need to see your eye doctor!* Another fundamental principle is the often-mentioned, but ignored, **Separation of Powers**. This one tells us what the functions are of each branch of government: The Legislative branch *makes* laws (the Senate and House), the Executive branch *enforces* the laws, and the Judiciary *interprets* them. Each branch (*supposedly*) operates independently from the others to prevent any accumulation of power, adhering to the principles laid out by the framers of the Constitution. (usconstitution.net/republic)

If you question the wisdom of the Founders, take a look at King Henry VIII. He wanted to be able to divorce his (current) wife so he could marry a new one. In fact, he was so determined to have his own way that he dictated/demanded that *ALL* his citizens (subjects) must change from their current religion to the one he chose that would allow him to do what he wanted ... he *murdered* people who opposed him, even those who were part of his own leadership, and more. In the end, he won, but ended up beheading the wife he'd done all that to marry, and ended up losing his mind. Sometimes I've wondered whether we've already lost *ours*. The next election will answer that question.

**We'd like to know
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STOP BY TODAY!

Hispanic Heritage Month proclamation read



Photo courtesy of city of Apopka/Facebook

At the Wednesday, September 18, City Council meeting, the Apopka City Council presented the 2024 Hispanic Heritage Month Proclamation to partners from AdventHealth, who are sponsoring this year's Hispanic Heritage Celebration. Pictured (front row, l to r) are Nick Nesta, city commissioner; Nadia Anderson, city commissioner; Dr. Omayra Mansfield, chief medical officer at AdventHealth Apopka; Diane Velazquez, city commissioner; Bryan Nelson, Apopka mayor; and Alexander H. Smith, city commissioner. Pictured in back row is Parker Pridgen, AdventHealth Apopka CEO. The Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration will take place on Saturday, September 28, from 4-8 p.m. at Kit Land Nelson Park.

Housing: \$19M comes from county fund

Continued from page 1A

County's commitment to increase the stock of affordable units to our most vulnerable cost-burdened residents, with over 42 percent of those units earmarked for qualified seniors," Tan-

ya Wilson, Director of Orange County's Planning, Environmental and Development Services Department, was quoted as saying in a news release.


Most of the \$21 million funding – \$19 million – comes from the Coun-


ty's Affordable Housing Trust Fund, making this the largest allocation given out at one time since the trust fund was established in 2020 as part of Orange County Mayor Jerry Deming's Housing for All Initiative. The other \$1.85 mil-

lion comes from the State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) program.

The Housing for All Task Force was convened in 2019 to provide practical and long-term solutions to the affordable housing crisis.

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THE WILD ROBOT (PG)
10:40A; 12:10; 1:20; 3:00; 4:00; 6:00; 7:00; 8:50; 9:50
TRANSFORMERS ONE (PG)
10:50A; 1:30; 4:10; 6:50; 9:40
BEETLEJUICE BEETLEJUICE (PG-13)
11:00A; 1:40; 4:20; 7:20; 10:00
SPEAK NO EVIL (R)
11:10A; 1:50; 4:40; 7:30; 10:20
NEVER LET GO (R)
11:20A; 2:00; 4:30; 7:10; 10:30
REAGAN (PG-13)
11:50A; 3:10; 6:20; 9:30
AM I RACIST? (PG-13)
12:00; 10:10*
IT ENDS WITH US (REISSUE) (PG-13)
2:50*; 10:10**
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Youth essay contest celebrates city’s 142nd birthday

To celebrate the upcoming 142nd birthday of the city of Apopka, middle school aged youth are invited to participate in an essay contest. The submission deadline is Friday, October 4, at 5 p.m.

The city is asking middle school-aged youth in Apopka and surrounding communities to write an essay about the city of Apopka seal. The city’s seal contains symbolism and meaning which speak to the rich heritage, history and culture of Apopka. The essay should identify some or all of these symbols, why they are important and what they mean to them.

Essay guidelines

- *Essay length should be 600 words or less.
- *Must be a middle school student in Apopka or the surrounding area.
- *Contestants are strongly urged to utilize the Apopka Museum in their research.

