



# The Gainesville Iguana

October 2016  
Vol. 30 Issue 10

## Alachua County: Where the wild things roam



*by Tom Kay*

On Tuesday, Nov. 8, Alachua County voters will have the opportunity to protect the water and wildlife habitat in Alachua County and to improve parks and recreation facilities in all our cities and unincorporated areas by voting for Wild Spaces & Public Places.

This one-half percent sales tax is expected to generate \$16.3 million annually or \$130 million over eight years starting January 1, 2017.

If voters approve passage of Wild Spaces & Public Places this November, the rev-

enues it generates will help implement the City of Gainesville's Recreation Master Plan and the 352 Arts Roadmap.

Funds from the measure will also pay for recreational projects in all four quadrants of the county. In June 2016, the County Commission approved the project lists from each of its municipalities.

The County's intention is to expend the bulk of its share – \$74.4 million over eight years – on land conservation. While Alachua County has historically been a leader in the state for land conservation, with no local funding and very little state funding available over the last five years, new conservation land protection in Alachua County has dwindled.

With this new source of funds, Alachua County Forever will once again lead in land conservation at a time when it is most needed. As Gainesville and Alachua County continue to grow, both new and long-time residents will need new and improved places to recreate and enjoy the outdoors. It is part of what makes Alachua County unique.

Wild Spaces & Public Places will help protect our drinking water and ensure that the quality of life that drew so many of us to call this place home will continue to be exceptional, but this county-wide measure needs your support.

Let's keep Alachua County wild and active. Please VOTE FOR Wild Spaces & Public Places on Nov. 8.

To Learn More about the Campaign, visit [wildspacespublicplaces.org](http://wildspacespublicplaces.org).

## Voting 101

*by Joe Courter*

This is a vote for our future.

The presidential race has been an exposition of where this country currently is, with Bernie's optimism for progressive change (Yay!), Trump's fear-mongering and callousness (Yuck), and Clinton keeping on with the road Obama put us on (Hold your nose and then mobilize for the change we want). And yes, Stein is there, too, for those willing to gamble on that future we share.

But please vote, because down the ballot are important decisions. We can toss out a Tea Party numbskull and put in Ken McGurn. We can save more land for future generations in Wild Spaces, Public Places. We (if you are west of 13th Street or can help in her campaign) can send a kick-ass teacher to Tallahassee in Marihelen Wheeler.

You have until Tuesday, Oct. 11, to register or update your registration to participate. If you are a student, consider changing your registration to vote here... you are representing future students with your vote.

The full page ad on page 19 has details on registering, early voting and Nov. 8 voting. And know you can multiply your vote by working on campaigns and getting out the vote, and you'll meet good people along the way.

VOTE! 🐢

### INSIDE ...

<i>From the Publisher</i> .....	3
<i>Event Calendar</i> .....	12-13
<i>CMC Events</i> .....	18
<i>Voting Information</i> .....	19
<i>Oral History</i> .....	20-21
<i>Directory</i> .....	22-23
<i>Editors' Picks</i> .....	24

# What's on the ballot on November 8

by Joe Courter

Here's what's up, in order of appearance:

**President:** Yes, we are living in a plutocracy; rule by the rich. But the difference between Clinton and Trump is vast.

While we disagree with her on issues of war, and the neoliberal agenda she follows, Trump is simply not qualified and dangerous, and his VP is a Christian Right loony. There are arguments that a Trump win would kill the Republican party, and open the door to a progressive swing, but the damage to the Supreme Court and whatever chaos Trump might bring seem too great a gamble.

Opposition to Clinton on war and Wall Street must follow her election. There are those on the left who can't stomach Clinton for various reasons and want to vote for Stein. I hope they agree to work together with the Bernie Dems who vote Hillary. After the election, we need to build a movement to take the House and Senate and roll back gerrymandered districts in 2020.

**Senator:** Defeat Rubio; Murphy is the option to do so. Flawed, but he's what we got.

**Congress District 3:** Knocking out Yoho is a very real opportunity with all of Alachua County now in the District. Vote for and work for McGurn!

**State Senator District 8:** Ordinarily the

Democrat would be the easy choice but Rod Smith has a legacy of some very bad votes, and as an attorney, bad decisions and policies. We hope he is getting better with age, and piss on Perry's negative campaigning."

**State Rep District 21:** This for West-side people. Marihelen Wheeler is terrific; please support her, help her, and, of course, vote for her.

**Clerk of Court:** Sam Collins is a write-in, done as a protest since current clerk Buddy Irby kinda did a fast one and retired a week before candidate closing and his son stepped in to the now vacant spot. No real complaints against the Irbys, but it was kinda skeezy.

**Sheriff:** Sigh. Not real happy with Dar-nell, much preferred Zac but that is done. Jacobs might bring change, but who knows, not enough info.

**County Commission:** All three incumbent Dems have write in opponents; all three are deserving of re-election based on their record. A notable write in is in the Chuck Chestnut race. Chloe Goldbach is an open transgender woman running an actual campaign and attending forums as a means of education and support of LGBT issues. It is a brave and bold effort; bring your pen along with you.

**Judge approvals?:** I have heard nothing against any of them, and Rick Scott would appoint successors. Nuf said.

Next is the amendments; here's the skinny:

**No. 1:** Solar Energy. Hell no: This is the bad amendment put forward by the utility industry and deserves a big fat no.

**No. 2:** Medical Marijuana. Hell Yes: This is a first step in lifting the ban on allowing marijuana to be used as symptom relief, long overdue and with broad support. A very big yes

**No. 3:** I guess it'd be nice: Property Tax exemption for disabled first responders (police, fire fighters, corrections, EMTs and paramedics) injured on the job. This would expand the tax relief that spouses of first responders who die already receive.

**No. 4:** (Not on the ballot) The good solar one we already passed in August.

**No. 5:** Yes: Homestead exemption protection for low income senior citizens. This protects folks whose property values might rise and dump them from the homestead exemption ceiling. A good idea.

Local Questions ... don't miss these!

**Question 1:** Yes! Continuance of one mill tax for schools which helps fund nurses, music and art programs, libraries and other non-academic but important experiences.

**Question 2:** Yes!! Wild Spaces Public Places. A one-half percent sales tax which funds parks, recreational facilities, wildlife habitat retention and water quality. 🐾

From the publisher ...

## Yes, We Need To Vote

This seems to be the election no one is enjoying.

For younger people Hillary was not who caught their attention and devotion, it was Bernie. Her presence has been a constant in their lives, and with that a constant whine of criticism and investigations. Bernie was the new thing; full of optimism and ideas that would hold real benefits to their lives. For older Democrats, there was a certain inevitability to her campaign that did not inspire. As a woman she brings a valued perspective, she is very intelligent and skilled, but she's a hawk on foreign policy. Kissinger? Negroponte?

And now, with Trump as her chief opponent, there are those creepy pictures of the Trumps and Clintons hanging out together, and the feeling that we have slipped into an oligarchy, which in truth we as a country largely have been for years, but it just seems so blatant now.

Many of us, and Bernie himself, feel that the only viable choice is to keep Trump out and elect Hillary, to keep up those hopes and dreams the Bernie campaign inspired in us and turn that into a movement for change, and try to retake Congress this time, in 2018 and in 2020. This will take work and commitment, and for so many people who are so busy in their lives just trying to survive -- to pay their bills, deal with work, their kids, their health -- it is not something to feel fired up about.

On the Republican side, they are snared in a trap of their own making. Through cultivating a propaganda attack machine with Fox News and talk radio, they now have as their candidate a barely controllable con-man egomaniac. Using his celebrity status and a demeaning, bullying style, he blasted through the primaries, with the people whose world view was shaped by the propaganda of fear and hate falling in line behind him. The haters are a minority, but they have always been out there, and still will be after the election. THEY may actually be enjoying this, but mainstream Republicans are cringing at what's become of their party.

I am not sure what Libertarians enjoy, but Gary "What's Allepo" Johnson can't be making them happy. And the Green Party Jill Stein supporters are not happy that a big groundswell of Bernie people have not fallen in line with their candidate. We unfortunately live in a system for now designed to keep a two-party system in power, and that will not miraculously change in the next 40 days. Many Bernie people are realistic enough to know that, and theirs is a heart and head choice in November. Personally, I don't think we can chance a Trump win, and a third party vote in a close state is reckless.

So what's to enjoy?

Well besides enjoying the best month of weather Gainesville has to offer we can try: Trying to knock out Ted Yoho. Passing Wild Spaces, Public Places. Getting with Marihelen Wheeler's grassroots campaign. Voting YES to marijuana for symptom relief. We are in a climate of fear and frustration with the political process, with so little enthusiasm, which could mean low voter turnout. The consequences of that would not be good. Whether early vote, absentee vote, or going in on election day, please vote and make sure your friends do too. It matters.

A final word. Thirty years ago Jenny Brown and I produced the first Gainesville Iguana. It was meant to bridge between the Central America Solidarity Movement, the Quakers peace community, and the Humanists of Gainesville by combining their mailing lists for a newsletter.

Now here we are, and here I am still at it. Thank you to all; readers new and old, subscribers, advertisers, patrons of our advertisers, and everyone who has helped stuff envelopes, stick address labels, written for us, helped distribute, made donations, attended benefits, played at benefits, etc., etc.

Come to IguanaFest Oct. 15 and you will be in good company appreciating what this little paper has done. What would we be without readers? 🐾



Joe Courter

Subscribe!

**The Gainesville Iguana is Gainesville's progressive events calendar & newsletter.**

Individuals: \$15  
(or more if you can)  
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Groups: \$20

Gainesville Iguana  
P.O. Box 14712  
Gainesville, FL 32604

Comments, suggestions, contributions  
(written or financial) are welcome. To  
list your event or group, contact us at:  
(352) 378-5655

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## CMC to host acoustic side of The Fest



**Band schedule: [www.thefestfl.com](http://www.thefestfl.com)**

(Click on **LINEUP/BANDS** for background information.)

The Fest is an amazing Gainesville happening, wrecking Halloween for some, but bringing people from all over the country (and world) to enjoy the fun of over 250 bands at over a dozen venues. FEST is back down on the Bo Diddley Plaza this year as the main stage.

You, Iguana reader, are again invited to spend a day or two at the acoustic side of the Fest, at the Civic Media Center. You will see performers from around the U.S. and beyond in short sets. This year the CMC sets will be held Friday and Saturday, Oct. 28 and 29 only, with an independent CMC-run benefit show on Sunday, Oct.30.

