



The Gainesville Iguana

*A progressive newsletter
and events calendar*

**January/February, 2018
Vol. 32, Issue 1/2**



Photo courtesy of United We Dream

2018 means voting (and more)!

by Joe Courter

2018 will be a pivotal year in this country. I mean it. The gerrymandering done in 2010 has paved the way for the Republican dominance in our national and state-level governance. To try and create more fair districts, Democrats must regain control in state legislatures, and that challenge must begin now, in the 2018 fall elections. We will have important primaries coming up in August, and then of course on Nov. 6. These pages will hopefully help and inspire you to be an active participant in our fragile and severely challenged democracy.

BUT we have upcoming elections in March for two position on the Gainesville City Commission. In the Eastside District 1, the incumbent Charles Goston is being challenge by two women, Tyra “Loudd” Edwards and Gigi Simmons. Both would bring a fresh perspective as women (with Helen Warren as the only woman on the seven-member Board currently) as well as a dedication to the African American community, and it should be an interesting campaign to watch. I strongly lean to Gigi based on her ties to the community and experience with the City of Gainesville as part of Parks and Recreation. In the At-Large

See 2018, p. 21

United We Dream’s D.C. takeover

by Michell Hernandez

Living as an undocumented immigrant in the United States can mean many things. For me, it meant isolation, fear and anxiety.

Before December, I had never thought of the possibility that it could ever mean love, friendship and unity. Fortunately, I finally learned it was possible during United We Dream’s D.C. Takeover.

The takeover was focused on attaching a DREAM Act onto a continuing resolution and pushing members of Congress to vote no on any bill that did not include a solution for the thousands of immigrant youth currently living in uncertainty.

The week consisted of sharing stories, civil disobedience, and unifying activities which all came together to create the greatest experience of my life. The lessons I learned will remain in my heart, and I will be forever grateful that I had the opportunity to learn from such passionate and caring people.

As I traveled to D.C., I did not know what

to expect from the trip. My status had kept me from pursuing any activism because I feared exposing my situation to others. It was not until I met other undocumented students at UF that I learned that sharing our stories could make our community stronger, but I continued to fear publicly exposing my status.

As the days passed, I had the chance to hear from other dreamers. Some of the people I heard from had lived through my worst nightmares, but continued to raise their voices for others. The strength and passion that I saw helped push me to share my own story, and I allowed myself to free the anger and sadness that had accumulated for seventeen years.

While I shared my experience as an undocumented immigrant, I felt more empowered than I had ever felt in my life. From that point, I decided that I wanted to chase that feeling every day and fight to help others feel empowered as well.

See DREAM, p. 20

INSIDE ...

<i>Editors’ Picks</i>	2
<i>From the Publisher</i>	3
<i>Civic Media Center</i>	11
<i>Event Calendar</i>	12-13
<i>Oral History</i>	18-19
<i>Directory</i>	21-23

Women’s March anniversary event: Power to the polls!

Women’s March Florida has planned four regional anniversary events to take place on Jan. 21 in Orlando, Jacksonville, St. Pete, and Miami. Chapters have been working non-stop since November to plan and prepare these events. You can expect exciting speakers on relevant subjects related to Women’s March Unity Principles, music, voter registration drive, and large crowds of allies marching again in solidarity for our vision of a country that is healthy, fair, and kind.

We want to remind the country that we are still here, we are growing, and we vote! We will be raising awareness about voter suppression, our sister island’s continued struggle after the hurricanes, and how “none of us are free until all of us are free.”

Gainesville has helped to plan the Orlando event and we will have amazing speakers from Gainesville addressing the Orlando crowd. RSVP to the event at: <https://www.facebook.com/events/864975127001077/>

Find info at: <http://hearourvoicegenv.org>

Speakers will include Anna Eskamani of Planned Parenthood as Master of Ceremonies, Jhody Polk of the FRRRC speaking on the importance of voter rights restoration and the destructive nature of voter suppression, Viviana Troche of QLatinx speaking about layers of disparity, Gail Johnson of Gainesville speaking of her experience as a woman running for local office for the first time, Suzanna Randolph of the Sierra Club speaking about our state’s water crisis, and Amy Mercado speaking on the current crisis and ongoing voter suppression in Puerto Rico.

