

Winner

Scott wins second Senate term  
See page 4C.



God Bless America

Sports

Apopka takes home Mayor's Cup for second season in a row  
See page 1B.



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# The Apopka Chief

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Volume 102 Number 45

Friday, November 8, 2024 / 50 cents

## State of City covers Hurricane Milton response, budget, more

Mayor Bryan Nelson delivered the 2024 State of the City, which highlighted the city's accomplishments and milestones over the past year and spotlighted what's in store for the community.

From the response to Hurricane Milton and the city budget to accomplishments of each city department and the downtown growth, the mayor's address covered a wide array of topics on Friday, November 8, at the Apopka Community Center/VFW Building.

The following is part one of two parts of the State of the City script. Part two will run in the Friday, November 15, issue of *The Apopka Chief*.

**2024 STATE OF CITY**  
Wow, first I would like to thank our very own Jose Lebron from our Code Enforcement Division for the singing of our National Anthem and I would like to thank Pastor Pat McGuffin

from Freedom Fellowship Church and also the head of the Apopka Christian Ministerial Alliance for the prayer that will blanket our city.

**Hurricane Milton**  
Apopka is a strong and resilient city and the preparation and recovery from Hurricane Milton proved that we as a community are up to the challenge.

Immediately leading up to the storm we provided almost 30,000 sandbags at Edwards Field, gassed up all the generators, prepared the EOC and made sure our vulnerable population had a safe place to stay. Immediately after the storm with the help from the State EMS we helped erect a Tiger Dam water wall in one of our neighborhoods to keep the rising waters from flooding their homes. Our National Debris contractor has already picked up over 12,469 cubic yards of debris and our own sanitation team has worked many

overtime hours to help in getting us back to normal.

Our first responders provided services to 196 9-1-1 calls, opening up roadways from fallen trees all while continuing to provide EMS service to our community. We would like to thank all City staff for their help with the recovery from Hurricane Milton and I would now like to move on to general updates.

Our population continues to grow with a current population of 61,820 over 36 square miles with 20,470 housing units.

**City budget**  
Our 2024-2025 budget is \$201,720,799 which includes both our General Funds and Enterprise operations.

As for budget highlights our tax base has increased by over \$1.2 billion dollars providing an additional \$5 million dollars in property tax. We increased

See CITY Page 7A

## Bankson wins second term to represent House District 39

Republican incumbent Doug Bankson won his second term as State House of Representatives District 39, defeating Democrat challenger Marsha Summersill in the November 5 general election.

Bankson collected a total of 44,913 votes (53 percent), while Summersill got 39,755 (47 percent) votes, according to Ballotpedia. The total number of cast votes for this race was 84,688.

Florida House of Representatives members serve two-year terms with term limits. Members may serve no more than four consecutive term.

District 39 map encompasses parts of Orange and Seminole counties including Apopka.

Bankson is a pastor who lives in Apopka. Summersill, also an Apopka resident, is an attorney.

Bankson first assumed office on November 8, 2022.



Incumbent Doug Bankson (R) wins a second term to serve as State House Representative for District 39, which includes the Apopka area. He defeated challenger Marsha Summersill, also an Apopka resident, in the November 5 general election. Above, Bankson campaigns with his wife Jeri Bankson in Apopka on Election Day.

## City approves \$1.7M program for roadway resurfacing

By Teresa Sargeant  
Apopka Chief Staff

The Apopka City Council voted 5-0 to approve a \$1.7-million budget for fiscal year 2024-2025 roadway resurfacing program pavement improvements to cover about 9.4 miles of roadway in three subdivisions: Meadows of Maude Helene, Pines of Wekiva, and Spring Ridge.

Michael Ortiz, program supervisor, presented the roadway resurfacing program at the Wednesday, November 6, City Council meeting.

The \$1.7-million budget, which will come from this fiscal year's street improvement fund, is a decrease from the fiscal year 2023-2024 of an allocated \$2-million roadway budget.

That fiscal year's program encompassed 218 roadway miles.

Two pavement treatments were selected for fiscal year 2024-2025: mill and overlay, and cape seal/microsurface. The mill and overlay technique will take care of 6.4 miles of roadway for \$1,361,251.40. The cape seal/microsurface method will focus on three miles of roadway at a cost of \$338,748.60.

A strategy was implemented to select roads for inclusion on the fiscal year 2024-2025 rehabilitation list. The list included consideration of the October 2021 Pavement Condition Assessment Report, city staff field-verifying each roadway with respect

See ROADS Page 4A

## Six firefighters awarded scholarships



Photo courtesy of Apopka Fire Department/Facebook

The Apopka Fire Department, in partnership with the 2650 Foundation, hosted a special ceremony at Apopka Fire Station One on Friday, November 1, to award six Apopka firefighters with scholarships to attend a certification course in Vehicle and Machinery Rescue. These scholarships have been made possible through the continued efforts and support of the 2650 Foundation, an organization dedicated to honoring the life and legacy of fallen Apopka firefighter Austin Duran. Pictured (l to r) are scholarship recipients engineer Stephen DeMatties, engineer Sean Potter, firefighter EMT Racquel Lopez, firefighter paramedic Juan Millan, firefighter EMT Danio Perez, and firefighter EMT Tomas Rodriguez.

## CEOs, Habitat construct two new homes



Photo courtesy of Habitat for Humanity Seminole-Apopka

In a collaborative effort, 21 of Central Florida's CEOs and business leaders gathered on Monday, November 4, to address affordable housing in the region for CEO Build 2024. The event was originally scheduled for last month but postponed due to Hurricane Milton. The CEOs participated in the construction of two affordable homes on Sanford Avenue in Altamonte Springs, doing activities such as painting and landscaping. A program by Habitat for Humanity Seminole-Apopka in partnership with Seminole County, CEO Build raises awareness of the Central Florida affordable housing crisis.

This week

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Apopka Event of the Week

The Apopka Chief is proud to present the Apopka Event of the Week. This week's event is the Apopka Veterans Day Parade, which will be held on Friday, November 11, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. The parade will start at the intersection of Highway 17 and Highway 19, and will travel south on Highway 17 to the intersection of Highway 17 and Highway 19. The parade will feature a variety of participants, including the Apopka High School marching band, the Apopka Veterans Band, and the Apopka Veterans Council. The parade will be a great opportunity for the community to show their appreciation for the men and women who have served in the United States Armed Forces.

Quotable

And it's time we stand and say  
That I'm proud to be an American  
Where at least I know I'm free  
And I won't forget the men who  
died Who gave that right to me

Words from Lee Greenwood's  
song that express how we feel after  
the results of Tuesday's, Nov. 5  
election.

