



The Gainesville Iguana

September 2012

Vol. 26, Issue 9

Security Overkill in Tampa at RNC



Protesters at the Republican National Convention in Tampa on Aug. 27-30 were met by a militarized city. Chants addressed issues head-on: "This is what \$50 million dollars looks like!"* and "Take off that riot gear, there ain't no riot here!" Protests were peaceful and diminished in size by a hurricane threat that canceled buses from around the country. Despite the police's overwhelming numbers and equipment, relations were largely cordial; one activist reported cops clapping along as marchers sang "Solidarity Forever." Participants who attended the protests will give a report-back at the Civic Media Center on Wednesday, Sept. 12 at 7 p.m. Photo courtesy of Rob Shaw.

* \$50 million is the price tag for this authoritarian overkill, with another \$50 million spent for the Democratic Convention in Charlotte Sept. 4-6.

Noam Chomsky: Too big to fail

The following is the conclusion of an article by Noam Chomsky from Tom-Dispatch.com and reprinted by CommonDreams.org on Aug. 13. The entire article is highly recommended with a lot of historical background, but space only allowed the last third to be run.

... The peak of U.S. power was after World War II, when it had literally half the world's wealth. But that naturally declined, as other industrial economies

recovered from the devastation of the war and decolonization took its agonizing course. By the early 1970s, the U.S. share of global wealth had declined to about 25 percent, and the industrial world had become tripolar: North America, Europe, and East Asia (then Japan-based).

There was also a sharp change in the U.S. economy in the 1970s, towards fi-

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nancialization and export of production. A variety of factors converged to create a vicious cycle of radical concentration of wealth, primarily in the top fraction of 1 percent of the population -- mostly CEOs, hedge-fund managers, and the like. That leads to the concentration of political power, hence state policies to increase economic concentration: fiscal policies, rules of corporate governance, deregulation, and much more. Meanwhile the costs of electoral campaigns skyrocketed, driving the parties into the pockets of concentrated capital, increasingly financial: the Republicans reflexively, the Democrats -- by now what used to be moderate Republicans -- not far behind.

Elections have become a charade, run by the public relations industry. After his 2008 victory, Obama won an award from the industry for the best marketing campaign of the year. Executives were euphoric. In the business press they explained that they had been marketing candidates like other commodities since Ronald Reagan, but 2008 was their greatest achievement and would change the style in corporate boardrooms. The 2012 election is expected to cost \$2 billion, mostly in corporate funding. Small wonder that Obama is selecting business leaders for top positions.

While wealth and power have narrowly concentrated, for most of the population real incomes have stagnated and people have been getting by with increased work hours, debt, and asset inflation, regularly destroyed by the financial crises that began as the regulatory apparatus was dismantled starting in the 1980s.

None of this is problematic for the very wealthy, who benefit from a government insurance policy called "too big to fail." The banks and investment firms can make risky transactions, with rich rewards, and when the system inevitably crashes, they can run to the nanny state for a taxpayer bailout, clutching their copies of Friedrich Hayek and Milton Friedman.

That has been the regular process since the Reagan years, each crisis more extreme than the last -- for the public population, that is. Right now, real unemployment is at Depression levels for much of the population, while Goldman Sachs, one of the main architects of the current crisis, is richer than ever. It has just quietly announced \$17.5 billion in compensation for last year, with CEO Lloyd Blankfein receiving a \$12.6 million bonus while his base salary more than triples.

It wouldn't do to focus attention on such facts as these. Accordingly, propaganda must seek to blame others, in the past few months, public sector workers, their fat salaries, exorbitant pensions, and so on: all fantasy, on the model of Reaganite imagery of black mothers being driven in their limousines to pick up welfare checks -- and other models that need not be mentioned. We all must tighten our belts; almost all, that is.

Teachers are a particularly good target, as part of the deliberate effort to destroy the public education system from kindergarten through the universities by privatization -- again, good for the wealthy, but a disaster for the population, as well as the long-term health of the economy, but that is one of the externalities that is put to the side insofar as market principles prevail.

Another fine target, always, is immigrants. That has been true throughout U.S. history, even more so at times of economic crisis, exacerbated now by a sense that our country is being taken away from us: the white population will soon become a minority. One can understand the anger of aggrieved individuals, but the cruelty of the policy is shocking.

Who are the immigrants targeted? In Eastern Massachusetts, where I live, many are Mayans fleeing genocide in the Guatemalan highlands carried out by Reagan's favorite killers. Others are Mexican victims of Clinton's NAFTA, one of those rare government agreements that managed to harm working people in all three of

the participating countries.

As NAFTA was rammed through Congress over popular objection in 1994, Clinton also initiated the militarization of the U.S.-Mexican border, previously fairly open. It was understood that Mexican campesinos cannot compete with highly subsidized U.S. agribusiness, and that Mexican businesses would not survive competition with U.S. multinationals, which must be granted "national treatment" under the mislabeled free trade agreements, a privilege granted only to corporate persons, not those of flesh and blood. Not surprisingly, these measures led to a flood of desperate refugees, and to rising anti-immigrant hysteria by the victims of state-corporate policies at home.

Much the same appears to be happening in Europe, where racism is probably more rampant than in the U.S. One can only watch with wonder as Italy complains about the flow of refugees from Libya, the scene of the first post-World War I genocide, in the now-liberated East, at the hands of Italy's Fascist government. Or when France, still today the main protector of the brutal dictatorships in its former colonies, manages to overlook its hideous atrocities in Africa, while French President Nicolas Sarkozy warns grimly of the "flood of immigrants" and Marine Le Pen objects that he is doing nothing to prevent it. I need not mention Belgium, which may win the prize for what Adam Smith called "the savage injustice of the Europeans."

The rise of neo-fascist parties in much of Europe would be a frightening phenomenon even if we were not to recall what happened on the continent in the recent past. Just imagine the reaction if Jews were being expelled from France to misery and oppression, and then witness the non-reaction when that is happening to Roma, also victims of the Holocaust and Europe's most brutalized population.

In Hungary, the neo-fascist party Job-

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From the publisher ...

Election: pivotal nationally, locally

By Joe Courter

Okay, the primary elections are behind us, and come November the voting begins.

This election is pivotal on both the national and local levels. With the selection of Paul Ryan as Romney's VP, this presidential race may be a referendum on how government should work in America; in the words of Ryan, individualism vs. collectivism.

This Ayn Rand inspired libertarian ideology has been bubbling, some might say festering, below the surface of American politics for decades. It opposed FDR's New Deal from the get-go, and still seethes at the welfare system, and any thought of a national healthcare system. It hates regulation on business, be it banking, energy or commerce. It wants privatization of the public sector, from government programs like Social Security to drilling by corporations for oil and gas in our National Parks.

Its adherents have been very successful in using their money and connections to get their ideology into the mainstream, creating the Heritage Society and the Cato Institute and many other "think tanks," which the docile corporate media has come to accept as the third voice in our political debate. It can generate huge campaign donations from the rich and corporations because its policies, if enacted, will save and make them even MORE money.


This is a wake-up call that brings to mind the old bumper sticker/button slogan, "If You're Not Outraged, You're Not Paying Attention."

What we have, unfortunately, is a society that is utterly addicted to distractions, disconnected from the political process and in some cases reality itself, such as the denial of evolution or the statistical data on climate change.

We've all been aware of the attacks on women's reproductive rights, but now we have this Representative from Missouri stating that there are different kinds of rape, and in forcible rape (the word he actually meant to use, not "legitimate" rape), women have this biological power to resist getting pregnant, and that these pregnancies are rare.

I would say unbelievable, but the Republican Party platform, election cycle after cycle election, would deny even rape victims access to abortion. Rep. Akin is not an outlier; he is mainstream, side by side with Paul Ryan. Ideology trumps reality in these peoples' minds.

"Another World is Possible" is a slogan from the World Social Forum. It was seen as an inspiring call for a better world of social justice and sensible environmental policies. But there are other worlds possible, too.

Please, if you have access to the Internet, watch, listen or read the program on DemocracyNow.org from Aug. 22 with author Craig Unger on his new book "Boss Rove." Karl Rove has a vision of another world, a one-party USA, and it is coming our way unless we wake up and exert our own vision. Please pay attention, and get outraged, informed, organized and active. 



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bik gained 17 percent of the vote in national elections, perhaps unsurprising when three-quarters of the population feels that they are worse off than under Communist rule. We might be relieved that in Austria the ultra-right Jörg Haider won only 10 percent of the vote in 2008 -- were it not for the fact that the new Freedom Party, outflanking him from the far right, won more than 17 percent. It is chilling to recall that, in 1928, the Nazis won less than 3 percent of the vote in Germany.

In England the British National Party and the English Defence League, on the ultra-racist right, are major forces. (What is happening in Holland you know all too well.) In Germany, Thilo Sarrazin's lament that immigrants are destroying the country was a runaway best-seller, while Chancellor Angela Merkel, though condemning the book, declared that multiculturalism had "utterly failed": the Turks imported to do the dirty work in Germany are failing to become blond and blue-eyed, true Aryans.

Those with a sense of irony may recall that Benjamin Franklin, one of the leading figures of the Enlightenment, warned that the newly liberated colonies should be wary

of allowing Germans to immigrate, because they were too swarthy; Swedes as well. Into the twentieth century, ludicrous myths of Anglo-Saxon purity were common in the U.S., including among presidents and other leading figures. Racism in the literary culture has been a rank obscenity; far worse in practice, needless to say. It is much easier to eradicate polio than this horrifying plague, which regularly becomes more virulent in times of economic distress.

I do not want to end without mentioning another externality that is dismissed in market systems: the fate of the species. Systemic risk in the financial system can be remedied by the taxpayer, but no one will come to the rescue if the environment is destroyed. That it must be destroyed is close to an institutional imperative. Business leaders who are conducting propaganda campaigns to convince the population that anthropogenic global warming is a liberal hoax understand full well how grave is the threat, but they must maximize short-term profit and market share. If they don't, someone else will.

This vicious cycle could well turn out to be lethal. To see how grave the danger is, simply have a look at the new Congress in the U.S., propelled into power by business funding and propaganda. Almost all are climate deniers. They have already begun to cut funding for measures that might mitigate environmental catastrophe. Worse, some are true believers; for example, the new head of a subcommittee on the environment who explained that global warming cannot be a problem because God promised Noah that there will not be another flood.