Additional details

First, second, and third place prizes will be awarded. Winner will be announced at the Wednesday, October 16, City Council meeting.

Students who are unable to submit their essay online may submit their essay at Apopka City Hall during City Hall business hours. Include the name, address, and phone number of the participant.

For any questions, contact Stephen Cribb at SCribb@Apopka.net.

Helene: Updates found on city website

Continued from page 1A

No trash collection

There was no solid waste collection on Thursday, September 26; however, garbage pickups will not be made up. Customers that are collected on Thursday will get their next usual pickup on Monday.

For yard waste and bulky pickups, the city resumed Thursday pickups on Friday and will work into the weekend to try to catch up. The city said that all yard waste and bulky pickups may be on a delayed schedule for several days.

Visit the city’s Alert Center at Apopka.gov for updates and storm news. Visit the city’s hurricane for additional storm information, Apopka.gov/Hurricane.



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Vicki Vargo

for Orange County Soil & Water Conservation District 2

Committed to Conservation, Community, Agriculture and Waterways

- Helped save Ben White Raceway, now known as Trotters Park, from development
- Serving on Board of Directors for Central Florida Fair for 24 years and counting
- Homestead in Wekiva River Watershed Basin for 35 years
- University of Florida Levin College of Law
- Raised on Lake Michigan and has profound respect for our natural resources
- Raised and worked on family-owned blueberry farm in Michigan, still in operation today
- University of South Florida Business Administration with an emphasis in Finance

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5

Polls open at **7 a.m.** and close at **8 p.m.**



**VickiVargoforSoilandWater** | vickivargoforsoilandwater.com

Paid for and approved by Vicki Vargo for Orange County Soil & Water Conservation District 2

CITY OF APOPKA PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE SPECIAL EXCEPTION

NOTICE is hereby given that **Tara Tedrow** has made an application, in accordance with Apopka Code of Ordinances, Part III, Land Development Code, Article II, Section 4.2.2.C to the City of Apopka Planning Commission for a **SPECIAL EXCEPTION TO ALLOW THE USE OF AN OUTDOOR STORAGE AS A PRINCIPAL USE IN THE I-L (LIGHT INDUSTRIAL) ZONING DISTRICT.**

This application relates to the following described property located at 100 Hermit Smith Road:



Parcel Identification Number(s): 01-21-27-0000-00-080
Contains: 4.15 +/- Acres

Notice is given that the **City of Apopka Planning Commission** will hold a public hearing to consider the Special Exception request at its scheduled meeting in the City Council Chambers of the Apopka City Hall on **Tuesday, October 8, 2024, beginning at 5:30 P.M.,** or as soon thereafter as possible.

Affected parties and the public may appear at the above listed hearing to speak. Please be advised that, under State law, if you decide to appeal a decision made with respect to this matter, you will need a record of the proceedings and may need to ensure that a verbatim record is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), persons with disabilities needing assistance to participate in any of these proceedings should contact the City Clerk’s Office at 120 East Main Street, Apopka, Florida 32703; Telephone: 407-703-1704, no less than 48 hours prior to the proceeding.

September 27, 2024
Publish: The Apopka Chief

Apopka Planning Commission
Community Development Department

177407

CITY OF APOPKA PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE CHANGE OF ZONING

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Sec. 166.041(3)(a), Florida Statutes and the Apopka Code of Ordinances, Part III, Land Development Code, Article II, Section 2.4.7.B, that **Brent Lenzen P.E., Kimley Horn** has made application relating to the following described property.

ORDINANCE NO. 3082
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF APOPKA, FLORIDA, CHANGING THE ZONING FROM RSF-1B (RESIDENTIAL SINGLE FAMILY - LARGE LOT) TO RTF (RESIDENTIAL TWO FAMILY), FOR PROPERTY LOCATED 1770 SHEELER AVENUE; OWNED BY SHEELER DEVELOPMENT LLC COMPRISING 9.92 ACRES, MORE OR LESS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, CONFLICTS, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.