# Opinion

## The Apopka Chief

A weekly newspaper founded in 1923

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## Our position

This song by Lee Greenwood says how we feel about the election results, and is a tribute to America, our military, and our veterans

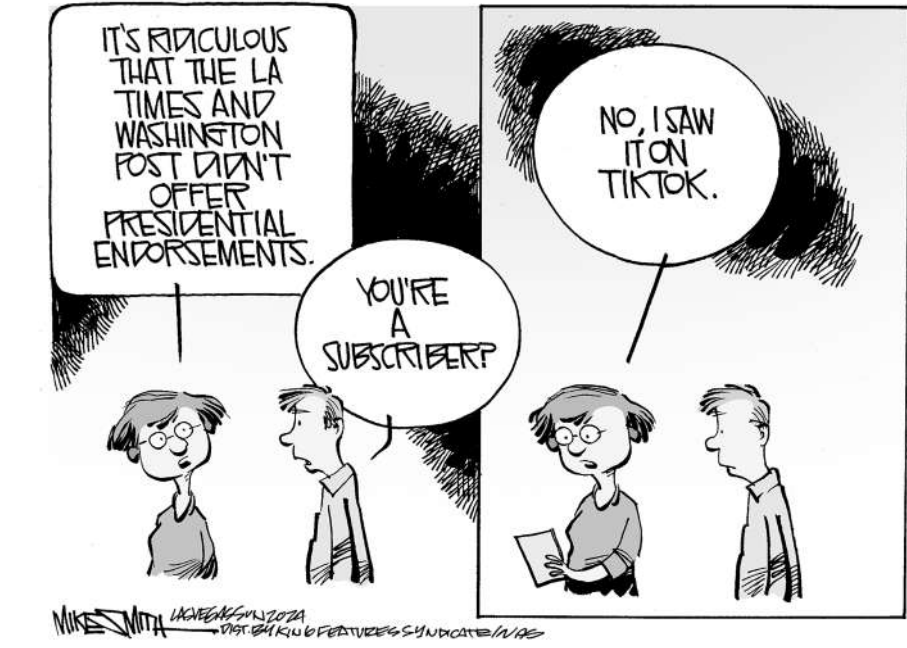
### God Bless The USA

If tomorrow all the things were gone  
I worked for all my life  
And I had to start again  
With just my children and my wife  
I thank my lucky stars  
To be living here today  
'Cause the flag still stands for freedom  
And they can't take that away

And I'm proud to be an American  
Where at least I know I'm free  
And I won't forget the men who died  
Who gave that right to me  
And I'd gladly stand up next to you  
And defend Her still today  
'Cause there ain't no doubt  
I love this land  
God Bless the U.S.A.

From the lakes of Minnesota  
To the hills of Tennessee  
Across the plains of Texas  
From sea to shining sea  
From Detroit down to Houston  
And New York to L.A.  
Where there's pride in every  
American heart  
And it's time we stand and say  
That I'm proud to be an American  
Where at least I know I'm free  
And I won't forget the men who died  
Who gave that right to me  
And I'd gladly stand up next to you  
And defend Her still today  
'Cause there ain't no doubt  
I love this land  
God Bless the U.S.A.

And I'm proud to be an American  
Where at least I know I'm free  
And I won't forget the men who died  
Who gave that right to me  
And I'd gladly stand up next to you  
And defend Her still today  
'Cause there ain't no doubt  
I love this land  
God Bless the U.S.A.



## Volunteers are very much appreciated

On November 21st, District 2 will celebrate an entire year's worth of superb volunteerism by four community associations. I have written extensively about the Corridor of the Year Contest, which is a friendly competition intended to beautify rights-of-way, reduce crime, and raise property values on four corridors. The 2024 competing corridors include Sheeler Road, Rose Avenue, Powers Drive, and Votaw Road.

I endeavored to get the engagement of mandatory homeowner associations located up and down these corridors. These boards and their professional

County Commissioner  
District 2



Christine Moore

landscapers were asked to make sure their walls were clean, sidewalks pressure-washed, beds freshly mulched, and that residents participated in a workday. However, I was only successful in getting about 40 percent involved. Many times board and property managers failed to respond, and a member of People of Lockhart, People

of Wekiwa Springs, People of Southern Apopka, or People of Clarcona-Ocoee made the improvement on their behalf.

Then there were the neighborhoods without homeowner associations. In these neighborhoods, I would find residents to work alongside members of the associations. This work was a joy, and their joint efforts were thoroughly appreciated by all.

We also tackled what I call "segments." Segments are sections of homes owned by individual property owners. Most times, auxiliary community

See MOORE Page 6A

## WHS Advisory Group is enlightening

One of the highlights of my job has always been the time I get to spend with our students. I genuinely enjoy spending time chatting with them and listening to their thoughts. So when it was time to meet with my student advisory group at Wekiva High School, I couldn't wait.

I try to meet with a mix of students at each high school in my district a couple of times a year. I started doing this several years ago as I wanted to hear directly from the students how the policies we were creating at the district were affecting them.

These meetings are the most insightful meetings I have had because the students never hold back, sharing the good and the

Orange County School  
Board, District 7



Melissa Byrd

challenges.

This group of students surprised me with several positive remarks about recent changes and I was very pleased to hear it. First, they told me that the new law that required that all school doors have to remain locked has actually benefited them because they know they have to hurry to class or else they get locked out of hallways and classrooms.

They also shared that the all-day cell phone ban was frustrating in the beginning, but they can now see the benefit because they are not as distracted in class. Instead of looking at their phones all the time, they are interacting more with the people around them.

Goal accomplished! Finally, they shared that they are relieved that every student and visitor is required to show an ID now to get into the building. They commented that this makes them feel very safe because they know that only people who should be in the building are there.

It's always refreshing to hear students recog-

See BYRD Page 6A

### This Week In God's Word

"If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land." — 2 Chronicles 7:14 NIV

### Dema Says

In a world where you can be anything, be kind.

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## Thanksgiving Day seems to have become the forgotten holiday

What happened to Thanksgiving? It seems we went from Labor Day to Halloween and then bypassed Thanksgiving Day.

The stores are full of Christmas decorations and displays but it is hard to find Thanksgiving décor. The holidays we use to celebrate with Judeo-Christian values seem to be losing their focus and we're being overrun with secular themes. Everything seems to be centered on profit and the reason for the season is forgotten or ignored com-



Ike Hayden

pletely.

Thanksgiving has always been a special time for American families. Great feasts were planned and are planned and carried out for the reason of gathering and sharing the past

year's blessings: new babies, healings from illnesses, marriages (additions to families), but most of all to give honor, praise, and thanks to the King of the universe for our nation and our Christian values that were the foundation of our Constitution.

