

The Gainesville Iguana

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Medea Benjamin visits Gainesville, marches with protesters



In early November, protesters from local groups Code Pink Gainesville, Veterans for Peace, and Occupy Gainesville gathered with Medea Benjamin in front of Gainesville local drone maker Prioria Robotics on Depot Avenue. Photo by M.L. McGaughan.

by Jacque Betz, Code Pink Gainesville

In early November, the Gainesville chapter of Code Pink organized a series of events featuring the co-founder of Code Pink, Medea Benjamin.

Code Pink is a woman-initiated grass-roots peace and social justice movement working to end U.S. funded wars and occupations, support peace and human

rights initiatives, and redirect our tax dollars into healthcare, education, green jobs and other life-affirming programs.

Also a co-founder of Global Exchange, Medea is a visible leader in the peace movement, not shy at all about raising her voice and carrying out creative protests at public event and governmental hearing (as any viewer of CSPAN can attest).

Her events included a meeting at the Women's Studies Center at UF entitled "Empowering Women in the Peace Movement," a discussion on "Justice for Palestine" at the Mennonite Church, taking part with local activists in a Drone Warfare Protest at Main and University Avenue, which included a march to Prioria Robotics, a local drone maker, and a talk at the Civic

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Republicans will now taste their bitter harvest

by Katrina vanden Heuvel

This article was originally published by the Washington Post on November 11. See the story online at http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/katrina-vanden-heuvel-republicans-will-now-taste-their-bitter-harvest/2014/11/11/eb4c640e-6906-11e4-a31c-77759fc1eacc_story.html.

In the early 3rd century B.C., after King Pyrrhus of Epirus again took brutal casualties in defeating the Romans, he told one person who offered congratulations, "If we are victorious in one more battle with the Romans, we shall be utterly ruined." In his more sober moments, Mitch

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Protesters marched from University Avenue and Main Street with Code Pink co-founder Medea Benjamin (holding the “Don’t Drone Me Bro” sign) to Gainesville local drone maker Prioria Robotics on Depot Avenue. Photo by M.L. McGaughran.

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Media Center entitled “Drone Warfare, Killing by Remote Control.”

Supporting organizations for these events included Veterans for Peace, Wild Iris Books, National Organization for Women, Samuel Proctor Oral History Project, Occupy Gainesville, and Students for Justice in Palestine.

When protesters from local groups including Code Pink Gainesville, Veterans for Peace, and Occupy Gainesville marched to Gainesville local drone maker Prioria Robotics at 606 Depot Ave., they assembled outside and asked to meet with CEO Bryan da Frota. After six GPD cars showed up with 10 law enforcement officers, discussion ensued and Medea was invited to have a conversation with da Frota.

da Frota admitted that he is making spy drones for the U.S. military at \$40,000 each. He said he would like to sell his drones for peaceful purposes like fighting forest fires, but he said, “The military is the only one with money.” He just signed five new military contracts for his Maveric spy drones, including drones to U.S. Special Forces.

da Frota said that Prioria has also been trying to get his spy drones into U.S. law enforcement agencies and recently made a sale to a sheriff’s department in Georgia. He said that local law enforcement currently doesn’t have the educational training in the use and maintenance of these drones like the military does. But, as more Iraq and Afghanistan veterans

transition into civilian jobs, police and sheriff’s departments around the country are likely to add spy drones to their growing military arsenal.

Drone spy plane training and maintenance could be written off as “education.” The bloated Pentagon budget has lost billions in the last 13 years of failed military programs. Their arsenal of “war toys” has to include a new sales pitch to law enforcement.

Medea later explained that drone warfare that is now in the Mideast, may soon be coming to law enforcement agencies here in the USA—the very spy planes that terrorize people in Pakistan, Yemen, Somalia, Syria and Iraq will be spying on us here at home. She also questioned the partnership with Saudi Arabia, which has opened over 200 extremist boys-only schools teaching radical Wahabi religion.

At the talk at the CMC, she also spoke about the City of Gainesville police department recently acquiring a Mine-Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) vehicle for \$2,000. For what purpose? Even Mayor Braddy thinks the MRAP is inappropriate for Gainesville. Even High Springs, Fla. acquired an MRAP in October of this year. Militarizing the High Springs police department makes no sense whatsoever. Code Pink thinks Gainesville, like the college town of Davis, Calif., should send their MRAP back to the military because it damages police relations with the public. It is unnecessary militarization of the police. 🐢

Students for a Democratic Society say ‘Demilitarize UF’

by Tristan Worthington

Gainesville’s own chapter of Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) is actively fighting this semester to make their 2014-2015 campaign, “Demilitarize UF,” a success. Lead organizers have worked in collaboration with other student and community groups, including Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP), UF Libertarians, and Students for Sensible Drug Policy (SSDP), to raise awareness about the Federal 1033 Program and the increasing militarization of police forces in local communities and on college campuses. This campaign is synchronous with similar campaigns taken on by SDS chapters at FSU and USF.

The 1033 Program, also known as the Department of Defense Excess Property Program, was founded in 1997 as a means for law enforcement agencies across the country to strengthen the war on drugs. Since 1997, over five billion dollars’ worth of military equipment has been transferred to local and state police departments, including an armored personnel carrier to the University of Florida, grenade launchers to the University of Central Florida, etc.

On November 19, Students for a Democratic Society will be holding a rally on campus to build momentum for their final protest of the year, and to collect signatures for an “Opt-Out of the 1033 Program” petition to deliver to University of Florida President Bernie Machen.

On December 3, SDS’s biggest protest of the year will commence, and a march to the administrative Tigert Hall will culminate in the delivery of the petition to President Machen. The community is encouraged to come out and show their support for the University severing this objectionable arms agreement with the government. Information on the time and exact location will be provided as the rally date approaches.

SDS meets every Monday at 6:30pm in Anderson Hall, room 32. Information about events and meetings is posted on the UF Students for a Democratic Society Facebook page. 🐢

From the publisher: You can’t always get what you want: 2014

The clichéd expression about living in interesting times has been in my head recently. These times certainly are interesting, full of highs (some) and lows (a lot) as things have been playing out.

The horribly predictable election results followed the historical trends nationally, as the 6th-year election of a two-term President is usually pretty dismal for their Party, but this one sunk lower with the rather horrid lack of fight over principles such as preserving Social Security exhibited by the Democrats. The type of folks who can afford to run for office, the consultants they hire, and the media happy with the system that enriches them leaves us with depressing choices for the most part, especially higher office. However, our little blue dot of a county ran strong though, so yay for that, and Medical Marijuana showed strong support at nearly 58 percent statewide. Let’s see if there is courage in the legislature; so many people will benefit so much.



Joe Courter

I got to see something for the first time in late October, and that was a very visible International Space Station pass overhead with the evening sun lighting it up brighter than any star, traveling from NW to SE, at a pace not that different than what an airplane appears to fly, but in actuality going about 17,500 MPH!! Couple that with the landing of a European space probe name Philae on a comet (!) named 67P Churyumov-Gerasimenko, and you have just marveled at what humans can do. Both of these, for me, are real highs. But these same humans can also create some horrendous devices, practice barbaric acts on each other, and choose to deny or ignore science and empathy in favor of superstition, vengeance, and greed. When the space program sent craft to the moon decades ago, one of the bonuses was the pictures of our beautiful planet; browns, blues, white and greens, demarked not with artificial lines but rivers, mountains and coastlines. And now with the Cassini spacecraft, Earth can be seen as a dot of light as seen from beyond the rings of Saturn.

Speaking of Earth, the denial of the overwhelming evidence of human-caused climate change on our planet continues, and will have a further “boost” with one of the most anti science Senators, James Inhofe, lined up to be chair of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee. This should be interesting. Another low in science appreciation was the completely hysterical response to the ebola outbreak in a relatively small part of West Africa. The “high” on this goes to Kaci Hickox, the courageous nurse who refused to knuckle under to the hysteria and fought back against her drastic quarantine restrictions. She did more to bring sanity and science to coverage of this disease outbreak than most of the largely fear-mongering media.

Okay, no more lows ... Post-election too many people seem to be wallowing around and feeling down. I want to point out and give credit to the many just plain folks in this town who are putting together lasting endeavors on the cultural front. Much as the beloved Hippodrome Theater, which began as an optimistic acting troupe in an abandoned 7-Eleven on Hawthorne Road in the mid ’70s, there are equally optimistic people making positive change downtown. On their own. And in doing so creating community spaces which should be lasting assets to our town. North of University Avenue on Main Street you have The Top, the Atlantic, The Woolly, and the Bodega. By investing and reinvesting, they have created a great hub of activity. Likewise, Boca Fiesta, the Palomino and the Backyard, all right next to the Hipp, have taken neglected spaces and built a great thing. Same thing 4 blocks south with the South Main Arts Complex with the CMC, Wild Iris, Co-op, and Sequential Artists Workshop. Smaller creative spaces are popping up elsewhere, too.

Nothing speaks of the special buzz in this town like The Fest, and #13 was a huge success. Hundreds of volunteers, great planning by No Idea Records, and this year the fantastic cooperation of the City to trust the organizers with the use of the Bo Diddley Plaza led to over 7,000 people from all over the country and world having a great, trouble-free time.

There’s a saying about “Pessimism in the head, optimism in the heart.” The heart of Gainesville is beating strongly. Get out and feel it. 🐢

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REPUBLICANS, from p. 1

McConnell (R-Ky.), about to achieve his lifelong ambition of becoming Senate majority leader, may wonder whether he, too, has achieved a pyrrhic victory.

Republicans are still crowing about the sweeping victories in 2014 that give them control of both houses of Congress. They will set the agenda, deciding what gets considered, investigated and voted on. Their ideas will drive the debate.

But Republicans have no mandate because they offered no agenda. Republicans reaped the rewards of McConnell's scorched-earth strategy, obstructing President Obama relentlessly, helping to create the failure that voters would pin on the party in power. But the collateral damage is that the "party of 'no'" has no agreement on what is yes. Instead of using the years in the wilderness to develop new ideas and a clear vision, Republicans have used them only to sharpen their tongues, grow their claws and practice their backhands.

Republicans paid no penalty for obstructing every measure that might have given the recovery more juice, blocking even the infrastructure spending that has been a bipartisan response in every downturn. They paid no penalty for shutting down the government and forcing mindless austerity that cost jobs. They paid no penalty for their perfervid hysteria on foreign policy issues – screeching about phantom terrors of pregnant immigrants helping Islamic

State terrorists and Ebola victims slip in the country to kill us here at home. They never needed to fill in the magic asterisks in Rep. Paul Ryan's risible budgets, enabling him to deny the damage to Medicare, education, food stamps and the most vulnerable that his plans would require.

The result is that McConnell leads into a power a party truly unfit and unready to govern. Indeed, the wingnuts at its base want it only to dismantle, not to govern. As Terrance Heath reported, the ever-apoplectic Rush Limbaugh announced that Republicans have a mandate to "stop Barack Obama" and "were not elected to govern." Fox News host Megyn Kelly fantasized that Obama would "offend" Republicans into impeaching him; Phyllis Schlafly argued the first priority should be blocking all Obama's judicial nominees. Sen. Ted Cruz (R-Tex.) pledged once more to repeal Obamacare. The dyspeptic Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.) will use his chairmanship of the Armed Services Committee to demand more "boots on the ground" in Iraq and Syria, harsher sanctions to undermine negotiations with Iran and more macho posturing over Ukraine. Sen. Jim Inhofe (R-Okla.) will use his likely chairmanship of the Environment and Public Works Committee to deny the existence of catastrophic climate change even while allocating billions for clean-up in the wake of floods, droughts and storms to come.

McConnell portrays Republicans as ready to embrace a conservative Chamber of Commerce agenda, repaying the big money that helped bring them victory.

This would include giving multinationals a massive tax break on money that they stashed abroad to avoid taxes, passing fast-track trade authority, pushing ahead the Keystone XL pipeline, weakening the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau and repealing the tax on medical devices, first of the salami-style effort to slice up Obamacare.