Gainesville will be sending a bus to Orlando. Tickets are \$25. Meet at the Oaks Mall South Parking Lot at 7:30 am and return at 6 pm. RSVP a spot on the bus and direct questions to our bus captain, Captain Carol Barron. Email: capcarol@bellsouth.net Phone: 352-316-3703

If you are interested in finding or hosting a carpool, please fill out the carpool form at:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeLanmFbiWzrvp31VHe2wPDiaWsBSz8G0D1YKhSXtlxxZcGxw/viewform?usp=sf_linkJan.

Local January 21 Events

Those who cannot make it to Orlando or one of the regional events can attend a UF anniversary event hosted by Genevieve Curtis at the Bo Diddley Plaza in Gainesville at 2 pm. Although not an official Women’s March chapter event, this gathering of like-minded citizens will demonstrate their values in the spirit of Jan. 21, 2017, with speakers and performances. Find out more at: <https://www.facebook.com/events/159056584716886/>

Women’s March National Organization’s Statement of Purpose, November 2017

The mission of Women’s March is to harness the political power of diverse women and their communities to create transformative social change. Women’s March is a women-led movement providing intersectional education on a diverse range of issues and creating entry points for new grassroots activists and organizers to engage in their local communities through trainings, outreach programs and events. Women’s March is committed to dismantling systems of oppression through nonviolent resistance and building inclusive structures guided by self-determination, dignity and respect.

Unity Principles

The Women’s March on Washington convened a broad and diverse group of leaders to produce an intersectional platform known as the Unity Principles. Representing a new understanding of the connected nature of our struggles and a vision of our collective liberation, the Unity Principles continue to be a guiding light for our movement.

We believe that Women’s Rights are Human Rights and Human Rights are Women’s Rights. We must create a society in which women - including Black women, Native women, poor women, immigrant women, disabled women, Muslim women, lesbian queer and trans women - are free and able to care for and nurture their families, however they are formed, in safe and healthy environments free from structural impediments.

Ending Violence

Women deserve to live full and healthy lives, free of all forms of violence against our bodies. We believe in accountability and justice in cases of police brutality and ending racial

See MARCH, p. 15

From the publisher ...

Make America Grate Again

Grate; Definition (verb)

1. To reduce to fragments, shreds, or powder by rubbing against an abrasive surface.
2. To cause to make a harsh grinding or rasping sound through friction.
3. To irritate or annoy persistently.

In the past year as president, Donald Trump has been basically the same guy we anticipated he would be after seeing him in action over the decades, and especially on the campaign trail. For many reasons, which I will not go into here, this country elected a very unhinged and unstable man/child to the highest office in the land. There's no surprises in Michael Wolff’s book *Fire and Fury: Inside the Trump White House*. It is the confirmation of what we all feared it might be like to have this self-promoting conman as Commander in Chief; the only surprise is that it took this long to pull back the curtain and reveal it.

And make no mistake – it is not just Trump, and whether he is removed from office in one month, one year, three years or seven, the damage done will be severe. It’ll be the laws and regulations changed, the judges who get confirmed, and the shredded safety net that poor and disadvantaged people have relied on for decades that history will record.

This country was founded on high ideals. It has regarded itself as a shining city on the hill, a beacon for all others to follow. “We’re #1 ... USA, USA, USA.” Yet it has in its history from the start, actions that fragment those ideals, that grind down the shine on that image. Those horrible periods of blatant racism, whether against the Native people who were already here, or the African people brought here as slaves. Both of those legacies remain in effect today; institutionalized racism is pervasive, as deep in the culture as it is in the economic system. This country has repeatedly overthrown other countries’ governments for the benefit of our corporations. It cozies up to dictators who we like and ignores their human rights violations. These things were and are not great.