Our nation is being undated with illegal aliens that have no such regard for our GOD, or our Constitution. They are not interested in becoming a United States citizen. Their intent is to see how much they

can suck from the teats of our entitlement system.

I watched an interview instigated by Fox News with an illegal from South America and he stated his wife was working, he wasn't (by choice), but they had a child that was in daycare, and he was complaining. My question: why was their child in daycare (taxpayer's expense) when the father was not working?

The question was not asked! The net cost of funding these illegal aliens, as of March of 2023 for the

United States – at the federal, state, and local levels – was at least \$182 billion. That means the cost for illegal immigration for each taxpayer is \$1,156 per year (\$957 after factoring in taxes paid by illegal aliens). Every child, US born of illegal aliens cost \$8,776 annually. It's estimated that illegal aliens that are employed and paying taxes only return one sixth of the total revenue given through government handouts.

These illegal aliens do not want to assimilate into

the United States of America, and it is estimated they represent 180 different nations, a multitude from nations that seek to destroy our form of government.

Europe has been overrun by immigrants whose only desire is to reform the government to their form of ruling. The Netherlands, for instance, have a greater number of immigrants than native Dutch and can change the government by electoral process.

See HAYDEN Page 6A



# Blue Darter Band raising money for 2025 London trip

By Teresa Sargeant  
Apopka Chief Staff

The Apopka High School Blue Darter Band is asking the community for help in raising funds for an upcoming London trip to perform in the New Year's Day Parade.

Kimberly Chmiel, a parent and volunteer for the Blue Darter Band Boosters, announced that the Blue

Darter Band has the opportunity to perform in the London New Year's Parade at the Wednesday, November 6, Apopka City Council meeting. The London trip is from December 27, 2025, to January 3, 2026.

The all-expense paid trip would pay for the parade participation itself and all other events included in the week-long itinerary, such as food and hotel.

"We of course are not too sure yet on pricing because it's a little too early to look at flights. But they'll be able to march, do some sightseeing and have the trip of a lifetime," Chmiel said.

The band is hosting fundraisers to support the trip, such as selling Papa Johns gift cards and Frog-

See AHS Page 8A

# Orange County will host conference for new ways to improve neighborhoods

The annual Orange County Community Conference this weekend provides Orange County residents an opportunity to learn innovative ways to improve neighborhoods.

The Orange County Community Conference will take place on Satur-

day, November 9, at the Orange County Multicultural Center, 7149 W. Colonial Drive, Orlando. Doors open at 7:30 a.m. Conference Day is 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Workshops will feature topics for individual citizens, voluntary neighborhood organizations, home-

owners associations, and other community groups. There will also be a chat with Orange County Mayor Jerry L. Demings.

Pre-registration is now closed. Walk-in attendees may attend for \$12 per person upon arrival. Only cash is accepted.

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### "A Golden Christmas in Apopka"

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The Annual Apopka Christmas Parade is the highlight of the holiday season. We would like to encourage youth groups, businesses, clubs, and other organizations to join us in this fun-filled community event!

For entry registration or sponsorship information, please email [info@foliagesertoma.org](mailto:info@foliagesertoma.org) or call Lorena Potter at 407-583-7349

**HURRY!**  
Deadline is November 22nd!



## The Way I See It Patti Bankson

### It's All Over But The Crying

Wednesday, November 6, 2024. 1:46 a.m.

I know you won't be reading this until Friday, but this is the first time that I can remember sitting in front of a TV watching the reporting of a Presidential election until The Winner has been announced. This one was worth the wait. Just about everyone within hearing spoke of it being (possibly) the most important election in our history. For many reasons, I agreed. I agree. How about Making America Great again, Safe again, Healthy again, Prosperous again, Respected again? Democrats and other liberals/progressives have made gender, color, ethnicity, etc., what Americans

care about and Are about. I think this election says we're about, and care about, much more than that.

Not too long ago, someone told me that this would be our last election. I didn't bother to ask where she got her "information," because I thought it was a silly thing to say ... the obstacles to that happening, in my mind, are many. Although I must say that those on the "other side" want to see some things changed that would certainly begin to move us in that direction, but, still ... too many obstacles. Besides, I don't want to waste this entire space with more negativity. All I want to do is say, YAY! And, Good Night. And ...

He won! He won!  
He won! He won!  
He won! He won!  
We won! We won!  
We won! We won!  
We won! We won!

We'd like to know  
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## Electoral College - Distribution of Electoral Votes

Electoral votes are allocated among the States based on the Census. Every State is allocated a number of votes equal to the number of Senators and Representatives in its U.S. Congressional delegation—two votes for its Senators in the U.S. Senate plus a number of votes equal to the number of its Congressional districts.

**Under the 23rd Amendment of the Constitution, the District of Columbia is allocated 3 electors and treated like a State for purposes of the Electoral College.**

Each State (which includes the District of Columbia for the Electoral College) decides how to appoint its electors; however, they must do so according to law enacted before Election Day. Currently all States use the popular vote results from the November general election to decide which political party chooses the individuals who are appointed.

### Allocation within each State

All States, except for Maine and Nebraska, have a winner-take-all policy where the State looks only at the overall winner of the state-wide popular vote. Maine and Nebraska, however, appoint individual electors based on the winner of the popular vote within each Congressional district and then 2 "at-large" electors based on the winner of the overall state-wide popular vote.

While it is rare for Maine or Nebraska to have a split vote, each has done so twice: Nebraska in 2008, Maine in 2016, and both Maine and Nebraska in 2020.

### Current allocations

The allocations are based on the 2020 Census.  
*They are effective for the 2024 and 2028 presidential elections.*  
Total Electoral Votes: 538; Majority Needed to Elect: 270  
Go to: <https://www.archives.gov/electoral-college/allocation>  
to see allocation among the states



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Roadway Statistics & Pavement History				
	FY 20/21	FY 21/22	FY 22/23	FY 23/24
Roadway Mileage	197	202	204	218
New Roadway Added Mileage	6	5	2	14
Total Resurfaced Mileage	4	11	12	8.5
Cold in Place Mileage	0	1.6	0	1
Mill & Overlay Mileage	4	7	5	1.5
Cape Seal / Micro Mileage	0	2	7	6
Funding allocated	\$800,000	\$3,000,000	\$3,000,000	\$2,000,000

**Note:**

1. FY 20/21 – Many of these roads were long term repairs, \$800,000 for routine resurfacing.
2. FY 21/22 – Coronavirus Funding Approximate \$1M – Yothers Rd (Cold n Place), \$2M for routine resurfacing.
3. FY 22/23 – Coronavirus Funding Approximate \$1M – Northwest Recreation Park (Mill & Overlay and Cape Seal), \$2M for routine resurfacing.
4. FY 23/24 – No Coronavirus funding – \$2M for routine resurfacing.
5. Industry life span for roadway life, 12 years for collector roads & 15 years for local roadway. Many variation can affect the life span of the road.