But the zealots in the House and Senate expect more fire and less compromise. They want Obamacare repealed. They want the scorched-earth obstruction to continue: Obama's nominations blocked, scandals real and delusional investigated, Dodd-Frank financial regulation reversed and taxes and domestic spending slashed.

It isn't at all apparent that McConnell and Boehner can corral Republican majorities for any measures that Obama might accept. But even if McConnell could put the Chamber of Commerce's bills on the president's desk, one thing is apparent: None of these will do anything to address the profound crises the country faces. There is no relief for the sinking middle class and impoverished low-wage workers, no strategy for addressing climate change, no response to the destructive excesses of banks too big to fail.

McConnell won his majority by brilliantly waging a partisan, dishonest, unrelenting policy of obstruction. But now, the absence of any ideas or of any clue will be exposed. And next time, when voters sensibly want to throw the bums out, they may have a far clearer view of just who the bums are. 🐢

Reportback from Conference on Immigration to the U.S. South

by Richard Macmaster

The 5th Conference on Immigration to the U.S. South brought academics and activists to the University of Florida campus the last week in October. Planned around the theme "Immigration Reform and Beyond?" when passage of a comprehensive immigration reform bill still seemed possible, conference speakers had to deal with the reality that meaningful reform of the broken system will not happen in the foreseeable future.

Keynote speakers put immigration in broad perspective. Archbishop Thomas Wenski of Miami spoke to the moral imperative for immigration reform and an end to deportations. Professor Mae Ngai of Columbia University addressed "illegal" immigration in American history and a remedy for the present impasse. Monica Ramirez of the Southern Poverty Law Center dealt with anti-immigrant bias and efforts to counteract it through the courts.

Community organizers from Gainesville and elsewhere in the South provided practical answers and exchanged ideas that worked in one place and could be used in another. The Jupiter, Fla. city manager and staff from El Sol Center there, for instance, showed how a cooperative effort by municipal authorities, faith communities, and recent immigrants from Guatemala created a job center for day laborers and expanded it to provide English and Spanish classes, a health clinic, and a food pantry and on-site meals. Fran Ricardo and Robin Lewy told about the many-faceted work of Gainesville-based Rural Women's Health Care Project with migrant farm workers and in centers like El Sol. Tony Tovar and Jeannie Economos of Farmworker Association of Florida showed how collaborative university and community efforts can improve migrant farmworker health and safety. Grey Torrico of Florida Immigrant Coalition spoke on "Dissecting the Detention Machine" and the problem of for-profit prisons.

Gainesville Interfaith Alliance for Immigrant Justice organized two sessions. In "Mobilizing Faith Communities" Samuel Trickey, Richard MacMaster, and Rev. Larry Green dealt with building support for farm workers and immigrant rights and Susan Weishar described engaging Catholic congregations in meaningful dialogue on immigration. A second panel on "Non-Violent Action and Civil Disobedience" heard Tammy Alexander of Mennonite Central Committee discuss current actions to block ICE personnel or to pressure Congress. Isabel Sousa-Rodriguez, one of the original Dreamers who walked from Miami to Washington in 2010, spoke of the need for action now. Rev. Parrish Jones told how a Presbyterian church in Arizona sheltered an undocumented immigrant in danger of deportation and thus began a nationwide Sanctuary Movement to protect immigrants that will soon come to Gainesville.

A session on "Mobilization and Community Based Organizing" gave insight into how New Orleans activists working with Catholic Charities were able to set up an alternative program to detention, how a group in Alabama exposed abuses in a for-profit detention center and eventually closed it, and how activists at the University of Tennessee joined Knoxville residents to campaign against deportation and for tuition equality. Nathalia Ochoa and Genesis Lara talked about organizing UF students.

With so many new ideas percolating, Florida immigrant rights activists will return to the UF campus early in 2015 to assess the next steps in response to Congressional inaction. For more information, contact gainesvilleaij@gmail.com. 🐢

Swallowtail Farm's Fall Festival Saturday, Nov. 22, noon to 10pm 17603 NW 276th Lane, Alachua, Florida 32615

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1:00-2:00 pm Mushroom & Wild Forage with Mycol Stevens
1:30-2:30 pm Jamaican Ginger Beer Brewing
2:00-3:00 pm Beekeeping with Ken & Celia Young
3:00-4:00 pm Fermentation with Wellspring Kombucha
4:00-5:00 pm Canning with Van of Florida Organic Growers
5:00-6:00 pm Cheesemaking with Emily Eckhardt, Blacksmithing with Leslie Sharp and more!

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Feminism: The men arrive! (Hooray! Uh-oh!)

by Rebecca Solnit [article at http://www.tomdispatch.com/blog/175917/](http://www.tomdispatch.com/blog/175917/).

This is the conclusion of an article published by TomDispatch on November 2 addressing recent debates on sexist attitudes and men’s responses to the various cases sited — campus rape, gamergate, etc. You can find the whole

... The other evening, I left a talk on what makes a planet inhabitable — temperature, atmosphere, distance from a star — by an astrophysicist I know, Natalie Batalhi. I’d thought about

asking a young man who was a friend of a friend of mine to accompany me to my car in the very dark park outside the California Academy of Sciences, but the astrophysicist and I fell to talking and walked to the car together without even questioning the necessity of it, and then I drove her to her car.

A couple of weeks earlier, I joined Emma Sulkowicz and a group of young women who were carrying a mattress between classes at Columbia University. You may already know that Sulkowicz is an art major who reported being raped and received nothing that resembled justice either from the campus authorities or the New York Police Department. In response, she is bearing witness to her plight with a performance-art piece that consists of carrying a dorm-room mattress with her whenever she’s on campus, wherever she’s going.

The media response has been tremendous. A documentary film team was along that day and the middle-aged camerawoman remarked to me that, if campus consent standards had existed when she was young, if the right of women to say no and the obligation of men to respect women’s decisions had been recognized, her life would have been utterly different.

I thought about it for a moment and realized: so would mine. So much of my energy between the ages of 12 and 30 was given over just to surviving predatory men. The revelation that humiliation, harm, and maybe even death was liable to be inflicted on me by complete strangers and casual acquaintances because of my gender and that I had to be on watch all the time to avoid such a fate — well, that’s part of what made me a feminist.

I care passionately about the inhabitability of our planet from an environmental perspective, but until it’s fully inhabitable by women who can walk freely down the street without the constant fear of trouble and danger, we will labor under practical and psychological burdens that impair our full powers. Which is why, as someone who thinks climate is the most important thing in the world right now, I’m still writing about feminism and women’s rights. And celebrating the men who have made changing the world slightly more possible or are now part of the great changes underway. 🐶

Ft. Lauderdale fights against homeless hate crimes

by Bailey Eva Riley

This year has been a busy one for the homeless of Southern Florida and their advocates; some of them even spending just about as much time at City Hall as the city commissioners themselves. Since the beginning of the year the city has made triumphant efforts to curb several basic human behaviors of houseless folk by deeming them illegal. As if the houseless have ever been granted any real representation or rights, now the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) of Ft. Lauderdale has outlined a plan to “establish, maintain and preserve aesthetic values and preserve and foster the development and display of attractiveness.” The DDA doesn’t seem to acknowledge the consequences of these laws, and in fact, it seems difficult for them to really comprehend how dehumanizing they are. These efforts make one think that the city of Ft. Lauderdale and the DDA have an inability to recognize the worth in anything beyond its material value.

Per usual, the series of laws that have been passed are deemed necessary under ‘health and safety measures’. However, opponents of these laws have labeled them ‘homeless hate laws’. On October 31st Ft. Lauderdale joined 21 other cities nationwide, who have, in the past two years, begun enforcing anti-food sharing laws. This ordinance was the last of five recently passed in Ft. Lauderdale to restrict the rights of houseless folk. The City Commission also took part in passing ordinances that restrict the ability to utilize the restroom in public, panhandling, storage on public property (even with things as small as personal backpacks), and lodging on public property. While seemingly innocuous and reasonable to some, these laws, in reality, restrict people from having access to basic needs.

Critics of the resistance to these laws are quick to mention the 208 churches within the city limits of Ft. Lauderdale, which will still have the opportunity to share food with the homeless. However, to the advocates’ knowledge there are only four churches in the city that are currently involved in preparing and sharing meals for people. The city is outlawing those who are actively sharing food without putting any pressure on organizations who still have the legal ability but aren’t even interested in dabbling in the food sharing business.

Multiple groups, such as Love Thy Neighbor, Ft. Lauderdale Food Not Bombs, and the Peanut Butter & Jelly Project have been continuously engaging in their regular food sharings despite

the enforcement of the newest ordinance. Multiple actions have ensued outside of scheduled sharings as well. On the day of the vote in City Hall plaza the aforementioned groups held a free dinner outside of the Hall. Multiple members of Ft. Lauderdale Food Not Bombs staged a sit-in to directly speak with Chris Wren of the DDA on Tuesday, November 4th, which resulted in eight arrests. Ninety-year old Arnold Abbott of Love Thy Neighbor was given a citation and notice to appear on three separate occasions. Food Not Bombs has continued to share food every Friday at 4:30pm at Stranahan Park in Ft. Lauderdale; last Friday two members were arrested for serving food, and one was given a citation and notice to appear. This is not the first time that groups like Food Not Bombs have been targeted in Florida. In Orlando, back in 2011, dozens of Food Not Bombs activists were arrested under a similar food-sharing ban ordinance. Ft. Lauderdale FNB member, Jillian Pim, has been on hunger strike since October 31st, and will continue to do so until the law is either overturned or has stopped being enforced. On Friday, November 14th, dozens of supporters will stand in solidarity and join her in hunger strike. Ft. Lauderdale FNB anticipates more arrests and promises not to stop until the laws are nullified.

Disgust courses through my veins as I write this. The idea that this issue has even been granted discourse is repulsive. Food is a right, not a privilege. Public food sharings bring so much more to the table than just meals. The homeless are often ignored and tossed aside, even regarded as an “urban blight” by some affiliated with the DDA. Sharing food with people brings us together; we share stories and laughs. We attempt to connect with the people we’re sharing food with. Homelessness is something that can so easily be something any of us would experience, and to deny people the right to food because you’d rather see people starve than see the value of your property drop is pretty abhorrent. These people will continue to fight because it makes sense, because it shouldn’t have to be discussed, because no one should have to go to sleep hungry, especially in the country that wastes more food than any other nation worldwide. 🐶

CLOSE THE SOA & RESIST U.S. MILITARIZATION IN THE AMERICAS



CONVERGE ON FT. BENNING, GA NOVEMBER 21-23, 2014

WWW.SOAW.ORG

The School of the Americas is a U.S. military training school for Latin American security personnel, located at Fort Benning, Georgia. Renamed the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation, the school has trained assassins, death squad leaders and human rights abusers for dirty work in Latin America since its founding in 1946. Dubbed the “School of Assassins,” the SOA/WHINSEC is synonymous with torture and military repression for millions around the world. Graduates of the school have a long history of participating in and orchestrating killings, rapes, target violence and the suppression of popular movements for social change.



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Transgender Day of Remembrance

November 20th, 5:45pm to 6:45pm
the United Church of Gainesville
(1624 NW 5th Ave, Gainesville)

Transgender Day of Remembrance is a day created to memorialize those who were killed due to transphobia and prejudice. Every year we gather across the world to read the names of those we’ve lost, to remember our fallen, and to raise awareness of hate crimes and violence against transgender people.

Our service is made to celebrate and mourn, giving allies a chance to stand beside us as we stand in vigil. Please join us as we mourn and build community through fellowship at the United Church of Gainesville at 6:00pm on November 20. 🐶

The Last Letter: A message to George W. Bush and Dick Cheney from a dying veteran

To: George W. Bush and Dick Cheney
From: Tomas Young

I write this letter on the 10th anniversary of the Iraq War on behalf of my fellow Iraq War veterans. I write this letter on behalf of the 4,488 soldiers and Marines who died in Iraq. I write this letter on behalf of the hundreds of thousands of veterans who have been wounded and on behalf of those whose wounds, physical and psychological, have destroyed their lives. I am one of those gravely wounded. I was paralyzed in an insurgent ambush in 2004 in Sadr City. My life is coming to an end. I am living under hospice care.