If such things were happening in some small and remote country, we might laugh. Not when they are happening in the richest and most powerful country in the world. And before we laugh, we might also bear in mind that the current economic crisis is traceable in no small measure to the fanatic faith in such dogmas as the efficient market hypothesis, and in general to what Nobel laureate Joseph Stiglitz, 15 years ago, called the "religion" that markets know best -- which prevented the central bank and the economics profession from taking notice of an \$8 trillion housing bubble that had no basis at all in economic fundamentals, and that devastated the economy when it burst.

As long as the general population is passive, apathetic, diverted to consumerism or hatred of the vulnerable, then the powerful can do as they please, and those who survive will be left to contemplate the outcome. 🦎



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Gainesville  Chapter 14

Adena Springs Ranch Consumptive Use Permit update

By Karen Ahlers

Adena Springs Ranch tried to head us off at the pass last month. Adena representatives provided a “public meeting” at Church at the Springs in Ocala to announce they will reduce their water permit request from 13.26 million gallons per day to 5.3 MGD.

Their presentation sounded like they are starting to hear us, but in no way diminishes our resolve to pursue independent review of their proposed consumptive use permit.

The St. Johns River Water Management District has received thousands of letters and petitions expressing concern or objection.

“We share these concerns and welcome a thorough evaluation of Adena’s water needs and a valid assessment of the likely impacts of their withdrawals,” said attorney John R. Thomas who represents private citizens who are spearheading an independent review of the permit. “No permit should be is-


See ADENA SPRINGS p. 6

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sued without a complete assessment and plan to protect and restore Silver Springs, the Silver River and the Ocklawaha River Outstanding Florida Waters.”

Ranch manager Mark Roberts said less water would be used for the grass-fed beef because the cattle would only be at the Ft. McCoy property for six months before being slaughtered on-site. Roberts was non-committal about where the herd would be raised for the first 18 months of their lives or about the water needs at other locations.

A team of advocates, presented by PR Director Honey Rand, argued that 5.3 MGD withdrawals would cause only a small reduction in aquifer levels and the ranch would cause only a small increase in nutrient concentrations in the groundwater because Adena would employ best management practices in handling cattle wastes and fertilizer.

“There is no additional groundwater to be taken — it has already been over-committed to existing permit holders by Florida’s water management dis-

tricts,” said Dr. Bob Knight, director of the Florida Spring Institute in Gainesville.

Long-term flow in Silver Springs is down more than 30 percent, or more than 160 MGD, and nobody agrees why. While rainfall patterns play a role, Adena speculates the water-bearing limestone collapsed on itself, the District thinks submerged vegetation is clogging flow out of the springs downriver, and objectors say data show the overuse of groundwater is responsible.

The District has probably been telling Adena they could not grant a permit for anything like 13 MGD from the Silver Springs springshed. Even reduced to 5.3 MGD, it’s just way too much additional water lost to the ecosystem.

The Adena PR Team was unable to answer many questions about their nutrient management plan. Adena permitting attorney Ed de la Parte asked the audience to trust the process at SJRWMD.

Silver Springs, the Silver River and the nearby Ocklawaha River Aquatic Preserve are legally designated “Out-

standing Florida Waters,” which under Florida Law and the Federal Clean Water Act must afford the highest level of protection.

“Sadly, Florida has not delivered on the protection promise, and these OFWs are in severe decline from overpumping of groundwater resources and inadequate management and regulation of fertilizers and animal wastes,” Thomas said.

Each of these OFWs has been determined to be impaired by excessive nitrate concentrations, and the State recently released a draft study for Silver Springs calling for all sources of nitrate to be reduced 79 percent. This is no time to reduce flows and increase nitrate loading.

Funding is needed for a possible legal battle. Donations can be sent to the Southern Legal Counsel at www.southernlegal.org or by mail to 1229 NW 12th Ave., Gainesville, Fla., 32601.

For more information contact John R. Thomas at jrthomasesq@earthlink.net or Karen Ahlers at ahlers.karen@gmail.com. 🐾

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Reportback: National Veterans for Peace Conference in Miami

By Brian Moore, Gainesville Veterans for Peace Member

Veterans for Peace (VFP) held its 27th national convention this year in Miami. The focus was on U.S. military involvement in Latin America with the theme "Liberating the Americas: Lessons from Latin America and the Caribbean." Speakers included author Alice Walker, Father Roy Bourgeois and TV host Phil Donahue.

Also speaking at the workshops were familiar names like Col. Ann Wright, David Swanson, Medea Benjamin, Iraq War resisters Camilo Mejia and Victor Agosto, Carlos and Melida Arredondo, Marlene Bastien and DeAnne Graham. They participated in presentations on Haiti, Honduras, Guatemala, a panel on G.I. resistance, a Hiroshima/Nagasaki commemoration and much more. You can see video of the workshops at vfpnationalconvention.org.

We met with many other members to discuss current issues including drone warfare, depleted uranium, Agent Orange, the military industrial complex, the war on drugs and U.S. foreign policy in South America.

Many of the members present in Miami worked together in the '80s. In Central America, VFP visited Nicaragua, Guatemala and Honduras. VFP was invited back to help monitor the elections of 1990. While older members of the organiza-

tion were excited to reunite and have some laughs, newer members and guests were eager to meet some of these legendary characters who have devoted their lives to working for peace over the past decades.

Among them was Gainesville's Chapter 14 President Scott Camil, who was frequently approached to commemorate his dedication to educating the public and to recall his past experiences. He was also interviewed for a film documentary on longtime VFP member and friend S. Brian Wilson who sat on train tracks in 1987 to stop the transportation of explosives to Central America.

Wilson was run over by the train only to survive and bring public attention to what later became known as the Iran/Contra scandal.

The convention was filled with stories similar to Wilson's, like Col. Ann Wright refusing to participate in an unjust war, Father Roy being imprisoned, or the countless fasts

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and marches that many members have participated in.

But there was concern for the lack of new members from our most recent wars. Leah Bolger, VFP's first woman president, suggested that younger veterans are in a much needed recovery period while some Vietnam veterans think it's a different environment today with less public outrage over the wars or at least less media coverage.

Along with an effort to attract the newer generation of veterans, many topics were discussed in the lively debates towards the end of the convention. With an opportunity for members to weigh in on the topics, the discussions were very thorough and passionate as they debated future international chapters, voting procedures, by-laws and resolutions.

We were happy to be visited by Dr. Jill Stein, the Green Party candidate for U.S. President. Stein visited with us for two days speaking with all of us who had questions. It was refreshing to hear a presidential candidate that actually cares about and supports our issues like ending these wars, ending the drone murders, ending the attacks

against whistleblowers, no new war in Iran and many other important issues.

During the final dinner, two WWII veterans were commemorated with standing ovations for their lifelong commitment to peace. Many other members were praised for their work in and out of the organization.

Author Alice Walker read a beautiful poem. Father Roy spoke about his commitment to equal rights for women in the church and getting countries to pull their troops out of conflicts around the world.

Although member participation might have been down this year at the convention, there was no lack of optimism moving forward. Leah Bolger and her staff seem confident that membership will begin to grow at a faster pace especially because of the volatile times we are living



Gainesville Vets for Peace members pose with Col. Ann Wright at the national convention in Miami last month. Photo courtesy of Vets for Peace.

in. Veterans are firsthand witnesses of many of problems we face and can set examples for educating the public. This year's convention in Miami solidifies VFP's commitment to that struggle.

Veterans and supporters can learn more by going to the VFP website at www.veteransforpeace.org and contacting local chapters. For more information on the Gainesville chapter, visit www.afn.org/~vetpeace/ or email gvlvfp@earthlink.net. 🐶



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Saturday: 1 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Check out wgot.org for upcoming events and a detailed schedule.

WGOT-LP is now streaming using Shoutcast. We are currently only streaming during our on-air schedule but are considering coming up with an off-air schedule to extend our reach. You can find the WGOT stream under the Shoutcast directory. To listen from your iOS, Android, or Blackberry mobile device, you can use any radio streaming apps such

as Tune In. We are now listed in iTunes Radio under the Eclectic category. Direct feed at www.wgot.org/listen/. 94.7 is a Low Power FM station with a transmitter at NW 39th Ave and I-75, so best reception is within 5 miles, but many people are able to pick up the station in their car. Questions? Comments? E-mail us at info@wgot.org.

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Every Thursday: Weekly Volunteer Meeting, 5:30pm
 Poetry Jam, 9pm

Saturday, 9/8: Munchkin!, a family-friendly curious card game, 3pm to 6pm

Monday, 9/10: CMC Mario Kart 64 Video Game Tournament Fundraiser at 1982, 7:30pm

Monday, 9/10: Stonewall Democrats present "Outrage" a documentary discussing closeted politicians who lobby for anti-gay legislation in the U.S., 7pm

Wednesday, 9/12: RNC Protest Report Back, an event where locals will give a short talk on their experiences at the 2012 RNC protests for our Oral History Archives Project, 7pm

Sunday, 9/16: Zine Workday, join us to work our zine library and unite Gainesville zine culture, 3pm to 6pm

Monday, 9/17: Occupy Wall Street Anniversary screening of "Inside Job," a documentary exposes the truth behind the economic crisis of 2008, 7pm

Tuesday, 9/18: Radical Rush at UF's Plaza of the Americas, 11am to 2pm

Wednesday, 9/19: Radical Rush at UF's Plaza of the Americas, 11am to 2pm

Wednesday, 9/19: Anarchademics radical theory reading and discussion group, 7pm

Thursday, 9/20: Radical Rush at Santa Fe's Oaks Grove, 11am to 2pm

Thursday, 9/20: Green Party meeting, 7pm

Friday, 9/21: Radical Rush Social, join us for a party with masks and delicious food, 8pm to Midnight

Saturday, 9/22: Anarchademics and the Edible Plant Project present "Taking Root: The Vision of Wangari Maathai," a biographical portrait of Maathai, a Nobel Peace Prize winner from Kenya with community discussion after film, 6pm

Monday, 9/24: Alachua County Victim Services and Rape Crisis Center presents "The Invisible War," an investigative documentary about the epidemic of rape of soldiers within the US military, 7pm