This chart, taken from the staff report of the Wednesday, November 6, City Council meeting agenda packet, shows the city's statistics and pavement history from 2020 to 2024.

## Roads: Program will use two methods

Continued from page 1A

to severity of distress and deficiencies, evaluating citizen inquiries and including them when applicable, and allocated funding.

Selection of a pavement treatment methodology is based on the severity of pavement distress, potholes, and various types of cracking, as well as funding.

### Mill and overlay

The mill and overlay process is a structural asphalt method in which 1-1.5 inches of existing pavement is

milled and removed, the area is swept and tack coat is applied. New asphalt is placed and the surface is rolled flat.

The mill and overlay process will be done on 4.3 miles of roadway at Meadows of Maude Helen for a total cost of \$937,237.49; and on 2.1 miles of roadway at Pines of Wekiva for a total cost of \$424,013.91.

### Cape seal/microsurface

Cape seal/microsurface is a non-structural method in which the existing pavement surface is sprayed with emulsified asphalt, immediately covered with aggregate, rolled, and then

a final coat of either fog seal, slurry seal, or microsurface is added.

Cape seals provide skid resistance, sealing the pavement against moisture intrusion, protecting the pavement structure from further oxidation and raveling, and restoring a uniform black appearance.

The cape seal/microsurface method will be done on 1.87 miles of roadway at Spring Ridge for a total of \$236,182.22; 0.28 miles of roadway at Pines of Wekiva for \$25,216.79; and another 0.89 miles at Pines of Wekiva for a cost of \$77,349.59.

2024 THEME

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# City partners with national firm to attract more retailers to community

By Teresa Sargeant  
Apopka Chief Staff

The city Economic Development Department Director, Michelle Boylan, announced a new partnership with Retail Strategies, a national retail consulting firm, to spearhead a thorough initiative focused on retail recruitment.

The partnership was formalized through a piggyback contract, currently at \$40,000 annually for a one-year agreement with Retail Specialties, which the city Council approved at its September 18 meeting.

Retail Strategies is a national retail consulting firm that specializes in assisting municipalities and economic development organizations in attracting and retaining retailers.

“Overtime, the collaboration with Retail Strategies is expected to yield a variety of benefits, including increased job opportunities, enhanced

local services, and a diverse shopping experience that caters to both current and future citizens,” states a news release from the city of Apopka. “As this initiative unfolds, the City of Apopka is committed to ensuring that the new retail developments reflect the values and preferences of its residents, making Apopka a place where people can live, work, and shop conveniently.”

To put the plan into action, Retail Strategies will do desktop research, looking at various databases containing information about spending habits. This will then get put into a flyer for distribution that will highlight retail selling points such as traffic patterns, medium income, spending habits.

Retail Strategies will also visit the community to conduct a real estate analysis. This will include looking at retail sites that need tenants, available land for development and under-

utilized spaces and speaking to licensed real estate professionals, landowners, and property management companies about shopping plazas needing tenants for more information.

Retail Strategies will catalogue these sites so the city could have a thorough database of all the available real estate that retailers could fill. This data will be compiled for community feedback. A survey will also go out to the public asking about their spending habits and type of retail they want the city to attract.

“Then they’re going to tailor a plan that will target specific categories, whether it’s restaurants, grocery stores, home improvement, entertainment, new hospitality, going to look at not only what the community wants, but what the community can actually support and attract after they’ve completed the plan,” Boylan said. “They do also provide national recruitment and representa-

tion for us as they attend industry specific trade shows and will promote the city, but they also have connections already with national retailers and they’re going to reach out and discuss the possibilities of them coming to Apopka.”

“So essentially when other cities do this, they use them for a minimum of three years, our piggyback allowed us to do one year,” Boylan concluded. “We’re going to review the work that they’ve done within the first year to consider either piggybacking off of another agreement that they have with another city, or to continue the relationship in some way as long as it’s in line with our procurement policy.”

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# Election integrity bills have been filed to prohibit voting by noncitizens

By Bethany Blankley |  
The Center Square contributor  
Nov 4, 2024 –

A group of Republican lawmakers, led by U.S. Rep. Matt Gaetz, R-FL, have filed election integrity bills related to the border crisis.

Gaetz filed the “Judicial Action to Impose Liability for Alien Voters Act,” known as the JAIL for Alien Voters Act, to ensure that every illegal foreign national who un-

lawfully votes in federal elections faces enhanced criminal penalties.

Federal law already prohibits noncitizens from voting. The bill would amend the Voting Rights Act of 1965 to increase the penalty to five years in prison or a \$10,000 fine, in line with penalties for U.S. citizens who unlawfully vote. Republican U.S. Reps. Andy Ogles of Tennessee, Andy Biggs of Arizona, Mike Collins of Georgia, Claudia Tenney of New York, and Barry

Moore of Alabama, cosponsored it.

Gaetz filed the bill after former President Donald Trump called for stiffer penalties for a range of crimes committed by illegal border crossers, including voting. He also filed it months after U.S. House Republicans passed the SAVE Act in July. The bill would increase penalties and expand protections for states related to noncitizens voting. The Democratic-controlled Senate did not consider it.

“President Donald Trump is right: illegal aliens who vote in our elections should be in jail,” Gaetz said. “It is unacceptable that illegal aliens get lighter sentences for defrauding our elections than U.S. citizens. My legislation, the JAIL for Alien Voters Act, will create parity in punishment for those who commit voter fraud, regardless of immigration status. It’s common sense that U.S. citizens should be the only ones voting in U.S. elections.”

Earlier this month, after the Biden-Harris Department of Justice sued the Commonwealth of Virginia for removing noncitizens, including illegal border crossers, from its voter rolls, Gaetz introduced the “National Motor Voter Clarification Act.”

Virginia was among several states that removed noncitizens from its voter roles. Groups sued,

See BILL Page 7A

# Moore: The yearly contests have been changed to reflect HOA strengths

Continued from page 2A

groups or students would come and pick up trash, trim trees, or whatever was needed. Owners were written several letters encouraging participation as a corridor. One of the people groups even contacted individual owners along the corridor. After receiving permission, members mowed and edged yards thereby upping the standard on the corridor. In one case, I had the county install

sidewalks, and the Apopka Professional Firefighter Union trimmed trees while county public works picked up the resulting debris. This collaboration produced transformational change along the northern portion of Sheeler Road.