Legend
1770 Sheeler Avenue
Parcel

Parcel Identification Number(s): 22-21-28-0000-00-143
Contains: 9.92 +/- Acres

Notice is given that the **City of Apopka Planning Commission** will hold a public hearing at its regularly scheduled meeting in the City Council Chambers of the Apopka City Hall, 120 E. Main Street, Apopka, Florida on **Tuesday, October 8, 2024 beginning at 5:30 P.M.,** or as soon thereafter as possible.

FURTHER NOTICE is given that a public hearing for Ordinance Number 3082 will be held by the **City of Apopka City Council** at its regularly scheduled meeting in the City Council Chambers of the Apopka City Hall, 120 E. Main Street, Apopka, Florida on **Wednesday, November 6, 2024 beginning at 1:30 P.M.** or soon thereafter.

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

September 27, 2024
Publish: The Apopka Chief

Apopka City Council
Apopka Planning Commission
Community Development Department

177411

Onset of Tropical Storm Helene causes strategic placement of workers

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. –

Duke Energy Florida is readying 8,000 workers to respond to Tropical Storm Helene. As the storm approaches, these skilled individuals are being strategically placed across the state, enabling them to respond as quickly as possible to widespread power outages that are expected as a result of strong winds and heavy rainfall.

The company is also sending crews from Duke Energy’s Midwest operations in Kentucky, Ohio and Indiana. Responders include power line technicians, vegetation workers, damage assessors and support personnel.

Trucks will begin arriving at Tropicana Field, St. Petersburg College Tarpon Springs, The Villages and Suwannee Valley Farmer’s Market later this afternoon. Staging locations are positioned along the outside of Helene’s projected path, but as close to the impacted areas as possible. Crews are prepared to start power restoration as soon as conditions are safe.

“As soon as conditions allow, our dedicated team will be on the ground, carefully assessing the damage and working tirelessly to get the lights back on for our customers,” said Todd Fountain, Duke Energy Florida storm director. “In

the meantime, our customers should continue to prepare for this rapidly moving storm and remain vigilant in the days ahead.”

Duke Energy Florida urges its more than 2 million customers to consider the following safety tips:

❑ Do not walk, swim or drive through floodwaters.

❑ If rising water threatens your home or business – or if you evacuate due to flooding – turn off your power at the circuit breaker panel or fuse box.

❑ Never replace a fuse or touch a circuit breaker with wet hands or while standing on a wet or damp surface.

❑ Stay away from power

lines that have fallen or are sagging. Consider all lines energized as well as trees or limbs in contact with lines. Report all power line hazards to Duke Energy at 800.228.8485 or contact your local emergency services department or agency.

❑ If a power line falls across a car that you are in, stay in the car. If you MUST get out of the car due to a fire or other immediate

life-threatening situation, do your best to jump clear of the car and land on both feet. Be sure that no part of your body is touching the car when your feet touch the ground.

❑ Electric current passes easily through water, so stay away from downed power lines and electrical wires. Do not drive over – and do not stand near – downed power lines. Downed lines

will be hard to see in the rain and can potentially be hidden in standing water. If you encounter large pools of standing water, stop, back up and choose another path.

To report a power outage, text OOT to 57801, call 800.228.8485 or report online or through the mobile app.

For more safety tips, please visit duke-energy.com/StormTips.

Byrd: Arrest is made for making threat

Continued from page 2A

threat is made after school hours then the investigation will usually include a visit to the student’s home to question the student and parents.

Making a threat to a school can result in arrest and our law enforcement agencies have been taking this step to ensure that students understand the severity of their actions. A threat last week at Apopka High School resulted in a 15-year-old being charged with a felony for “making written or electronic threats to kill, cause bodily injury, or conduct a mass shooting or act of terrorism,” as well as a misdemeanor of “disruption of a school function.”