Tuesday, 9/25: Gainesville IWW presents "Finally Got the News," documentary that reveals the activities of the League of Revolutionary Black Workers inside the auto factories of Detroit, 7pm

Thursday, 9/27: "Anarchism in Tokyo" a talk by David Morris a research fellow in Tokyo with the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science, 7pm

Friday, 9/28: ArtWalk, 7pm to 10pm

Saturday, 9/29: Tabling at the Pride Festival at Bo Diddley Plaza, 1pm to 9pm

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Check our website for details or events scheduled after this went to press

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Art Lab is a group for artists who are continually expanding their skills and knowledge. Comprised of makers from various backgrounds encompassing a wide range of mediums from forged iron to spun wool to graphic design. We hold technique workshops, artist talks and critiques, professional practices meetings and critical thinking discussions. GainesvilleArtLab@gmail.com. <http://GainesvilleArtLab.org>

Alachua County Labor Party meets monthly and organizes to support local labor and advance the national campaign for universal, single-payer health care. Annual memberships are \$20/year. Please contact us to join or for the most updated info: FloridaLaborParty.org, ACLP@FloridaLaborParty.org, 352.375.2832, 14 East University Ave, Suite 204, Gainesville, FL PO Box 12051, Gainesville, FL 32604

American Civil Liberties Union Currently no local chapter. For info on forming new chapter, or ACLU info, contact Jax office 904-353-7600 or bstandly@aclufl.org

Amnesty International UF campus chapter of worldwide human rights movement; www.facebook.com/ufamnesty or UFamnesty@gmail.com.

Bridges Across Borders Florida-based international collaboration of activists, artists, students and educators supporting cultural diversity and global peace. office@bridgesacrossborders.org, 352-485-2594,

Citizens Climate Lobby (Gainesville Chapter) provides education and activist opportunities to bring about a stable climate. Meetings are the first Saturday of each month at 12:30, usually at the downtown library's Foundation Room. 352-672-4327, www.citizensclimatelobby.org, cclgainesville@gmail.com

Civic Media Center Alternative reading room and library of the non-corporate press, and a resource and space for organizing. 352-373-0010, www.civicmedia-center.org.

The Coalition of Hispanics Integrating Spanish Speakers through Advocacy and Service (CHISPAS) Student-run

group at UF. www.chispasuf.org

Coalition to End the Meal Limit NOW! Search for Coalition to End the Meal Limit NOW on Facebook. www.endthemeallimit-now.org

Code Pink: Women for Peace Women-led grassroots peace and social justice movement utilizing creative protest, non-violent direct action and community involvement. CodePink4Peace.org, jacquebetz@gmail.com

Committee for a Civilian Police Review Board Group that demands the creation of a citizens' police review board to fight against the pattern of corruption, arrogance, bias and violence displayed by some members of the Gainesville Police Department. gvillepolicereview@gmail.com

Conservation Trust for Florida, Inc. Non-profit land trust working to protect Florida's rural landscapes, wildlife corridors and natural areas. 352-466-1178, Conserveflorida.org

Democratic Party of Alachua County Meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month at 7: p.m. in the second floor auditorium of the County Administration Building at SE 1st St. and University Ave. Office is at 901 NW 8th Ave., 352-373-1730, AlachuaCountyDemocraticParty.org

Edible Plant Project Local collective to create a revolution through edible and food-producing plants. 561-236-2262 www.EdiblePlantProject.org.

Families Against Mandatory Minimums Work to reform Florida's sentencing laws and restore fairness to Florida's criminal justice system. PO Box 142933, Gainesville, FL 32614, gnewburn@famm.org. 352-682-2542

The Fine Print An independent, critically thinking outlet for political, social and arts coverage through local, in-depth reporting specifically for Gainesville's students. www.thefineprintuf.org.

Florida School of Traditional Midwifery A clearinghouse for information, activities

and educational programs. 352-338-0766 www.midwiferyschool.org

Florida Defenders of the Environment An organization dedicated to restoring the Ocklawaha and preserving Florida's other natural resources. 352-378-8465 FlaDefenders.org

Gainesville Books for Prisoners is a D.I.Y. prisoner support group. We are an all-volunteer, not-for-profit collective that maintains a small library, housed in the back of Wayward Council, to match books with requests from incarcerated persons in Florida. Get in touch if you'd like to help. gainesvillebooksforprisoners@gmail.com. www.facebook.com/#!/groups/219545091407216/

Gainesville Citizens for Alternatives to the Death Penalty concerned people in the Gainesville area who are working to abolish the death penalty in Florida. Participate in vigils when Florida has an execution. Meets the first Tuesday of every month at St. Augustine Church and Catholic Student Center (1738 W. University Ave.) 352-332-1350, www.fadp.org.

Gainesville Food Not Bombs is the local chapter of a loose-knit group of collectives worldwide who prepare and share free, vegan/vegetarian, healthy, home-cooked meals, made from local surplus, with all who are hungry. Meals are at 3 p.m. every Saturday at Bo Diddly Community Plaza. Prep starts at 11am. Get in touch if you'd like to help. gainesville-fnb@riseup.net. www.facebook.com/#!/groups/143660782367621/

Gainesville Interfaith Alliance for Immigrant Justice (IAIJ) meets biweekly to discuss relevant immigration issues and ways to bring political education to the community through workshops, presentations, advocacy and action. gainesvilleiaij@gmail.com or www.gainesvilleiaij.blogspot.com

Gainesville Women's Liberation The first women's liberation group in the South, formed in 1968, the organization is now part of National Women's Liberation. WomensLiberation.org

Graduate Assistants United Union that represents all UF grad assistants by fighting for improved working conditions, community involvement and academic freedom. 352-575-0366, officers@ufgau.org, www.ufgau.org

Green Party Part of worldwide movement built out of four different interrelated social pillars, which support its politics: the peace, civil rights, environmental and labor movements. www.GainesvilleGreens.webs.com

Grow Radio Non-profit company that will provide the opportunity for community members to create and manage unique, engaging, educational, locally-generated programming to promote fine, musical and visual arts and humanities for the enrichment of, but not limited to, the Gainesville community. growradio.org.

Harvest of Hope Foundation Non-profit organization that provides emergency and educational financial aid to migrant farm workers around the country. www.harvest-of-hope.net or email: kellerhope@cox.net.

Home Van A mobile soup kitchen that goes out to homeless areas twice a week with food and other necessities of life, delivering about 400 meals per week; operated by Citizens for Social Justice. barupa@atlantic.net or 352-372-4825.

Industrial Workers of the World Local union organizing all workers. Meetings are at the Civic Media Center the first Sunday of the month at 7 p.m.. Gainesvilleiww@riseup.net. www.gainesvilleiww.org

Interfaith Alliance for Immigrant Justice Organizing faith communities to work together for immigrant justice. Meets 2nd and 4th Sundays at 6 p.m. at La Casita 1504 W. University Ave. (across from Library) GainesvilleIAIJ@gmail.com; 352-215-4255 or 352-377-6577

International Socialist Organization Organization committed to building a left alternative to a world of war, racism and poverty. Meetings are every Thurs. at the UF classroom building at 105 NW 16th St. at 7 p.m.. gainesvilleiso@gmail.com

Kindred Sisters Lesbian/feminist magazine. PO Box 141674, Gainesville, FL 32614. KindredSisters@gmail.com, www.kindredsisters.org.

Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program needs volunteers to join its corps of advocates who protect the rights of elders in nursing homes, assisted living facilities and adult family care homes. Special training and certification is provided. Interested individuals should call toll-free (888) 831-0404 or visit the pro-

gram's Web site at <http://ombudsman.myflorida.com>.

MindFreedom North Florida Human rights group for psychiatric survivors and mental health consumers. 352-328-2511.

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Support, education and advocacy for families and loved ones of persons with mental illness/brain disorders. 374-5600. ext. 8322; www.namigainesville.org.

National Lawyers Guild Lawyers, law students, legal workers and jailhouse lawyers using the law to advance social justice and support progressive social movements. nlggainesville@gmail.com or www.nlg.org

National Organization for Women Gainesville Area www.gainesvillenow.org. info@gainesvilleNOW.org NOW meeting info contact Lisa at 352-450-1912. NOW information, contact Laura Bresko 352-332-2528.

Planned Parenthood Clinic Full-service medical clinic for reproductive and sexual health care needs. Now offering free HIV and free pregnancy testing daily from 9-11 a.m. and 1-4 p.m.. Located at 914 NW 13th Street.

Pride Community Center of North Central Florida Resources for the gay/lesbian community, open M-F, 3-7, Sat. noon-4 p.m.. Located at 3131 NW 13th St., Suite 62. 352-377-8915, www.GainesvillePride.org.

Protect Gainesville Citizens Group whose mission is to provide Gainesville residents with accurate and comprehensible information about the Cabot/Koppers Superfund site. 352-354-2432, www.protectgainesville.org.

River Phoenix Center for Peacebuilding provides innovative ways to resolve conflict in Gainesville and provides services like mediation, communication skill building and restorative justice. www.centerforpeacebuilding.org. 2603 NW 13th St. #333, 352-234-6595

Queer Activist Coalition Politically motivated activist group at UF fighting for full civil and social equality for the LGBTQ community. queeractivistcoalition@gmail.com.

Sierra Club Meets the first Thursday of

every month at 7:30 p.m. at the UF Entomology & Nematology Building, Room 1035. 352-528-3751, www.ssjsierra.org

Sister City Program of Gainesville. Links Gainesville with sister cities in Russia, Israel and Palestine, Iraq, and Haiti. Meets the first Tuesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. at the Mennonite Meeting House, 1236 NW 18th Avenue (across from Gainesville HS). For more information, see: <http://www.gnvsistercities.org>.

Student/Farmworker Alliance A network of youth organizing with farmworkers to eliminate sweatshop conditions and modern-day slavery in the fields. More info on Facebook, search "Gainesville Student/Farmworker Alliance."

Students for a Democratic Society Multi-issue student and youth organization working to build power in our schools and communities. Meetings are every Monday at 6:30 p.m. in Anderson Hall 32 on the UF campus.