All ages are welcome with a \$10 donation or free with a FEST 15 Pass. The CMC doesn't make anything from wristband wearers, while the walk-up \$10 will be allocated for the Civic Media Center's use. 🐾



# Grand Jury: Shooting justified

by Joe Courter

On Sept. 16, the Gainesville Sun carried this headline with reference to the March 20 killing by police of 16-year-old Robert Dentmond, a Gainesville high school student. Robert himself had called 911 earlier in the evening, reporting he was suicidal and had a gun. The gun, as it turned out, was a plastic replica. There was a tense long standoff, with residents and family members there, but in the end, nine cops opened fire and killed Robert. There has been no follow-up response from the community nor a statement from his father.

So many questions remain. Second-guessing does not bring a life back. But the obvious conclusion is that this is a major, nationwide problem; mentally ill, depressed, or agitated people who do not respond to the barked commands of police may be tased and or shot.

We need calmer police, police not in a hurry when dealing with a disturbed person. We need family members on the scene, not shunted aside but used as mediators when possible. The killing of Keith Lamont Scott in Charlotte, so bravely captured on his wife's cell phone, shows she was there on scene. She could probably have de-escalated the situation but was never given a chance. Scenario training which rehearses violence will yield violent outcomes.

We saw it here in Gainesville in 2010 with Kofi Adu Brempong when police rushed his apartment and in seconds went through a sequence of firing a beanbag round, a taser, and a gun. On Sept. 28, in El Cajon, California, a mentally ill person, Alfred Olango, was tased and shot within a second. Same on the road in Tulsa last week, with the killing of Terence Crurcher; at least that officer has been charged. A tragedy for her, too, because with better training she might not have been so hair-triggered. But nothing compared to the family's horror and loss.

Around the world it is not like this. Granted we have a lot of guns, and to be a cop here is a scary proposition. But better mental health awareness and treatment options, and a lifting of the stigma of getting treatment, could help. On a grander scale, better education, better job opportunities, and the elimination of endemic poverty are all things to make a better world possible. That is a ways down the road. For now, though, we need to expect and demand better police conduct, better training, a confrontation of internalized racism and a means of flushing out bad cops from the force. And I would say bad administrators, because there is rot at the top, too. ☘

# 100-year commemoration of Newberry lynching, Oct. 16

by Peggy MacDonald,  
Matheson Museum Director

A version of this article originally appeared in the Gainesville Sun on March 6.

An ancient tree stands in the tiny town of Newberry at the site of a horrific crime that remains shrouded in mystery.

"Five Negroes Hanged On One Tree" was the headline of a story on the Newberry lynchings that ran in The Palatka News and Advertiser on August 25, 1916. "Wholesale Lynching Occurs In Florida: Two of Victims Women," stated a subhead.

An Ocala Evening Star article on the Newberry lynchings contained a coroner's report for the victims. Although the lynchings had made headlines in newspapers across the nation, the coroner concealed the victims' true cause of death. According to the report, the two women died by choking as they fell from a tree. The cause of death for another lynching victim was officially reported as bleeding to death after running into barbed wire.

Tucked away in a shaded cemetery behind Pleasant Plain United Methodist Church, the graves of three of the Newberry Six lynching victims can be seen today. The victims were buried near each other and were honored with unique tombstones that are unlike any of the others in the rural cemetery.

James Dennis' original tombstone contained an incorrect spelling of his last name. It remains, but a second marker was later added with the correct spelling, indicating that preserving the legacy of this victim of mob violence was important to the local community.

Aside from the three legible tombstones at the graves of James Dennis, Reverend Josh J. Baskin and Andrew McHenry, there is no historical marker that tells the story of the atrocity that took place nearly 100 years ago in Newberry. According to the October 1916 issue of The Crisis, a publication of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the cluster of trees where the Newberry Six lynchings took place was also the site of previous lynchings, which led to the name "Hangman's Island."

"The town is a desolate place of shanties and small houses, and has the reputation of lawlessness," was how The Crisis described Newberry in 1916. Raising hogs was a fairly lucrative occupation in New-

berry. Farmers often let their hogs roam free and many were not branded, making it difficult to prove ownership. Some white farmers accused Boisy Long of stealing hogs, which led Constable S. G. Wynne and Dr. L. G. Harris to serve a warrant to Long at 2 a.m., according to The Crisis and the Palatka News and Advertiser.

There are conflicting accounts of what occurred when Wynne and Harris (who may have also owned the hogs that were allegedly stolen) attempted to serve the warrant, but at some point Long allegedly shot both men. Long reportedly escaped while a driver took the two injured men to a Jacksonville hospital where the constable died.

When daylight broke on Aug. 18, the hunt for Boisy Long began. According to The Crisis, because Long could not be found, locals allegedly tortured Long's wife, Stella, and Mary Dennis (who was pregnant) in an attempt to get more information and subsequently jailed them. James Dennis was shot and his brother, Bert, was jailed when he went to get a coffin.

Josh Baskin, a preacher, was on his way back from town when a group of white men put him in their car, drove him to a group of trees at "Hangman's Island" and lynched him. Baskin had previously been arrested for stealing cattle but was released due to a lack of evidence, according to The Crisis. Next the men returned to the jail, where they picked up Bert and Mary Dennis and Stella Long, who were driven to the same cluster of trees and lynched.

Boisy Long was convicted of murder and executed on October 27, 1916.

There is a growing movement to recognize lynchings and other acts of mob violence by erecting memorials. In 2015 the Equal Justice Initiative released a report, "Lynching in America," that documents 3,959 lynchings that took place between 1877 and 1950 in Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia.

**NOTE:** There will be a 100 year commemoration Sunday, Oct. 16, at 3pm at the Pleasant Plain Church, 1910 NW 166th St. in Newberry, looking toward erecting a memorial there. ☘

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Karma Cream	UF - TheFreshFoodCompany
Mother Earth Market West	UF - Pascal's
Mother Earth Market 13th Street	Ward's Supermarket
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SATURDAY	11AM-6PM
SUNDAY	12PM-5PM

## United Nations Day Celebration

*One Humanity, Shared Responsibility:  
Climate Issues from Paris to Gainesville*

**Friday, Oct. 21, 11 am - 4 pm**  
**Gainesville Women's Club, 2809 West University Ave.**

Keynote Address by Dr. Glen Galloway,  
Director of the Sustainable Development Program, UF

Panera Box Lunch: Choice of turkey, ham, or veggie \$17  
Please make your luncheon reservation by Oct. 13

Contact Lisa Renner, [ejrenner@hotmail.com](mailto:ejrenner@hotmail.com), phone 352-378-4853  
or Masuma Downie, phone 352-333-9784

Make your reservation: send check to UNA/USA Gainesville Chapter  
PO Box 358361, Gainesville, FL 32635-8361

# On the campaign trail in District 21



by Marihelen Wheeler

Five years and counting, I've been on the campaign trail, offering my time and energy to go and "fix" what ails us in this country.

As a recently retired educator of 37 years, I am confident that I must surely have some solutions to the issues that grip and gripe the middle class and am hoping that voters will somehow agree.

Since March, I have been campaigning for the Florida House 21 seat that is being vacated by Keith Perry. An open seat often means a scramble by candidates to rush to the front and claim it for their own. In this case, three Republicans ran forward to the primary, and then there was me waiting to see who would be my challenger in November.

Now, District 21 is a remarkable district that runs west from 13th Street in Gainesville through Gilchrist and Dixie Counties to the Gulf of Mexico. It includes the academics and entrepreneurs in Gainesville, as well as the farmers, small businessmen, corrections officers, watermen and women who work the rural and coastal areas.

I love going to the country. It is a welcome relief from phone banking and canvassing and gives me a chance to remind those registered Democrats in outlying areas that they have a candidate they can vote for in 2016. It's exciting to start up a conversation that somehow begins with the question "Are you voting for Hillary"? That used to unnerve me a bit until I remind folks that as a teacher trying to correct bullying and rude behaviors, I can't vote for anyone else.

I follow up quickly, and I mean quickly, with the thought that Washington doesn't know we exist down here and that Tallahas-

see is where our trouble is coming from. That seems to settle the question pretty well as people acknowledge the truth of it.

I've been disappointed not to have had the forums in Gilchrist and Dixie Counties to actually tell voters who I am as a person. They may look at the "D" by my name and discount me because of what they perceive the party to represent and not know that in truth, I connect with them on many levels.

First, I'm a Kentucky girl who grew up in a small rural and conservative part of western Kentucky. I went to the county high school with FFA, 4-H, MYF and all the youth organizations set up for country kids. Many folks I've met in rural District 21 have relatives in Kentucky and enjoy the same hunting and fishing that my brothers do. My maiden name is Haddock, a great tasting fish, and my family coat of arms is a hand holding a fish!

I was born on the Gulf in Biloxi, Mississippi when my father was in the Air Force. My husband is an Army veteran. I grew up listening to my grandfather tell Civil War stories that he heard from his grandfather. We lived six miles from where Jefferson Davis was born and where there is a monument as tall as the Washington Monument dedicated to him. I even have two letters from Jefferson Davis, himself, written to family members that I keep in the bank vault here in Gainesville.

I once won a DAR contest on the delivery of the Gettysburg Address. I can relate to the history that so many Southerners hold so close to their hearts and have grown up with the problems also associated with holding that history too close and for too long.

I have not been able to tell the Dixie County folks that I was trained along with other teachers to fire a gun, get a concealed weapons license and be prepared to protect my students from a maniac wielding an assault rifle. That license alone would scare someone to death as my photo makes me look like Ma Barker.

I have wanted to say that my father was Field Commander of the Kentucky State Police and my sister Commissioner of Prisons, and I have felt the fear of families sending their law enforcement officers out to work. I understand rifles, shotguns and revolvers, but I need someone from the NRA to explain to me the need for assault rifles and magazines that hold

a gazillion rounds of ammo. I come from a tradition of hunting as sport for food or basic protection from rabid animals, or to warn off drunken ridgerunners in Eastern Kentucky. This kind of gun use, I get.

My visits to Dixie County have felt like "daycations" as I come back to Gainesville feeling like I have had a visit with homefolks and family.

I look forward to more conversations about how we can protect the beloved Suwannee River. I want to tell them that Texas Oil Companies do not have their best interests at heart and that they are wise to protect the unique persona of their small town life. If given the chance I would remind them that the folks from South Florida are looking to their country cousins in the North for refuge when the waters get too high or polluted there.

I would assure them, that as an educator of 37 years, I support the need to ensure their children are properly educated and receive vocational opportunities. I want to tell them that I appreciate the beauty of their history and their culture and that I am not unlike them in so many ways. I can be their voice, complete with the sweet southern accent that softens all polite conversations.