I write this letter on behalf of husbands and wives who have lost spouses, on behalf of children who have lost a parent, on behalf of the fathers and mothers who have lost sons and daughters and on behalf of those who care for the many thousands of my fellow veterans who have brain injuries.

I write this letter on behalf of those veterans whose trauma and self-revulsion for what they have witnessed, endured and done in Iraq have led to suicide and on behalf of the active-duty soldiers and Marines who commit, on average, a suicide a day. I write this letter on behalf of the some 1 million Iraqi dead and on behalf of the countless Iraqi wounded. I write this letter on behalf of us all—the human detritus your war has left behind, those who will spend their lives in unending pain and grief.

I write this letter, my last letter, to you, Mr. Bush and Mr. Cheney. I write not because I think you grasp the terrible human and moral consequences of your lies, manipulation and thirst for wealth and power. I write this letter because, before my own death, I want to make it clear that I, and hundreds of thousands of my fellow veterans, along with millions of my fellow citizens, along with hundreds of millions more in Iraq and the Middle East, know fully who you are and what you have done. You may evade justice but in our eyes you are each guilty of egregious war crimes, of plunder and, finally, of murder, including the murder of thousands of young Americans—my fellow veterans—whose future you stole.

Your positions of authority, your millions of dollars of personal wealth, your public relations consultants, your privilege and your power cannot mask the hollowness of your character. You sent us to fight and die in Iraq after you, Mr. Cheney, dodged



the draft in Vietnam, and you, Mr. Bush, went AWOL from your National Guard unit. Your cowardice and selfishness were established decades ago. You were not willing to risk yourselves for our nation but you sent hundreds of thousands of young men and women to be sacrificed in a senseless war with no more thought than it takes to put out the garbage.

I joined the Army two days after the 9/11 attacks. I joined the Army because our country had been attacked. I wanted to strike back at those who had killed some 3,000 of my fellow citizens.

I did not join the Army to go to Iraq, a country that had no part in the September 2001 attacks and did not pose a threat to its neighbors, much less to the United States. I did not join the Army to “liberate” Iraqis or to shut down mythical weapons-of-mass-destruction facilities or to implant what you cynically called “democracy” in Baghdad and the Middle East.

I did not join the Army to rebuild Iraq, which at the time you told us could be paid for by Iraq’s oil revenues. Instead, this war has cost the United States over \$3 trillion.

I especially did not join the Army to carry out pre-emptive war. Pre-emptive war is illegal under international law. And as a soldier in Iraq I was, I now know, abetting your idiocy and your crimes. The Iraq War is the largest strategic blunder in U.S. history. It obliterated the balance of power in the Middle East. It installed a corrupt and brutal pro-Iranian government in Baghdad, one cemented in power through the use of torture, death squads and terror. And it has left Iran as the dominant force in the region. On every level—moral, strategic, military and economic—Iraq was a failure. And it was you, Mr. Bush

and Mr. Cheney, who started this war. It is you who should pay the consequences.

I would not be writing this letter if I had been wounded fighting in Afghanistan against those forces that carried out the attacks of 9/11. Had I been wounded there I would still be miserable because of my physical deterioration and imminent death, but I would at least have the comfort of knowing that my injuries were a consequence of my own decision to defend the country I love. I would not have to lie in my bed, my body filled with painkillers, my life ebbing away, and deal with the fact that hundreds of thousands of human beings, including children, including myself, were sacrificed by you for little more than the greed of oil companies, for your alliance with the oil sheiks in Saudi Arabia, and your insane visions of empire.

I have, like many other disabled veterans, suffered from the inadequate and often inept care provided by the Veterans Administration. I have, like many other disabled veterans, come to realize that our mental and physical wounds are of no interest to you, perhaps of no interest to any politician.

We were used. We were betrayed. And we have been abandoned. You, Mr. Bush, make much pretense of being a Christian. But isn’t lying a sin? Isn’t murder a sin? Aren’t theft and selfish ambition sins? I am not a Christian. But I believe in the Christian ideal. I believe that what you do to the least of your brothers you finally do to yourself, to your own soul.

My day of reckoning is upon me. Yours will come. I hope you will be put on trial.

But mostly I hope, for your sakes, that you find the moral courage to face what you have done to me and to many, many others who deserved to live.

I hope that before your time on earth ends, as mine is now ending, you will find the strength of character to stand before the American public and the world, and in particular the Iraqi people, and beg for forgiveness.

Tomas Young died at his home in Seattle with his wife by his side on Nov. 10, 2014—the eve of Veterans Day in America. Democracy Now! honored the life and legacy of Young on Nov. 11; see the full show here: http://www.democracynow.org/2014/11/11/paralyzed_iraq_war_vet_turned_peace. 🐘

Some very initial thoughts on the U.S.-China deal

by Naomi Klein

This article was originally published on Nov. 12 on Naomi Klein’s website, thischangeseverything.org, named for her new book on climate change and capitalism, This Changes Everything.

Good Timing

Timing isn’t everything but it sure helps. After the mid-term elections, the mood in climate circles was getting pretty grim. We faced the prospect of a Republican-dominated House and Senate overturning emission controls, ramming through Keystone XL and elevating a climate denier (James Inhofe) to chair of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee. Already there was talk that upcoming UN climate negotiations were dead on arrival.

In this context, the US-China climate deal is a badly needed piece of good news. It signals that Barack Obama is willing to expend political capital fighting for his climate legacy.

It Makes It Harder For Republicans to Break Obama’s Promises

The deal is also tactically smart: by tying the emission reduction targets of both countries together in a bilateral deal, the President is making sure that his successor will have to weigh any desire to break these commitments against the risks of alienating America most important trading partner. That’s smart.

It Robs Climate Obstructionists of Their Best Argument

Most significantly, commitments made by China under the deal take away what has historically been the most effective argument in defense of climate negligence in the US: “Why should we stop polluting if China won’t?” For the first time, China is committing to capping its emissions and acknowledging that there must be a limit to its coal-powered growth juggernaut.

It Shows that Movements Matter

The fact that both governments felt the need to make this pledge speaks to the growing power of social movements in China and the US demanding pollutions controls. In the US, 350,000 people marched in NYC in September demanding action. In China, soaring air pollution levels in major cities have put unprecedented pressure on the governing party to stop relying on coal. Particularly in the context of the Hong Kong protests, the Chinese government cannot afford to ignore public opinion.

The Deal Will Galvanize North American Movements Against Tar Sands Pipelines and Coal Export Terminals

Recent years have seen a proliferation of movements blocking the infrastructure needed to export dirty fossil fuels to Asia. This deal makes it clear that the market for such dirty products is winding down in China, which is one more reason for companies not to invest billions in new pipelines or export terminals. Low oil prices are already taking a toll on more expensive extraction methods like tar sands mining and this deal will be another strike against them.

It’s Not Enough – But That’s What Movements Are For

Both governments are still failing to make climate policy in line

with the severity of the crisis, and both are leaving the hardest work for their successors. As I argue in “This Changes Everything,” we cannot lower emissions in line with science without much deeper economic changes. But pledges matter because movements can harness them to win even more.

It Makes Sense Because the US and China are Already Bound Together by Carbon Pollution

Much of China’s emissions come from producing the products that Westerners buy. It never made sense to treat such an integrated and global challenge as something that individual nations could tackle on their own: transnational problems call for transnational solutions. That said, emissions won’t go down by as much as they need to go down until we in the West start consuming less useless stuff, wherever it is made.

Trade Deals Could Still Trump This Progress

As I argue in the book, free trade deals and World Trade Organization rules are increasingly being used to undercut important climate policies, by blocking subsidies for renewable energy and other supports for the clean energy sector. The mindless expansion of cross-border trade also fuels carbon-intensive consumption and emissions growth, and NAFTA-style pacts bestow corporations with outrageous powers to challenge national policies at international tribunals. Climate objectives could yet be undermined by the US-China deal on high-tech goods, which still has to be approved by the WTO, or by a massive new regional trade agreement like the Trans-Pacific Partnership.

Stay tuned... 🐘

CAN I HELP?

Housecleaning
Weekly/BI-Weekly

Landscaping
Natural/Graceful/Wild
Innovative Ideas

Pet Care
Playing, Walking,
Overnights

Food Prep
For Individuals or
Party Help

UF Grad and Local Homeowner
Reliable/Trustworthy with Excellent References
(352) 495-2262/ (352) 575-4080

Iguana Directory

Call 352-378-5655. or email gainesvilleiguana@cox.net with updates and additions

Notice to readers: If there is inaccurate information in this list, please let us know. If you are connected to an organization listed here, please check and update so others can be accurately informed about your contact information. Thank you.

Art Lab is for artists who continually expand skills and knowledge. Comprised of makers from a range of mediums (e.g. forged iron, spun wool, graphic design). Technique workshops, artist talks/critiques, professional practices meetings, critical thinking discussions. GainesvilleArtLab@gmail.com. <http://GainesvilleArtLab.org>

Alachua Conservation Trust, Inc. Protecting North Central Florida's natural, scenic, historic & recreational resources for over 25 years. ACT is the 2013 national Land Trust Excellence award recipient. 352-373-1078. AlachuaConservationTrust.org

Alachua County Green Party Part of a worldwide movement built out of four interrelated social pillars that support its politics: the peace, civil rights, environmental and labor movements. alachuagreens.weebly.com, alachuagreens@gmail.com, 352.871.1995.

Alachua County Labor Coalition meets monthly and organizes to support local labor and advance the national campaign for universal, single-payer health care. Memberships are \$20/year. Contact: 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 a 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.

Avian Research and Conservation Institute (ARCI) Non-profit research organization working to stimulate conservation action to save threatened species of birds in the southeastern U.S., www.arcinst.org.

Citizens Climate Lobby (Gainesville Chapter) provides education/activist opportunities to bring about a stable climate. Meetings are on the Wednesday after the first Saturday of each month at 12:30, 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.civicmediacenter.org.

The Coalition of Hispanics Integrating Spanish Speakers through Advocacy and Service (CHISPAS) Student-run group at UF. www.chispasuf.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.

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 held the second Wednesday each month at 7 p.m. in the 2nd floor auditorium of the County Administration Building at SE 1st St. and University Ave. Office is at 901 NW 8th Ave., 352-373-1730, alachuadems.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 Independent, critically thinking outlet for political, social and arts coverage through local, in-depth reporting 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 are dedicated to restoring the Ocklawaha and preserving Florida's other natural resources. 352-378-8465 FlaDefenders.org

Gainesville Area AIDS Project provides toiletries, household cleaners, hot meals, frozen food at no cost to people living with HIV/AIDS. www.gaaponline.org, info@gaaponline.org, 352-373-4227, Open Tuesdays 10-1 and last Friday of month 5-7.

Gainesville Citizens for Alternatives to Death Penalty works to abolish the death penalty. Join vigils when Florida has an execution. Meets first Tuesday every month at St. Augustine Church & Catholic Student Center (1738 W. Univ. Ave.) 352-284-1749, www.fadp.org.

Gainesville Food Not Bombs Local chapter of 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 at 3 p.m. Sundays at Bo Diddly Community Plaza. Prep starts at 11 am. Get in touch if you'd like to help. gainesvillefnb@riseup.net. www.facebook.com/#!/groups/143660782367621/

Gainesville Interfaith Alliance for Immigrant Justice (IAIJ) meets biweekly at the Mennonite Meeting House, 1236 NW 18th Ave. to discuss relevant immigration issues and ways to bring political education to the community through workshops, presentations, advocacy, action. gainesvilleiaij@gmail.com or www.gainesvilleiaij.blogspot.com

Gainesville Loves Mountains partners with Appalachian allies to end mountaintop removal coal mining and build a prosperous economy/sustainable future for the region and its people. We pursue policies to strengthen our local economy through energy efficiency, clean energy. gainesvillelovesmountains@gmail.com, 352-610-1090, <http://gainesvillelovesmountains.wordpress.com/>.