Each year I add a new portion for the contest. Thus, in 2024, I added the Artistic Corridor of the Year(ACOY). Well, the “ACOY” didn’t turn into a competition, as I am simply donating funding to the

non-profit to host a block party. Another goal of this work is to bring people together to develop a stronger sense of place, or as author Peter Kageyama says, to “love where you live.”

For the first year, all four groups completed a major art project. I’m so proud of them. Here is the list of their major accomplishments:

People of Lockhart – “Roses on Rose” – the association painted more than three dozen roses on the

Tealwood Cove Subdivision fencing

People of Clarcona-Ocoee – “Coast-2-Coast Mural” – the association contracted with artist Delia Miller to paint a car-centric mural at the Rebel Gas Station Pond retaining wall at the northwest corner of Pine Hills and Clarcona Ocoee roads

People of Wekiwa Springs – “Welcome to Wekiwa Springs” Fence Art – the non-profit designed and installed “cup art” on the county’s pond fence

just east of the Sprouts at the Wekiva Riverwalk Shopping Center

People of Southern Apopka – “Sheeler Community Garden & Fence Art” - the new organization stained a fence, added art, painted stems, and planted sunflowers on a City of Apopka blighted property at the corner of Sheeler Road and Apopka Blvd. All four groups used their creativity to create unique projects reflective of their individual communities. Very impressive for the first

year of Artistic Corridor of the Year projects!

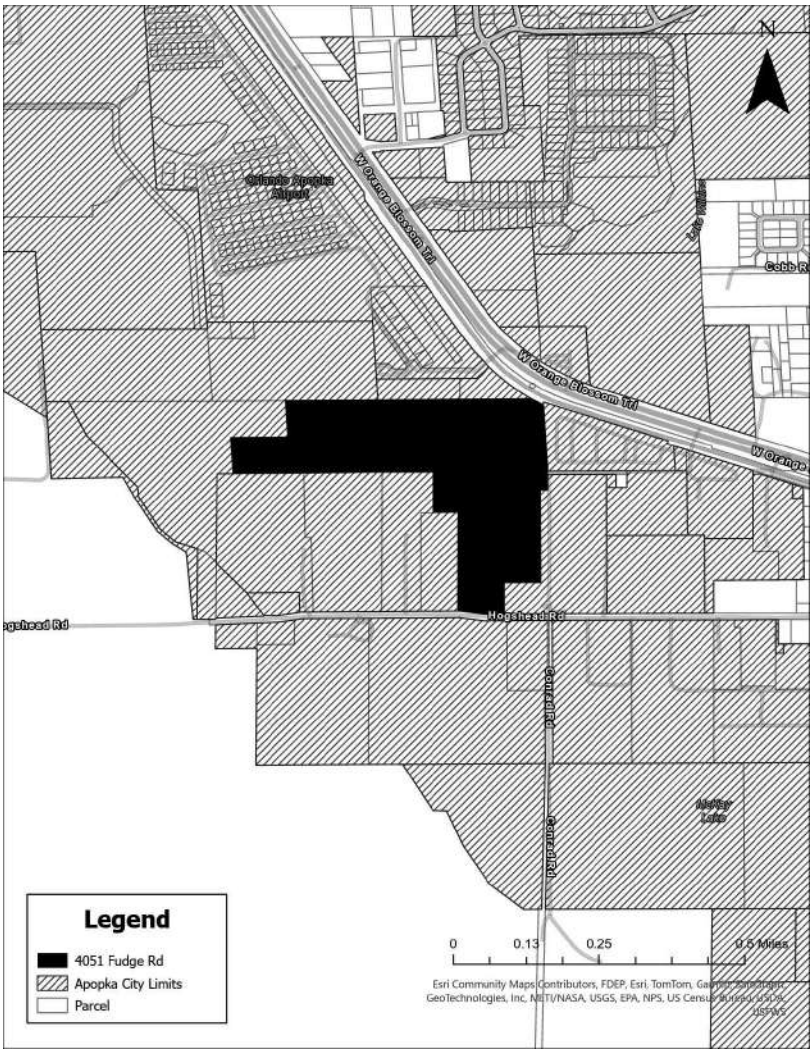
Together, we will celebrate the winner of the District 2 Person of the Year, Most Improved Neighborhood, and the 2024 Corridor of the Year at Wekiva High School on November 21st at 6 p.m. All are invited to attend.

The special guest honoree will be Chief Meteorologist Tony Mainolfi. His hour-by-hour coverage on social media so positively aided District 2 residents during Hurricane Milton.

## CITY OF APOPKA PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE SPECIAL EXCEPTION

NOTICE is hereby given that **JOHN TOWNSEND** 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 “FOOD PROCESSING OR BEVERAGE BOTTLING” IN THE LIGHT INDUSTRIAL (I-L) ZONING DISTRICT.**

This application relates to the following described property located at 4051 Fudge Road:



Parcel Identification Number(s): 35-20-27-0000-00-015  
Contains: 53.65 +/- 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, December 10, 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.

Apopka Planning Commission  
Community Development Department

November 8, 2024

Publish: The Apopka Chief

177581

# Byrd: My focus strengthens support

Continued from page 2A

nize the positive benefits of decisions because it helps them to be invested if they understand why rules are put in place.

They did share some challenges that I will also be sharing with the Superintendent and will work to address. Many of these surrounded staffing challenges that our district and districts across the nation are experiencing.

They are struggling with long-term substitutes in important classes that may not be teaching at the same level as a regular teacher, crowded and late buses because of our bus driver shortage, and the struggle to get appointments with school counselors because of their heavy workloads.

These are issues I hear at every high school I visit and I hear the same concerns from my fellow school board members across the state. Public school funding has to in-

crease so that districts can offer competitive wages to attract people to the field of education. If we don’t, our children are left feeling the effects of a reduced and overworked workforce and their education suffers just as these students shared with me this week.

The other big area of concern for these kids is their feeling of not being prepared well enough for the college application process, making plans after graduation and making sure everything is in place for graduation. They feel like they need more one-on-one mentoring and guidance about their options and the opportunities available to them.

This is a high priority for me and something I have been working on with the Superintendent. The choices available to our students in high school and beyond are vast, much more than many of us adults had when we were young.

There are so many

paths a student can take from dual enrollment in college courses or technical trades to advanced placement classes and more. Navigating all those choices and choosing the right path is challenging with the best support.

For many of our children, who may not have parents who are able or willing to do the research, they are relying on the schools to help guide them and we have to do a better job in this area. We are working on different ways to achieve that and this discussion certainly inspired me to continue to pursue solutions.

As always, I left the school feeling impressed by our young people and their outlook and willingness to work on solutions.

We have great kids in our community and I’m so proud to be able to work every day to make their experiences better.

# Hayden: Thanksgiving is Godly event

Continued from page 2A

Remember what Khrushchev said about American government?