Likewise, I also have the same fierce defiance and grit required when home and family is attacked as we can see is happening on so many fronts in Florida. Folks in Dixie County make sensible decisions for the wellbeing of their communities and are proud of their history. I'm the candidate who gets that and I'm hoping to be the candidate who gets their vote. ✨

**Save the date!**  
**Tues, Oct. 25**  
**6:30 pm**

**The Alachua County  
Labor Coalition  
will host a public forum  
on the 1 Mill for Schools**

**Location and speakers TBA  
on <http://laborcoalition.org/> and  
Facebook  
(Alachua County Labor Coalition)**



# Share the Road Memorial opens Oct. 29, Depot Park

by Ron Cunningham, Bike Florida

Twenty years ago, on the day after Christmas in 1996, a group of six cyclists were riding from Gainesville to St. Augustine. They were traveling in a pace line on a rural road in Clay county when a distracted driver in a pickup truck slammed into all six cyclists.

Two of the riders, Margaret Raynal and Doug Hill, were killed instantly. The other four, Lauri Triulzi, Charles Hinson, Eric Finan, and Jessica Green all suffered various injuries.

The driver was never charged for his deadly moment of distraction. And the crash sent shock waves through the Florida cycling community.

Months later, friends, relatives and supporters gathered next to the rail-trail on Gainesville's Depot Avenue to erect six sculptures as a memorial to the cyclists.

Designed by artist Eric Amundson, the rammed-earth structures contained parts of the smashed and ruined bicycles retrieved from the crash site.

Over the years however, the sculptures fell into neglect. An informational ki-

osk was dismantled. The rail-trail was rerouted. Weeds and overgrown landscaping eventually obscured the structures from public view.

Over the past two years Bike Florida has raised or donated \$16,000 for restoration of the sculptures and their surroundings. And on the morning of Saturday, Oct. 29, the sculptures, which now anchor the northeast corner of Gainesville's new Depot Park, will be formally dedicated and renamed the Share The Road Memorial.

The public is invited to the dedication ceremony. Cyclists are encouraged to gather at 9 a.m. on the campus of the University of Florida for a Ride of Silence to Depot Park in honor of Margaret and Doug.

The starting point for the Ride of Silence will be the site of the Kermit Sigmon/Margaret Raynal Memorial located between Little Hall and the College of Architecture building. Riders will proceed south across campus to the Archer Road rail-trail, cross the DNA Bridge and then proceed to Depot Park.

At 10 a.m. the dedication ceremony will begin. This will include comments by

artist Eric Amundson, Linda Crider – a Bike Florida founder and close friend to Margaret – Bike Florida President Leigh Matusick and others who were associated with the creation of the sculptures.

We also hope to have as many of the surviving cyclists as possible in attendance, as well as friends and family members of two cyclists who were killed. Linda Crider will read a poem she wrote in memory of the victims.

The dedication ceremony will conclude with the unveiling of a large, concrete three-panel sign that has been erected next to the sculptures.

One panel will tell the story of the crash, another the creation of the sculptures and the third will be a "call to action" asking all users, motorists, cyclists and pedestrians alike, to take the Share The Road Pledge to use the public roadways safely and responsibly.

Please join us on Saturday, Oct. 29, for this very special renewal and dedication.

For further information contact Ron Cunningham at [ron@bikeflorida.org](mailto:ron@bikeflorida.org) or 352-262-5798. ☘



## In memory: Local activist Zot Szurgot

by Bill Stephenson and Chris Zurheide

Zot Lynn Szurgot died on September 7th, her car struck by a truck that ran a red light near Hazlehurst, Georgia, where she was helping to build a 450-acre solar array.

A skilled and meticulous union electrician, Zot consistently spoke up for environmental concerns, the homeless, the Occupy movement, LGBTQIA issues, Black Lives Matter, organized labor, peace and justice groups, and etc.

A magical, creative, brave, and beautiful person with an enormous and infectious laugh, she will be missed intensely by the innumerable friends, colleagues, and comrades she cultivated throughout her remarkable life.

Zot grew up in Indiana near Lake Michigan and Chicago. From an early age, she experienced herself more as a girl than a boy. An initial spur to activist thought was her experience of industrial and agricultural pollution in the area. She was drawn toward a by-the-book environmental science career until a mentor was fired for investigating and warning of a tainted water supply.

In her college milieu in Bloomington, Zot loved embracing fascinating people and ideas. Later she lived for a time in India, in Boston, and in Nicaragua during the Sandinista period. She has been a beloved part of the Gainesville community for decades.

"I first remember meeting Zot at a Labor

meeting. But after that, I seemed to see her smile everywhere because, well, she WAS everywhere. She practiced solidarity with a faithfulness I can only hope to emulate. She also practiced the art of warm welcome with a gracefulness I seldom encounter. In conversation, she had this soft, approachable openness about her--as though she was weighing carefully all you said without judging you," said Kimberly Hunter.

"Zot was a wise, supportive, fun, and earnestly cheerful friend despite her own struggles with depression. With her enthusiasm for learning, she was widely read in topics like evolutionary biology, mythology, and space physics besides diverse areas of movement activism, so our conversations tended to be fascinating, rambling, and educational," said Chris Zurheide.

"Zot, by being unapologetically ambiguous, helped all of us in [our Bloomington] social whirl understand that we had a spectrum within which we lived and that we chose: it wasn't as binary as male-female, or heterosexual-homosexual. Zot was my touchstone for gender complexity, from the mid-80s until now. S/he was a proud complexifier. S/he was the human who embodied activism and constructive struggle. S/he was someone who I was so glad to have known, and who made me laugh uproariously. Zot was a joyful warrior for justice," said Michael Jon Jensen. ☘

## Rest in power and in peace, dear Zot

by Kimberly Hunter

If this moment finds you grieving, "Here is the time for kindness, your own, to yourself," poet Jan Richardson writes. May you not feel alone. May "you recognize as ancient" the ache of your loss. May you "think of it as a hidden chamber in your heart where you can stay as long as you need."

This morning found me grieving loss in my own life and in the lives of our beloved community. This moment finds me remembering Gainesville sister-in-life and activism, Zot Lynn Szurgot.

She passed on in a traffic accident two Wednesdays ago, while driving home from work. Only a few days earlier she had linked me to indigenious, DIY news reporting the Standing Rock Dakota Access Pipeline Opposition.

Last Saturday, friends buried her body. Now this afternoon, we feel the presence of her absence, as her spirit persists.

I first remember meeting Zot as a member of her IBEW Local Union 1205 at an Alachua County Labor Coalition (then, Party) meeting. But after that, I seemed to see her smile everywhere because, well, she WAS everywhere.

She practiced solidarity with a faithfulness I can only hope to emulate. She also practiced the art of warm welcome with a gracefulness I seldom encounter. In conversation, she had this soft, approachable openness about her - as though she was weighing carefully all you said without judging you.

Though she didn't always receive warm welcome from others, her life was a painted prayer of welcome. As Richardson words it in this poem: Zot, may "the home of your life" grow "with such completeness, opening and opening and opening itself" until, as you would have it, no one is "turned away."

Thank you for welcoming us into a way that loves, that listens, that laughs. May the electricity of our Movement continue to power the home you worked to wire. Meanwhile, may you Rest in Power and in Peace, dear Zot. ☘



**Former Black Panther  
Kathleen Cleaver**  
will speak  
Thursday, Nov. 3, 6pm  
Rion Ballroom, UF Reitz Union  
*Sponsored by  
African American Studies Program*



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SUNDAY: CLOSED



# Halloween Masquerade & Costume Ball

...a fundraiser for The Repurpose Project

October 22, 2016  
7pm - midnight

Live Music by Wax Wings  
Dancing with DJ Tiereny

Ghost Stories & Puppetry  
by Dwon Dwon

Carot Card Reading  
Costume Contest  
Photo Booth



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Costume required

\$5-15 sliding scale (if in costume)

\$15-20 sliding scale (if we dress you\*)

\*We will whisk you away to our costume tent & dress you if you are not in disguise (you keep costume for Halloween)

\$100 if you wear a store bought factory made costume

[www.repurposeproject.org](http://www.repurposeproject.org)

Let's spend time together...whoever you are.

The Repurpose Project 1920 NE 23rd Ave, Gainesville, FL

## 12th Annual Florida Bat Festival

Saturday October 22 • Ages 4 and under free • Ages 5-12 - \$5 • Adults - \$8

The 12th Annual Florida Bat Festival is an opportunity for attendees to view giant fruit bats, tour the conservancy grounds and enjoy the great outdoors while learning about how fruit bats benefit environments and ecosystems worldwide.

Last year we welcomed over 5,600 guests and attendance is expected to increase this year. The conservancy is not open to the general public on a regular basis, so this event is a rare opportunity for wildlife lovers to see our bats up-close.

The bats at Lubee boast wingspans of up to 6 feet across. Guests will get to observe how the bats interact with each other, play with their toys and eat a variety of fruits and vegetables, a truly unique sight.

Food and refreshments, and "batty" merchandise (including bat houses) will be available for purchase at the event. Other local environmental organizations will offer educational materials at their booths spread across the beautiful grounds of the conservancy.

The festival is a fun, relaxing and recreational experience for the whole family with free activities, including bat-themed crafts and games for kids, educational exhibits, bouncy huts provided by Space Walk and presentations by bat experts.



All proceeds of the festival help support bat conservation and education programs. The festival is held at Lubee Bat Conservancy, a 110-acre ranch, located at 1309 N.W. 192nd Avenue, Gainesville, FL 32609.

Admission is FREE for children ages 4 and under, \$5 for ages 5-12 and \$8 for ages 13 and up.

We highly recommend grabbing your friends or family and carpooling. For more information, please email us at [batfest@lubee.org](mailto:batfest@lubee.org) or find us on Facebook.

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# Sunday Domingo

# Monday Lunes

# Tuesday Martes

# Wednesday Miercoles

# Thursday Jueves

# Friday Viernes

# Saturday Sabado



Octubre

# The Gainesville Iguana

October

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



**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 but working to be full-time in the near future. More info on local independent radio on pg 17.

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](http://www.gainesvilleiguana.org/calendar).

**9 #WakeUpOcala** voting rights rally, Clark Funeral Home (434 NW MLK Ave), Ocala, 2 pm.  
**Lawton Chiles** Democratic gala, UF Hilton (1714 SW 34th St), 5:30 pm, \$75 (students \$35).  
**Presidential Debate**, 9 pm.