Gainesville NOW www.gainesvillenow.org. info@gainesvilleNOW.org NOW meeting info contact Lisa at 352-450-1912.

Gainesville Socialists is a bi-weekly reading and discussion group. Meetings are open to all who consider themselves socialists, are interested in socialism, or are otherwise curious. Meetings are held at the CMC every other Tuesday at 8 pm, gainesvillesocialists@gmail.com

Gainesville Women's Liberation The first women's liberation group in the South, formed in 1968; now part of National Women's Liberation; a feminist group for women who want to fight back against male supremacy and win more freedom for women. The inequalities between women and men are political problems requiring a collective solution. Founded 1968. Join us: www.womensliberation.org, P.O. Box 14017, Gainesville, 32604, (347) 560-4695, nwl@womensliberation.org.

Gainesville Zen Center & Hostel A Zen Buddhist community offering rooms to rent on a daily basis. 404 SE 2nd St., 352-336-3613, wonderwhy@cox.net.

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

Grow Radio Non-profit provides opportunities for community members to create and manage engaging, educational, locally-generated programming to promote fine, musical/visual arts and humanities for enrichment of the community. www.growradio.org. PO Box 13891, Gainesville, 32604, 352-219-0145 (v), 352-872-5085 (studio hotline)

Harvest of Hope Foundation Non-profit provides emergency and educational financial aid to migrant farm workers around the country. [\[harvestofhope.net\]\(http://harvestofhope.net\), email: \[kellerhope@cox.net\]\(mailto:kellerhope@cox.net\).](http://www.</p></div><div data-bbox=)

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

Humanist Society of Gainesville meets 7 pm on the 3rd Wednesday of most months at Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 4225 NW 34th St to discuss and promote secular, humanist, atheist & agnostic social influences - www.gainesvillehumanists.org or facebook.com/humanistsocietyofgainesville; gainesvillehumanists@gmail.com.

Humanists on Campus UF organization provides a community for freethinking, secular humanists. Goals include promoting values of humanism, discussing issues humanists face internationally. We strive to participate in community service and bring a fun, dynamic group to the university! Preferred contact info: ufhumanistsoncampus@gmail.com, alternative: j.bontems@ufl.edu, phone- 561-374-3537.

Industrial Workers of the World Local union organizing all workers. Meetings are at the Civic Media Center the first Sunday of the month at 6 pm. Gainesvilleiww@gmail.net. www.gainesvilleiww.org

Interfaith Alliance for Immigrant Justice organizes faith communities to work together for immigrant justice. Meets 2nd Mondays at 6 pm at La Casita, 1504 W. University Ave. (across from Library) GainesvilleIAIJ@gmail.com; 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 pm. gainesvilleiso@gmail.com.

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

Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program needs volunteers to join its advocates who protect elders' rights in nursing homes, assisted living facilities, family care homes. Training and certification provided. 888-831-0404 or <http://ombudsman.myflorida.com>.

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

Move to Amend, Gainesville is an organization dedicated to amending the US Constitution to establish that money is not speech, and that only human beings have constitutional rights. movetoamend.org/fl-gainesville

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 Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare Local advocates work to promote/preserve these threatened programs for senior citizens. We have literature, speakers, T-shirts. Email: sun115flower@yahoo.com. See national Web site to join: <http://www.ncpssm.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

NCF AWIS is an advocacy organization championing the interest of women in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) across all disciplines and employment sectors. Meetings are usually the first Monday of the month (except holidays) from 5:30 -7:30 PM Millhopper Branch, Alachua County Public Library. All meetings open to the public. Email ncfawis@gmail.com or go to www.ncfawis.org for more information.

Occupy Gainesville is about engaging local people in grassroots, participatory democracy, diversity and dialogue; we stand in solidarity with the Occupy Wall Street Movement and the rest of the people peacefully occupying public space across this county and the rest of the world. www.occupygainesville.org and <https://www.facebook.com/occupygainesville>.

Our Santa Fe River and Ichetucknee Alliance are two of a number of grassroots environmentalist groups campaigning to protect and restore the rivers and springs. See: <http://www.oursantaferiver.org/> and <http://www.ichetuckneealliance.org/>

PFLAG (Parents and Families of Lesbians and Gays) meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Fellowship Hall of the United Church of Gainesville (1624 NW 5th Ave.) at 7 pm with a programmed portion and informal meeting with opportunity to talk and peruse their resource library. pflaggainesville.org. Confidential Helpline 352-340-3770 or email info@pflaggainesville.org.

Planned Parenthood Clinic Full-service health center for reproductive and sexual health care needs. Offering pregnancy testing and options counseling for \$10 from 10am-noon and 2-5pm. Located at 914 NW 13th St. 352-377-0881.

Pride Community Center of North Central Florida Resources for the gay/lesbian community, open M-F, 3-7, Sat. noon-4. 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 and provides services like mediation, communication skill building and restorative justice. www.centerforpeacebuilding.org. 2603

NW 13th St. #333, 352-234-6595

Sierra Club meets the first Thursday of every month at 7:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Gainesville - 4225 NW 34th St. 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). <http://www.gnvsistercities.org>.

Stand By Our Plan is committed to informing the public about the critical differences between the Comprehensive Plan and Plum Creek's proposal. We do not support Plum Creek's Plan. Alachua County's Comprehensive Plan is the best blueprint for future growth in the unincorporated areas of our county; it protects our valuable wetlands. standbyourplan@gmail.com; <http://standbyourplan.org/>.

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

Students for a Democratic Society Multi-issue student and youth organization working to build power in schools and communities. Meetings held 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 Univeristy of Florida. 392-0274, president@uff-uf.org, www.UFF-UF.org.

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

United Way Information and Referral Human-staffed computer database for resources and organizations in Alachua County. 352-332-4636 or simply 211.

Veterans for Peace Anti-war organization that raises awareness of the detriments of militarism and war as well as seeking peaceful and effective alternatives. Meets first Wednesday of every month at 7 pm. 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.



Noviembre—
Diciembre

The Gainesville Iguana

Iguana, c/o CISPLA, P.O. Box 14712, Gainesville, FL 32604
(352) 378-5655 www.gainesvilleiguana.org

November—
December

Sunday
Domingo

Monday
Lunes

Tuesday
Martes

Wednesday
Miercoles

Thursday
Jueves

Friday
Viernes

Saturday
Sabado



Radio Notes: Find schedules for WUFT, WGOT, and Grow Radio, our local non-corporate stations, at www.wuft.org, wgot.org, & growradio.org respectively. WGOT is a part-time over-the-air broadcast; and like Grow radio is streamed on the internet. More info on local independent radio on pg 22.

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.

LISTEN TO AND SUPPORT COMMUNITY RADIO!

For more events, event details, and irregularly updated calendar entries, see www.gainesvilleiguana.org/calendar.

23 Moyers & Company on WUFT-TV, Sundays, 1 pm (or watch later via the web).

Fla Coalition for Peace & Justice weekly potluck & eco-village tour, 4 pm: fcj.org

1887: **Boris Karloff** born.
1888: **Adolph "Harpo" Marx** born.

30



Keep up with the CMC at www.civicmediacenter.org for events created after this calendar was printed, and into the future (also see pg 18).

7 GLAM Craft Show, Historic Mustang Hangar, 4701 NE 40th Terr, \$3 (10 & under free), 11 am–4 pm; see pg 21.

Women's Movie Night, 1st Sundays, Pride Center (3131 NW 13th St), 7 pm.

14



If you appreciate this calendar, please consider supporting the *Ig* with a donation &/or subscription: PO Box 14712, Gainesville FL 32604.

21



WINTER SOLSTICE

28



1903: **John Von Neumann** born.

4

FULL MOON
QUADRANTID METEOR SHOWERS

24 "Shaping Our Responsible Teens" - Planned Parenthood sex education at Civic Media Center (433 S. Main St), 3:30 pm.

Aftermass, doc on Critical Mass bike activism in Portland, OR; CMC, 7 pm.



Dec 1

Law in the Library: Bankruptcy at downtown library, 6 pm.

Go Granny D, play documenting 1999 walk across US by 90-yr-old Doris Haddock, aka Granny D, for campaign finance reform: CMC, 7 pm; see pg 16.

Gvl Citizens for Active Transportation meets at CIED (530 E. Univ Ave), every other Monday, 7 pm.

WORLD AIDS DAY

8

NCF Ctl Labor Council Holiday Spaghetti Dinner, Senior Ctr (5701 NW 34th St), 6:30 pm.

Capitalism Hits the Fan, doc shown by Gvl Socialists, CMC, 7 pm.

15

Cowspiracy, beef industry exposé, CMC, 7 pm.

Talking Service for Veterans reading/discussion group, Beltram Peace Ctr, 1236 NW 18th Ave, 3rd Mons, 7 pm.

Gvl Food Security Group meets 3rd Mondays, Highlands Church, 7 pm.

GCAT meets, 7 pm - see 12/1.

22

Life of Brian, traditional holiday screening: seasonal food & drink welcome; CMC, 7 pm.

29

1890: **US 7th Cavalry** butchers >200 Oglala Sioux at Wounded Knee, SD.

5

1898: **Federico García Lorca** born.

18 County Farmers' Mkt on N 441 by Hwy Patrol Tues/ Thurs/Sat, 8 am–noon.

Anti-war signholding resumes - 1st/3rd Tues, Archer Rd & 34th St, 2nd/4th Tues, Univ Ave & 13th St; 4:30–6 pm.

School Board meets 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 620 E Univ Ave, 6 pm: see sbac.edu.

G'ville Poets & Writers meet Tuesdays at Books A Million, 2601 NW 13th St, 6:30 pm.

PFLAG meets, United Church (1624 NW 5th Ave), 7 pm.

25 Alachua County Comm meets, 2nd & 4th Tues, 9 am & 5 pm, County Admin Bldg; citizens comment, 9:30 & 5:30.

G'ville Socialists reading/discussion group meets every other Tues at CMC, 7 pm.

Wild Iris Feminist Open Mic Night, CMC Courtyard, 7 pm.

2 Civil Rights Restoration Workshop, Tower Road Library (3020 SW 75th St), 5:30 pm.

Death Row inmate card signing & potluck, Menno church, 6 pm

School Bd meeting cancelled.

Mia Mingus on disability & justice, CMC, 6:30 pm.

1620: **1st English-language newspaper** published.

9 Alachua County Comm meets - see 11/25.

Alachua County Labor Coalition meets, ACEA Hall, 6:30 pm.

Gvl Socialists, CMC, 7 pm.

1842: **Pyotr Kropotkin** born.

16 School Board, 6 pm.

PFLAG meets, United Church (1624 NW 5th Ave), 7 pm; pg 17.

1775: **Jane Austen** born.

23 Gvl Socialists, CMC, 7 pm.

30

1831: **1st World Anti-Slavery conference** held.

19 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.

Food Drive for needy grad students, Plaza of Americas, 10 am–2 pm, Wed & Thurs.

Zine Workday, CMC, noon–2 pm every Weds.

Downtown Farmers' Market every Wed, Dntn Plaza, 4-7 pm; **Edible Plant Project**, 2nd Weds.

Move to Amend meets, Pride Ctr, 6 pm, every Wednesday.

Humanists talk transgenderism w/ Donna Tara Lee, UUFG (4225 NW 34th St), 7 pm.

26

Please support Citizens Co-op, a community resource. Shop Co-op first & keep your \$\$\$ local!

3 SDS Rally Against Police Militarization, UF Turlington Plaza, 1:30 pm; see pg 2.

Vets for Peace meet, 7 pm: call 352-375-2563 for directions.

10 "Work Right" human rights poster display opens, Wild Iris Books and CMC, 5 pm.

Citizens' Climate Lobby meets, downtown library, 6:30 pm.

Democratic Executive Committee meets, County Commission meeting room, 7 pm.

Urban Forestry Workshop at Ironwood Golf Course (2100 NE 39th Ave), RSVP 393-8181 or brooksel@cityofgainesville.org; 3–6:30 pm.

HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

17 1903: Orville & Wilbur Wright get high on beach at Kitty Hawk, NC.