Yet there is a smooth veneer that exists, especially in the minds of its citizens, in our history books, and in our culture. We want to believe we as a nation are good, even great. And within the processes available, mobilized citizens have definitely made it better. Slaves were freed, women and Blacks got the right to vote. Through pressure from organized labor we got better working conditions. FDR’s New Deal brought us out of the Depression and instituted many effective social programs. Environmentalists got awareness raised and laws passed. We have the Civil Rights, LGBT and Women’s Rights Movements. All these were and are tangible good things, none optimal, but all steps in the right direction.

The Trump administration is like a harsh rasping sound to the psyches of thoughtful good people, and abrasive to all that good work. Our environmental regulations are being ground down. Our standing as a nation, already tenuous to the rest of the world who have a much better view, is being turned to dust, to powder, by bailing out of the climate agreements, bellicose rhetoric threatening nuclear war, and then the most recent, referring to other nations as “shithole countries.”

“To irritate and annoy persistently”? Yes, it is a horror to watch, and to watch the normalization of such activity by a compliant media and Congress is beyond worrisome. We need to wake up in this year of 2018, because this toxic authoritarianism is being promulgated by people who do not share the values most anyone reading this have. They don’t believe in science, they hate social safety nets, they seem quite comfortable with racist and sexist attitudes, they are extremely nationalistic, and they are hypersensitive to criticism and disparage protesters and dissent. This is the antithesis of great; they are taking us backwards.

But never forget: we are many, they are few. And please know that we have much work to do. 🐢



Joe Courter

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

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

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Editors’ picks: News that didn’t fit

🐢 **A conservative nonprofit that seeks to transform college campuses faces allegations of racial bias and illegal campaign activity** by Jane Mayer

A conservative nonprofit, Turning Point USA, is funneling money into student government elections to elect right-leaning candidates.
<https://www.newyorker.com/news/news-desk/a-conservative-nonprofit-that-seeks-to-transform-college-campuses-faces-allegations-of-racial-bias-and-illegal-campaign-activity>

🐢 **60 Environmental Rules on the Way Out Under Trump** by Nadja Popovich, Livia Albeck-Ripka and Kendra Pierre-Louis

A depressing list of the environmental damage the current administration is causing.
<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2017/10/05/climate/trump-environment-rules-reversed.html?smid=fb-nytimes&smtyp=cur>

🐢 **ilex_opaca** by Holly Anderson
A series of comics you may enjoy. https://www.instagram.com/ilex_opaca/

🐢 **Seeing the Republican tax plan as a tool to punish Democrats** by Steve Benen
Those who will suffer most under the new tax laws are graduate students, teachers and blue-state residents; the laws clearly are an attempt to punish Dems.
<http://www.msnbc.com/rachel-maddow-show/seeing-the-republican-tax-plan-tool-punish-democrats>

🐢 **Ignoring violence in El Salvador, Trump ends years of special protective status for immigrants** by Ryan Devereaux
There is very little reporting on how El Salvador got to be such a violent mess. Hint, it was a US sponsored Civil War.
<https://theintercept.com/2018/01/08/el-salvador-immigration-tps-trump/>

🐢 **Florida Prisoners are Laying it Down** by Kevin “Rashid” Johnson
On Jan 15, the day the Iguana is at the printer, there will commence a prisoner strike in Florida. How this goes, and how long this remains in the news is unknown, but this letter from a prisoner can give you some background:
https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=144835562854614&id=133851070619730

🐢 **Splinters in Florida School Boards Have Sharp Points** by Sue Legg
Local activist Sue Legg on “local politicians, religion, dark money networks, billionaires, and of course, the money trail” and why Florida has three School Board Associations.
<http://lwveducation.com/splinters-in-florida-school-boards-have-sharp-points/> 🐢



Beehive Design Collective visits CMC

by Joe Courter

On Tuesday, Jan. 2, the Civic Media Center hosted a presentation with two speakers from the Beehive Design Collective. Beehive Design is a volunteer-driven non-profit arts organization that uses graphical media as educational tools to communicate stories of resistance to corporate globalization.