In one of his letters (Kruschev toured America, September 15-17, 1959), Nikita Khrushchev (1894-1971) predicted, “We will take America without firing a shot.” Does it seem coincidental to you that the invasion of illegal aliens could end up fulfilling that prediction?

In 1941, the Japanese considered an invasion of our Pacific Coast, but after much consideration they decided against it because they knew that most of the

population was armed, and their loss of soldiers would be too great. So, they chose Pearl Harbor.

Not so today! This administration has welcomed illegal aliens from all over the world, even flying them into the United States under the cover of darkness, proving that they know the people (whom they have sworn to protect) of this great nation would not approve.

Legal immigration is a necessary endeavor, and people have been willing to undergo the difficulties involved with that process to become an AMERICAN, and to enjoy the freedoms we have because of our

Constitution, and the self-governing experiment set-up by our forefathers.

I am going to celebrate Thanksgiving this year by giving thanks, and praise to GOD for all the past, present, and future blessings. This nation was founded on Judeo-Christian principles and, whether you believe it or not, has no bearing on that fact!

GOD is in charge, He has never abdicated His throne, and Thanksgiving is the perfect time to let the rest of the world know how GOD has been active and encouraging in all our situations.

## ALL ABOUT APOPKA

### The Apopka Chief

Established 1923  
(USPS 545-440)

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

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

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#### City of Apopka Telephone Numbers

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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
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Health Dept. ....	407-836-2600
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Parks and Rec. Dept. ....	407-836-6200
Property Appraiser.....	407-836-5044
Sheriff Administrative .....	407-254-7000
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Utilities .....	407-836-5515
All other departments .....	407-836-3111
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<b>www.orangecountyfl.net</b>	

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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



# City: Debt reduced by 94 percent since fiscal year 2018

Continued from page 1A

our millage rate by .5 mills to give our employees a cost of living adjustment as well as an additional \$1.2 million for road and sidewalk improvements. We added 34 Full-time and 41 part-time employees to keep up with our growing city.

Our overall General Fund Expense Budget of \$100,480,450 included Personnel costs of \$59,020,895, Operating Expenses of \$24,316,042, Capital Outlays of \$11,409,883 and transfers of \$5,160,847.

Our General Revenue is well diversified with Taxes making up \$41,592,435, Permits fees and Special Assessments making up \$16,354,461, Charges for Services bringing in \$6,675,469, Inter-governmental revenue of \$16,568,710, Transfers of \$7,107,476, Reserves of \$7,080,495 and Investment Income of \$2,573,499.

Our Sales Tax revenue this year was almost \$15,000,000 and the 2024-2025 budget should be closer to \$16,000,000.

Our General Fund Debt and Debt Service Reduction is what I am most proud of. This year alone we have reduced our debt service by almost \$138,000 freeing up money for other worthwhile projects.

Since FY 2018, we have reduced the overall debt by \$15.5 million dollars or 94% of the total. We continue to maintain our 25% of General Fund Budget Reserves which comes to a whopping \$25.1 million dollars. That's a healthy reserve for the unexpected storm or other catastrophe that could come our way.

For the Capital Project Improvements for this year, Transportation Improvements come in at \$11.9 million, Streets at \$7.6 million, Finance Improvements of \$2.5 million, Public Safety of \$8.1 million, Sanitation of almost \$500,000, Water, Reclaim, Wastewater Improvements of \$27 million, Recreation Improvements of \$2.7 million and Facilities at \$1.7 million.

Now for the Department Highlights. Finance was awarded the Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting from GFOA for the 41st Consecutive Year and received the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for the FY 2024 Budget for the 18th Consecutive Year. We had 18 Bids advertised and 87 Contracts reviewed and executed. In Accounts Payable we are now on a weekly turnaround for invoices and have better tracking for utility payments. We have converted Police and Fire over to Bi-weekly pay and issued over 6,054 Purchase Orders last year. And finally, we conducted the FY 2023 Year-End Audit with Zero Audit Findings. That's an accomplishment!

Our Human Resource Department has been busy supporting 579 full time employees, holding 13 New Employee Orientations and created a New Employee Intranet Site. Our Apopka Clinic continues to be a popular benefit for our hard-working staff with many services provided right here at City Hall.

## Downtown area

Our Community Redevelopment Agency or CRA as we call it, has been busy with helping revitalize our Downtown with two new restaurants on Fifth Street,

Hick's Seafood and Just Like Momma's. Please stand and be recognized William Hicks and Valerie Sparkman!

We are excited for the opening of Halls on Fifth either late this year or early next year. And if you haven't had a chance to check out the Friday Night Market on Fifth, we hope to see you there soon. As part of the Downtown Entertainment District, we have Ella Duke and Jay Kleirichert from Propagate Social House here with us today. Please stand and be recognized!

Our Downtown Trail Phase 1 will loop within South Apopka connecting Alonzo Williams Park all the way to the West Orange Trail just east of City Hall. This will make those who like to bike and walk a very inviting way to get Downtown. The Station Street project includes 2 (three story buildings) with 54 units, outdoor pavilion with lawn seating, and a food truck staging area.

Just east of the Fran Carlton Center we are in the Design Phase of the new Apopka Skate Park and Pump Track which will give our young and young at heart a place to try out their skills. I would also like to thank Charles Chambers and Fast Signs for helping design and install the Wayfinding Signs that are not only very attractive and give our Visitors directions to our City properties.

## Public Services

Now on to Public Services. We have added 7 new positions to complement our very dedicated and hard-working team.

Last year we cold-in-place resurfaced over one

mile of roadway, milled and overlaid 1.4 miles and cape sealed 6.12 miles for a total of 8.5 miles of paving. We repaired and built almost 2 miles of sidewalks and continued to upgrade our historic brick streets downtown. This year with the increase funding we expect to repair and build over 9.4 miles of roads in Apopka.

One project that is long overdue and has finally started is the removal of aged-out oak trees planted 30 years ago in Piedmont Lakes. The damage they have caused to sidewalks and other infrastructure needed to be addressed. In the just completed Phase 1 we have removed 34 trees, repaired 3,400 linear feet of sidewalk, repaired aprons and curbs and added 8 ADA Ramps. This winter we will be replacing all of the trees that have been removed over the last several years with trees that are more appropriate for the limited space. Phase 2 and 3 will begin in 2025 and we hope to complete the whole project by 2026.

We just completed the restoration of the sidewalk on West Ponkan Rd with sod and bank restoration and sidewalk and concrete storm swale construction making it a much safer path for our school children to get to the Wolf Lake schools.

The Streets team has completed the 6.37 miles of West Kelly Park Road crosswalk striping and just finished the bike lane striping in the Rock Springs Ridge development.