24 1809: "Kit" Carson born.

1905: Howard Hughes born.

1907: I.F. Stone born.

31 Propagandhi, RVIVR, War on Women, and Post Teens at the Wooly.

7 1610: Galileo Galilei discovers Io, Europa, & Ganymede.

20 Alachua County Labor Coalition rally/press conf, CMC, noon.

CMC Volunteers meet every Thursday, 5:30 pm.

Transgender Day of Remembrance Service, United Church (1624 NW 5th Ave), 5:30 pm; pg 7.

"Narratives of Capitalism", 150 Hough Hall, UF, 5:30 pm.

Stonewall Democrats, 901 NW 8th Ave, 3rd Thursdays, 6 pm.

Acoustic Blues weekly open mike Cymplify, 5402 NW 8th Ave, 6 pm.

Lucy Morgan, Pulitzer-winning journalist, UF Pugh Hall, 6 pm.

Caitlin Doughty on good death, Prairie Creek Lodge, 6:30 pm.

Open Poetry, CMC, 9 pm.

27 Free Thanksgiving Feast, Five Bar (104 S. Main St), 11 am–3 pm.

Open Poetry?, CMC, 9 pm.

THANKSGIVING

4 CMC Volunteers, 5:30 pm.

"Uncertain Actions & Inexperientable Evidence" - Rm 100, Smathers East, 5:30 pm.

Green Drinks/Cinema Verde 6th anniversary party, Sweetwater Branch Inn (625 E. University Ave), \$45, 6:30 pm.

SSJ Sierra Club meets; UUFG (4225 NW 34th St), 7:30 pm.

Open Poetry, CMC, 9 pm.

11 CMC Volunteers, 5:30 pm.

"Black Nativity" opens at Actors Warehouse, 7:30 pm.

Open Poetry, CMC, 9 pm.

18 Stonewall Democrats, 901 NW 8th Ave, 6 pm, 3rd Thursdays.

Open Poetry every Thursday at CMC, 9 pm: Gvl's longest-running poetry jam, open to all; informal & welcoming to both readers & listeners.

1946: **Steve Biko** born.

25 1946: Jimmy Buffett born.

Jan 1

8 1964: Lyndon B. Johnson declares war on poverty.

21 Trashformations at Fla Mus. of Natural History, 5:30–8 pm.

HAWN, Blue Herons, No Death, Aloha, Texas at CMC, 9 pm.



1817: **General Edmund Gaines** orders 250 US troops to attack and destroy Seminole village of Fowltown.

28 Gay Movie Night last Fridays, Pride Ctr (3131 NW 13th St), \$2, 7:30 pm.

Winter Wonderettes opens at the Hipp, 8 pm.

Jacob Marley's Christmas Carol opens at Acrostown Rep, 8 pm.



5 Downtown Holiday ArtWalk at CMC & numerous venues - see pg 16 & artwalkgainesville.com.



1955: **Montgomery, AL blacks** start 54-week bus boycott.

12 Richard Gilewitz & Elaine Mahon, Prairie Creek Lodge (7204 SE County Rd 234), 7 pm.

Transgender Movie Night, 2nd Fridays, Pride Ctr (3131 NW 13th St), 7 pm.

Classic Country Cover Concert to benefit Girls Rock Camp, Loosey's (120 SW 1st Ave), 9 pm; see pg 21.

AF the Naysayer, Holm, Big Whatever, Hail Cassius Neptune, CMC, 9 pm.

19 There will doubtless be events scheduled that aren't on this calendar at press time: check various websites and listings, and support events in our wonderfully active community.

26 BOXING DAY KWANZAA BEGINS

2 IGUANA Deadline for Jan-Feb issue is Jan 8th; write gainesvilleiguana@cox.net or call 378-5655 with events, updates, advertisements & info.

9

22 Swallowtail Farm Fall Festival, (17603 NW 276th Ln, Alachua): music, food trucks, workshops - noon-10 pm; see pg 5.

SWALLOWTAIL FARM

Five Eight, Dear and Glorious Physician, Sunshine State at The Atlantic, 9 pm.

Battle of the Bands to benefit Grace Marketplace at Boca Fiesta backyard & Palomino, w/ Sharpspring, Maid-suite, Paracosm, and Digital Brands: 10 pm.

29 A Christmas Carol opens at the Hipp, 8 pm.



6 Repurpose Project Grand Re-Opening Celebration: 1920 NE 23rd Ave, noon–6 pm; see pg 19.

"Polar Express Holiday Train Show", Matheson Museum (513 E. Univ Ave), \$4/adults, \$1 under 12; 10 am–2 pm; Sun, 1–4 pm.

Veg For Life vegan potluck, UUFG, 1st Saturdays, \$1+veg dish, 6:30 pm.

The Slims, GUTS, Waxwings, and Ann Praff at The Factory (805 W. Univ Ave).

FULL MOON

13 Muslim-Christian Dialog, Emmanuel Mennonite Church (1236 NW 18th Ave), 10 am.

Ana Varela Tuscawilla Pottery open house in Micanopy - see pg 16.

Elestial Sound Musical Showcase, Church of Holy Colors, 7 pm; pg 17.

Will the Circle be UNBROKEN - reconciliation celebration at Downtown Library, 2–4:30 pm - see pg 24.

GEMINID METEOR SHOWERS

20 Gvl Barter Project, Highlands Presbyterian Church (1001 NE 16th Ave), 3rd Saturdays, 1–4 pm.

Vets for Peace Solstice Concert, UUFG, 8 pm - see pg 17.

Whether here or anywhere: please support live music!

27 1901: Marlene Dietrich born.

3 1892: John Ronald Reuel "J.R.R." Tolkien born.

10 Muslim-Christian Dialog, Emmanuel Mennonite Church (1236 NW 18th Ave), 10 am.



History and the people who make it: Marie Jose François

Transcript edited by Pierce Butler

This is the 23rd in a series of transcript excerpts from the collection of the Samuel Proctor Oral History Program at the University of Florida.

Marie François was interviewed by Rebecca Minardi [M] in 2013.

F: Marie Jose Francois

M: Jose like Ho-sea?

F: Like Ho-sea.

I was born in Haiti, in 1953, Port-Au-Prince.

In 1983, after medical school—I came in the U.S. because the political area was not really the way I would like to see it. Freedom of speech—you cannot say what you want—and I look at healthcare in Haiti. It wasn’t really living up to the standard of me studying medicine. So my husband and I, we decided to come in the U.S.

M: What kind of medicine did you study?

F: General practitioner of medicine. When I came here, I did not pass the board. But, I did not let that stop me. I did a Master Degree in Public Health. And that gave me another view. Medicine has two parts. Prevention and Treatment. In the U.S., the focus was on treatment, not prevention.

I received my Degree through Loma Linda, California—but I did it at Florida Hospital. My focus switched. I said, if I equip community with knowledge about what’s wrong with them, they will have a better control of their sickness.

In 1985-86—I work at community health centers. I did not see the focus too much on HIV. In people’s mind it was, Haitian brought HIV into the U.S. “Ignorance!” How can we combat ignorance with education? I came to the Farmworker Association of Florida, and I talked to the nuns: the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur. People were focused on getting their green card, their citizenship, but did not focus on their health. Since 1987 until 2003, I brought together different HIV preventative awareness program at the Farmworker Association. Testing, education, assertiveness, skill negotiation, so people can be aware what is the disease, and what they can do to prevent it.

Look at the past, you have farm workers

coming from the Caribbean, from Mexico — single men. Living in the camp. So temptation is there, they don’t know who they are sleeping with, they don’t have a family setting. They can expose themselves, to HIV, to other sexually transmitted diseases.

This is your behavior that put you at risk. I am looking at HIV within the farmworker community, as a disease we can manage: the key is screening. My main goal was to really dispel the stigma so Haitian can feel

tolerance of different cultures, of not being judgmental, of acceptance. This is 17 years at least of my life within the farmworker community. I can tell you, my journey at the Farmworker Association of Florida mold me of who I am today; make me a good listener, I can really talk to anyone no matter who you are—White, Black, Hispanic—make them feel comfortable to trust you. And then you can assist them in what they need.

When I come from Haiti, I was doing some volunteer work at Florida Hospital, when one doctor told me about the Farmworker Association and the Apopka community. I said to myself, “Even though I’m not practicing medicine, I still can use my knowledge to educate the community. You don’t dismiss people’s belief, you use that belief to make them see the right way so they can manage their sickness. Somebody can believe in home remedy, but we can say always communicate with your provider, because sometime you’re taking home remedy and you’re taking other medication, you can really have some side-effects you don’t know.

M: Were there a lot of pesticide-related illnesses?

F: Yes. Yes. Yes. Pesticide. The Association did a wonderful job in educating the community. But important also is educating the providers regarding pesticides. They not understand that. Somebody can have a type of dermatitis—skin disorder—and they do not know. But they go to see the doctor, and sometime medical provider they don’t tie your profession, what you do, with what you have. A lot of heat exhaustion. I work with a lot of pregnant women, and that’s very important for whoever is talking to that pregnant woman to know what are they doing, so that any impact on that baby—on that fetus—so some tests need to be done.

M: What is there still to be done providing healthcare and adequate education?

F: [Laughs] do not get me—I cannot go there. Look at the Affordable Healthcare Act, okay? You have one community, one population, with no legal status. You have to be documented to get access to that health insurance.

M: What is the Haitian culture like here?

F: The Haitian community is very diverse.

In Central Florida, we have Haitian in Orange County, Lake County, Seminole County. And not all Haitian are doing farmworks. Now, when they receive their green card, they move towards construction, they work at the hotel housekeeping. We have a new generation of children of farmworkers finishing school, going to college. You have an aging, old Haitian community, and a new generation. You still have a group of Haitian, 60, 70 years of age that don’t speak English, but they are functioning in the U.S.

They speak Creole and French. But not English. And I can tell you, 30 years within that community, a lot of progress. Now we have a Haitian Chamber of Commerce, we have a Haitian Consulate; so instead of going to Miami for their passport, they can get something here, locally. Slowly, the level of education, the level of literacy is increasing.

M: Do you still have your traditions?

F: Oh yes, I have my language, okay? I have a culture in cuisine, I still keep my Haitian food, okay? And at my house I have my mom, my mother in law, who speaks French and Creole. My daughter was born in the U.S., she claim to be Haitian-American, because we show her to be proud of that culture. When I came back in the 1983, it was a cultural shock for me, okay? I’m proficient in English, but still my first language is French and Creole. When I came from Haiti and I saw the living condition of farmworkers, of Haitians in the Apopka area, yeah? It was like back home in Haiti in countryside.

When I came from Haiti, I came with my husband who was to do a doctor degree in engineering. It wasn’t easy. Until 1990 in two community health centers because of my profession, my background, they sponsor me. And then I can have my green card. Now I am a U.S. citizen. I will not say it was good, but, my journey make me who I am. As an immigrant woman, it is my duty to assist other immigrant, to help them walk the path I have walked. I can guide.

And people are scared, they do not understand the system, so I believe us who have been there before, our role is to guide those coming after us. So, those of us leaders in that community, in the Caribbean community, in the Haitian community, in the Mexican community, in the African community, we need to guide our sisters and brothers, by being a role model. I make them tell me where they are, what do they want. And then show them the path.

Education is the key in the U.S. I tell them about high school diploma, I tell them about

GED, you can learn the language, that is the number one step. They have to speak the language. That’s okay to keep your language, it’s important. But you need to understand the American culture and language.

M: Do you see a lot of immigrants who come in just not knowing anything?

F: Yes, yes. And those people working under the table, they are paid in cash, they don’t have any rights. They abuse them.

Back home in Haiti, I don’t trust government, and I can tell you even in the U.S.—I don’t trust government. When somebody want to be elected, they promise, promise, promise, but it becomes a different reality when they are elected.

M: Let’s talk a little about your family. You live with your mother in law?

F: My mother in law and my mother, and my husband also. I have a daughter and her name is Christel—like Christ—she is right now in Atlanta, Georgia. She has a degree in pharmacy. And she works at Emory Hospital. She is 28. I came in 1983, Christel was born in October 1984.