UF Pride Student Union Group of gay, lesbian, bi and straight students & non-students, faculty and staff. www.grove.ufl.edu/~pride.

United Faculty of Florida Union represents faculty at University of Florida. 392-0274, president@uff-uf.org, www.UFF-UF.org.

The United Nations Association, Gainesville Florida Chapter. Our purpose is to heighten citizen awareness and knowledge of global problems and the United Nations efforts to deal with those issues. www.afn.org/~una-usa/.

Veterans for Peace Anti-war organization that works to raise awareness of the detriments of militarism and war as well as to seek alternatives that are peaceful and effective. Meetings are the first Wednesday of every month at 7 p.m.. 352-375-2563, www.afn.org/~vetpeace/.

WGOT 94.7 LP-FM Community low-power station operating as part of the Civic Media Center. wgot947@gmail.com, www.wgot.org.



Sunday Domingo	Monday Lunes	Tuesday Martes	Wednesday Miercoles	Thursday Jueves	Friday Viernes	Saturday Sabado
<div><p>Radio Notes: Find schedules for WUFT, WGOT, and Grow Radio, our local non-corporate stations, at www.wuft.org, wgot.org, & growradio.org respectively. Both WGOT and Grow radio are streamed on the internet, but with luck may emerge into over-the-air broadcast. WGOT is a shared over-the-air signal with two churches, so it is not always on.</p><p>On the music side of things, those on the east side or with antennas might appreciate the music on Jacksonville's public radio station at 89.9 FM, ranging from acoustic to electronic, jazz and blues, in an eclectic and pleasant mix in the evenings and night.</p><p>LISTEN TO AND SUPPORT COMMUNITY RADIO!</p><p>For more event details and irregularly updated calendar entries, see www.gainesvilleiguana.org/calendar.</p></div> <div><p>9 Moyers & Company on WUFT-TV, Sundays, 1 pm.</p><p>Fla Coalition for Peace & Justice weekly potluck & ecovillage tour, 4 pm: fcpj.org.</p><p>Grand opening: Obama for America office, 315 SE 2nd Ave, 4:30-7:30 pm.</p><p>Interweave potluck, UUFG, 2nd Sundays, 6 pm.</p></div> <div><p>16 Zine Workday at CMC, 3 pm: come help organize CMC's amazing library of 'zines.</p><div></div><p>1924: Lauren Bacall born. 1925: B.B. King born.</p></div> <div><p>23 Unitarian Sunday Service: "Becoming Radically Inclusive", UUFG, 4225 NW 34th St, 11 am.</p><p>Just Health Care Reading Group, 3-5 pm; see floridalaborparty.org/alachua/calendar or call 376-1208.</p><div></div><p>1838: Victoria Woodhull born. 1970: Ani DiFranco born.</p></div> <div><p>30 13th Annual Lawton Chiles Gala at Gvl Hilton on SW 34th St; 5:30 pm - see www.alachuadems.org.</p><p>If you appreciate this calendar, please consider supporting the <i>Ig</i> with a donation &/or subscription: PO Box 14712, Gainesville FL 32604.</p></div>	<p>10 "Politicized Judicial Elections" Marsha Ternus talk at Fla Free Speech Forum, Paramount Hotel, 11:30 am (talk free; lunch \$19).</p> <p>"Fossil Horses: Icons of Evolution" talk, Fla Museum of Natural History, 4 pm, free.</p> <p>"Judicial Elections" Marsha Ternus talk, Downtown Library, 6 pm, free.</p> <p>Outrage, hypocritical legislators exposed, cosponsored by Stonewall Democrats, CMC, 7 pm.</p> <p>Mario Kart 64 Tournament fundraiser for CMC at 1982, 919 W. Univ Ave, \$8 adv/\$10 door.</p> <p>17 Inside Job Oscar-winning doc by Charles Ferguson traces 2008 economic collapse to Wall St deregulation/coup in 1980s: Civic Media Center, 433 S. Main St, 7 pm.</p> <p>1787: US Constitution adopted. 2011: 1st Occupy Wall Street protest.</p>	<p>4 School Board meets 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 6 pm</p> <p>County Farmers' Mkt on N 441 by Hwy Patrol Tues/Thurs/Sat, 8 am-noon.</p> <p>Anti-war sign-holding on SW 34th St & Archer Rd, 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 4:30 pm.</p> <p>1886: Geronimo surrenders. 1908: Richard Wright born.</p> <p>11 Alachua County Comm meets, 2nd & 4th Tues, 9 am & 5 pm, County Admin Bldg; citizens' comment, 9:30 am & 5:30 pm.</p> <p>Job Fair at MLK Center, Waldo Rd, 10 am-2 pm.</p> <p>"Return of Jim Crow" luncheon talk by League of Women Voters, Sweetwater Branch Inn, 625 E. Univ Ave, 11:30 am-1 pm.</p> <p>Anti-war sign-holding on 13th St & Univ Ave, 2nd & 4th Tuesdays, 4:30 pm.</p> <p>Theatre of the Oppressed opens CIW Week in Gvl: Reitz Union 355, 7 pm, free.</p> <p>18 Radical Rush at UF, 11 am-2 pm; see pg 6.</p> <p>School Board meets 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 6 pm; ww.sbac.edu.</p> <p>Science Café on Astrobiology, Fla Museum of Natural History, 6-7:30 pm.</p> <p>PFLAG monthly meeting at United Church, 7 pm.</p>	<p>5 Free confidential walk-in HIV testing at Alachua County Health Dept, 224 SE 24th St, 9 am-3 pm, M-F; & at Pride Ctr, 3131 NW 13th St, 4-6 pm on 1st & 3rd Thurs; info: 334-7961.</p> <p>Downtown Farmers' Market every Wed, Dtown Plaza, 4-7 pm; Edible Plant Project, 2nd Weds.</p> <p>Veterans for Peace meet, 7 pm: call 352-375-2563 for directions.</p> <p>1939: Dalton Trumbo publishes <i>Johnny Got His Gun</i>. 1957: Jack Kerouac publishes <i>On the Road</i>.</p> <p>12 "Civility in American Politics (& Lack Thereof)" - talk by Jonathan Haidt, Pugh Hall, UF, 5:30 pm.</p> <p>RNC Report-back from Tampa convention protest, CMC, 7 pm.</p> <p>"Meet CIW Farmworkers" potluck & program w/ Mayor Lowe, Emmanuel Mennonite Church, 1236 NW 18th Ave, 7 pm.</p> <p>19 Radical Rush at UF, 11 am-2 pm; see pg 6.</p> <p>LGBT Reception hosted by Women's Studies, UF Ulster Atrium, 4-6 pm.</p> <p>Women, Work & Family Roundtable, UF Levin Law College rm 180, 6:30 pm</p> <p>Humanists meet, UUFG, 4225 NW 34th St, 7 pm; topic: state constitutional amendments on ballot, with Eileen Roy & LWV.</p> <p>Anarchademics, CMC, 7 pm.</p>	<p>6 CMC Volunteers meet every Thursday, 5:30 pm.</p> <p>Internat'l Socialist Org. meets Thursdays, 7 pm, 105 NW 16th St.</p> <p>Open Poetry every Thursday at CMC, 9 pm: Gvl's longest-running poetry jam, open to all; informal & welcoming to both readers & listeners.</p> <p>13 Modern-Day Slavery Museum, UF Plaza of the Americas, 9am-5pm; talk by CIW farmworkers, <i>Smath.Lib.</i> 1A, 1 pm.</p> <p>Organizational Fair, UF Colonade, 11 am-2 pm.</p> <p>"Searching for Gandhi in the American Heartland" - Whitney Sanford talk at UF Ulster Hall Atrium, 3:30-5 pm.</p> <p>CMC Volunteers meet, 5:30 pm.</p> <p>"Biopolitics & the Fate of Humans & Animals" C. Wolfe talk, UF Smathers Lib. East 1A, 6 pm.</p> <p>Gvl NOW, Wild Iris Books, 7 pm.</p> <p>Open Poetry, CMC, 9 pm.</p> <p>20 Radical Rush at SFC, 11 am-2 pm; see pg 6.</p> <p>CMC Volunteers meet, 5:30 pm.</p> <p>Green Party meets, CMC, 7 pm.</p> <p>Open Poetry at CMC, 9 pm.</p> <div></div> <p>See www.gainesvillebands.com for info on live music in G'ville.</p> <p>1878: Upton Sinclair born.</p>	<p>7 Desperadoes, free, Bo Diddley Downtown Plaza, 8 pm.</p> <p>The Year of the Bat celebration, with Lubee Bat Conservatory, Fla Museum of Natural History, 6-8 pm.</p> <div></div> <p>Keep up with the CMC at www.civicmediacenter.org for events created after this calendar was printed, and into the future (also see pg 9).</p> <p>1936: Charles H. "Buddy" Holly born.</p> <p>14 CIW Farmworker Protest, Westgate Publix (Univ Ave & SW 34th St), 5 pm.</p> <p>Transgender Movie Night, 2nd Fridays, 7 pm, Pride Ctr.</p> <p>Gramfest (Gram Parsons tribute), Bo Diddley Plaza, 8 pm, free.</p> <div></div> <p>1879: Ivan Pavlov born. 1883: Margaret Sanger born.</p> <p>21 Blue Door Café at Democratic Party HQ, 901 NW 8th Ave, 5 pm.</p> <p>Radical Rush Social/Benefit: music, food, & a surprise or two; CMC, 7 pm.</p> <p>Pride Awards dinner, Sweetwater Branch Inn, 7 pm: see gainesvillepride.org.</p> <p>Imposters (Beatles tribute band), Bo Diddley downtown plaza, 8 pm, free.</p> <p>Whether here or anywhere: please support live music!</p>	<p>8 Food Not Bombs makes free vegan/vegetarian meals Saturdays: prep starts 11 am: gainesvillefnb@riseup.net.</p> <p>Alternative Radio by David Barsamian airs Saturdays on WGOT, 4 pm.</p> <p>Women for Obama meet, Millhopper Library, 3145 NW 43rd St, 4 pm.</p> <p>"History of the South" multimedia presentation by Henry Sheldon: Prairie Creek Lodge, 7204 SE County Rd 234; adv reservations at hailedocent@yahoo.com; \$10, 5:30 pm.</p> <p>Veg 4 Life 1st Saturday potluck, 6:30 pm at UU Fellowship, 4225 NW 34th St: 375-7207; \$1 + veggie/vegan dish.</p> <p>Gvl Roller Rebels vs Richland County Regulators, Skate Stn, \$12, 7:30 pm.</p> <p>15 Fair Food Fair Trade Fair, Mennonite Mtg House, 1236 NW 18th Ave; + Gardening Workshops, Highlands Presbyterian, 1001 NE 16th Ave; both 10 am-4 pm.</p> <p>Downtown Latino Festival, Bo Diddley Plaza - music, vendors, food - noon-9 pm.</p> <p>22 No Fla Folkfest, Fla Ag. Museum, Palm Coast, Flagler County, 11 am; see www.nffolk.com.</p> <p>Vision of Wangari Maathai, film & discussion on Kenyan Nobel, cosponsored by Anarchademics; CMC, 6 pm.</p> <p>Blondie and Devo at St. Augustine Amphitheatre.</p> <p>FALL EQUINOX</p>
	<p>24 Invisible War, doc on rape epidemic in US military, cosponsored by Alachua County Victim Services & Rape Crisis Center; CMC, 7 pm. This should be mandatory viewing for anyone considering ROTC or enlistment.</p> <div></div>	<p>25 Alachua County Comm meets; see 8/11.</p> <p>"Swing the State" voter registration event, UF Pugh Hall, noon-5 pm (last day to register, or change registration to Alachua County, for Nov election is Oct 9th - do it now).</p> <p>Alachua County Labor Party meets: 6:30 pm, IBEW Hall, 2510 NW 6th St; info, 375-2832.</p> <p>Finally Got the News, doc on auto factory organizing in Detroit; CMC, 7 pm.</p> <p>Wild Words, Wild Iris Books, last Tuesdays, open mic, 7 pm.</p> <p>2 Ragamala Dance, Phillips Ctr, 7:30 pm.</p> <p>1869: Mohandas K. Gandhi born.</p>	<p>26 Stonewall Democrats, 901 NW 8th Ave, 6 pm, 4th Weds.</p> <p>"Countering Pharho's Production -Consumption Society" video/discussion, Menno Mtg House, 1236 NW 18th Ave, 7 pm; also on 9/5, 9/11, 9/19, & 10/3 - contact gnvmenno@bellsouth.net.</p> <div><p>IGUANA Deadline for Oct issue is 9/26; write gainesvilleiguana@cox.net or call 378-5655 with events, updates, advertisements & info.</p><div></div></div> <p>3 Veterans for Peace meet, 7 pm: call 352-375-2563 for directions.</p> <p>Presidential Debate #1, 9-10:30 pm.</p>	<p>27 CMC Volunteers, 5:30 pm.</p> <p>"Immigration Rights as Human Rights" talk by Cheryl Little, UF Pugh Hall, 6 pm.</p> <p>"Anarchism in Tokyo" talk by David Morris, CMC, 7 pm.</p> <p>"A Short History of LGBT Issues in Florida", Pride Ctr, 7 pm.</p> <p>Tannahill Weavers, Phillips Ctr, 7:30 pm.</p> <p>Open Poetry, CMC, 9 pm.</p> <p>4 CMC Volunteers, 5:30 pm.</p> <p>Sierra Club general meeting, UF Entomology Bldg rm 3118, 1st Thursdays, 7:30 pm.</p> <p>Open Poetry at CMC, 9 pm.</p> <div></div>	<p>28 Critical Mass Bike Ride, 5:30 pm, UF Plaza of Americas.</p> <p>Art Walk Downtown: many galleries & venues participate; 7-10 pm, last Friday of each month.</p> <p>Gay Movie Night last Fridays, \$2, 7:30 pm, Pride Ctr, 3131 NW 13th St.</p> <p>Tropix (Latin fusion), Bo Diddley Plaza, 8 pm, free.</p> <p>Adieu to Dirty Fist - last show, Display (437 S. Main St), 10 pm.</p> <p>5 St. Tallah music & potluck at CMC, 7 pm.</p> <p>The Relics, Bo Diddley Downtown Plaza, free, 8 pm.</p>	<p>29 Alachua County Food Network Community Forum, St. Patrick's Comm. Ctr, 500 NE 16th Ave, 9:30 am - 4:30 pm.</p> <p>Pride Parade, W 7th St & Univ Ave to BD Downtown Plaza, noon-1 pm; Pride Festival, BD Plaza, 1 pm-9 pm.</p> <p>Munchkin!, CMC, 3 pm.</p> <p>Candidate Forum at Trinity United Methodist Church, 4000 NW 53rd Ave, time & schedule TBA.</p> <p>Rascal Flatts, O'Dome, 7 pm.</p> <p>FULL MOON</p> <p>6 Stetson Kennedy event marking his birthdate at Beluthahatchee (Switzerland, FL, southwest of Jacksonville) tentative scheduled for this day; check civicmediacenter.org for information.</p> <p>Veg 4 Life potluck: see 9/8.</p> <p>1961: JFK urges Americans to build bomb shelters.</p>