**16 Newberry 6 Lynching 100-year Commemoration.** Pleasant Plain Church (1910 NW 166th St, Jonesville), 3 pm - pg 5.  
**Sunday Assembly**, SFC downtown (530 W. Univ Ave), 3 pm, 3rd Sundays - see sagainesville.weebly.com.  
**Dedication** of Elections Office to memory of Josiah T. Walls, 515 N. Main St, 3:30-6 pm.  
*Upstairs Inferno*, Trinity MCC (11604 SW Archer Rd), 4 pm.  
**FULL MOON**

**23 Run for Rwanda**, Boulevard Springs Park, 9 am.  
**FOL Book Sale**, noon - 6 pm.  
**Praire Creek Cemetery Memorial Celebration**, 1-4 pm.  
**Candidate Forum** held by League of Women Voters, dntn library, 1:30-4:30 pm.  
**Celebration of Zot Lynn Szurgot & her life:** CMC, 2-6 pm; pg 9.



**30 "How to Look at War Pictures"**, Harn Museum (3259 Hull Road), 2 pm - part of extended series on war & Middle East: see harn.ufl.edu.

**6 Downtown Arts Festival** continues, 10 am-4 pm.  
**Alachua County Black History Task Force Town Hall**, downtown library (401 E Univ Ave), 2-4 pm.  
**"War & Aftermath"**, Harn, 3 pm.  
**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS**

**6** **Downtown Arts Festival** continues, 10 am-4 pm.  
**Alachua County Black History Task Force Town Hall**, downtown library (401 E Univ Ave), 2-4 pm.  
**"War & Aftermath"**, Harn, 3 pm.  
**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS**

**10 Possible Ajamu Baraka** event (Green VP candidate) in Gvl - check Alachua Greens Facebook page.  
**Mental Illness** law talks, UF Pugh Hall Ocora, 6 pm.  
**Interfaith Alliance for Immigrant Justice** meets 2nd Mons, Mennonite Church (1236 NW 18th Ave), 6 pm.  
**Rally Against Fascism**, UF Plaza of the Americas, 6:30 pm.  
**Henry Rollins**, Fla Theater, 7 pm.  
**Double Trouble** films (\$3) & bands (\$5), CMC, 7 & 9 pm.  
**Race** film/discussion, Hipp, 7:30 pm.  
**NATIVE AMERICAN DAY**

**17 "Nuts & Bolts of Medicaid"** Q&A, downtown library, 6 pm.  
**Science Café: "Insect Combat & Courtship"**, Blue Gill Foods (1310 SW 13th St), 6:30 pm; adv reg at flmnh.ufl.edu/calendar/grid/science-cafe-fall-2/?eID=2621.  
CMC documentary tba, 7 pm.  
**Gvl Food Security Group** meets 3rd Mondays, Quaker Meeting House (708 NW 38th St), 7-9 pm.  
**Gvl Citizens for Active Transportation** meets at CIED (530 E. Univ Ave), 1st & 3rd Mons, 7 pm.

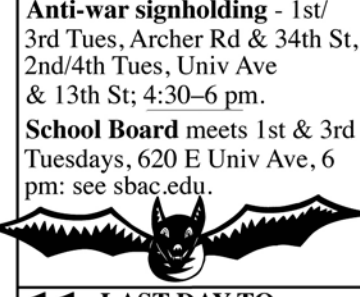
**24 1st day of early voting:** 3 locations, see pg 19.  
**FOL Book Sale**, noon-6 pm.  
*Judgment at Nuremberg*, Phillips Ctr (3201 Hull Rd), 7:30 pm Mon-Wed, \$25 (students \$10).  
**1945: United Nations founded.**

**31 CMC documentary tba;** Civic Media Center (433 S. Main St), 7 pm; \$3-5 requested.  
**HALLOWEEN**

**7 CMC documentary tba;** 7 pm. GCAT meets, 7 pm; see 10/17.  
**Capitol Steps** at Phillips Ctr, 7:30 pm.

**7** **CMC documentary tba;** 7 pm. GCAT meets, 7 pm; see 10/17.  
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**4 County Farmers' Market** on N 441 by Hwy Patrol Tues/ Thurs/Sat, 8 am-noon.  
**Anti-war signholding** - 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.



**11 LAST DAY TO REGISTER TO VOTE!**  
**Alachua County Commission** meets, 2nd & 4th Tues, 9 am & 5 pm, County Admin Bldg; citizens comment, 9:30 am & 5:30 pm.  
**Against Me! & Bad Religion** at House of Blues in Orlando; also at Jannus Landing in St. Pete, Wed night.

**NATIONAL COMING OUT DAY**  
**18 Accessible Voting Technology** talk, UF Pugh Hall Ocora, 6 pm.  
**School Board** meets - see 10/4.  
**PFLAG** meets, United Church (1624 NW 5th Ave), 7 pm.  
**Keep up with the CMC** at [www.civicmediacenter.org](http://www.civicmediacenter.org) for events created after this calendar was printed, and into the future.

**1939: Civic Media Center established.**  
**25 FOL Sale**, noon - 6 pm.  
**County Commission** meets - see 10/11.  
**G'ville for All** panel on health, crime, &c, UF Pugh Hall, 6 pm.  
**1 Mill for Schools** forum held by Alachua County Labor Coalition, 6:30 pm: location tba at laborcoalition.org.

**Nov 1 School Board** - see 10/4.  
**Storytelling** at The Conch (Industry Night - bar & restaurant stories); Lightning Salvage (1800 NE 23rd Ave), 7 pm.

**8 VOTE!** - see pages 2, 3, & 19.  
**County Commission** meets - see 10/11.

**2 Last Day to request Absentee Ballot.**  
**Vets for Peace**, 7 pm - see 10/5.  
**Stevie Nicks, Pretenders** in Tampa.  
**1920: KKK kills >50 in Ocoee, FL.**

**9 Overcoming Racism** discussion, Mennonite Church (1236 NW 18th Ave), 7 pm.  
**TAURID METEOR SHOWERS**

**5 "Naborhood" Coffee Talk** concert series, Artisans Way (5910 Hampton St, Melrose), Wednesdays, 11 am-2 pm.  
**Radical Rush** at Santa Fe College Oak Grove, 11 am-2 pm.  
**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.

**Downtown Farmers' Market** every Wed, Bo Diddley Plaza (111 E. University Ave), 4-7 pm;  
**Edible Plant Project**, 2nd Weds.  
**Move to Amend** meets weekly, Pride Ctr (3131 NW 13th St), 6pm.  
**Vets for Peace** meet, 7 pm: call 352-375-2563 for directions.

**12 Peaceful Paths** benefit lunch, Sweetwater Branch Inn (625 E Univ. Ave), 11:30 am.  
**Overcoming Racism** discussion, Mennonite Church, 7 pm.  
**Gator Freethought** meets, UF Little Hall rm 201, 7:20 pm.  
**Gary Gordon** joins regulars at Sandy's Place (4001 NW 34th St) for CMC benefit, 8-11 pm.

**19 UNITY in COMMUNITY** march (wear orange!), Hipp (25 SE 2nd Pl), 4 pm: see centerforpeacebuilding.org.  
**Humanists** meet, UUFG, 6:30 pm.  
**LGBTQ Community & Law Enforcement** town hall, Pride Ctr (3333 NE 13th St), 7 pm.  
**A Day in Solidarity w/ African People**, downtown library, 7 pm; more info, 352-234-6770.

**20 Volunteers & Poets, CMC.**  
**UF College of Medicine** history talk, Matheson Mus, 6 pm.  
**"Drink w/ the Extinct"** fundraiser, Fl Mus of Natural History (3215 Hull Rd), 7 pm.

**27 Volunteers & Poets, CMC.** *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.*

**3 Former Black Panther Kathleen Cleaver** speaks, UF Rion Ballroom, 6 pm; pg 8.  
**Volunteers & Poets, CMC.**  
**SSJ Sierra Club** mtg, UUFG (4225 NW 34th St), 7 pm.

**10 "Anatomy of Nursing"**, Matheson Museum, 5 pm.  
**Civil Rights Restoration** workshop, downtown library, 5:30 pm.  
**CMC Volunteers**, 5:30 pm.  
**Woofstock!** Humane Soc. benefit, 13014 NW 174 Ave, Alachua, 6 pm.  
**Open Poetry**, CMC, 8 pm.

**9** **Overcoming Racism** discussion, Mennonite Church (1236 NW 18th Ave), 7 pm.  
**TAURID METEOR SHOWERS**

**6 Jazz Lunch** at Bo Diddley Downtown Plaza (111 E. Univ Ave), 11 am-1 pm, free.  
**Radical Rush** at UF Plaza of the Americas, 11 am-2 pm.  
**Civil Rights Restoration** workshop, Library Partnership (1130 N.E. 16 Ave), 5:30 pm.  
**CMC Volunteers** meet every Thursday, 5:30 pm.

**Feminists, Physicians & Child-birth** talk, Matheson Museum (513 E. Univ Ave), 6 pm, free.  
**Acoustic Blues** weekly open mike Cymplify (5402 NW 8th Ave), 6 pm.  
**Open Poetry** Thurs, CMC, 8 pm.  
**Death Valley Girls, Sweet Heat, & Oof**, Boca Backyard, 10 pm.

**13 Volunteers & Poets, CMC.**  
**Stonewall Democrats**, 901 NW 8th Ave, 2nd Thursdays, 6 pm.  
*If you appreciate this calendar, please consider supporting the Ig with a donation &/or subscription: PO Box 14712, Gainesville FL 32604.*

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**TAURID METEOR SHOWERS**

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**TAURID METEOR SHOWERS**

**7 East Gvl Farmers' Market**, Health Dept (224 SE 2nd Ave), 10 am-2 pm through Oct.  
**Radical Rush** at UF Plaza of the Americas, 11 am-2 pm.  
**10 Great American Trials:** UF Pugh Hall Ocora, 6 pm, free.

**Eric Clapton/JJ Cale** tribute: Free Fridays concert, BD dntn plaza, 8 pm; see pg 4.  
**Thin Skins, Diamonds & Lust** at Loosey's, 9:30 pm.

**14 UF Homecoming Parade**, 11 am-2 pm.  
**Black & Pink** prisoner letter-writing, CMC (433 S. Main St), 6 pm.  
**Pride Awards Dinner**, Sweetwater Branch Inn (625 E. Univ Ave), 6 pm.