I am Catholic. And my faith lift me up every day. You need to know your purpose in life. When you know your purpose, then you can know which path to take.

Inspiration. I’m always ready, when I leave my house. I do have problems, but I believe every day I am meeting someone, there is a reason why. I maybe catch somebody maybe one time, just to say one word to somebody can make a big difference. I always say to anybody I talk to, “Tomorrow will be better.”, but today you need to work, to make tomorrow better.

M: How do you come into contact with most of these people? Is it through your organization?

F: Through organization, through friends, and like I said, divine way. Our mission is to serve. Even in the medical field we are serving the community. So, we need to be humble. Humility is a condition where you can really open your mind and heart to somebody in need of your service.

M: In the Catholic church there is some stigma against the use of—

F: Condom?

M: Yes. How do you combat that?

F: Just say it. Say it. At ten, twelve, thirteen they are pregnant. This is not by the Holy

Spirit! They got pregnant because they had unprotected sex. So we cannot give them education half-way. Okay?

When I left the Association in 2003, there is another group I put together called the Center for Multicultural Wellness and Prevention, where a lot of work with HIV/AIDS is being done now. They have HAPWA, which is Housing Assistance for People with HIV/AIDS. I believe they are the Ryan White dental provider. It started they do dental work, but they are the dental coordinating agency to assist people with HIV, because if you don’t have good oral health, you cannot eat. So, you cannot do nothing. Okay? The Center for Multicultural Wellness and Prevention, it’s like a legacy. A legacy to show different cultures can work together without backstabbing. I have witness minority agencies because of lack of togetherness, fail.

We put the community first. Compassion, understanding, and integrity, and it’s working pretty well. Because it’s universal, and whoever is coming in front of you is sick, not with a disease, but they can be homeless, they can be hungry, they can need somebody to talk to. With that group, they have staff that can listen to the need of whoever get into that door. No matter what.

The mission of the CMWP is to enhance the health, wellness and quality of life for diverse populations in Central Florida. We have a website you can look at what we’ve done there. My family, everybody embraces what I do. Because I work, let’s say sixteen hours a day, they understand my passion, what I want to do, all of that in the name of service.

My husband loves soccer, and he is using soccer as a way to discipline some young boys. Soccer is a national sport for Haiti, and sometime I use soccer to educate the community: we do soccer tournament. And during the tournament we use physical activity, sometimes the men are playing, the women, we can walk around the field, and we do education about different illnesses. Yes, while playing.

Soccer can be a way to educate the community about health issues. We offer some screening. This will be eleven years we have been doing what is called “Caribbean Health Summit”, from 400 people attending, up to 1,500. Caribbean Health Summit is a way to promote primary prevention, to know about your blood pressure, your blood sugar, we do mammogram, we do blood for prostate cancer. We do a lot of health

See ORAL HISTORY, p. 16

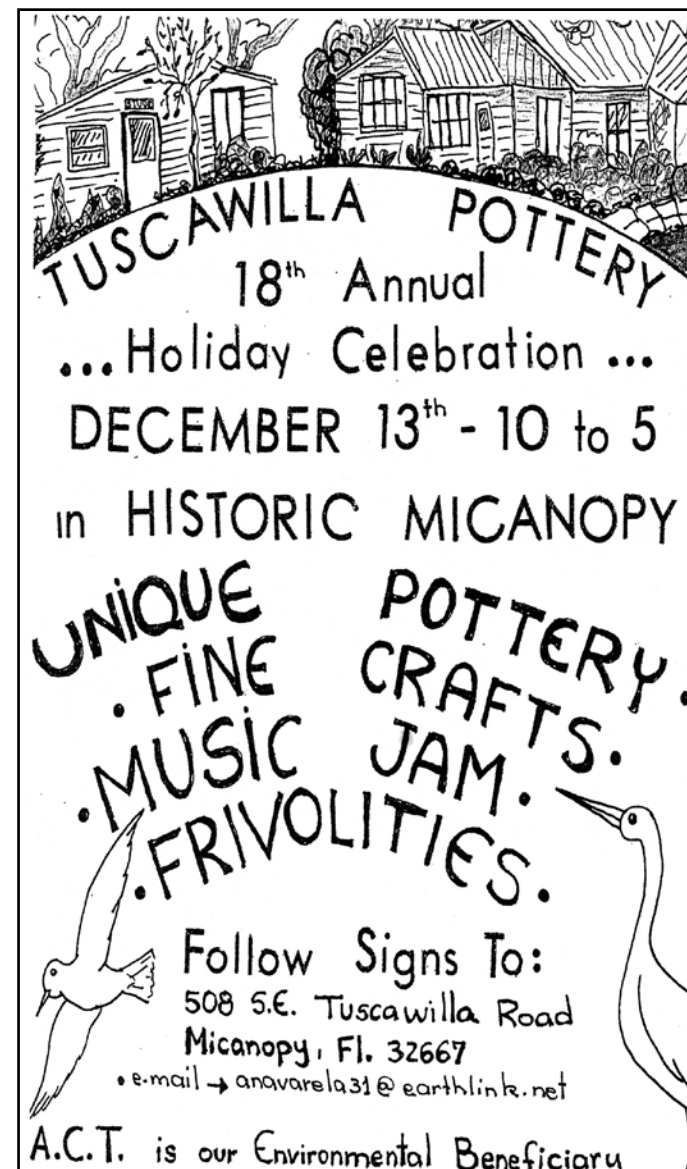
screening. When you have that screening result, we link you into services, to what we call in Orange County, Primary Care Access Network. Everything is on that website, yes.

I'm not doing anything by myself, it's teamwork. This is what the immigrant community needs. Togetherness, networking, and collaboration. With both hands together, we can serve the whole community. One hand cannot serve the community, okay?

Search for "Marie Jose Francois" at <http://oral.history.ufl.edu/col-lection/> for the full transcript of this interview.

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.

Donate online at www.history.ufl.edu/oral/support.html or make checks to the University of Florida, specified for SPOHP, and mail to PO Box 115215, Gainesville, FL 32601. 🐾



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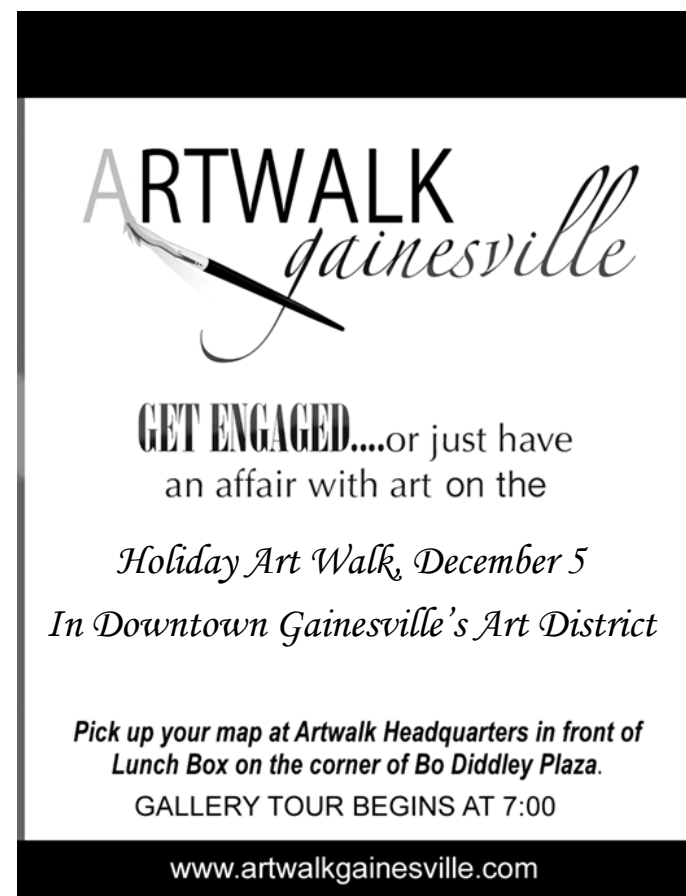
Go Granny D! December 1 at the Civic Media Center

by Joe Courter

Usually the Civic Media Center shows a documentary film on Mondays, but this December 1 things will be a bit different. There is a two-person play entitled "Go Granny D!" It presents, in her own words and with narration, the story of Doris Haddock's, AKA Granny D's, 1999 walk across the U.S. from LA to DC at the ripe old age of 90 to promote campaign finance reform.

The actors performing are Barbara Bates Smith and Jeff Sebens, and they will be coming down to Florida to support another walker for campaign finance reform, 81-year-old Rhana Bazzini, AKA Rhana B, as she concludes HER walk from Sarasota to Tallahassee, which will culminate with events in Tallahassee on December 3. Details of Rhana's walk and Granny D's life can be found at www.ingrannydfootsteps.org.

With Jeff providing music and narration, and Barbara Jo alternately presenting talks Granny D made as well as reading from Granny D's journal, you follow her across the country, meeting people famous and not, with wit, insight, and concise observation. The play will be at 7pm on Monday, December 1, and donations are requested to help underwrite their travels. The CMC is at 433 S. Main St. in Downtown Gainesville. If you were one of the many who worked on or supported the non-binding referendum on our ballot against corporate personhood, this play is for you! 🐾



ARTWALK
gainesville

GET ENGAGED....or just have
an affair with art on the

Holiday Art Walk, December 5
In Downtown Gainesville's Art District

Pick up your map at Artwalk Headquarters in front of
Lunch Box on the corner of Bo Diddley Plaza.

GALLERY TOUR BEGINS AT 7:00

www.artwalkgainesville.com

Winter Solstice Peace Concert on Dec. 20

by Gainesville Veterans for Peace

This year, the 28th annual Veterans for Peace Winter Solstice Peace Concert will be on December 20 at 8 P.M. at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Gainesville (4225 N.W. 34th Street, Gainesville, FL 32605-1422).

The doors open at 6:30 P.M. and the concert begins at 8:00 P.M., but people who purchase tickets in advance must arrive by 7:30 P.M. to assure a seat. Unclaimed seats will be opened up for those in line after 7:30 P.M., with no preference given to advance ticket purchasers, until all 400 seats are filled.

The event will feature music from Cherokee Peace Chant, Drums of Peace, John Chambers and Friends, Lauren Robinson, Kevin O'Sullivan, Quartermoon, Other Voices, The Erasables, and A Choir of Heavenly Semi-Angels.

VFP asks for a \$10-\$30 sliding scale donation per ticket. Tickets are available at McIntyre Stained Glass, the makers of the Peace Helmet. They are now also the official venue for Winter Solstice concert tickets.

McIntyre Stained Glass is located in the Thornebrook Village shopping plaza (2441 N.W. 43rd Street, Suite 11A, Gainesville, FL 32606). You can contact them by phone at 352-372-2752. They are open weekdays from 10-5 and Saturdays from 11-3.

Outside the event, organizations and groups from the Gainesville area will set up informational booths and tables. Attendees are encouraged to bring clothing, food and personal items to be collected and distributed by Helping Hands Clinic. Refreshments will also be available.

Parking is available at the event but is limited (carpooling recommended!), and parking attendants will be present to assist drivers.

For more information about the Winter Solstice Celebration,

Elestial Sound Musical Showcase December 13 at the Church of Holy Colors

Elestial Sound's 2015 compilation featuring 16 incredible musical artists will drop, coinciding with the final Church of Holy Colors experience!

Come celebrate a beautiful end and a new beginning!

7 pm – 1 am elestialsound.com

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visit our Website at <http://www.vfpgainesville.org> and our FB page <https://www.facebook.com/VFPchapter14>. 🐾

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Music & Cheer for Dark Hours

An Evening of Songs of Peace
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Gainesville's Favorite Musicians

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John Chambers & Friends • Patchwork
Lauren Robinson • Kevin O'Sullivan
Quartermoon • Other Voices
The Erasables/Relics Conglomerate
A Choir of Heavenly Semi-Angels



Sponsored by
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Veterans for Peace

\$10-30
Requested
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Saturday, December 20, 8:00 P.M.
(doors open 6:30 P.M.)

at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship,
4225 NW 34th Street

Tickets: McIntyre Stained Glass & Art Gallery
Thornebrook Village, 2441 NW 43rd St, Ste 11A 352-272-2752



**Donations of clothing, food, & personal care items
for the homeless accepted at door.**



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MEETS MONTHLY EVERY 3RD TUESDAY

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Gainesville Quakers warmly invite you to attend our weekly meeting for worship held in our beautiful meetinghouse nestled among majestic oaks.