Making threats of any kind is certainly no joke. The school is immediately notified at the same time so they can put the school on a hold or a lockdown to keep kids safe. The school also implements

the threat assessment procedures when the immediate danger is over, which includes a meeting of the threat assessment team at the school. This team is made up of law enforcement, counselors, teachers and administration. Every school has this team.

The threat assessment team decides the risk level of the threat and discusses the discipline and support services that need to be put in place for the student. This information is noted in the student’s record so students can be monitored and continue services even if they leave that school.

The threat assessment teams meet on a schedule to review all the cases and discuss the students’ progress and support.

Schools hand out discipline according to the Code of Student Conduct and these threats usually result in a Level 4 which is the most serious offense and can result in expulsion. Full expulsion has been the re-

cent consequence for these threats.

As we saw last week at Apopka High School, the threat that was made during a live stream of the pep rally turned what should have been a fun and bonding event for the students into a frightening experience resulting in a several-hours-long hold on the school. The administration had to manage 3,000 students as well as keep parents informed and calm. Numerous Apopka Police officers responded and had to investigate the threat along with OCPs police as well as the FBI to identify the individual responsible.

The amount of resources used, the learning time lost, and the fear and anxiety these events cause are astounding and so unnecessary. We are asking for everyone’s help. Please continue to report concerns and please talk to your children about the seriousness of their actions. One stupid mistake can ruin a life❑

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

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

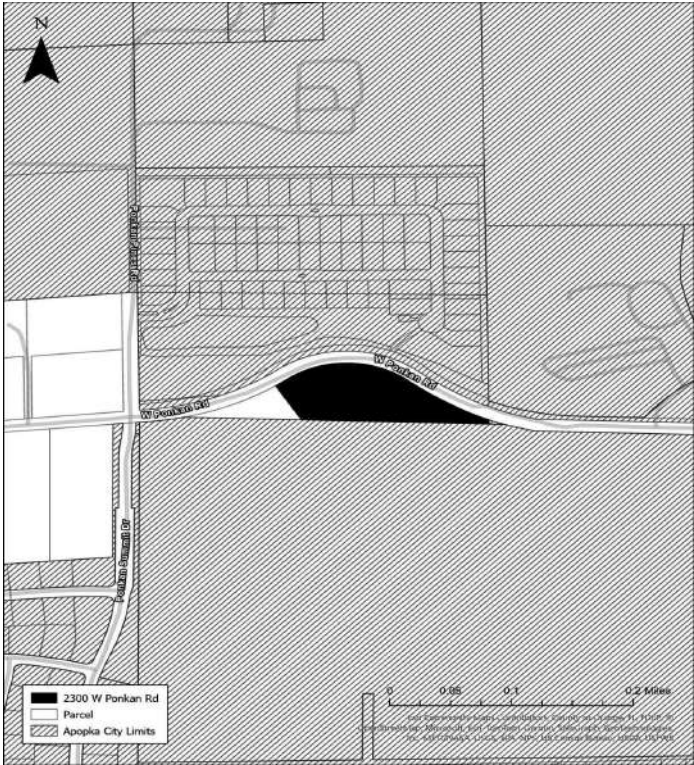
ORDINANCE NO. 3079

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF APOPKA, FLORIDA, CHANGING THE FUTURE LAND USE FROM IN-PROGRESS TO RESIDENTIAL LOW SUBURBAN, FOR CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED 2300 W PONKAN ROAD; OWNED BY LEE JASON MONROE AND LEE CARA DAWN, COMPRISING 3.56 ACRES, MORE OR LESS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, CONFLICTS, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

and

ORDINANCE NO. 3080

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF APOPKA, FLORIDA, CHANGING THE ZONING FROM T (TRANSITIONAL) TO RSF-1B (RESIDENTIAL SINGLE FAMILY-LARGE LOT), FOR CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED 2300 W PONKAN ROAD; OWNED BY LEE JASON MONROE AND LEE CARA DAWN, COMPRISING 3.56 ACRES, MORE OR LESS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, CONFLICTS, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.