The purpose of the group, based in Machias, Maine, is to “Cross-pollinate the grassroots” by creating collaborative, anti-copyright images that can be used as educational and organizing tools. The most recognizable of these images are large format pen and ink posters, which seek to provide a visual alternative to deconstruction of complicated social and political issues ranging from globalization, free trade, militarism, resource extraction, and biotechnology.

And that indeed is what they did, using a Powerpoint that could zoom in on the small details their large works of art they are known for, and explaining what the illustrations are showing. The artwork that was presented and analyzed was “MesoAmerica Resiste!,” and can be seen on the Beehive collective website.

Thankfully, a CMC co-coordinator was able to video over an hour of the presentation, which can be seen at: <https://www.facebook.com/civicmediacenter/videos/1850678581632504/>. The Beehive Design Collective Store offers over 150 posters and patches, and is at: <https://weestore.mysshopify.com/> 🐝

Wild & Scenic Film Festival will show Earth’s challenges

In honor of the 50th Anniversary of the National Trails System Act and the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, the Florida Trail Association (FTA) is proud to present: the Wild & Scenic Film Festival (WSFF) on Saturday, Jan. 20 from 5 to 10 pm at the Swamp Head Brewery in Gainesville.

This outdoor screening will offer a unique program of environmental and adventure films that illustrate the Earth’s beauty. They will show the challenges facing our planet and the communities working to protect it. Viewers will climb the highest peaks and trek across the globe with adventure films from around the world and witness how individuals and communities across the globe are taking action.

There will be live music, raffle items, door prizes, drink discounts (courtesy of Swamp Head Brewery) and food vendors. Folks will have the chance to interact with local, Florida-based organizations dedicated to supporting outdoor recreation and environmental conservation throughout the state.

All proceeds go to support the Florida Trail Association, a nonprofit organization partnered with the U.S. Forest Service committed to developing, maintaining, protecting and promoting the Florida National Scenic Trail. Guests will learn about the Florida Trail and discover how to get involved.

Ticket prices:

- \$14 @ door (\$10 pre-pay) - General Admission
- \$12 @ door (\$8 pre-pay) - Students, senior citizens (55 and older), and veterans (with valid ID presented at event)
- \$12 @ door (\$8 pre-pay) - Active FTA members (with confirmation by FTA administrators)
- Free for youth (10 and younger)

Buy tickets at: <http://tiny.cc/ftawild>

The event starts at 5 pm, with food and drinks available for purchase throughout the evening. Live music performances will occur from 5:30-6:15 pm, and the films start at 6:30 pm. 🐝



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

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Divest our tax dollars from fossil fuels, private prisons

by Marina Smerling, Divest Gainesville

The divestment movement across the country is growing. In city after city, the people are asking their city officials to take note: it’s time to divest our public money from fossil fuels, private prisons, and the disenfranchisement of Native peoples that allowed the Dakota Access Pipeline to be approved at Standing Rock.

Earlier this year, Native organizers in the wake of Dakota Access re-energized the divestment and boycott movements ignited by civil rights activists decades ago, calling on our cities to pull their funds from the banks that fail our public values by funding pipelines and private prison and detention centers. In Seattle, organizers successfully campaigned for Seattle to withdraw its \$3 billion in funds from Wells Fargo. Davis and Santa Monica, California, followed suit, and similar campaigns are now underway in numerous cities across the country.

Here in Gainesville, our city has approximately \$120 million in public funds, which are held primarily with SunTrust Bank.