An unprogrammed meeting of Friends, we follow the tradition of gathering in silence to wait upon the Light.

11a.m., Sundays
702 NW 38th St., Gainesville
352-372-1070

Civic Media Center events — Nov./Dec. 2014

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

- Mon, Nov 17: "Garbage Warrior" - documentary about Earthship Biotecture, building sustainable homes with recycled objects, 7pm
- Fri, Nov 21: Live music with HAWN (shoegaze party pop), Blue Herons, and No Death, 9pm
- Mon, Nov 24: "Aftermass" - documentary on bicycle culture in Portland, Oregon, 7pm
- Mon, Dec 1: "Go Granny D" - two person play (not a film) honoring Granny D, woman who in 1999 at 90 years old, walked across the country for Campaign Finance reform, 7pm
- Tue, Dec 2: Speaker Mia Mingus - Mia does social justice activism/research for disabilities rights and "she identifies as a queer physically disabled Korean woman transracial and transnational adoptee, born in Korea, raised in the Caribbean, nurtured in the U.S. South, and now living on the west coast," 6:30-9pm
- Fri, Dec 5: Holiday Artwalk at CMC and many other downtown locations, 7-10pm
- Mon, Dec 8: "Capitalism Hits the Fan" - documentary sponsored by Gainesville Socialists, 7pm
- Wed, Dec 10: International Human Rights Day Poster Exhibition spotlighting workers rights. Exhibit up for three days at CMC and Wild Iris
- Fri, Dec 12: Live music with AF the Naysayer from the New Orleans beat music scene with Holm, and locals Big Whatever and Hail ... Cassius Neptune, 9pm
- Mon, Dec 15: "Cowspiracy" - documentary on the impact of the beef industry on the climate and its ethical implications, 7pm
- Sat, Dec 20: CMC will table at the Vets for Peace Solstice Concert, Unitarian Fellowship, 7pm
- Mon, Dec 22: Annual Solstice/Holiday showing of Monty Python's "Life of Brian" 7pm

433 S. Main Street (352) 373-0010
www.civicmediacenter.org

*Parking just to the south at SE 5th Ave., (see sign)
or after 7 p.m. at the courthouse
(just north of 4th Ave.)
or GRU (2 blocks east of CMC)*

Check website for details and additional events.



**Interested in editing, writing,
managing production?**



The Iguana needs YOU!



Help make Gainesville's longest running progressive mag happen
Contact Editor Jessica Newman for more details at: jnew751@gmail.com

Civic Media Center seeks volunteers, (tax-exempt) donations

The Civic Media Center had a very busy October with its 21st Anniversary on October 18th, an extremely well attended presentation on the 22nd, and three very busy days serving as an acoustic venue for The Fest at the end of the month. All this was overseen by the CMC's new co-coordinators, Kenzie Cooke and Nailah Summers.

The October 22nd program featured two guest speakers. Dream Defenders co-founder and executive director Phillip Agnew came up from Miami, and Chicago-based poet, activist and educator Malcolm London came down. 130 crammed the CMC for their free-ranging talk, covering many aspects of activism in the 21st century, tools, tactics, and topics needing to be addressed in this age of militarized policing, media-induced fear-mongering, and the school-to-prison pipeline. Thanks to one of the CMC's intrepid volunteers, the presentations were recorded and made into two 45-minute segment available on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sAGLyh3j7cU>.

As successful a month as the CMC had, the needs for payroll, rent and utilities are high and relentless. Beyond the amazing library, it is a community resource with the shared Courtyard hosting events as well. Time and again we will hear from people whose lives are enriched by their experiences at the CMC. During the Fest, with many folks in from all over the country and world, admiration for what the CMC is doing and the wish they had something like it in their town. So whether you actually use the CMC, or you just feel it is a community asset deserving of support, please consider a year-end donation to this 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. There is Paypal opportunity at www.civicmediacenter.org, or by mail to the CMC at 433 S. Main St., Gainesville, FL 32601

For those who might want to volunteer, there is a need as the Radical Press Coffee Collective is on hiatus until January, and they were a great help with staffing. Volunteer meetings are on Thursdays at 5:30, or simply get in touch at 352-373-0010 or coordinators@civicmediacenter.org. Input regarding ideas for events, help with outreach, and the ever-needed fundraising are welcome. 🐢

THE REPURPOSE PROJECT

**New
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New HOURS**

1920 NE 23rd Ave, Gainesville
Tues-Fri: 1-6pm & Sat: 10am-6pm
Buy USED! It's good for the planet!

The Repurpose Project is a non-profit community based effort to divert useful resources from the landfill, redirect these items to the public for art and education, inspire creativity, and help us all rethink what we throw away.

Valuable materials are thrown away every day. We believe that everything is a gift from the earth and should be used and reused as much as possible before taking more. Join us on our journey to a sustainable future. Buy USED!

WE HAVE MOVED! JOIN US
in celebrating our new location! Music, craft stations, yard games, photo booth & photo opportunities with Green Santa! PLUS...

SATCHEL'S PIZZA

**RELOCATION
CELEBRATION!**

**Sat, Dec 6th 2014
noon-6pm**

www.repurposeproject.org

Healthcare Marketplace enters second phase

by David O'Malley

North Florida Organizer, Enroll America

Editors note: The Obamacare system IS helping a lot of people. It is far from what we need, but it is what we've got now. A single-payer system like Canada's, and most of the world's, would eliminate all these complexities, but we don't have that yet. With that said here is this.

The second open enrollment period for Marketplace health insurance plans began on

Bob and Gay Zieger Estate Sale Jan. 16 & 17

There will be a terrific estate sale at 2025 NW 18th Lane in Gainesville on January 16 & 17, 2015. Bob and Gay Zieger, long-time educators at UF and SFC respectively and supporters of the Civic Media Center, recently passed away within months of one another, and a lifetime of treasures — including early American pieces, a fine old train set and household goods — will be sold. The proceeds from this sale will go to support one of their charities, a middle school in Pyapone, a very poor village in Myanmar. For more information contact Jean Chalmers at 352-538-4258. 🐾

November 15. The Affordable Care Act enables millions of Americans to gain access to healthcare in our costly medical system.

Now, individuals have an opportunity to buy affordable, comprehensive coverage. Millions of people got covered since the Marketplace first opened on October 1, 2013. Millions more still do not know about their options for healthcare.

The estimated uninsured rate in Alachua County dropped from 20 percent in 2013 to 15 percent in 2014. In Florida, 91 percent of the nearly one million who signed up for a marketplace plan got financial assistance, and the average monthly premium was \$68.

People without healthcare coverage are unaware of basic facts about their new options for insurance. A national survey showed that 88 percent of the uninsured do not know that the Marketplace opens on Nov. 15, and more than half don't know that financial help is available. However, two thirds of the uninsured want coverage.

Many people without health insurance fall into the coverage gap. They don't qualify for Florida Medicaid but their income is below the threshold to qualify for a Marketplace plan. These people rely on charity care. The charity healthcare available in our county is better than most. We have dedicated people in nonprofit organizations, churches, and our medical institutions who devote time

and resources to help people in need.

With the start of the second open enrollment, many can obtain needed healthcare.

Health insurance is a critical issue for young adults in their family forming years, who struggle with bills, low wages, and the everyday tasks of putting food on the table.

Children need preventive care and doctor visits. Health insurance provides peace of mind knowing medical needs are covered, and is crucial for financial stability of young families. Unfortunately, many young adults have never had health insurance and are unfamiliar with terms like deductible and co-pay.

Affordable health insurance is also important for entrepreneurs, artists and freelancers who power our creative economy.

Without affordable health insurance, savings can be quickly depleted. And as people approach retirement, illness and unemployment often occur together. The Affordable Care Act has made a big difference in many lives, and many remain to be helped before the Feb. 15 deadline to Get Covered!

For basic information on your options go to Get Covered America <http://getcoveredamerica.org/>. To reach a local navigator go to <http://ncfnavigators.org/>, <http://enrollamerica.org/>, or contact me at domalley@enrollamerica.org. 🐾

Editors' picks: the news that didn't fit ...

🐾 **Walmart Workers Ramp Up Protests for Black Friday**
by Diane Krauthamer, *Labor Notes*
<http://labornotes.org/2014/11/walmart-workers-ramp-protests-black-friday>

🐾 **Cynics, Step Aside: There is Genuine Excitement over a Hillary Clinton Presidency**
by Glenn Greenwald, *The Intercept*
<https://firstlook.org/theintercept/2014/11/14/despite-cynicism-genuine-excitement-hillary-clinton-candidacy/>

🐾 **Fight for Big Ideas: Expand Social Security**
by Nancy Altman and Eric Kingson, *Huffington Post*
http://www.huffingtonpost.com/nancy-altman/fight-for-big-ideas-expan_b_6121112.html

🐾 **Films for Action**
A collection of full-length films focusing on social justice issues that can be watched free, online
<http://www.filmsforaction.org/walloffilms/>

🐾 **The \$9 Billion Witness: Meet JPMorgan Chase's Worst Nightmare**
by Matt Taibbi, *Rolling Stone*
<http://www.rollingstone.com/politics/news/the-9-billion-witness-20141106>

🐾 **Coalition of Immokalee Workers Debuts Fair Food Label Nationwide**
by Amy Bennett Williams
<http://www.news-press.com/story/news/local/2014/10/24/coalition-of-immokalee-workers-debuts-fair-food-label/17828013>

GLAM Craft Show 2014 to be held Dec. 7

Get ready for GLAM Craft Show 2014 -- where you can eat, drink, and shop for unique gifts made right here in your local community.

When: Sunday, Dec. 7 from 11am to 4pm

Admission: \$3 per person; kids 10 and under are free

Where: Historic Mustang Hangar, 4701 NE 40th Terrace, Gainesville -- second right after 39th Avenue -- just follow the signs from Waldo Road

Questions? Visit <http://glamcraftshow.com/> or email glamcraftshow@gmail.com.

Want to know what unique handcrafted items you'll find for sale at GLAM? Check out our vendors' page: <http://glamcraftshow.com/vendors> (will be updated with 2014 vendors soon)

And don't forget, Celebrations Catering will also be on hand selling beer and tasty treats to keep your shopping stamina high.

Hope to see you there! 🐾

"It is only by instigation of the wrongs of men that what we call the rights of men become turbulent and dangerous."

- James Russell Lowell



377-5828

Open: 7 am - 10 pm Mon - Fri
9 am - 10 pm Sat - Sun

DRIVE THRU & CALL-INS

Two locations:
407 NW 12th St. and
5011 NW 34th St.



HELP END HOMELESSNESS!

The Alachua County Coalition for the Homeless and Hungry, Inc., a 501(c)(3), is starting a Motor Donor program to support the GRACE Marketplace

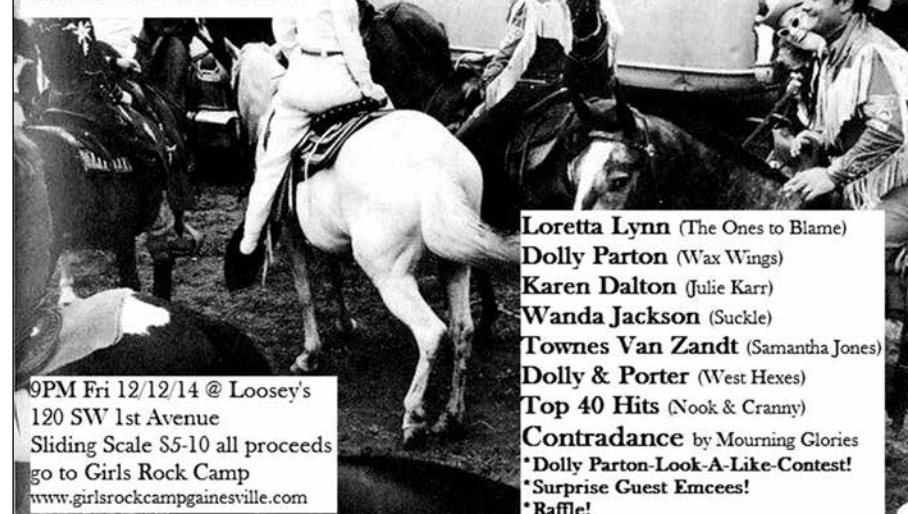
PLEASE DONATE

Cars, trucks, boats, RVs, motorcycles
and scooters (running or not!)