Parcel Identification Number(s): 19-20-28-0000-00-007
Contains: 3.56 +/- Acres

Notice is given that the **City of Apopka Planning Commission** will hold a public hearing at its regularly scheduled meeting in the City Council Chambers of the Apopka City Hall, 120 E. Main Street, Apopka, Florida on **Tuesday, October 8, 2024 beginning at 5:00 P.M.**, or as soon thereafter as possible.

FURTHER NOTICE is given that a public hearing for **Ordinance Number 3079 and 3080 is rescheduled** and will be held by the **City of Apopka City Council** at its regularly scheduled meeting in the City Council Chambers of the Apopka City Hall, 120 E. Main Street, Apopka, Florida on **Wednesday, October 16, 2024 beginning at 7:00 P.M.**

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

September 27, 2024
Publish: The Apopka Chief

Apopka City Council
Apopka Planning Commission
Community Development Department

177410

Continued from page 2A

at the diversity of taxes assessed by folks in the same neighborhood. Some night, if you have nothing better to do, look up information on your street.

Highlights for Fiscal ’25 Budget projects include the following:

❑ New animal control facility \$45 million

❑ Septic-2-Sewer Program \$19.3 million

❑ Lake Apopka Loop Connector Trail \$10.8 million

❑ Sidewalk Program \$10.8 million

❑ Kennedy Blvd. ROW \$9.4 million

❑ All American Blvd. ROW \$6.9 million

❑ Pine Hills Pedestrian Safety Program \$1.3 million

❑ John Bridges Playground \$1.2 million

❑ Edgewater Dr. corridor study \$103,789

Please remember the depth and breadth of the county responsibilities. The county maintains all facilities for the courthouse, constitutional offices, parks, jail, convention center, animal control, mosquito control, and community ac-

tion buildings like John Bridges and Willow Street. The county is responsible for similar roles as cities, but also for additional safety net programs such as homeless services, mental health services, jail operations, emergency services (hurricanes), and children’s afterschool programs such as Boys and Girls Club. This is in addition to maintaining county roads, ponds, and utilities.

As always, if you have any questions, don’t hesitate to contact me at District2@ocfl.net

Hayden: Research, share info, then vote

Continued from page 2A

The American Revolution started because the British Government tried to take advantage of hard working, down-to-earth people, and the administration that includes Kamala Harris as Vice President now presents her as the *answer to all our problems*, while behind her phony cackle *she tries to hide the fact she assisted in creating the problems.*

The only way we are going to overcome this debacle is through the privilege of voting for a government that is “Of the People,

By the People, and For the People.” November 5th is fast approaching, and if you haven’t researched the candidates and their stand on constitutional law, the economy, foreign policy, and their love for the American people, as well as the United States of America, *then you need to get busy.*

Talk to people and ask them for their viewpoint. Pay attention to their reasons for their outlook. Most of all, look to the past performance of those applying for a job as it pertains to the vow they took to serve ... and who did they serve:

The American people? Or themselves? Do not vote with your emotions, but with common sense, and understanding.

Plato once said, “If you do not take an interest in the affairs of your government, then you are doomed to live under the rule of fools.” If we will commit ourselves to hiring those who will fulfill the promise to serve as “We the People” request of them, the ending of those storybooks could be true in the lives of all Americans, and we can “Live happily ever after”❑

ALL ABOUT APOPKA

The Apopka Chief

Established 1923
(USPS 545-440)

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

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

www.theapokkachief.com, news@theapokkachief.com



City of Apopka Telephone Numbers

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

Orange County Telephone Numbers

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

Other Area Numbers of Note

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

City: Moratorium ‘will get pushback,’ city attorney says

Continued from page 1A

conversation about having such a moratorium, which is a temporary suspension of activity for an authorized period of time.

“I feel like if we can do that with the impact fees... that our developers would pay for the new development rather than to have our existing residents paying for the impact of new developments,” Velazquez said. “I know the cities around us have done the same thing. I think it’s a good thing for us too. While the other cities are doing it, we are in the same kind of era with them. So, it would be good for all of us to be doing the same thing.”