- SunTrust is one of the 17 banks that directly funded the Dakota Access Pipeline.
- SunTrust indirectly funds Sabal Trail Pipeline in our own backyard.
- SunTrust, along with five other major banks in this country, funds GeoGroup and CoreCivic (formerly Corrections Corporation of America), the two largest private prison and private detention center corporations in the world. Private prisons are responsible for locking up nearly 20% of federal inmates in this country, creating a financial incentive for the widespread incarceration of poor people and people of color that is devastating communities across the nation.
- SunTrustDivest Gainesville came together this summer to respond to the Native-led call for individual and municipal divestment. We are honored to have recently received sponsorship from the ACLC.

As the Native divestment movement in this country says, “Mazaska talks” (money talks), and indeed, it is the only thing that will have vested corporate interests listen.

The time for a change in how we invest our tax dollars has come. That time is now. Let’s move our public money out of the institutions that our destroying our communities and our planet, and into life-serving and life-preserving institutions that reflect our love of justice, sustainability, and a world that works for all of us.



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Sign our petition at <http://tinyurl.com/divest-gainesville>. For more information, contact DivestGainesville@gmail.com. 🐝



Florida textbook attack

A new state law requires school boards to appoint a “hearing officer” to hold hearings for any and every complaint filed against any book, video, etc., used in any pubic classroom.

Climate change denialism, creationism, and “American Exceptionalism” advocacy group Florida Citizens Alliance, which promoted (and claims to have written) this law, already has volunteers (trained by a Texas tea-party-style textbook pressure group) in numerous counties.

Knowing better than to provoke the formidable scientific and historical UF faculty, FCA has so far made no moves in Alachua County, but has begun a crusade against politically-incorrect facts in Marion County.

See the Florida Citizens for Science blog at www.flascience.org/wp/. The Marion Couty report is at: www.flascience.org/?p=3016. 🐝

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Honor Indigenous Peoples of North Central Florida

by W. Gilbert

Please honor the Timucan People who once lived in this area by removing the Rodman Dam and re-naming Newnans Lake.

The dam should be removed for several reasons:

- It would allow the Ocklawaha River to flow naturally to give us the natural beauty and benefits the Timucan people of long ago enjoyed.
- It would allow once again the migration of fish and manatees.
- It would reveal and bring to life the 20-plus lost springs in the river that artist and environmentalist Margaret Ross Tolbert revealed to us with her community presentations about The Lost Springs of Florida.
- The restored area would be a jewel for our Ocklawaha River Watershed and a shining example for the State of Florida in the restoration of damaged natural environment. By removing the dam, nature will quickly repair the area.
- The watershed, the ‘Real Florida’ will then be a natural attraction and bring many eco-tourists, benefiting everyone -- particularly local residents.
- Recognize and honor the Timucan People who once lived in this area by renaming Newnans Lake – Lake Pithlachocco as it was called by the Timucan People.

Fresh water defines our ‘sense of place,’ living here in the Orange Creek Basin of the Ocklawaha River Watershed, in Alachua County. We must protect it and restore its quality because it is part of us.

“We must go beyond the arrogance of human rights,” stated Santee Lakota John Trudell, during his address at the Survival Gathering during 1980. “We must go beyond the arrogance of civil rights. We must step into the reality of natural rights because the natural world has a right to existence. We are only a small part of it. There can be no trade-off.”

Please contact: the Alachua Board of County Commissioners, the Gainesville City Commission, the Gainesville Sun, and the Independent Florida Alligator. 🐊

Gainesville Food Justice Study Group announces February reading selection

Will meet February 22 at CMC

The Food Justice Study Group, coordinated by Florida Organic Growers (FOG), will meet February 22 from 6:30 to 7:30 pm at the Civic Media Center in downtown Gainesville. The meeting is free and open to the public, though FOG encourages anyone willing and able to make a donation to the Civic Media Center.

The reading selections for the month include Garrett M. Broad’s *More than Just Food: Food Justice and Community Change*, published by the University of California Press in 2016.

The book spotlights Community Services Unlimited, a food justice organization that grew out of the Southern California Black Panther Party and how the “organization seeks balance—between social change ideals and the compromises necessary to maintain fiscal solvency; between a focus on community needs and broader national and international movements; and between communicating with local residents and larger publics,” as Andrew Wenzel from the University of Southern California writes in a book review. We recommend the book to anyone involved in the food justice movement, including activists, journalists, and foundations.