What happened to the American Dream of a college education and home ownership?

Anonymous Iguana Reader

This is the third part of a three-part series addressing the reader's question about the American Dream. In this installment, Mr. Econ tackles college education.

Let's look at the factors that place a college education beyond the grasp of many middle class people.

The basic factor here is price. The price of a four-year college education has skyrocketed. From 1980 to 2010, the estimated cost of earning a four-year degree has risen from \$2,550 per year at a public college or \$15,014 at a private school, to \$5,594 and \$32,800 in 2010 – increases of around 490 percent. At the same time, middle class wages and their purchasing power are stagnant or falling, and the consumer price index rose by only 165 percent.

One of the main factors that contributed to the astronomical increase is the decrease in government support for higher education. At major state colleges and universities, state legislatures have drastically cut financial support. We can see this locally in the more than \$38 million that was recently cut from the University of Florida's budget by the state legislature, and UF is not alone.

In addition, federal spending on higher

education has been stagnant, with the exception of the increases from 2009 through 2011 due to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. According to the National Center for Education Statistics, federal funding has fallen from a high of about 18 percent of a school's revenue to below 10 percent.

While we have heard of the very public and very large gifts foundations and individuals have given to colleges, private corporate funding has not kept pace. Several studies ranging from the Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics, to the Chronicle of Higher Education, to private research studies have shown corporate support for higher education is at best stagnant. Instead, corporations that used to give research dollars to universities have chosen to keep those dollars in house or, at best, to form joint research ventures with schools.

These public/private partnerships may have benefits for the institutions; research jobs, graduate assistantships, future employment opportunities, laboratories and equipment that the university can't afford can now be used or shared. But still, the real money stays outside the university.

Real money, you ask? Yes, real money. Ever think of who benefits from that bottle of Gatorade you just bought, or the milk infused with Vitamin D, or the poison you use to kill rats, or the blood thinner your elderly uncle takes? In each of these examples a major state research university is funding a significant portion of their costs through these products. In the case of Vitamin D in milk and Coumadin (the blood thinner) or Warfarin (the rat poison), patents are held by the University of Wisconsin and its patent holding arm, the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation (WARF – hence, the name of the rat poison).

As newer patents are developed by these public/private partnerships, less of the income comes to the university.

Tied to real money is the return on what is called the university's endowment. Universities invest their savings

accounts, usually called endowments, in the stock market and other risky places in the hopes of high returns. With the stock market underperforming, this has a two-fold consequence in some cases.

The first is less income from the endowment to add to the revenue side of the university's budget. Universities tend to save the corpus or the endowment's principle for capital projects or "rainy days."

The second has to do with contributions to pension funds. Both public and private sector colleges at one time offered defined benefit pensions plans. With the stock market and other investment vehicles underperforming expectations, universities are being forced to add money to their pension funds to make up for the short fall of expected revenues in order to meet pension obligations.

To some extent, this is being exacerbated by the fact that a large number of faculty and staff currently at universities are from the baby boomer era, are just now reaching retirement age and are in fact retiring. Hence, these pension obligations are real and becoming due right now. Universities, therefore, have to augment pension investment income with current revenues to make up for the shortfall.

It should be noted that not all college pension funds are in this predicament. There are several that either through more prudent investment policies, more fiscally sound contribution policies, or by decreasing promised benefit or instituting or increasing faculty staff contributions, have avoided this problem. Further, many systems have now gone to a defined contribution pension plan, which works more like an employer-funded or jointly funded 401(K), and it gets the institution off the hook for any future guarantees.

Faculty salaries are another reason for the increasing costs of getting a college education. Faculty salaries have been under tremendous upward pressure in many fields. Colleges now have to compete with private sector

firms for top talent. This has led many institutions to establish different salary rates for faculty positions in such fields as law, engineering, business and the research sciences. To a lesser extent this has pulled other faculty salaries up, but nowhere at the rate of those professions that directly compete with the private sector.

Overall median faculty salaries have risen from just under \$13,000 in 1970 to around \$66,000 in 2010, representing an increase of approximately 400 percent, less than the rise in the consumer price index for the same period of time.

In addition to rising faculty salaries, more and more college and university staff became organized, including graduate assistants. What was previously very poorly paid employment with few or no benefits now has more market rate wages and benefits. Thus, the pool of low paid workers that kept the university clean, the community fed, the grounds manicured, and the buildings heated and cooled, the introductory level courses taught, and the research project going, became more expensive.

With all these factors and foundations turning to shore up the social safety network that was decimated in consecutive order by the Reagan, Bush, Clinton and Bush II administrations, there were few other places to turn for additional revenue outside of tuition

and student fees. Hence, the price of a four-year college degree shot up.

What made matters worse is that some universities turned to some very creative tuition and enrollment solutions. A couple of very high profile public research universities attempted to privatize either the entire university or parts of it that they thought could become self-sustaining.

Also, a number of schools have experimented with differential tuition for various majors, the theory being that students can expect to earn more once they graduate from some majors, so they should pay more.

Finally, some major research universities have limited the size of the undergraduate class. The theory behind this move is that many tenured professors see teaching undergraduates as a burden. Classes are large, papers and exams take a long time to grade and review, and courses take a lot of time to prepare. This all takes away from research, writing books, developing patents, writing and working on grants, presenting lectures at conferences, and consulting and developing outside businesses, all of which can lead to additional income.