City attorney Cliff Shepard explained the process of creating and approving a moratorium, which would include hiring a contractor to conduct an impact fee study, determining how long it would take for the contractor to put to-

gether the study (because that would affect how long the moratorium would be in effect), and which areas in the city the moratorium would influence.

“Once you do that, your moratorium’s in place and you will get pushback from the development community. Count on that,” Shepard warned the City Council. “What you will also get is people flooding you with applications in all likelihood to avoid potential increased fees or delays in construction. So, you might see your activity or meetings and your applications in your planning and zoning department go up. That’s just a fact of life. But that’s how it goes.”

Once the City Council adopts the moratorium, the new impact fees will go into effect 90 days from that day, Shepard said.

Shepard said there must be justification for how and why the city would charge the impact

fees it’s charging, hence the purpose of the study.

“That’s the purpose of the study, because anything that’s not justifiable in a method that you can explain in court is something that would be called either an unlawful tax or an unlawful exaction from a developer,” Shepard said.

Shepard suggested that the City Council invite a consultant to make a presentation on October 2. Shepard also said he will prepare the moratorium for the City Council’s two readings, with adoption on the second reading.

Passing a moratorium is crucial to ensure that its purpose for existing would be followed through, Shepard explained. For example, the city of Maitland once approved a moratorium that prevented any more drive-throughs from getting built in the downtown area until an impact study was completed.

Commissioner Nick

Nesta reminded the City Council and Shepard that they had the moratorium discussion the previous

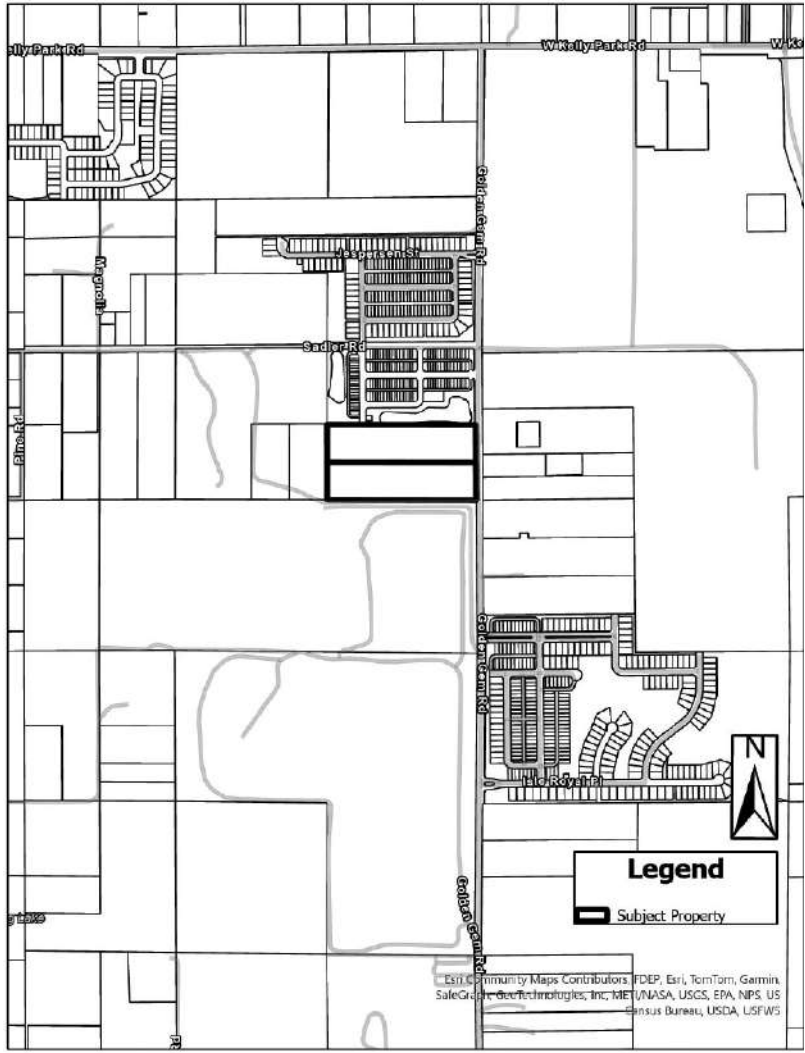
week, at the September 18 City Council meeting, and that conversation included agreeing to put the mora-

torium on the October 2 agenda.