Our Stormwater Team has been busy with 1,146 Stormwater Structure Inspections and maintaining our four City-owned ponds.

They have completed 79 stormwater maintenance work orders removing over 1,360 cubic yards of sediment which slows the percolation of stormwater into the ground.

Our own MS-4 Administrator Jennifer Gilliam was involved in an HOA program with Representative Bankson to explain why it is so important to keep your stormwater ponds clean.

We have begun Phase 1 of the removal and disposal of the Asbestos Cement Potable water main at Martin Street. This project will replace 1,300 feet of 14-inch Asbestos Cement pipe near Apopka High School with 16-inch PVC pipe and should be completed by the end of the year.

Phase 2 design is 70% complete and construction should be completed in the next fiscal year. Phase 3 design and planning is in this year's fiscal budget.

As to some of the upcoming projects we have a 1.5 MG Water Ground Storage Tank going in at the Grossenbacher, a Water Reclamation Expansion at the NW Recreational Center, a 1.0 MG Ground Storage Tank at the NW Treatment Plant made possible with a \$1.5M federal grant, Well #1 and #3 well replacement at Grossenbacher and Well #3 replacement at the Mount Plymouth Regional WTP for a total cost of \$17,197,811.

Our Water Resources Maintenance Division treated and distributed 2,386 million gallons of water last year and completed 772 Compliance samples.

We also ran a voluntary test for 1-4 Dioxane because of concerns in Seminole County. I am

happy to report that water at all five plants showed no delectable levels of 1-4 Dioxane.

Our Solid Waste Division collected over 20,000,000 tons of residential garbage, 10,000,000 tons of commercial garbage, 12,000,000 tons of yard waste and recycled over 2,300 tons of recyclable materials.

Our Public Services Administration was busy entering 7,238 work orders, 364 right-of-way Permits, 822 Surveys reviewed and approved, 1631 building permits reviewed and approved, 10,073 call answered along with 1,471 walk-in customers for a total of 25,241 interactions with the public. Wow they are busy down at Public Works.

Our Grants team was proud to receive a CDBG Home Rehab Grant last year of \$750,000 and five homes have been selected for either a major rehab or complete rebuild. We are thankful for the Federal Grant that will make a huge difference for these families.

Next up, I want to give a big shout-out o a very dedicated employee in the Sanitation Department. Charles Rogers was doing his route in Rock Springs Ridge and noticed one of his regulars who has memory issues was not where he should be and instead of just driving on he stopped and asked another neighbor for some help and getting the gentleman back home. For this unwavering commitment to our City I want to give Charles the Mayoral Certificate of Commendation. Charles please come up to accept your award.

See CITY Page 8A

## Bill: Administration sued for refusal to verify voter registration

Continued from page 6A

leading to court rulings and appeals and ultimately the U.S. Supreme Court ruling in favor of Virginia, The Center Square reported. The federal lawsuit against Virginia was "unprecedented," Gaetz said, agreeing with Virginia's governor "that removing non-Americans from voter rolls is 'common sense and constitutional.'"

Gaetz's bill would amend the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 "to clarify the authority of States to remove individuals from the official lists of eligible voters on the basis of citizenship status."

It was filed to "ensure Governors are allowed to do their jobs and remove illegal aliens from the voter rolls without fear of being targeted by" the federal government, Gaetz said. He also said it was "telling that the only 'election integrity' work the Biden-Harris Department of Justice seems interested in is ensuring maximal turnout for people who can't even legally vote!"

Both bills were filed "to secure U.S. elections against voting by the tens of millions of illegal aliens who have entered illegally through the

U.S.-Mexico border during the Biden-Harris administration."

Last month, Florida also sued the Biden-Harris administration for refusing to verify voter registration citizenship information, The Center Square reported. Florida has been leading on the issue after battling the federal government for more than 10 years in litigation to ensure that federal agencies make immigration status information available to state agencies in accordance with federal law.

Federal law requires federal agencies to make the requested information available to states "for any legal purpose, such as credentials, background investigations, and voter registration," Florida's lawsuit says.

The issue has been a rallying cry of Republicans as the greatest number of illegal border crossers have been reported in U.S. history under the Biden-Harris administration, of roughly 14 million, The Center Square reported.

Despite the administration's claims that illegal border crossings were lower, nearly three million were reported in fiscal 2024, The Center Square reported.

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# AHS: Over 250 students play in the band

Continued from page 3A

gers Spirit Night, in which in which 20 percent of all proceeds go toward the London trip, Chmiel said. Comprised of 260 students, the Blue Darter Band just finished its musical performance assessment last week, where it achieved the highest rating possible superior as a marching band, according to Chmiel. Last March, the AHS Band represented the city of Apopka and Orange

County in the National Cherry Blossom Parade in Washington, D.C. “These kids are absolutely incredible, and to have the opportunity to be able to go on this trip in January ‘26 is a lifetime of an experience for kids because it gives them an opportunity to travel not only travel, but abroad and see London,” Chmiel said. Commissioner Diane Velazquez asked what is the deadline to have the funds available and how much. Chmiel replied the band would need the funds by May 2025 because the final payment for the trip is November 2025, a month before the band could leave in 2026. As for the amount to be raised, Chmiel said she didn’t have the final number as of yet but the band is working on that number and will get back with a response. Commissioner Nick Nesta called the London trip “an incredible oppor-

tunity.” “I guess once you have some set numbers or a little more confident numbers, if you can just either send us an email so we’re all aware of it, then we can start game planning from there in how we can support you,” he said. For more information about the Blue Darter Band including the London trip and fundraisers, visit [apopkabands.com](http://apopkabands.com).

## Get rid of electronics at recycling event

The city of Apopka, in sponsorship with Waste Management and Orlando Recycles, will host Apopka

Recycles Day at Edwards Field on Saturday, November 16, 9 a.m.-noon. Attendees may bring recyclables for this drive-through event. Orlando Recycles will be onsite recycling old electronics. DocuShred will be onsite to shred papers and documents; attendees should make sure clips and paper clips have been removed. Receptacles will be in place for general household recyclables. The following is a list of materials that will be recycled on Apopka Recycles Day: desktops, laptops, servers, LCD monitors/flat screen TV’s, video/audio equipment, smart phones/iPhones/tablets, cameras/

gaming systems, network switches, office phones/computer parts, test/lab/medical equipment, UPS batteries/wires and cables, and printers/copiers and assorted peripherals. **Please Note:** CRT monitors and tube TVs will not be accepted.

## City: Citizen receives award

Continued from page 7A

Please give him another round of applause.

### Police department

Now on to our Police Department. We added 10 new police officer positions and 1 clerk/redaction Specialist for the new fiscal year.