Discussion on the book will focus on Chapter 5: “From the Black Panthers to the USDA.” With that said, supplementary readings on the Black Panthers and racial equity in general have been uploaded to the FOG Web site (<http://www.foginfo.org/our-programs/food-justice-study-group/>). FOG also invites attendees to share their own readings on and experiences with racial equity and food justice issues.

Every other month, members of the Food Justice Study Group discuss a book or documentary that has been selected to generate a conversation about how our contemporary food system can help us better understand the complex issues of race, class, gender, both our collective and individual histories, and how we might envision and achieve a more sustainable, socially-just society.

For more information, please contact David Vaina, FOG’s Education & Outreach Director, atdavid@foginfo.org or by calling 352.277.6345. 🐊

Take action to protect Alachua County’s water and air

by Mike Byerly
Alachua County Commissioner

If you have only enough time or motivation to attend one government meeting in 2018 in defense of our environment, make it Jan. 23, 5 pm, at the County Administration building. The stakes are high, and turnout could make the difference.

Alachua County is a “charter county.” That means we have a charter, sort of like a constitution, that is the ultimate law on certain matters, and it can only be changed by popular vote.

Back in 2000, Alachua County voters overwhelming approved an amendment to its charter that authorized the County to establish countywide minimum protections for water and air. Then, for 18 years, nothing happened. Finally, after several years of analysis and an exhaustive outreach campaign with stakeholder groups, the County is poised to adopt two important new water quality

The people have spoken on water and wetlands: pass WQPO

Commissioners,

We must pass a County-wide Water Quality/Protection Ordinance (WQPO) on January 23 or much of the wise growth and conservation elements of the County Comprehensive Plan will be effectively gutted. On that evening it will be the duty of County Commissioners to uphold the November 2000 Charter Amendment 1 in which over 70 percent of voters, 46 of 53 precincts, entrusted its five elected officers with governance over the incorporated and unincorporated watershed and wetlands. This system nourishes hundreds of thousands of citizens in and around Alachua County, and millions across the State of Florida.

We the people have spoken in the most direct form possible, a charter referendum unmediated by elected officials or party affiliation. In crossing the aisles of right, left, town, gown, and country, we mirror the behavior of water, which defies the human pretension of geographic and political boundaries. We love our towns and cities, but we mandated that to give them power over quality of life for the entire County on this issue is irresponsible.

There is zoning enough in existing urban cores to build up, not out, two to three times our predicted needs and wants over the next fifty years. Cities continue to annex under the false pretense that taxes from exurban growth can outspend the decay and inequality this very growth causes to our social fabric and infrastructure. Citizens rarely understand these generational effects of annexation, but they get water and wetlands. They have asked you to protect the one from the other.

The County, its agents, and its staff are by far best equipped to carry out such a large conservation and water quality mandate as Charter 1. Failing to do so will undermine the referendum process, an instrument of direct democracy fundamental to civil society.

Water is life. Referendums are democratic. We entrust you to protect both.

From Unincorporated Alachua County,
James Thompson 🐊

regulations that would substantially reduce the harmful impacts of future development. But this effort may die on the vine.

First up, and the subject of the January meeting, is simply a proposal to extend the County’s current wetland protections to the entire County. Currently, they only apply in the unincorporated County.

The County’s standards are significantly stronger than the default state standards in use by most of the County’s municipalities, which allow developers to simply pay to destroy wetlands.

Consequently, a number of large landholders have annexed into adjacent municipalities in recent years in an attempt to evade the County’s wetland protections. Plum Creek/Weyerhaeuser is the most glaring example, with large annexations into Hawthorne and to the north of Gainesville.

Second, later this spring, the County will consider whether to adopt new standards for future growth that would reduce the pollutants in stormwater runoff that foul our streams, springs, and drinking water supplies. I’ll provide more information on this as the date for action approaches.