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 **GL SUMMITT ENGINEERING, INC. C/O GEOFFREY L. SUMMITT, P.E.** has made an application to the City of Apopka City Council for an **ANNEXATION** of the following described property:

ORDINANCE NO. 3073
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 STACY AND ROBERT MOSS AND TIMOTHY BURCHFIELD; LOCATED WEST OF GOLDEN GEM ROAD, SOUTH OF NIGHTSHADE GROVE LANE AND SADLER ROAD; COMPRISING 19.76 ACRES, MORE OR LESS; PROVIDING FOR DIRECTIONS TO THE CITY CLERK, SEVERABILITY, CONFLICTS, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.



Parcel Identification Number(s): 14-20-27-0000-00-025 and 14-20-27-0000-00-083
Contains: 19.76 +/- acres

NOTICE is given that public hearings for Ordinance No. 3073 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, October 2, 2024 beginning at 1:30 P.M. and Wednesday, October 16, 2024 beginning at 7:00 P.M.** or as soon thereafter as possible.

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

CITY OF APOPKA PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE AMENDMENT TO APOPKA LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE

NOTICE is hereby given that the City of Apopka proposes to amend the Land Development Code of the City of Apopka, Florida in accordance with Florida Statutes 166.0413(3)(c) and the Apopka Code of Ordinances, Part III, Land Development Code, Article II, Section 2.4.7(B), to revise sections of said Land Development Code as specified within the Ordinance title and within Ordinance Number 3075.

ORDINANCE NO. 3075
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF APOPKA, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF APOPKA BY AMENDING PART III – LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE; ARTICLE 4 – USE REGULATIONS, SECTION 4.2 PRINCIPAL USES, TABLE 4.2.2.C. PRINCIPAL USE TABLE TO PERMIT RECREATION FACILITY, OUTDOOR AS A PERMITTED USE IN THE C-COR (CORRIDOR COMMERCIAL DISTRICT) AND MU-D (MIXED-USE DOWNTOWN) ZONING DISTRICTS; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS, AND SETTING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Notice is given that the **City of Apopka Planning Commission** will hold a public hearing at its regularly scheduled meeting in the City Council Chambers of the Apopka City Hall, 120 E. Main Street, Apopka, Florida on **Tuesday, October 8, 2024 beginning at 5:30 P.M.**, or as soon thereafter as possible.

FURTHER NOTICE is given that a public hearing for Ordinance Number 3075 will be held by the **City of Apopka City Council** at its regularly scheduled meeting in the City Council Chambers of the Apopka City Hall, 120 E. Main Street, Apopka, Florida on **Wednesday, October 16, 2024 beginning at 1:30 P.M. AND Wednesday, November 6, 2024 at 7:00 P.M.**

Affected parties and the public may appear at the above listed hearings to speak. The proposed Text Amendment 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.

September 27, 2024
Publish: The Apopka Chief
Apopka City Council
Apopka Planning Commission
Community Development Department
177409

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AFD: Graduates are from Central Fla., Texas, Columbia

Continued from page 1A

most rewarding aspect of the job is the opportunity to give back to the community where he grew up.

Candice Cowan, Deltona
Candice Cowan was inspired to become a firefighter by her family's deep connection to the profession, admiring how much they loved their work. As a probationary firefighter with the Apopka Fire Department, Cowan finds fulfillment in knowing she can make a difference in someone's life.

Ian Hinchey, Orlando
Ian Hinchey's decision to become a firefighter was deeply influenced by his father, a 30-year veteran of the fire service. As a probationary firefighter with the Apopka Fire Department, Hinchey feels the best part of the job is getting paid to continually improve himself both physically and

mentally.