**Gram Parson Tribute** at Free Fridays Downtown Concert series: Bo Diddley Plaza (111 E. Univ Ave), 8 pm; pg 4.  
*Beautiful Thing* opens, Actors' Warehouse (608 N. Main St), 8 pm.  
*Commander* opens, Acrosstown Rep (619 S. Main St), 8 pm.  
*Whatever Happened to Baby Jane* opens, the Hipp (25 SE 2nd Pl), 8 pm.

**21 United Nations Day** event, Gvl Woman's Club (2809 W. Univ Ave), 11 am-4 pm; see pg 6.  
**"Lee Squared"** - United Church of Gvl (1624 NW 5th Ave), 6:30 pm, \$15.  
**World Music Ensembles** wrap up Bo Diddley Plaza Free Fridays series, 8 pm; see pg 4.

**"Boogie Nights" Pride Dance**, Hipp basement, 9 pm; \$15 adv/\$25 door.  
**ORIONID METEOR SHOWERS**

**28 The Fest Returns** - giant multi-venue music weekend (now with comedy & wrestling) takes over town starting at Boca Fiesta & Cowboys, 12:20 am: see pg 2 & thefestfl.com.  
**Celebration of Cycling**, Wyndham Garden Conf. Ctr (2900 SW 13th St), 8 am-2:30 pm: see sharetheroad.org  
**ACT Halloween Ball**, 1st Magnitude (1220 SE Veitch St), 6-11 pm.  
**G'ville Downtown Artwalk** 7-10 pm; see pgs 4, 6 & artwalkgainesville.com.

**Gay Movie Night** last Fridays, Pride Ctr (3131 NW 13th St), 7:30 pm, \$2.  
**4 Blues Concert** downtown to kick off Downtown Arts Festival: Bo Diddley Plaza, 7 pm, free.

**11 Nancy Luca** at Chiappini's in Melrose, 5-8 pm.  
**ARMISTICE [VETERANS] DAY**

**8 Interfaith Dialog**, Emmanuel Mennonite Church (1236 NW 18th Ave), 10 am.  
**Improv Theater** workshop held by Welcoming Gvl, dntn lib, 10 am.  
**Sierra Club Rural Office** opening celebration, 2070 SW Cty Rd 138, Ft White, 10 am - 2 pm.  
**UF Football vs LSU**, noon.

**Fall Festival for Environment** - Wax Wings, West King String Band, more: 1st Magnitude (1220 SE Veitch St), 2-8 pm, \$5-10 slide.  
**15 UF Homecoming UF Football vs Missouri**

**Seed Dispersal**, Hawthorne Community Market (7040 SE Hwy 301), noon-3 pm.  
**Alachua County Revolution** meets, 2141 SW 38th Court, noon.

**Iguana Fest**, music w/ Gary Gordon, Endless Pools, Missing Edward, & Lady Dug; Curia on the Drag, 4-8 pm, \$10-30 slide; see pg 24.  
**Swamp City Sirens**, MLK Ctr (1028 NE 14th St), 6 pm, \$10 door - pg 18.

**22 SSJ Sierra Club garage sale**, 2025 NW 35th Ter, 8 am-1 pm.  
**FOL Book Sale** opens w/ great deals on art, DVDs, comics, puzzles, music, more (bring boxes & bags): 430 N. Main St, 9 am-6 pm; see folacld.org.  
**Kanapaha BG plant sale**, Sat & Sun.

**Bat Festival**, Lubee Bat Conservancy (1309 NW 192 Ave), 10 am-4 pm, pg 11.  
**Interfaith Dialog** - see 10/8.  
**Cultural Plaza Fest**, Fla Mus. of Natural History, 11 am-3 pm.

**Pride Parade & Festival:** parade assemblies at SW 7th St & 2nd Ave, 12 am; festival at BD Plaza, 1-9 pm.  
**Repurpose Halloween Ball**, 1920 NE 23rd Ave, 7 pm-midnight; pg 10.

**29 Share the Road Bike Memorial Dedication & Ride**, Depot Park (S. Main St), 10 am - see pg 8.  
**5 Last Day of Early Voting**  
**Downtown Arts Festival** opens in City Hall-Hipp area, 10 am-5 pm.  
**"Healing Waters"**, Math. Mus., 4 pm.  
**Veg For Life** vegan potluck, UUFG, 1st Saturdays, \$2+veg dish, 6:30 pm.  
**GUTS, Wax Wings, & Dewars** at the Boxcar (Depot Park). 6-10 pm.

**12 Swallowtail Farm Festival** in Alachua, noon-9 pm, \$10-20 slide; see pg 17 & swallowtailcsa.com.  
**UF Football vs So. Carolina.**



# Largest prison strike in U.S. history enters second week

by Alice Speri

This article originally appeared on Sept. 16 in *The Intercept*. Read more at <https://theintercept.com/2016/09/16/the-largest-prison-strike-in-u-s-history-enters-its-second-week/>.

The largest prison strike in U.S. history has been going on for nearly a week, but there's a good chance you haven't heard about it. For months, inmates at dozens of prisons across the country have been organizing through a network of smuggled cellphones, social media pages, and the support of allies on the outside. The effort culminated in a mass refusal to report to prison jobs on September 9, the anniversary of the 1971 Attica prison uprising.

"This is a call to action against slavery

in America," organizers wrote in an announcement that for weeks circulated inside and outside prisons nationwide, and that sums up the strikers' primary demand: an end to free prison labor. "Forty-five years after Attica, the waves of change are returning to America's prisons. This September we hope to coordinate and generalize these protests, to build them into a single tidal shift that the American prison system cannot ignore or withstand."

Since Friday, details on the strike's success have trickled out of prisons with some difficulty, but organizers and supporters have no doubt the scale of the action is unprecedented, though their assessment is difficult to verify and some corrections departments denied reports of strike-related activities in their states.

Prisoners in 24 states and 40 to 50 prisons pledged to join the strike, and as of Tuesday, prisoners in at least 11 states and 20 prisons continued the protest, according to outside supporters in Alabama. Tactics and specific demands varied locally, with some prisoners reportedly staging hunger strikes, and detainees in Florida protesting and destroying prison property ahead of the planned strike date.

"There are probably 20,000 prisoners on strike right now, at least, which is the biggest prison strike in history, but the information is really sketchy and spotty," said Ben Turk, who works on "in-reach" to prisons for the Incarcerated Workers Organizing Committee, a chapter of the Industrial Workers of the World union helping to coordinate the inmate-led initiative from the outside.



## Gainesville gets involved: local prisoner strike solidarity

On September 9, members of the Gainesville Industrial Workers of the World and other allies gathered outside Walmart on Waldo Road to raise awareness of the strike and Walmart's profiteering from prison slave labor.

Despite announcing a pledge that "Forced or prison labor will not be tolerated by Wal-Mart," the company has continued to contract with vendors who use prison labor, along with dozens of other corporations who exploit the slavery loophole in the 13th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution by using prisoners to cut their labor costs.

The following day, Gainesville IWW members, organizers with Fight Toxic Prisons, and activists from all over Florida met at the gates of Coleman Federal Correctional Complex, the

nation's largest prison factory, to stand in solidarity with prisoners there and around the country who are engaged in ongoing job actions and uprisings against prison slavery. This strike will only be successful if there is outside support and media attention. The Prison Industrial Complex is trying and cover this up and keep the media blacked out. We can't let that happen.

Florida was reported as one of the most active states in regards to the September prisoner strike, with reports of unrest at a number of Florida prisons in recent weeks, including the Holmes and Gulf Correctional facilities, where hundreds participated in uprisings, which the Department of Corrections called "major disturbances," causing significant damage to multiple units of the prison. Work refusals, sit-ins and

other actions were reported at Columbia, Holmes, Jackson, Gulf, Franklin, Liberty, Mayo and Okaloosa facilities.

Last week in the Holman prison, just across the Florida/Alabama border, prison *guards* were also reported going on strike in response to conditions there.

If you're interested in getting involved with solidarity work around the prison strikes, the Gainesville IWW holds general meetings on the first Sunday of the month at 6 pm at the Civic Media Center. Their Incarcerated Workers Organizing Committee will meet next at the CMC on Tuesday, October 4th at 6pm. To contact the Gainesville IWW please email [gainesvilleiww@gmail.com](mailto:gainesvilleiww@gmail.com). More info is also available via the Gainesville IWW and Friends of the Gainesville IWW Facebook groups. 🐿

Small rallies and demonstrations in support of the strikers were staged in dozens of U.S. cities and a couple of foreign countries, but so far the coordinated strike remains largely ignored on the outside.

"The strike has been pulled off, but we're not quite breaking through to getting mainstream media," Turk told *The Intercept*, noting that the strike was widely covered by independent media. "I talk to people who aren't in that milieu and aren't seeing it on their social media, and they'll be like, 'We didn't hear about it, there's nothing about it anywhere.'"

That's bad news for the strikers, who rely on the support of outsiders to push for more radical reform but also depend on their outside visibility to mitigate retaliation by prison officials.

A week into the strike, a couple of groups were providing updates on the action, which organizers say will carry on indefinitely, as well as outside demonstrations of solidarity.

The information blackout is largely due to prison officials' ample discretion in the details they choose to disclose. As the strikes began, reports emerged of several facilities being put on lockdown, some preemptively, but the only way for outsiders to get updates would be to call each facility and ask, usually getting no explanation about the reasons for a lockdown. Reports also emerged claiming that prison leaders in Virginia, Ohio, California, and South Carolina were put in solitary confinement as a result of the strike, according to the Alabama supporters.

The Alabama Department of Corrections did not respond to a request for comment, while corrections departments in Virginia, Ohio, and California — three of the states where strike-related disturbances were tracked by outsiders — denied that inmates in those states participated in the strike.

A spokesperson for the Florida Department of Corrections said that prisons there had resumed normal operations after several hundred inmates staged protests and work stoppages at four facilities. The spokesperson added that several inmates identified in the disturbances were transferred to other regional institutions and will be disciplined "in accordance with procedure." At the Kinross Correctional Facility in Michigan, some 150 prisoners identified as "ringleaders" of the protests were also removed to other facilities after prisoners assigned to kitchen work de-

clined to report to their jobs on September 9 and some 400 prisoners staged a peaceful protest. The situation there grew more tense a day later when prison guards went through the facility to remove suspected leaders, the *Wall Street Journal* reported, and the prison remains on lockdown.

Retaliation against strikers is also hard to track, but outside advocates said that several leaders were put in isolation and denied communication privileges, making it even harder for information to come out.