As a result, the revenue tuition is expected to generate is spread over fewer enrollees, which means higher costs.

So we have a situation where middle class income and purchasing power is falling while at the same time the cost of going to a four-year college is rising faster than the general rate of inflation. The unfortunate result is that many people are forced into the labor market working at low paying jobs just to survive or to at least earn enough money to go to a community college.

In the vast majority of cases, neither of these two tracks will provide the education and training necessary to secure a job that will enable a person to achieve the middle class American Dream. 🐢



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For Alachua County Commission,
District 5, Democrat

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2012 GENERAL ELECTION INFORMATION

October 9th - Voter Registration Deadline - October 27th Early Voting Begins
October 31st at 5:00 PM - Last Day to Request A Ballot Be Mailed To You
November 6th - General Election (Polls open 7 AM to 7 PM)

WHERE DO I VOTE?

● **Changes in Polling Places and Precincts:** Some polling places and precincts have changed. Please confirm your polling place and precinct online at www.VoteAlachua.com by clicking on "My Voter Information Page". **Florida Law requires you to vote in the precinct of your residence. It is illegal to vote in a precinct you no longer live.**

● **Your Voter Information Card:** All voters have been mailed a new voter information card. Check yours now to be sure it is current and correct and has your new districts, precinct and polling place on it. This information will help you determine which candidates will appear on your ballot. If you did not receive a new card call the our office at (352) 374-5252.

WHAT DO I NEED TO DO?

● **Check Your Record On-Line:** To check your registration status, update your address, name, signature, or locate your precinct polling place and view your sample ballot, go to www.VoteAlachua.com and click on "My Voter Information Page".

● **Signature Update:** If your signature has changed since you registered to vote, you need to update your record. If you vote by mail **your ballot may not count** if your signature is different than the signature on record. To update your signature go online to www.VoteAlachua.com or contact our office.

● **Voter Identification: At The Polls:** FL Law requires voters to present current and valid picture and signature ID at the polls and early voting sites or you will need to vote a provisional ballot.

VOTING IS EASY AS 1-2-3

● **Vote by Mail:** Request online at www.VoteAlachua.com or call (352)374-5252. Your request must be made by **5 PM on October 31st**. Absentee ballots must be received in the Elections Office by 7 PM on November 6th, Election Day.

● **Vote Early:** Early Voting is available **October 27th through November 3rd**. See our website at www.VoteAlachua.com for hours and locations to early vote.

● **Vote At Your Precinct:** Polls open **7 AM to 7 PM on Election Day, November 6th**.

Pam Carpenter
Alachua County Supervisor of Elections
111 SE 1st Avenue, Gainesville, FL 32601
(352) 374-5252
www.VoteAlachua.com



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History and the people who make it: John De Grove

Transcript edited by Pierce Butler

This is the tenth in a continuing series of transcript excerpts from the collection of the Samuel Proctor Oral History Program at the University of Florida.

John DeGrove, "the father of growth management law in Florida," was interviewed by Cynthia Barnett [B] on December 1, 2001.

B: You were in the infantry from 1942-1946?

Yes. We went over right after D-Day [June 6, 1944]. We landed at Cherbourg, in France, got on cattle cars, went across France, and into the front lines in Holland, Germany, Belgium. I got into leading patrols out behind the enemy lines and doing things like that. Pretty soon, our platoon [was] down to a handful of people who were still alive. That's how I became a sergeant and then I got a battlefield commission.

We were doing a counter-attack, I guess and some Germans were surrendering. Somebody in the back threw a grenade. Big mistake on their part.

Knocked me out just for an instant. That apparently did some damage [to my lungs that showed up] later. Didn't stop me right then at all. [After] that concussion [grenade], we went on and those guys were wiped out.

After the war, I went in to the hospital because I had a case of viral pneumonia. It developed into tuberculosis and they always said that the concussion grenade had weakened the structure of that lung, so that when I got the viral pneumonia, which [I] should have been able to shake off, it evolved into tuberculosis after I got in the hospital.

I [was sent] out to Colorado, a special place for tuberculosis types. I decided, I'll be damned if I'm going to die out here in Colorado. I was [determined] to die in Florida, as close to home as I could get. They went along with all that. I went to the tuberculosis sanitarium. They had several of these, and they were ahead of their time. I was in the hospital for almost four years. I missed the marvelous streptomycin and the TB drugs, the ones that would have kept me in the hospital for a month or

two, just by a few months.

I became president of the student body at Rollins. I led a revolt at Rollins against the president. We threw him out.

Well, he was a bad guy. We went into an enrollment decline. In the process of cutting back, he was firing the best people. His concept of how to get Rollins straightened out and going right was just wrong. I had some board of trustee members who agreed with me. His name was Wagner. We did every kind of thing to force this guy out.

I finished my master's in nine months at Emory [University in 1954]. My thesis looked at the Swamp and Overflow Lands Act. That really got me into realizing how badly it's possible to manage resources. Swamp and Overflow Lands Act of 1849, I think it was, granted to Florida twenty million acres of land. Turned out that a lot of it wasn't swamp and overflow at all.

It hadn't been surveyed. There are only thirty-eight million acres of land

See ORAL HISTORY p. 18

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ORAL HISTORY from p. 17

in Florida and we got twenty million acres under the Swamp and Overflow Lands Act. It was to be drained and reclaimed for useful purposes. That is, I believe, the exact phrase of the Act. "Drained and reclaimed for useful purposes," carried the connotation that as wetlands, as swamp lands, it had no value. That got started with the Disston Purchase [in] 1884. That's when we'd gotten well underway to screwing up the state.

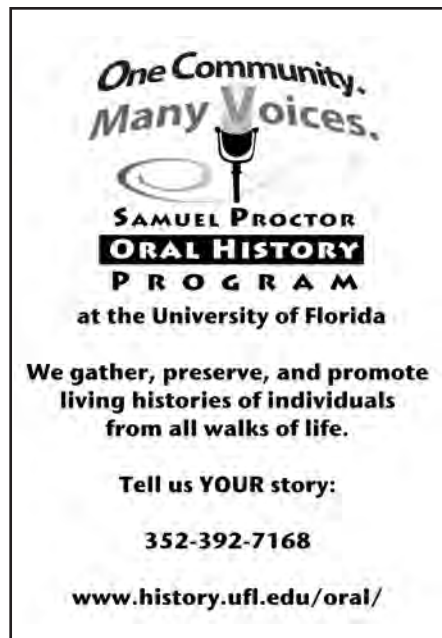
[Hamilton] Disston bought two million acres of land. I think it was twenty-five cents an acre he paid for it. The deal was, that he would dig a canal where the Kissimmee River was and drain the land. He would get an extra acre for every acre that he reclaimed. I remember talking to Marjory Stoneman Douglas [environmental activist, author of *The Everglades—River of Grass*] about this, neither one of us realized what damage channelizing the Kissimmee River was going to do.

Disston got quite a few extra acres, because we hit this bad dry spell and it looked like he had drained and reclaimed a whole lot of land that only dried up. When the rains came again, most of that land re-flooded. Disston, the whole thing didn't work out for him. Maybe he did commit suicide. That got [me] looking and understanding, the give-away to railroad companies, to canal companies, to this, to that. A lot of it just absolutely skullduggerously crooked. My thesis dug into how we had mismanaged that land and what negative impacts that mismanagement had.

At Chapel Hill, I got very interested in urban development patterns. That's when I began to see, understand, or be sensitive to the downsides of sprawl.

My Ph.D. dissertation was on the Central and Southern Florida Flood Control District. The Flood Control District was multi-county, but it didn't have the right boundaries. At least it was a regional entity. It was a way to try to straighten out some of the things that we had messed up so badly.

Back at the turn of the century, and really a part of the Progressive movement, Napoleon Bonaparte Broward, Florida's governor, took a good long hard look and concluded that skullduggery had taken place in what we did with the Swamp and Overflow



Lands Act lands. We had given away more land for this that and the other purpose, many of it ill-advised or absolutely crooked, than there was in the whole state of Florida. They went to court. They were successful in recapturing 3,000,000 acres of the original Everglades. They recaptured it to drain, not to restore it.

As time went on and the digging went forward, we ended up with the Central and Southern Florida Flood Control project, [and] the increasingly obvious negative impacts of this effort, [such as] saltwater intrusion.

I came here to the University of Florida in January of 1958. They offered me a marvelous salary, I think it was \$5,800.

The university had this rule that not only could you not run for political office, you couldn't contribute to the candidacy of anybody else that ran for political office. Remember, I'm a brand new assistant professor and I [had] no particular political protection. Anyway, I declared that [rule] to be unconstitutional, not only wrong, but it couldn't

possibly be [right]. It turns out it had to do with a deal to get the medical school what has turned into the Shands complex here instead of Jacksonville. [They wanted to keep] liberal professors totally out. The guy that made that deal, I guess, was Shands, a [senator] in the [Florida] legislature.

Anyway, we organized the Civic Action Association. We managed to throw out the old guard and not only elect a new city council, but, in effect, a new county commission. Up until then the old guard just picked out who was going to be the next ones. I was pushing for city-county consolidation, all kinds of radical stuff. I ended up chairman of the planning board.

We were here from 1958-64, six years, and boy, we took over. I was chairman of the state AAUP [American Association of University Professors]. When Charlie [Foreman] and I met, I was at a Board of Control meeting representing the AAUP and I think Charlie might have been chairman. He just could not believe that I was a Florida southern cracker. So he got it [the faculty censorship rule] changed.

It taught me something I had begun to learn earlier and I have never wavered in my conviction. Before then, Charlie Foreman had been just a guy [who] didn't look like [he was] interested in doing anything good [or for] what I was after. Never ever write anybody off completely, because you might be able to work with them some time in the future. As a matter of fact, I've worked with Charlie ever since. He has been a great supporter of the Joint Center and 1,000 Friends of Florida.

B: When did you go to Boca Raton?

In 1964, when FAU opened its doors.

When did I first cross paths with Nat? We started 1,000 Friends of Florida together. That was later, much later. I knew him when he was working with Claudius Maximus.

B: How well did you know Claude Kirk? What do you think of him?