352 575-8307

Classic Country Coverband Show!!

BENEFITING
GAINESVILLE
GIRLS ROCK CAMP



Loretta Lynn (The Ones to Blame)
Dolly Parton (Wax Wings)
Karen Dalton (Julie Karr)
Wanda Jackson (Suckle)
Townes Van Zandt (Samantha Jones)
Dolly & Porter (West Hexes)
Top 40 Hits (Nook & Cranny)
Contradance by Mourning Glories
*Dolly Parton-Look-A-Like-Contest!
*Surprise Guest Emcees!
*Raffle!

9PM Fri 12/12/14 @ Loosey's
120 SW 1st Avenue
Sliding Scale \$5-10 all proceeds
go to Girls Rock Camp
www.girlsrockcampgainesville.com

New Vinyl. Every Week.



HEAR AGAIN
MUSIC AND MOVIES

201 SE 1st St. Suite 105
32601. 352-373-1800

FACEBOOK US!

BREAKFAST, LUNCH & DINNER

the
Jones

Happy Hour 3-7

EVERY DAMN DAY

LOCAVORE FRIENDLY



203 SW 2ND AVE
GAINESVILLE, FL

OPEN 8AM-11PM
SHOW THIS AD AND GET 10% OFF

Grassroots support keeps it going



What the Civic Media Center does:

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

What you can do:

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

For information:

- web: www.civicmediacenter.org
- email: coordinators@civicmediacenter.org
- phone: 352-373-0010



Radical Press is still on hold for day-to-day operations until January.

Looking for new blood to restart collective, considering changes to hours of operations. Open for some larger events.

433 S. Main St., Gainesville 32601



WGOT 94.7 LP FM
Gainesville's Progressive Community
Radio Station WGOT is on the air

Sunday: 1-4 p.m.
Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 1 - 4 p.m.. 8 p.m.-midnight
Tuesday, Thursday: midnight-5 a.m., 1- 4 p.m., 8-9 p.m.
Saturday: 1- 9 p.m.

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

We are streaming 24/7 using Shoutcast. 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 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.



Democracy NOW! airs
Mon.-Fri. 1 p.m. & Mon.-Thur. 8 p.m.



GROWRADIO.org
programming schedule

Grow Radio is a listener-supported, Gainesville-based Internet radio station that provides community members an opportunity to create and manage engaging, educational, informative, locally-generated programming to promote fine, musical and visual arts and humanities for the enrichment of the Gainesville community. The following schedule is subject to change, and not all programs are broadcast each week. Check growradio.org for updates.

Sun	5 pm	Joe and Craig Show
	9 pm	The Sum of Your Life
Mon	5 pm	Street Nuts
	7 pm	Malum
	8 pm	The Sum of Your Life
	10 pm	Female Trouble
Tue	10 am	The Serene City
	4 pm	Copyright Issue
	6 am	Your Used To Be
	8 pm	Lost Sharks
Wed	12 am	Pyramid Society 64
	9 am	Sax and Violins
	1 pm	The 2nd Ave. Shuffle
	3 pm	The Quiet City
	5 pm	An Average Day
	7 pm	Homebrew Talk
	9 pm	The Otherness
Thu	12 pm	Things Be Blowin'
	2 pm	The Breakup Song
	4 pm	Hope & Anchor
	6 pm	The Kitchen Sink
	8 pm	florida rules
	10 pm	Eagle Death
Fri	3 pm	Ectasy To Frenzy
	5 pm	Artichokeification
	7 pm	Jazzville
	9 pm	Bag of Tricks
Sat	3 pm	A Brazillian Commando
	7 pm	Planet of Sound
	9 pm	Reality Bites

Local election
results not bad

by Joe Courter

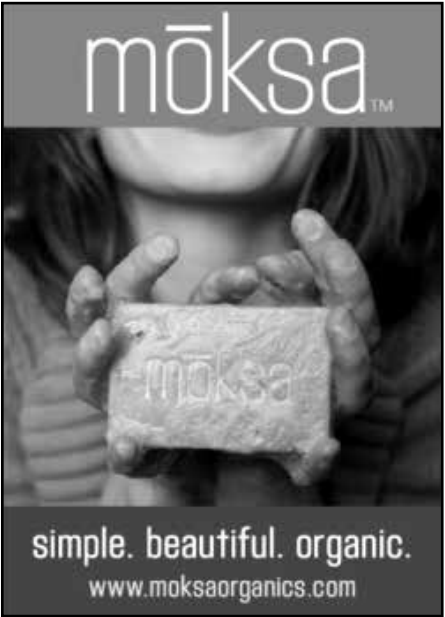
Regarding local election results, Alachua County saw a rejection of the transportation tax thanks to a drumbeat of mistrust and anti- tax sentiment, putting further behind the long put-off road work and a squeeze on other local programs.

But, on the plus side, Ken Cornell was soundly elected to the County Commission, and John Power elected as Tax Collector. Marihelen Wheeler ran well in the County, but with a gerrymandered district that is overwhelmingly Republican, she could not defeat Ted Yoho for Congress. Likewise, for Jon Uman's loss to Keith Perry for State House. They ran strong, progressive campaigns, but the demographics and lazy mid-term turnout hurt their chances.

The non-binding straw ballot issue on corporate personhood was overwhelming favored; congrats to all who worked hard to get this on the ballot.

Statewide, the Springs initiative passed. Lots of locally based work and support went into getting it on the ballot, and it's a big win for the State. Kudos to all who made that happen. Medical Marijuana fell just short from passing Statewide, but that almost 58 percent said "Yes" shows people want it. Maybe some courage will be shown in the Legislature. Maybe...

The next issue of the Iguana in January will preview the March City of Gainesville election.



A BIG THANKS FROM THE IGUANA

THE IGUANA THANKS THOSE WHO HAVE SUBSCRIBED, RE-SUBSCRIBED OR DONATED TO THIS PUBLICATION.

YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS KEEP US GOING, AND LETS US KEEP PUTTING OUT NEWS AND VIEWS OTHERWISE UNHEARD OR HARD TO FIND.

PLEASE SHOW YOUR SUPPORT AS WE MOVE TOWARD OUR 29th YEAR!

Justice for Mike Brown

There will be a demonstration AT 6PM AT THE ALACHUA COUNTY COURT HOUSE, 220 S MAIN ST, GAINESVILLE, FL the day after the grand jury decision in Ferguson , MO regarding the killing of Mike Brown. If the decision comes down on a Friday or Saturday, the rally will be on the next day (Sat or Sunday) at Noon, same Courthouse location. The rally is intended to be peaceful with no civil disobedience or arrests . It has been called by the Uhuru Solidarity Movement

The Uhuru Solidarity Movement is uniting with the call put out by the Black is Back Coalition for Social Justice, Peace and Reparations to engage in mass protest demanding justice for Mike Brown and the African community!

GAINESVILLE, FL

If the grand jury does not indict
Darren Wilson....
THE NEXT DAY:

The International People's Democratic Uhuru Movement is uniting with the call by the Black is Back Coalition to engage in mass protest if the Grand Jury does not indict the killer of Michael Brown.

WE WILL DEMONSTRATE AT
6PM AT THE ALACHUA COUNTY COURT HOUSE,
220 S MAIN ST, GAINESVILLE, FL

Let the Circle Be UNBROKEN

"Let the Circle Be UNBROKEN" is the theme of an event at the Downtown Library by the Porter's Youth Center on Saturday, December 13. This will be a celebration of community coming together, which will feature Helen Warren, Annie Orlando and guest speaker Dr. Zoharah Simmons. The event is the brainchild of community activist Faye Williams, and a means to heal the rift that occurred in the past City election cycle. The event will run from 2pm to 4:30pm, with potluck refreshments to include salads, fruits, rice and peas, beans and rice and sweet potato pie.

In Annie's words: "Running for elective office is many things. It's an honor, a privilege and a great responsibility. As a candidate it was an amazing and sometime brutal experience. But it is just about impossible for anyone to run for office and succeed without the help of a team of loyal volunteers and lots of supporters, who take elections seriously and put themselves on the line to help candidates get elected. The downside of political activism is that getting someone elected is a very adversarial process. In order to convince people to support us in 3 minutes or less, we have to put labels and tags on our opponents in order to define them. In the process, we forget that under all the labels we've stuck on each other are human beings.

"One of the realizations I made during the campaign was that left, right and in the middle the one thing everyone had in common was their passion and love for Gainesville. During the course of the campaign, I met and became friends with many incredible people who I probably would have never gotten to know otherwise. One of these incredible people is Faye Williams. Faye not only talks about being peace, she lives, eats and breathes it. Faye has worked tirelessly to bring our community back together and is the organizer of the December 13th event at the Downtown Library for the Warren and Orlando campaigns.

"Along with Faye Williams, Joe Courter, Joni Ellis, Carol Thomas and Helen Warren, I hope that everyone associated with both campaigns can attend and put aside the politics for a few hours and celebrate the goodness that is in all of us."

And in Helen's words: "The idea for Annie and me to get together and smooth over ruffled feathers was suggested by Faye Williams, a true peacemaker in town. She led the effort to meet on friendly terms and allow us to build a bridge that wasn't possible during the campaign.

"As common in local campaigns, there was a division between the many circles of friends that connect on other common grounds in Gainesville. Disagreements and misunderstandings multiplied as Annie and I and our supporters tried to differentiate our positions on problems facing our city.

"Although we did not know each other before the campaign, we both had friends who knew both of us. In this town there is a tight overlap of community circles with the musicians, dancers, environmentalists, and parents of children. I often refer to Kevin Bacon's 6 degrees of separation between all people. Gainesville is such an interconnected community, it seems as if this notion collapses to a smaller separation of two degrees, and that is only if you are new in town!

"It was not long after the campaign started that I was finding good friends feeling uncomfortable with having to make a choice between two of their friends.

"I often felt an awkwardness when out in public, sometimes even feeling like some friends were avoiding conversation with me. Some asked me outright why I felt the need to run in this race against Annie. There were couples who had houses divided and placed a sign for each of us in their yard.

"Faye was able to have a conversation with both Annie and me and suggest that we get together over lunch. After two such meetings, and good food, those who participated with the meetings thought that our two campaign communities would do well to have a some kind of healing celebration. A big part of the conversation between Annie and me was about the desire to be able to talk with each other when in public, and to do so without rancor.

"The first time I met Annie was at a Green Drinks event, and we talked about some of our shared global concerns. It is time to find a way back to common interests and ground to move forward on the issues that are important to our city. We do love this place and the people who also call it home. That is a good place to start a conversation."

The December 13 event is sponsored by the Porter's Youth Center, Alachua County Peace Coalition, Bailey Learning and Arts Collective, The Circle of Love, Civic Media Center, Green Party, Occupy Gainesville and Wild Iris Books.

Faye is looking for volunteers to help with this event. Please contact her at the Porter's Youth Center at 352-792-6020. 🐢

The Gainesville Iguana

(established 1986)



The Gainesville Iguana
*is Gainesville's progressive
events calendar and newsletter*

Subscribe!

Individuals: \$15

(or more if you can)

Low/No income: What you can

Groups: \$20

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*Comments, suggestions,
contributions (written or financial)
are welcome.*

*To list your event or group, contact
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