In one instance, at the Ohio State Penitentiary, Siddique Hasan, a well-known prison activist sentenced to death for his role in a 1993 prison uprising, was accused of plotting to "blow up buildings" on September 9. Hasan, an organizer with the Free Ohio Movement, was confined to isolation and denied access to the phone for nearly a month before the strike — a deliberate effort to prevent him from communicating with the outside about it, supporters said.

"What people have to realize is that these men and women inside prison — they expected to be retaliated against, but they sacrificed," said Pastor Kenneth Glasgow, a former prisoner and a supporter of the Free Alabama Movement, the prisoner-led group that first called for the nationwide strike.

"People on the outside are not understanding they are being bamboozled," he added, expressing disappointment that the strike hadn't garnered more attention. "A lot of people are not realizing the value in what's going on, they don't realize that it's slavery, that slavery still exists."

While the most ambitious to date, the September 9 strike was hardly the first such effort by prisoners. Prison protests have been on the rise in recent years, following a 2010 strike during which thousands of prisoners in Georgia refused to work, an action that was followed by others in Illinois, Virginia, North Carolina, and Washington.

In 2013, California prisoners coordinated a hunger strike against the use of solitary confinement that at its peak involved 30,000 prisoners. And this year, prisoners rioted at Holman prison in Alabama — one of the facilities most actively involved in the current strike — and went on strike in Texas.

Across the country, inmates are protesting a wide range of issues: from harsh parole systems and three-strike laws to the lack of educational services, medical neglect, and overcrowding. But the issue

that has unified protesters is that of prison labor — a \$2 billion a year industry that employs nearly 900,000 prisoners while paying them a few cents an hour in some states, and nothing at all in others. In addition to work for private companies, prisoners also cook, clean, and work on maintenance and construction in the prisons themselves — forcing officials to pay staff to carry out those tasks in response to work stoppages. "They cannot run these facilities without us," organizers wrote ahead of the strike. "We will not only demand the end to prison slavery, we will end it ourselves by ceasing to be slaves."

Prisoners on strike are calling for the repeal of an exception listed in the 13th Amendment to the United States Constitution, which bans "involuntary servitude" in addition to slavery, "except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted."

That forced labor remains legal in prison is unknown to many Americans, and that's something strikers hope to change with this action. But it's also a sign of how little the general public knows about the country's massive prison system.

"A nation that imprisons 1 percent of its population has an obligation to know what's happening to those 2.4 million people," Ethan Zuckerman, director of the Center for Civic Media at MIT, wrote in a blog post about the tepid response to the strike. "And right now, we don't know."

But while information on prisons is notoriously hard to obtain, a potentially larger problem for the striking prisoners is the seemingly limited interest in their plight, which remains confined to a few activists, family members, and formerly incarcerated people, even at a time when criminal justice issues and prison reform are high on the agenda of social justice advocates and politicians alike.

Prisoners themselves have been largely excluded from the last few years' debate on mass incarceration, but the very fact that they were able to coordinate a collective protest of this scale, with all its limitations, is testimony to their determination that the prison system needs radical change, strike organizers say.

"When you have people who are inside, locked up, who have overcome all these obstacles and barriers and have organized in 24 states, 40 to 50 prisons," said Glasgow, "that means all of us out here need to start stepping up." 🐿



## Gainesville's first tamale shop opens on South Main Street

TAMAL is a dine-in/take-out establishment, specializing in hand-rolled, delicately steamed meat, vegetarian and vegan tamales. Other offerings include beans, greens, pickled peppers, and signature agua fresca beverages - horchata, tamarindo, and jamai-ca - all made in-house from scratch.

We are excited to have the opportunity to serve you. "We" are the Iannelli family, long time residents of Gainesville who share a passion for handmade tamales.

Rachel is the head cook at TAMAL. She has nearly three decades restaurant experience, and is fortunate to have been mentored by many innovative cooks and restaurateurs both in and out of Gainesville.

Nicholas is a carpenter and craftsman by trade, who has been doing business in the Gainesville area for over 14 years.

Our son Cecil, an Eastside High School Culinary student, is TAMAL's part-time prep cook. We are pleased to be putting our wide range of experience to good use in service of a hungry community.

TAMAL is conveniently located at 439 S. Main St., only two blocks north of the new Depot Park complex, in the heart of Gainesville's burgeoning South Main Arts District.

We respect and admire the deep histories attached to South Main Street and are

proud to be making a positive contribution to its diverse economic legacy. We invite you to stop by with comrades for a workday lunch, or grab a dozen tamales to-go for a picnic on the Hawthorn Trail!

At TAMAL we aim to provide unique and healthy menu items at reasonable prices. Locally sourced meat, produce and eggs are used whenever possible and our aquas frescas are sweetened only with turbinado sugar.

TAMAL will be open 11 am - 8 pm Wednesday through Sunday. (During our first month of operation, hours and menu items are subject to change, please check our facebook page for updates). ☘

## KEN McGURN FOR CONGRESS



### ON JOBS:

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### ON VETERANS:

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### ON LEADERSHIP:

"There are so many issues which can be addressed in a positive way if our current elected officials would work together for the best interest of the country instead of an individual or special interest. I pledge to do just that."

Visit [www.VoteMcGurn.com](http://www.VoteMcGurn.com) for more information.

**Register to vote by October 11!**

Paid for by Ken McGurn for Congress



### Grassroots support keeps it going

Please support the CMC in whatever way you can: volunteering, memberships, donations, ideas, and attendance at our events.

[www.civicmediacenter.org](http://www.civicmediacenter.org)  
[coordinators@civicmediacenter.org](mailto:coordinators@civicmediacenter.org)  
 352-373-0010  
 433 S. Main St., Gainesville 32601

### Labor Notes

The voice of activists who are "Putting the movement back in the Labor Movement"



[www.labornotes.org](http://www.labornotes.org)  
 for in-depth and up-to-date reporting from around the labor movement  
**Subscribe \$30/year**

### Critical Analysis of U.S. Election Campaigns from Alternative Radio

Over the last two months AR has produced programming related to the U.S. elections. We are proud to make incursions onto the public airwaves with critical analysis of what has been described as the country's "electile disfunction."

- David Daley – Gerrymandering: Tilting Elections
- Ari Rabin-Havt – Liars, Lying & Politics
- Ralph Nader – Progressive Matters (2 CDs)
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We can only produce and distribute Alternative Radio for free to public, non-commercial and college radio station with help from listeners purchases. Support our work. Order the following AR Election Coverage Special Offer:

- Six CD Set: \$60 shipping included
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Keep listening and keep supporting independent media. Learn more at [www.alternativeradio.org](http://www.alternativeradio.org).



### 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**



### WGOT-LP 94.7 FM

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

Check out [wgot.org](http://wgot.org) for upcoming events and a detailed schedule.

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](mailto:info@wgot.org)



### Democracy NOW!

airs Mon.-Fri. 1 p.m. and 8 p.m.

### SWALLOWTAIL FARM



Come one, come all! Come warm your souls as we gather all the most uplifting ingredients of good ol' fashioned community and country livin' and Gainesville together and brew up something magical at the Swallowtail Farm Fall Fest.

All local, all extraordinary, all wonderful - Music, Food & Drink, Bonfire, Workshops, and Hayrides and other delights for the kids!

### MUSIC LINEUP:

**Ricky Kendall & the Healers, GUTS, The Relics / Erasables, Captive Eddies, Shaky Earle, Wax Wings**

Sliding Scale Admission \$10-20, kids 12 & under FREE

### Swallowtail Farm

17603 NW 276th Lane, Alachua

A Carbon-Neutral event in partnership with We Are Neutral, and Solar-powered by Pure Energy Solar International





## 2016 Home Bout Schedule

4/9 \* 7/9 \* 8/27 \* 9/17 \* 10/15 \* 11/12

MLK Center 1028 NE 14th St  
 Doors @ 6PM, Bout @ 6:30PM  
 Tickets \$10 advance, \$8 door  
 Kids 12 & under FREE  
[gainesvillerolesrebels.com](http://gainesvillerolesrebels.com)

## Civic Media Center Events

Every Thu	Weekly Volunteer Meeting, 5:30 pm
Every Thu	Weekly Poetry Jam, 8 pm
<hr/>	
Wed, Oct 5	Radical Rush 2016, 11 am-2 pm
Thu, Oct 6	Radical Rush 2016, 11 am-2 pm
Fri, Oct 7	Radical Rush 2016, 11 am-2 pm
Mon, Oct 10	Double Trouble Tour Show + Movie Nite, 7 pm-midnight
Fri, Oct 14	Black and Pink Prisoner Letter Writing & Potluck, 6-8 pm
Sat, Oct 15	Iguana Fest! 4-8 pm
Fri, Oct 28	The Fest - Acoustic set, 6:30pm-12:20am
Sat, Oct 29	The Fest - Acoustic set, 3:30-11:20pm
Sun, Oct 30	Benefit show, TBA



**433 S. Main St.  
 Gainesville  
 373-0010**

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

see [civicmediacenter.org](http://civicmediacenter.org) for updated information, events



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**HAPPY HOUR EVERYDAY**  
 5PM-8PM \$4 Domestic Tankards \$6 Craft Beer Tankards

**Monday Trivia 8pm** \$8 domestic pitchers

**Tankard Tuesday** \$4 domestic 25oz drafts  
 \$5-\$6 craft & import 2.5oz drafts

**Wine Wednesday** 1/2 off all glasses of wine + sangria

**Thursday Gainesville Language Exchange 9pm**  
 \$3 pints / \$4 tankards of domestic drafts

**Sunday Arts+Drafts** come do art! we have supplies or bring your own projects, any form of art is encouraged!

The Midnight has great FOOD, check out our menu and specials!  
[TheMidnightGainesville.com](http://TheMidnightGainesville.com) FB/TheMidnightGainesville

## ★★★★ Are You Election Ready? ★★★★★

### Important Information and Helpful Tips from Your Supervisor of Elections

**2016 General Election:**  
**October 11, 2016 - Voter Registration Deadline ★**  
**October 24th through November 5th - Early Voting**  
**November 8th - General Election (Polls open 7 AM to 7 PM)**

**Get Registered to Vote.** You must be registered to vote by **October 11, 2016** to be eligible to vote in the November 8, 2016 General Election. Visit our website at [VoteAlachua.com](http://VoteAlachua.com) to fill out a form, find registration form sites, update your record, or verify your current registration status. You may also register to vote in person at the Elections Office, by mail, or at any of our outreach events. View our outreach calendar online at [VoteAlachua.com](http://VoteAlachua.com).

**Update Your Voter Record.** If you have moved, notify the Elections Office. Florida Law requires that you register in the precinct of your legal residence. It is illegal to vote in a precinct where you no longer live. If your name or signature have changed, submit a Florida Voter Registration Application to the Elections Office so your record can be updated.