Any legacy that he has for positive behavior is due to the fact that he wasn't a right-wing ideologue. He was a total character. He had to have people following him around all the time to keep him from running off with first one lady and then another, which he did repeatedly, famously once when he went all the way to California out of a wedding in Virginia.

I think it was the governor's bride. Somehow he persuaded her to get on this Lear jet he flew around in. Don Reed was a big Republican in the legislature. [He and] this other person, were supposed to be watching out for [Claude]. Somehow he slipped away from them and he got this lady to get on this jet with him and they flew to California and they just disappeared.

Nathaniel Pryor Reed [Governing Board Member, South Florida Water Management District] is from a family who owned a lot of land on Jupiter Island. He's always been a very strong environmentalist. He's gradually come to accept that you can't have a sustainable environment unless you have sustainable urban systems, and that neither are sustainable [in Florida at this time].

B: What would you say Nat Reed's legacy is to Florida?

[He was] Nixon's environmental advisor. He persuaded him to stop the cross-Florida barge canal and many other things.

In 1969, in this Seaside Institute paper, I said that we had to understand that Florida's effort to get any kind of growth management system had to evolve out of a conviction that no right-minded person would voluntarily come to a state, as I put it, where it was hot and muggy, the Indians were hostile and swore they'd never surrender, the alligators were large, and the moccasins were mean. To counter these, from statehood through World War II, our leaders did everything they could to promote growth in Florida. In the mid- to late-1960s, our love affair with growth

began to cool. Quite a number of people were saying, wait a minute, we're really messing things up here.

There was an effort to stop digging the cross-state barge canal. There's where Nat Reed [came] into the picture with Claude Kirk [Fla governor, 1967-1971].

B: They were both involved in halting the jetport and the cross-Florida barge canal.

It was because of Nat Reed. Nat had been Assistant Secretary of the Interior under Nixon. A good Republican, an environmentally-strong Republican. The Florida Air and Water Pollution Control Act was passed. Coastal Construction Setback Line legislation was passed, aimed at protecting vital dunes and coastal vegetation, and the establishment of the Coastal Coordinating Council, charged with developing a planning and management plan for Florida's 11,000 miles of coastline.

In the late 1960s, Kirk supported these initiatives. He couldn't have cared less, but he was heavily influenced by his dollar-a-year, chief environmental advisor, Nat Reed. Nat was convinced that protecting the environment had become good politics in Florida.

Every time we've done something in Florida to move toward some kind of effort to manage our growth,

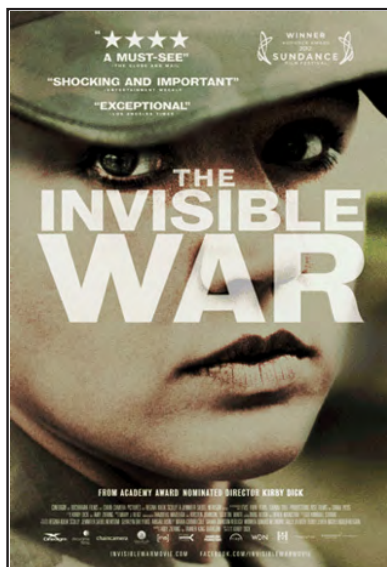
it's been in a real or perceived crisis. Always. The other common thread is, everything we've ever done, we've never ended up funding it adequately to allow it to be implemented effectively.

The second half of SPOHP's John DeGrove interview will appear in the October 2012 Gainesville Iguana.

An audio podcast of this interview will be made available, along with many others, at www.history.ufl.edu/oral/feature-podcasts.htm.

The Samuel Proctor Oral History Program believes that listening carefully to first-person narratives can change the way we understand history, from scholarly questions to public policy. SPOHP needs the public's help to sustain and build upon its research, teaching, and service missions: even small donations can make a big difference in SPOHP's ability to gather preserve and promote history for future generations.

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The truth about the Alachua County budget

By Mike Byerly, Alachua County Commissioner

Your county budget is undergoing some serious changes at the hands of the new “conservative” Alachua County Commission majority.

Each year, the Property Appraiser determines the market value of all taxable property in the county and reports this to the County Commission. The County Commission then applies a rate, the millage rate, to this total in order to produce the budget for the coming year. The budget and the millage rate are not the same thing, and can’t be used interchangeably.

If property values decline, but the millage rate stays the same, then the budget will decline by the same percentage as property values. So, it’s possible to increase the millage rate while actually reducing the budget.

This is what happened last year, and the year before.

The budget for the current year’s General Fund (by far the county’s largest fund) is \$127,423,057.

Property values are projected to decline by about 3.4 percent this year. To maintain the same actual budget next year, the millage rate would have to be raised 3.4 percent. This is the course I supported. Commissioners Lee Pinkoson, Susan Baird and Winston Bradley voted to keep the millage rate the same, which will now require that the budget be reduced by 3.4 percent, or about \$4.4 million.

Bear in mind that even our radically conservative state legislature recognizes the necessity of indexing a budget to population increase and inflation. In Alachua County, population increase and inflation for the coming year are projected to erode around 5 percent of the budget’s purchasing power.

In other words, maintaining the same budget next year would result in an effective 5 percent reduction in the County’s ability to provide services. Add the proposed 3.4 percent reduction resulting from the proposed millage rate, and the proposed budget declines some 8 percent in just one year.

Property values have declined modestly for each of the past three years. However, this follows a huge, market-driven runup during the real estate speculation of the mid-2000s. So even with the recent declines, countywide property values are still 25 percent higher than they were just five years ago.

To make a ridiculously complicated story as short as possible, Florida’s counties are going to have to start making substantially higher payments to the state for the federal Medicaid services that their residents receive. In Alachua County, this will mean approximately \$3.4 million more next year, \$2.4 million more for three years following that, and then about \$1.2 million more per year from then on.

Lastly, one of the first principles of sound budgeting is that you don’t use a ONE-TIME SOURCE OF MONEY (“found” money) to fund an ANNUALLY RECURRING EXPENSE because the expense will still be there next year, but the money to pay for it won’t.

The County Commission has always reaffirmed this principle by vote at the beginning of each budget year, and that vote has always been unanimous. This year, Commissioners Pinkoson, Baird and Bradley have changed course.

In total, the proposed budget uses about \$5.4 million in one-time sources to fund annually recurring expenses. Next summer, as the new Commission begins to build their budget, they’ll start with the same millage rate and the same program expenses, but will

have about \$5.4 million less to work with.

It’s easy to cut taxes if, instead of making corresponding budget reductions, you just put it on next year’s tab. The real pain will start then (unless that Commission finds another clever way to kick the can down the road).

The following are some highlights from the budget now on track to be approved by a majority of the County Commission as we’re going to press.

-- First, not all of the budget is being reduced. The Sheriff’s Office, alone among all county departments and constitutional offices, will once again receive an increase. About \$1.8 million in new money will fund new positions at the jail and in administration, along with an assortment of capital improvements. This means the reductions everywhere else must be correspondingly deeper.

-- Next, the politically easy part for the Commission: for the fifth straight year, County employees will receive no raises or cost of living increases. There are consequences, of course. Both in Alachua County and across the state, salaries in the private sector and in peer public sector agencies have been rising steadily for the past four years, including at UF and the City of Gainesville. Alachua County is becoming uncompetitive. Morale is in the tank, and the County continues to hemorrhage talent and experience to other governments, the private sector and early retirement. The same budget generates less productive work each year.

-- The County will pay for this year’s \$3.4 million Medicaid expense by raiding the CHOICES program, which the County attorney now holds can legally be done. This is a ONE-TIME SOURCE OF MONEY being used to fund an ANNUALLY RECURRING EXPENSE. This action is not only fiscally irresponsible, it’s unethical; this is clearly not what the voters had in mind when they approved CHOICES.

-- Each year, unspent funds in all departments and constitutional offices countywide are returned to the County’s budget and form the starting point for building the next year’s budget. The County Commission has elected to take \$1.4 million from this revolving amount in order to balance the budget this year. This is another ONE-TIME SOURCE OF MONEY being used to fund an ANNUALLY RECURRING EXPENSE.

-- The Community Agency Partnership Program (CAPP) will be reduced by \$175,000, a 15 percent cut. CAPP is the program through which the County provides assistance to the poor through contracts with a variety of private, nonprofit agencies that are already doing this work. CAPP emphasizes assistance to children and the elderly. Every dollar provided by the County helps to leverage the grants and volunteer support these nonprofit agencies are able to generate, and so they’re able to provide these services more cheaply and effectively than the County could. CAPP is in the Department of Community Support Services, which will also receive an additional \$138,000 reduction, including two positions in the Poverty Reduction program.

-- The Department of Court Services will eliminate two positions, a reduction of \$112,000. This department operates a variety of programs to divert non-dangerous offenders from the County jail, including parole, substance abuse and mental health counselling, work release, community service, Drug Court and Teen Court, and day-reporting. A recent departmental analysis estimates that without these services, the current average daily jail population of approximately 993 would instead be approximately 1,715. Of course, long before the jail population reached that level, we’d be legally obligated to build a new jail pod. Previous estimates cited in County Commission hearings for the cost of a new pod begin at \$30 million and go upwards rapidly from there.

See BUDGET, p. 21

Elections Update

BUDGET from p. 20

By Joe Courter

We're two months from Election Day on Nov. 6 as this Iguana goes to print. We will have another edition out in early October, but now the campaigning has moved from the primaries to the main elections.

From our point of view, the primaries went well with one exception. There was one surprise in the District 21 race, and on this I must apologize. Both candidates in the race were good, and, without a lot of research, I went with the candidate who had more name recognition and money – Aaron Bosshardt – as the incumbent Republican Keith Perry was going to be hard to unseat.

Well, Andrew Morey (Bosshardt's opponent) knocked on a lot of doors with a grassroots campaign and beat Bosshardt in the primary, and we couldn't be happier.

We have subsequently found Morey to be an excellent candidate, and Bosshardt has rolled his campaign into Morey's. This is a winnable race, and we encourage volunteers to help out.

Locally, we also hope people will jump in on the County races listed below with whatever support they can give. This is a pivotal election for both the Alachua County Commission and the Alachua County School Board, and these candidates will make a big difference in the coming years for our County.