Our Patrol Division has transitioned to 12-hour shifts which will increase our 24-hour presence in the community. It will also decrease the overall response time to emergency calls and allow our officers to be more pro-active in addressing crime trends.

The Apopka Police Department Drone Division was created with 5 certified pilots and 5 additional pilots in training.

Our Apopka K9 program has just added Maui, a 1-year old Belgian Malinois/German Shepherd mix to the unit. Maui was certified in July of this year.

Our Code Enforcement Division has been busy keeping our streets and neighborhoods safe and clean filing 838 enforcement cases and collecting almost \$511,000 in fines to make sure that we have a city that we can all be proud of.

Our Community Policing continues to grow under the leadership of Mark Creaser who has big shoes to fill after the retirement of Jason Wiggins. But Mark

has hit the ground running and we are sure he will continue to raise the bar. Our National Night Out, Operation Best Foot Forward and Teen Driving ensure that the public is aware of the challenges that we still face. Our Cops-n-Bobbers and Shop with a Cop are a great way for our Law Enforcement officers to interact with our young people to see how wonderful our Police officers are. We also want to thank all the financial sponsors who make these events possible.

Our Citizens on Patrol Police Academy Alumni Association volunteered over 2,200 hours supporting our men and women in blue. If there are any CPA’s in the audience please stand and be recognized for your contribution to the Police Department. They couldn’t do it all without your help.

Our Police Training is second to none and they continue to improve on our Advance Autism Training brought forward by Officer Emmanuel Sosa. We continue our De-Escalation and Racial Intelligence and Engagement training looking for ways to make our community safer and more Police Officer friendly.

Our Police Explorer Program has 14 Active Members ages 14-18 who get together twice a month to discuss what it is to be an Apopka Police officer. APD is sponsoring one Explorer through the Acad-

emy and has had one Dispatcher come through the Academy.

Video - I would like to give SRO Officer Justin Lemieux a Mayoral Certificate of Commendation for his work on “Fill the Rack” at Rock Springs Elementary and his prior 50 Yard Challenge where he mowed 50 yards one summer for those who couldn’t. He is truly an inspiration to all that he meets. Please come forward Officer Lemieux and accept your award.

Our Public Safety Academy had 34 students in Session 1 and 2 learning what it is like to be a Firefighter or Police Officer. Hopefully this academy will spur them on to be a First Responder and better yet one that works for Apopka.

Our Communications Center handled 62,232 9-1-1 call in 2023 and 143,661 non-emergency calls. We also created 12,801 SmartCAD incidents and 140,684 X-CAD events.

We upgraded our 9-1-1 Communication System to NexGen 9-1-1, upgraded our CAD, MiCAD and Fire Dispatch (EFD) and our teletype to eAgent 2.0.

Our 9/11 Service in front of City Hall was well represented by our First Responders, elected officials and members of the public as we remembered those who paid the ultimate sacrifice on that day in 2001.

## We Get Results!

### Graceworx Says Thank You to The Apopka Chief and The Planter for Help in Advertising Our Congregation

There’s a lighthearted maxim about advertising that goes like this: “Early to bed and early to rise is useless if you don’t advertise!” So, at **Graceworx Community Church**, we advertise. Fifty-two weeks a year. In both the Apopka Chief and the Planter.

Why? Because no matter how good a business, product or service may be, if people don’t know about it, it’s failing in its mission.

So **Graceworx Community Church** turns to the Apopka Chief and the Planter because we want to get the word out about who we are, what we do and how we seek to meet needs in our community. And we want to achieve that goal effectively and economically.

Because we buy a weekly ad, we get an invaluable bonus every six to eight weeks. And what is that bonus? Space for about 550 words to tell our story in much greater detail, along with a photo or illustration. It’s totally free. And “free” is a four-letter that churches love to hear!

More than just providing free space in the publications, however, the newspapers’ staff work with us to ensure that our periodic “Business Story” is laid out in an appealing and effective manner.

And here’s the real clincher: The staff of these newspapers are living examples of what it means to “go the second mile.” They take seriously their goal of serving both their clients and the entire community. And they do it with a level of friendliness, efficiency and professionalism that’s remarkable.

From our perspective, the benefit we receive from the Apopka Chief and the Planter is worth every penny we spend to get the word out about **Graceworx Community Church**.

And speaking of getting the word out, on Saturday, November 16, our hour-long 11:30 AM service will feature a 50-minute Christian-music concert by the Sabbath Strings, a 20-member Central Florida-based orchestra. And on Saturday, December 21, at 11:30 AM, the Dickens Carolers will present their fourth annual 50-minute acappella Christmas-music concert. Please put these dates on your calendar now.

We just had to slip in that little promo for the concerts because “early to bed and early to rise is useless if you don’t advertise!”

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  - Apopka Chief rack, 400 N. Park Ave.
  - Apopka High School
  - Apopka Quick Mart (BP), Hwy 436 & Lake Cortez Dr.
  - Apopka Vape, N. Park Ave. (across from the old Fla. Hosp. location)
  - CenturyLink headquarters, SR 436
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  - 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
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  - Circle K #1288, Welch Rd & Wekiva Springs Rd.
  - Circle K (Marathon) #1063, Zellwood, 2691 Highway 441
  - Compare Fresh Market, 436 behind Aaron’s
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  - Lula Mae’s Eatery, Central Ave S.
- Marathon, Main St. (midland downtown)
  - McDonald’s, Highway 441 (downtown)
  - Mobil, (Citgo) Hwy 441 (next to Burger K)
  - Orange County Service Center, N. Park Ave.
  - Perkins Restaurant Hwy 441, in Victoria Plaza Parking Lot)
  - Plymouth Post Office, Plymouth/Sorrento Rd
  - Porkies BBQ, Highway 441 (downtown)
  - Post Office, N. Park Ave. (Martin St)
  - Publix, Park Ave/Rock Springs Rd. & Welch Rd.
  - Sam’s Discount, Overland & Apopka Blvd.
  - Sun Resort, 3000 Clarcona Rd.
  - Sunoco Happy Foods, Hwy 441 & Plymouth-Sorrento Rd.
  - Trader Mae’s, Rock Springs Rd
  - UPS Store (The), Rock Springs & Welch Rd. (Publix shopping center)
- Walgreens, corner of Park Ave and Hwy 441
  - Walgreens, N. Park Ave/Welch Rd.
  - Wawa Store, 449 W. Main St. - corner of Hwy 441 and Bradshaw
  - Wawa Store, 441 & Piedmont Wekiva across from Walmart
  - Wekiva High School, Hiawasee Rd.
  - Winn Dixie #2246 – Hwy 441 (beside Lowe’s)
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