**Know Your Polling Location.** To locate your precinct and polling place, go to [VoteAlachua.com](http://VoteAlachua.com) where you will find maps and pictures of your polling place.

**Redistricting** - Due to court ordered redistricting, **all of Alachua County is now in the newly created State Senate District 8, and U.S. Congressional District 3 now represents all of Alachua County.**

**Take Photo and Signature ID.** Florida law requires voters to present current and valid photo and signature identification at early voting sites and polling places on Election Day. Acceptable IDs includes: a FL Driver License, FL ID card, U.S. passport, debit or credit card, military ID, student ID, retirement center ID, neighborhood association ID and public assistance ID. **NEW acceptable identifications:** Veteran's Health ID issued by the VA, a FL Concealed Weapon License, and a Government Employee ID. If you do not present photo and signature ID you will be allowed to vote a provisional ballot.

**Be Informed.** Watch your mail for a sample ballot from the Elections Office. Familiarize yourself with the candidates and issues on the ballot before going to vote. You may mark your sample ballot and take it with you into the voting booth. Voters may view sample ballots online at [VoteAlachua.com](http://VoteAlachua.com) from our home page. Audio sample ballots are also available online.

**Avoid the Lines-Vote by Mail.** If voting by mail, sign the certificate envelope and return the ballot early. **Be sure we have your current signature on file.** Due to changes in postal delivery standards, **it can take up to 5 days for your ballot to get to us.** To be counted, we must receive it by 7 PM Election Day. Postmarks do not count. You can bring your ballot to our office during normal office hours at 515 North Main Street, Suite 300, Gainesville, or place it in our drop box located in front of the building. To request a ballot, go online or call our office at 352-374-5252. Your request for a mail ballot must be made by 5 PM on November 2, 2016.

**Avoid the Lines-Vote Early.** Any voter can vote at any one of our 3 Early Voting sites; **Millhopper Library, Tower Road Library or the Supervisor of Elections Office.** Early Voting starts **October 24th through November 5th.** Please check our website for hours of Early Voting.

**Pam Carpenter, Alachua County Supervisor of Elections**  
 515 N. Main Street, Suite 300, Gainesville, FL 32601-3348  
 (352) 374-5252  
[www.VoteAlachua.com](http://www.VoteAlachua.com)



# History and the people who make it: Wilton Russell

Wilton Russell [R], a Bahamian woodworking artist descended from castaway Seminoles, was interviewed by Ryan Morini [M] in 2012.

This is the 36th in a series of transcript excerpts from the Samuel Proctor Oral History Program collection at the University of Florida, continuing last month's story.

Transcript edited by Pierce Butler.

**R:** My Grammy, when she was sick, we tried to get her to doctor and this woman wouldn't go. Many times her children or grandchildren sick.

"Mama, we want to take you to the doctor."

"Child I want nobody taking me to no doctor. Jesus is my doctor. I want nobody carrying me to the old folks home. I'm in my old folks home now, my house."

Would you believe that woman died right in that house? Two months ago we tried to get this woman out of that house to go see the doctor. I go on home. A little boy come through the back of my yard, say "Uncle Waba, you hear what happen?"

Say "mama dead."

I drop the tools. My greatest story teller has gone. I grew up with her telling me the stories that she told the tourists. I am a story teller. I'm a song writer, explorer, bush doctor, musicianer, entertainer, Junkanoo dancer.

**M:** You've talked a lot about the one grandmother, but mentioned your grandfathers and your other grandmother. Could you tell us a little bit more about them?

**R:** Yeah, you mean the Russell family?

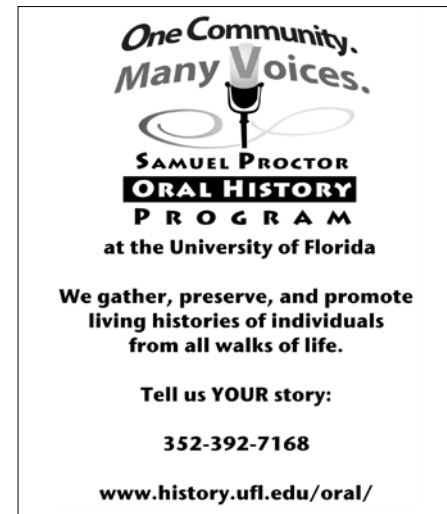
Well, Paul Nelson Russell, he was one of the biggest hand man – Seminole man – came from Florida. This guy was like a giant. No belly. The hurricane broke up his canoe. He went deep into the forest and he build his boat out of the green pine.

Him and my other great, great, grand uncle, Josie Colbrook, those two were the two strongest Seminole Indians came from Florida. Both of them were famous fishermens. Famous boat builders.

My great grandmothers on their side Granny Great, I should say, on their side, which was their wife I talking about. They were the most outstanding shore basket makers in the Bahamas. They used to use stick for needle to sew baskets.

The two guys who build boats, they used to use rock to chop wood with. A guy take a rock and make a axe from flint rock. And that flint rock chop wood.

There wasn't no steel around for them to use to build no boat. These guys go like ten miles in the bush. They come out with twelve feet boat on their shoulders. Wild



boars, iguanas, wild roots, just like they grew me up eating those things, and it gives them plenty strength.

These are the guys who led the way for the Seminoles to Red Bay. They paddled those canoes across that Gulf Stream, all the way into Red Bay. The current, the high wave going up here like that, and you coming back down with children and wives and ... oh my God, those guys have courage.

I honor these guys. I honor their sons. I honor their wives for being the greatest shore basket makers.

Now, my Grammy taught me how to make the wooden needles, sew the baskets. I'm the only person left in Red Bay that can make a wooden needle and sew a basket. Or sew your pants, or your shirt. That's culture. Ancient culture of the Seminoles.

All those things we had to do to survive. Kill sting rays. Kill sharks. Iguanas. Wild Boars. [Laughter] Corn grits was our food then. Not no regular yellow grits from the store. Jesus Almighty, thank God them days is over. I can't say they over, but thank God I don't do that no more.

I hope my children don't see those days, or my grandkids don't see those days because, hey man, it really, really was rough.

I say Lord Jesus Christ what is come into this place? No wonder why I see some of the children so hungry. The couple dollars they have to feed the kids, they go take it and gamble it out. And then you can still say things tough? You making things tough on yourself. On the kids. That money could send a child to school. That money could put tenners on the child feet. That money could fill your child stomach.

This is what's going on in the Bahamas and every island right now. You go to Bimini, it's same thing. Freeport, Abaco, Eleuthra, Exuma, Acklins Island, Inagua.

People forget where they came from. They forget the real facts of lives. Okay? Stop what you're doing. These kids, they need a chance in life. We're the only ones that can give them that chance.

**M:** One thing we haven't talked about too much is your wood carving.

**R:** As a boy, I started making the spinning top. You know the top? Which is wind the cord on and [Sound effect]. That was the first piece of artwork I've ever done. I got the knowledge from my grandfather, Bruce Marshall, showed it to me. He said "my daddy showed me this." He say, "take this axe." Say "go take this and cut down one tree and bring it back. Let me show you how you make the spinning top."

There wasn't no nail around so what he did is make the bottom part really sharp. But this is a very big one. What we were using for line – there wasn't no nylon in those days. There was a something called construction cord. It's a white cord, but it's not nylon. It's cotton.

But it's pretty strong. You take that and we wind that around the top, and we spin it. [Sound effect] Top drops suddenly. Just sleep. Spinning sleep. That's my first time spinning top. I go and I touch the top like that to go and pick it up and [sound effect] bop. [Laughter] I said, "Papa, you showing me how to hurt myself."

Papa say, "no one tell you touch that." He said, "supposed to let that spin until it stop." I try it again. My feet bleeding. And you know how long it take me to do that? Almost two weeks practicing that to do that. [Laughter] Now, my second piece of woodwork was something to put on my feet. Because I tired of being bare feet and running them wild boars bare feet.

I running through the bushes. Sometime a stick get in my feet and I still cannot

stop because I won't catch the hog. I got big old prong stick in my hand, sharpened on the end to juke them in the neck. The clogs, you know clogs? I start making that too. I'm tired being bare feet and daddy wouldn't buy me new shoes.

My mother took off and gone and left me. She ain't send me new shoes back. My pa, my dad, he just donated me to my mommy and he gone. That's why my grandmother took me on. To try and make me own tennies. I did all of that in wood. Kamalame wood. So I can run my hog much better. I'm going to stay on him. He can get tired before me because I was active in those days. But these how I started my woodworking experience. Making top. Making clogs for my feet, and everything like that.

The fourth thing that I've done in wood is I made a hand. I cut a piece of wood thicker than my hand, and I take the axe – the tip of the edge and I chipped that out, with the axe. When I finished the hand I said, "Papa, look." I said "it's a real hand, only one thing is wood."

He say "boy, Jesus was a carpenter when he was a boy." Papa say, "yeah, you born three days before Jesus was born. Wise men was still looking for Jesus during the time you was born. You're going to be a very wise boy." [Laughter]

Yeah, man, I self-praising myself. People tell me I'm wise. I don't know what it mean when they say I'm wise. Yeah, now today, I'm all over the world as a famous wood artist, musical artist. Bush doctor. Good swimmer. Good diver. Yeah. Cultural guy.

I love my life. But most of all, my weakness is being gentle to people. Kids is my weakness. I hate to see a kid cry. I can't take that. As I thinking back over my days, when my family left me alone and gone and leave me. Abandoned me.

Every mother out there, every father out there, please pay attention to your child or your kids. Because I letting you know, they are our future. They our doctors, our lawyers, our preachers, our teachers, our professors, our scientists, our leaders, our inspectors, policemen, presidents, prime ministers. Hey, they are our life savers.

Please pay attention to the kids of the world. That's the reason why I sing, Papa Little Bouncing Boy. Papa Little Bouncing Girl. Bounce them up and make them happy. They the happiness of the present time and tomorrow. If you know what happiness is all about, if you

know what love is all about, take care of the kids of the world.

Search for "Wilton Russell" at <http://oral.history.ufl.edu/collection/> for the full transcript of this interview; look for a second segment in the next issue of the Iguana.