The U.S. Congress District 3 had a surprise on the Republican side when the Tea Party's Ted Yoho knocked out long time Congressman Cliff Stearns. Yoho will now face JR Gaillot, a Democrat who had no primary opponent. This is a pretty stacked conservative district, so it'll be an uphill battle. It'll be interesting if the talkative Yoho will agree to the rigorous debate schedule Gaillot is requesting. 🐢

-- The Environmental Protection Department will be reduced by \$50,000, which will include reductions in water quality monitoring and prescribed fire for County conservation lands. A half-time GIS analyst will also be eliminated.
-- About \$420,000 is being "reduced" in the General Fund by reassigning certain expenses to a different fund, the Municipal Services Taxing Unit, or MSTU. It's still in the budget, but will now be paid for only by residents in the unincorporated portions of the County who pay the MSTU.

-- Lastly, the Gas Tax funds the operations of the Public Works Department, and declining consumption of gasoline is steadily driving down revenues to this fund. If this trend continues, as we believe it will, the County will have to supplement the operations of Public Works from some other source (the MSTU would be the most appropriate). This year, to restore a \$526,000 decline in Gas Tax revenue, the budget proposes to delay capital expenditures and reduce reserves (which will have to be restored). In other words, ONE-TIME SOURCES OF MONEY will fund this RECURRING ANNUAL EXPENSE.

These are the two most important upcoming public hearings, both on the second floor of the County Administration Building: Sept. 11 at 5p.m. AND Sept. 25 at 5p.m.

Attend if you can. 🐢

Election Resources for November

Alachua County Races

County Commission, District 1
Mike Byerly (DEM)
PO Box 776
Micanopy, FL 32667
(352) 466-7030
byerly4@gmail.com
www.electmikebyerly.com

County Commission, District 3
Robert "Hutch" Hutchinson (DEM)
2619 SE 30th Place
Gainesville, FL 32641
(352) 256-6043
electhutch2012@gmail.com
www.electhutch.com

County Commission, District 5
Charles S. "Chuck" Chestnut, IV (DEM)
1773 NE 21st Place
Gainesville, FL 32609
(352) 215-0659
charleschestnutiv@gmail.com

School Board, District 4
Leanetta McNealy (DEM)
1266 SE 12th Ave.
Gainesville, FL 32641
352-373-9472
info@leamcnealy.com
www.leamcnealy.com

State Races

Florida State Representative, District 21
Andrew Morey [DEM]
PO Box 357121
Gainesville, FL 32635-7121
352-538-0379
andrew@morey2012.org
www.morey2012.org

Congressional Race

U.S. Congress, District 3
JR Gaillot [DEM]
PO Box 8747
Fleming Island, FL 32006
904-531-4737
info@jrgaillot.com
www.jrgaillot.com

Useful Resources

Alachua County Democratic Party
901 NW 8th Ave.
Gainesville, FL 32601
www.alachuadems.org

Obama For America Offices
315 SE 2nd Ave. OR
2727 NW 43rd St.
Gainesville, FL

Alachua County Women for Obama
Karen Epple
352-642-6843

The Waiting Game - A DREAM Deferred

By Rommy Torrico

This article originally appeared on the Rural Women's Health Project blog, www.viablog.net, on Aug. 31.

Throughout a lifetime, one can experience few monumental moments that mark one's life in such a way that one remember every detail, no matter how much time has passed. In my 23 short years, I can say I've had only four of these moments - my birth, my move to the U.S. in 1994, my time as a student at the University of Florida and my coming out as a DREAMer.

It's been four years since my last landmark moment. I was a sophomore at UF when I first came out and told my story to a crowd. A liberating and harrowing experience, I shared a very real and very vulnerable part of my identity to the world. I was undocumented, unashamed and unafraid.

And although I cherish that moment, I was always aware that I was living under the illusion of freedom. The day after graduation, I would be part of the millions of DREAMers stuck in limbo. My status denied me the right to work and to continue my journey of pursuing my dreams. What should have been a time of celebration and forward momentum was nothing more than dreams put on hold, indefinitely.

Or so I thought.

It was 9:30a.m. on June 15, when I first received the news about administrative relief for DREAMers. What started as an unassuming day would soon turn into one of the few experiences that have marked my life forever.

The first glimpse of hope came from an email with the subject line "White House announces admin relief for Dreamers!"

I remember reading it in disbelief, not allowing myself to become hopeful. Was this really it?

Deferred action, as this announcement was called, would benefit 1.76 million undocumented and out-of-status youth nationwide. If granted, the youth who qualified would have the chance to work, study and temporarily live without fear of deportation.

As more news came in, the notion that I could leave this limbo behind started sinking in. I began realizing how historic this moment was for so many of us who had been waiting for so long. From that point on until the President's announcement at 2p.m., it was a waiting game. I, like many other DREAMers nationwide, was holding my breath.

And then it finally happened. After almost two decades of living in the shadows as an undocumented youth, with restrained freedom and a hunger for more, the fifth event came along to take its place in my life.

Yet, there is still much work to be done at all levels. This program, although similar in some respects, is not the DREAM Act. Because deferred action only provides temporary status and work eligibility for two years, there is no guarantee that DREAMers will be able to continue moving forward or that we will be safe from deportation in the future.

In addition, deferred action only includes youth from the ages of 15 to 30. This completely overlooks a significant portion of our communities including younger children, DREAMers who "aged" out of the age range and parents of DREAMers. We are still in a precarious situation. This fragile, glass ball that holds the hopes and dreams of so many DREAMers can shatter more quickly than we can imagine. 🐸

In the next issue, look out for "Changing the Conversation," an essay by Richard MacMaster, local farmworker advocate and leader with Gainesville's Interfaith Alliance for Immigrant Justice, where he addresses the fundamental changes that must be made in our society in order to achieve true social justice.

Coalition of Immokalee Workers Week of Action in Gainesville, 9/11-9/15

9/11, Tuesday, 7p.m. - Farmworker Poverty: An Interactive Play performed by CHISPAS; Room 355, Reitz Union on UF's campus

9/12, Wednesday, 7p.m. - "Meet the CIW Farmworkers" Community Potluck and Program by CIW with City Commissioner Randy Wells and Mayor Craig Lowe reading a proclamation; Emmanuel Mennonite Church, 1236 NW 18th Ave., Gainesville

9/13, Thursday, 9a.m.- 5p.m. - Slavery Museum on display; Plaza of the Americas at UF

9/13, Thursday, 1p.m. - Talk and multi-media presentation by CIW farmworkers; Room 1A, UF's Smathers Library

9/14, Friday, 5p.m. - Protest Action at Westgate Publix; corner of University Avenue and 34th Street

9/15, Saturday, 10a.m. - 4p.m. - Fair Food Fair Trade Fair with workshops and vendor tables; Emmanuel Mennonite Church, 1236 NW 18th Ave., Gainesville

Gardening workshops and exhibits; Highlands Presbyterian Church, 1001 NE 16th Ave., Gainesville

9/15, Saturday, 12p.m. - 9p.m. - Informational tabling at Gainesville's Latino Fair; Bo Diddley Plaza, downtown Gainesville

For more information on the CIW's week of action, contact Sheila Payne at 352-373-3435 or sheilapayne56@hotmail.com, or contact Richard MacMaster at 352-377-6577 or gainesvilleaij@gmail.com. This event is hosted by the Gainesville Interfaith Alliance for Immigrant Justice and co-sponsored by the University of Florida Institute of Hispanic-Latino Cultures "La Casita," Emmanuel Mennonite Church, Samuel Proctor Oral History Program, George A. Smathers Library, P.K. Yonge Library of Florida History, Center for Latin American Studies, CHISPAS, and Rural Women's Health Project. 🐸



August's Artwalk saw artists from the Church of Holy Colors do an amazing mural in the Courtyard behind the Citizens Co-Op and the Civic Media Center. The painting was accompanied by live music and completed in about four hours. Adding to the festivities was a show of student art at the Sequential Arts Workshop, as well as art in the CMC and at Display.

The Church of Holy Colors is a working gallery space located at 11 SE 5th Ave. in Gainesville. For information, visit holycolor.tumblr.com or email holycolor@gmail.com.

ArtWalk happens again Friday, Sept. 28, all over downtown Gainesville. Photo by Hillary Allison.

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Thomas Wynn and the Believers perform at Farm to Family on Oct. 8, 2011. The County Commission denied show organizers a permit for the Gilchrist location they've been using, so they are seeking a new one. Photo courtesy of www.farmtofamily.com.

Farm to Family Full Moon concert canceled, organizers request support to continue

By Don Appelbaum

The Farm to Family Full Moon Festival scheduled for Sept. 28-30 has been canceled. The County Commission denied their application for a special use permit for the 120-acre Gilchrist County location where they've hosted concerts since 2010.


Neighbors surrounding the location - 38 within a half-mile and 65 within a mile - banded together to give a presentation to the County Commission on Aug. 20 requesting denial of the permit. Residents said sound traveled to the surrounding area, despite concert sponsors attempting to contain PA levels by using surround sound in the stage viewing area.

Farm to Family is looking at other lo-

cations, including two 400-acre properties. In order to move, Farm to Family must also find additional funding. This is not the first time the concert venue has moved: two years ago, they moved from off of County Road 236, where they held shows since 2005.

Past concerts featured regional bands such as Nashville-based singer/songwriter Verlon Thompson, folk-bluegrass band Quartermoon, and Jacksonville reggae band De Lions of Jah.

The festivals were family and dog-friendly, and offered food, vendors, camping and other entertainment.

To offer funding or help finding a location should contact Don Appelbaum at don@farmtofamily.com. 

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Goal: 100 new members before the end of the year

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- repository of information
- creator of community events
- incubator for future activists and organizers



What you can do:

- become a member
- be a monthly sustainer
- keep up with events on email
- attend and bring friend to events

For information:

- web: www.civicmediacenter.org
- email: coordinators@civicmediacenter.org
- phone: 352-373-0010
- stop by: 433 S. Main St., Gainesville 32601

Future note ... Save the date!

Alachua Conservation Trust and Civic Media Center **OktoberFest**

Friday, October 12, Time TBA

Prairie Creek Lodge, 7204 SE County Road 234, Gainesville 32641