Characteristically, the meetings so far have been during the day and largely unpublicized, so the only feedback that County Commissioners and staff have received has been from paid representatives of the folks opposed to any new law: developers and the smaller municipalities.

The County Commission needs to learn whether the public at large cares.

Also characteristically, the threat is not so much that the County Commission will do nothing, but that they’ll accept so many “fine print” compromises that the final law is completely neutered, in ways that only the professionals can understand.

The time has come to translate talk into action. The Commission is divided on whether to act. Please attend, and bring a friend. 🐊



Saturday, Feb 17 10am to 5 pm at Depot Park

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Angel Street (aka Gaslight) Feb 9-25, 2018

By Patrick Hamilton, Directed by Laura Jackson
All appears tranquil in the Manningham’s home on Angel Street in 19th century London, but there’s more to this idyllic Victorian life than meets the eye— Mr. Manningham, is slowly driving his gentle, devoted wife, Bella, to the brink of insanity.

Gaslight (aka, Angel Street) is one of the longest-running non-musicals in Broadway history, and has been adapted into two movies. “As a creepshow, Patrick Hamilton’s Victorian melodrama remains close to the top of the class.”
~New York Times

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Public education under new threats

By Olysha Magruder

It's hard to believe there was a time when not all children had access to a free, public education in our country. Yet, up until the mid-1800s, public education was not widespread in the United States. Schools were largely privatized for wealthy children and poor children were sent to "charity" schools meant to teach them ways not to be social menaces. During this time in the history of our country, not everyone believed education was a necessity for all children, but long years of organizing and advocating brought quality education to most children in the U.S.

Fast forward to the present day. I taught in a local public school with bathrooms that students refused to use and classrooms that were shut off because of decay. As an educator and a mother of a young child who will attend public schools, scenarios like this are disheartening to say the least. And the sheer number of attacks on our public education system, from national to state level legislation, makes one wonder if we have lost our faith in an excellent,

free public education. The national theme on education, with Betsy DeVos at the helm as Secretary of Education, is "privatize, privatize, privatize" and "choice, choice, choice". It seems as if the new administration has taken a page from the Florida State GOP's playbook.

Attacks on schools by Tallahassee is at a new level of ferocity, and our local representatives have been along for the ride. The following is an overview of several bills that are bad for our kids, and bad for our schools. Several were passed into law last year and more have been introduced for this year's session.

CS/HB 7069, passed into law in 2017, is perhaps the most controversial education bill passed in Florida in some time. Not surprisingly, the bill was birthed with controversy continuing right up to Gov. Rick Scott's stamp of approval. CS/HB 7069 funnels money meant to maintain and improve public schools' facilities into privately owned charter schools. This bill takes capital outlay money away from disenfranchised schools, and that is simply outrageous.

Additionally, schools with a grade of "D" or below will have to close the school, change it into a so-called "school of hope," or fire the principal and hire a new one. This is playing out in Hawthorne; Mayor Matt Surrency is working with the community to save their schools.

Another bill passed last year is the **CS/CS/HB 989: Instructional Materials** bill. This bill "authorizes county residents to challenge use or adoption of instructional materials." If someone in our community, with no connection to a school or students, believes that a book is too liberal or too controversial, they can challenge the use of it in a classroom.

Sen. Keith Perry (Republican, District 8) voted in favor of both of these bills in May 2017.

Moving into the 2018 legislative season, two bills were recently introduced that will impact our public schools.

SB966 is Sen. Dennis Baxley's (Republican, District 12) newest appalling piece

of legislation. Introduced in November of 2017, and referred to the Education, Appropriations, and Rules committees in December of 2017, the so-called "controversial theories" bill states, "Controversial theories and concepts must be taught in a factual, objective, and balanced manner." It sounds benign, but this language has been used historically to challenge the ability of science teachers to teach evolution. We cannot harken back to a time when public school teachers were arrested, tried and convicted of the crime of teaching about evolution. This hostility toward "controversial theories" began nearly 100 years ago and legislation like this must still be challenged today.