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. ☺




The monstrosity at University and 13th Street is really hurting venerable GNV institution, Burrito Brothers Taco Co. Their street and available parking have been eliminated since mid August by construction. They need to survive this. Big business gets breaks to come to town, and then crushes small business? That sucks. You can help them survive by donating at <https://www.gofundme.com/2s4xc8wc>. ☺

## VOTE

### J.K. "Jess"

# IRBY

for  
Clerk of the Circuit Court



PROFESSIONAL • DEDICATED • HARDWORKING  
• ATTORNEY • EXPERIENCED • READY TO SERVE

"Congratulations to the Iguana on 30 years of service to our community." - Jess Irby

**Please Vote Early - Vote Irby**

Follow J.K. "Jess" Irby for Clerk on Facebook

Paid for by J.K. "Jess" Irby, Dem., for Alachua County Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller



# Iguana Directory

Call 352-378-5655 or email [gainesvilleiguana@cox.net](mailto:gainesvilleiguana@cox.net) with updates and additions

*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.*

**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@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](http://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](http://alachuagreens.weebly.com), [alachuagreens@gmail.com](mailto:alachuagreens@gmail.com), 352-222-3449.

**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: <http://laborcoalition.org/>, [info@laborcoalition.org](mailto:info@laborcoalition.org), 352-375-2832, PO Box 12051, Gainesville, FL 32604

**Alachua County Organization for Rural Needs (ACORN) Clinic** is a not-for-profit (501C3) organization that provides low-cost, high-quality medical and dental care, and social services for people with and without health insurance. The clinic primarily serves residents of Alachua, Bradford and Union Counties. The Clinic fulfills its mission with the help of a broad-based core of volunteer physicians, nurses, dentists, hygienists, pharmacists and counselors. Located at 23320 N. State Rd 235 Brooker, Florida 32622 352-485-1133

**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 [bstandy@aclufl.org](mailto:bstandy@aclufl.org)

**Amnesty International** UF campus chapter of worldwide human rights movement; [www.facebook.com/ufamnesty](http://www.facebook.com/ufamnesty) or [UFAmnesty@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://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 Vine Bread & Pasta place at 627 N. Main St. 352-672-4327, [www.citizensclimatelobby.org](http://www.citizensclimatelobby.org), [cclgainesville@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://www.civicmediacenter.org).

**The Coalition of Hispanics Integrating Spanish Speakers through Advocacy and Service (CHISPAS)** Student-run group at UF. [www.chispasuf.org](http://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](http://CodePink4Peace.org), [jacquebetz@gmail.com](mailto:jacquebetz@gmail.com).

**The Community Weatherization Coalition** is a grassroots community coalition whose mission is to improve home weatherization and energy efficiency for low-income households through education, volunteer work projects and community-building. The CWC welcomes new volunteers to get involved in a variety of ways, from performing audits, to PR/Graphics and more. Contact: 352-450-4965 or [cwc@communityweatherization.net](mailto:cwc@communityweatherization.net)

**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](http://ConserveFlorida.org)

**Democratic Party of Alachua County** Meetings held the second Wednesday each month at 7 p.m. in the auditorium of the Gainesville Police Headquarters on NW 6th St. & 8th Ave. Office is at 901 NW 8th Ave., 352-373-1730, [alachuadems.org](http://alachuadems.org).

**Edible Plant Project** Local 100% volunteer-run collective to create a revolution through edible and food-producing plants. <http://edibleplantproject.org/contact-us>.

**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](mailto: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](http://www.thefineprintuf.org).

**Florida School of Traditional Midwifery** A clearinghouse for information, activities and educational programs. 352-338-0766 [www.midwiferyschool.org](http://www.midwiferyschool.org)

**Florida Defenders of the Environment** works to protect freshwater resources, conserve public lands, and provide quality environmental education since 1969. 352-475-1119, [Fladefenders.org](http://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](http://www.gaaponline.org), [info@gaaponline.org](mailto: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. University Ave, 352-378-1690, [www.fadp.org](http://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. [gainesvillefmb@riseup.net](mailto:gainesvillefmb@riseup.net). [www.facebook.com/#!/groups/143660782367621/](http://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/143660782367621/)

**Gainesville Interfaith Alliance for Immigrant Justice (IAIJ)** organizes faith communities to work together for immigrant justice. Meets 2nd Mondays at 6 pm at the Mennonite Meeting House, 1236 NW 18th Ave. [Gainesvilleiaij@gmail.com](mailto:Gainesvilleiaij@gmail.com), [www.gainesvilleiaij.blogspot.com](http://www.gainesvilleiaij.blogspot.com), 352-377-6577.

**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](mailto:gainesvillelovesmountains@gmail.com), 352-610-1090, <http://gainesvillelovesmountains.wordpress.com/>.

**Gainesville NOW** [www.gainesvillenow.org](http://www.gainesvillenow.org). [info@gainesvilleNOW.org](mailto: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](mailto:gainesvillesocialists@gmail.com)

**National Women's Liberation** is 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](http://www.womensliberation.org), P.O. Box 14017, Gainesville, 32604, 347-560-4695, [nwl@womensliberation.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:officers@ufgau.org), [www.ufgau.org](http://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](http://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. [www.harvestofhope.net](http://www.harvestofhope.net), email: [kellerhope@cox.net](mailto:kellerhope@cox.net).

**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](mailto: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](http://www.gainesvillehumanists.org) or [facebook.com/humanistsocietyofgainesville](https://facebook.com/humanistsocietyofgainesville); [gainesvillehumanists@gmail.com](mailto: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: email [ufhumanistsoncampus@gmail.com](mailto:ufhumanistsoncampus@gmail.com), alternative: [j.bontems@ufl.edu](mailto:j.bontems@ufl.edu), phone- 561-374-3537.

**Industrial Workers of the World (IWW)** Gainesville General Membership Branch Union for all workers, regardless of industry, trade, job, or employment status. Meets 1st Sunday of the month at 6 pm at CMC. Contact: [gainesvilleiww@gmail.com](mailto:gainesvilleiww@gmail.com)

**Kindred Sisters** Lesbian/feminist magazine. PO Box 141674, Gainesville, FL 32614. [www.kindredsisters.org](http://www.kindredsisters.org), [KindredSisters@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:nlggainesville@gmail.com) or [www.nlg.org](http://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](mailto:ncfawis@gmail.com) or go to [www.ncfawis.org](http://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](http://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.ichetuckneecolliance.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](http://pflaggainesville.org). Confidential Helpline 352-340-3770 or email [info@pflaggainesville.org](mailto: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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](mailto: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."

**Sunday Assembly**, a secular congregation which celebrates life, meets the third Sunday of each month at 11 am at 530 W. University Ave. (Santa Fe College campus building in downtown Gainesville). There is a talk, music, sing-alongs, discussion, refreshments and fellowship. See <http://SAGainesville.weebly.com/>.

**UF College Democrats (UFCD)** meets Tuesdays at 6:30 in Little Hall 121. 407-580-4543, [Facebook.com/UFcollegedems](https://facebook.com/UFcollegedems)

**UF Pride Student Union** Group of gay, lesbian, bi and straight students & non-students, faculty and staff. [www.grove.ufl.edu/~pride](http://www.grove.ufl.edu/~pride).

**UF Radical Student Alliance** is a progressive grassroots organization that strives to combat social justice issues on campus, with our core values being transparency, democratic process, the value of each member's input, and the ability of any member to assume a leadership role. Meetings are at 6:30 pm Tuesdays on campus, [ufradstudentalliance@gmail.com](mailto:ufradstudentalliance@gmail.com).

**United Faculty of Florida Union** represents faculty at University of Florida. 352-392-0274, [president@uff-uf.org](mailto:president@uff-uf.org), [www.UFF-UF.org](http://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/](http://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, <http://vfp-gainesville.org/>

**WGOT 94.7 LP-FM** Community low-power station operating as part of the Civic Media Center. [wgot947@gmail.com](mailto:wgot947@gmail.com), [www.wgot.org](http://www.wgot.org).

**World Socialist Party of the United States (WSP-US)** can be contacted by anyone wanting to know and understand more about Marxian socialism and the WSPUS's efforts to transform the dog-eat-dog – Devil take the hindmost world created by capitalism into a democratically arranged world society of equality by emailing the Party at [boston@wspus.org](mailto:boston@wspus.org). All email received will be responded to. Upon request the Party will provide membership applications. <http://wspus.org>. ☼

# Editors' picks: news that didn't fit

- ✂ **America's Worldwide Impunity**, by Robert Parry  
*The mainstream U.S. media is treating the U.S.-led airstrike that killed scores of Syrian troops as an unfortunate boo-boo, ignoring that the U.S. and its allies have no legal right to operate in Syria at all, writes Robert Parry.*  
<https://consortiumnews.com/2016/09/19/americas-worldwide-impunity/>
- ✂ **How U.S. Propaganda Plays in Syrian War**, by Rick Sterling  
*U.S. foreign policymakers have experimented at planting propaganda in social media and then citing it as evidence to support their goals, a process now playing out in the Syrian "regime change," as Rick Sterling explains.*  
<https://consortiumnews.com/2016/09/23/how-us-propaganda-plays-in-syrian-war/>
- ✂ **Important Anti-War Films that Reveal the Uncensored History of the United States**, by Frank Dorrel  
*This listing of over 20 films "offers proof that the United States has killed as many as 20 million or more innocent people since the end of World War II," says Frank Dorrel. Most of these films can be accessed from this link.*  
[http://www.truthdig.com/avbooth/item/important\\_anti-war\\_films\\_uncensored\\_history\\_of\\_the\\_united\\_states\\_20160927#14750468248011&action=collapse\\_widget&id=0&data=](http://www.truthdig.com/avbooth/item/important_anti-war_films_uncensored_history_of_the_united_states_20160927#14750468248011&action=collapse_widget&id=0&data=)
- ✂ **Progressive Politics After Bernie**, by Harold Meyerson  
*A look at what progressives around the county are doing to continue the revolution started by the Bernie Sanders campaign.*  
<http://prospect.org/article/progressive-politics-after-bernie>



## Iguana Fest

Saturday  
October 15, 2016

Celebrate the Gainesville Iguana as it marks 30 years of publishing!!

Endless Pools  
Lady Dug  
Missing Edward

Special Guest  
Gary Gordon

Singer/Songwriter & former GNV Mayor in homecoming visit from CA

Sliding Scale Donations  
\$10 - \$30

Benefits the  
Civic Media Center

-  
Bike Riding Encouraged

Free Valet parking  
inside gate.


4 - 8 pm at  
**CURIA**  
on the Drag  
2029 NVV 6th St

Concert is on the lawn:  
bring blankets or chairs

Food and Drink by  
Curia on the Drag new on site restaurant

Stage and sound by



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Comments, suggestions, contributions (written or financial) are welcome. To list your event or group, contact us at:  
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