Christian Kidd, Arlington, Texas
Christian Kidd chose to become a firefighter after returning from the military and realizing, through conversations with his firefighter grandfather, that it was the perfect fit for him. As a probationary firefighter with the Apopka Fire Department, Kidd enjoys the constant drive to be his best.

Damian Mercado, Orlando
Damian Mercado became a firefighter to give back to his community. As a probationary firefighter with the Apopka Fire Department, Mercado values the feeling of having a second family, united by a common goal most about the fire service.

Diego Mogollon, Bogota, Colombia
Diego Mogollon, a former Marine, joined the fire service to continue serving his

community. As a probationary firefighter with the Apopka Fire Department, Mogollon finds meaning in helping people during their most vulnerable moments.

Alejandro Quintana, Apopka
Alejandro Quintana became a firefighter to better understand his father's medical history and to help others in the process. As a probationary firefighter with the Apopka Fire Department, Quintana enjoys working alongside people with shared interests who push themselves beyond their limits every day.

Travis Scoggins, Apopka
Travis Scoggins pursued a career as a firefighter because he wanted to help others and be part of the strong camaraderie among firefighters. As a probationary firefighter with the Apopka Fire Department, Scoggins feels that the physical conditioning and teamwork are

the most rewarding aspects of the fire service.

Andres Torres, St. Cloud
Andres Torres became

a firefighter as a shared dream with a close hometown friend. As a probationary firefighter with the Apopka Fire Department,

Torres values the opportunities to help people while growing stronger both mentally and physically.

Rotary donates check



Photo courtesy of Rotary Club of Apopka

The Rotary Club of Apopka donated \$500 to Women Helping Women (WHW) at the Rotary Club meeting Thursday, September 22, at First Methodist Church Apopka. Pictured (l to r) are Jon DeClue, president of the Rotary Club of Apopka; Helen Deboles, founder of Women Helping Women; April Johnson, and Ronessa Strickland-Roberts. The nonprofit's website is whwsurviving.org.



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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 Church, 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:

ocelections.gov/voters/findmy-pollingplace

Become involved -
Be a Poll Worker on Election Day

Each poll worker has specific duties to perform on Election Day. The following is a list of the positions and a brief description of their duties. All positions, except the Poll Deputy, use some type of computer or electronic device to perform their assigned duties.

Poll Clerk: Supervises the other poll workers and must attend a lengthy training to gain an understanding of all positions' duties. Along with many other duties, the Poll Clerk coordinates access to the polling place, handles picking up the election supplies before Election Day, and returns them to a designated drop-off site on election night.

Assistant Poll Clerk: Responsible for helping the Poll Clerk open and close the polls. During voting hours, this person uses an iPad mini and walks the line to verify voters are at the correct polling place. If there are no voters in line, they assist the Poll Clerk wherever needed.

Poll Deputy: This poll worker is stationed outside the voting room on Election Day to maintain order at the polling place. They set up voting booths and put out election signage at the polls. The Poll Deputy needs

to pass a background clearance conducted by the Orange County Sheriff's Office.

Help Desk Oath Person: This poll worker is a sworn deputy of the Supervisor of Elections office for Election Day. They help voters who present exceptions to the normal voting pattern by checking voter records using the elections office-issued tablet and/or contacting the Supervisor of Elections office.

ePoll Book Inspector: Locates voters' names in the ePoll tablets to determine their eligibility to vote in that precinct. They also issue ballots to voters.

Voting Systems Inspector: Responsible for the set-up, operation, and closing of the tabulator (voting machine) and the ADA equipment available to voters with a disability.

Contact: Glen Gilzean, Orange County Supervisor of Elections
Street Address: 119 West Kaley Street, Orlando, FL 32806
Mailing Address: PO Box 562001, Orlando, FL 32856-2001
Phone Numbers:
Office: 407-836-2070
Fax: 407-254-6596



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