Last, but not least, is **HB 25**. The authors of this bill quite simply

Florida court permanently blocks abortion restriction

Ruling permanently halts restriction forcing patients to delay care for 24 hours, make separate appointment

by American Civil Liberties Union

In a victory for abortion access, a Florida court today permanently blocked a law that would prevent a woman who has decided to have an abortion from obtaining the procedure for at least 24 hours after meeting with her doctor and force her to make an additional, medically unnecessary trip to the clinic. In its decision, the trial court held that there is no factual evidence the State could introduce that would justify this violation of Florida women's right to privacy.

This lawsuit was brought on behalf of a Gainesville abortion clinic and Medical Students for Choice by the American Civil Liberties Union, the ACLU of Florida, the Center for Reproductive Rights, and Tallahassee attorney Richard Johnson. They argued that the mandatory delay law violates the robust privacy protections in Florida's state constitution.

"The court's decision affirms what Floridians already know — politicians have no business interfering with a woman's personal health care decisions, including the decision to have an abortion," said Julia Kaye, staff attorney with the ACLU's Reproductive Freedom Project, who argued the case. "Let's hope Florida politicians heed this decision and stop passing laws that do nothing but burden, shame, and punish people seeking abortion care." In February, the Supreme Court blocked the forced delay law from taking effect throughout the course of the ongoing litigation; today's decision blocks the law permanently. "Today's ruling is a win for Florida women," said Nancy Abudu, legal director of the ACLU of Florida. "The forced delay law was an insult to women and imposed medically unnecessary and harmful burdens, particularly on low-income patients. This law's intention was to stop women from getting abortion care, plain and simple. Florida women can breathe easier knowing this hurdle won't stand in the way of their decisions."

"Forcing a woman to delay her health care is cruel and unconstitutional," said Autumn Katz, Senior Staff Attorney at the Center for Reproductive Rights. "Women know what's best for their lives and futures and don't need politicians getting in the way of their health care decisions. The Center for Reproductive Rights will continue to stand with Florida women until they can get the health care they need free from political interference."

More about this case can be found: <https://www.aclu.org/cases/gainesville-woman-care-llc-v-state-florida> 🐾

wish to undercut the teachers' unions (and other workers' unions) by requiring a 50 percent threshold of membership or the unit will be revoked. An exception is carved out for law enforcement officers, correctional officers and firefighters (male-dominated, often Republican-leaning units). This is not a random number — there are few collective bargaining units with 50 percent or more members in a given unit.

I am a former teacher who paid my union dues. Our teachers' union offered some semblance of security in a system constantly under attack by the state. Collective bargaining is written into the constitution, with the promise that workers will not strike. With sleight of hand, the legislature may take away the last bit of bargaining rights a worker has in Florida.

So let's recap — public school facility money funneled to private schools, challenges to what teachers teach, evolution potentially banned from science curriculum, and teachers' unions abolished. We have our work cut out for us, friends!

Contact your representatives today to express your concerns over these bad laws and bills. And, in August and November of 2018, come out to vote! Encourage your friends and family to take to the polls so we can show our legislators that we will not allow attacks on education to continue. On this and many other local issues, your vote can change the way our state is governed, if all of us vote.

Olysha Magruder is an educator who taught in the public schools in Alachua County and continues to work in higher education. She is a candidate for Florida State Senate, District 8 and is committed to fighting for an excellent and free public education in Florida. 🐾

Vote Olysha for Florida Senate, District 8

A mom, educator,
and community activist
who is ready to fight
for our progressive values!

Join our campaign today:



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info@voteolysha.com

Paid by Olysha Magruder, Democrat, State Senate





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100.1FM
WGOT
10th Birthday Bash
RADON Whiskey & Co.
Piss Test Demo
t-shirts
raffle
good vibes
The Atlantic
15 N. Main St.
18+ / \$10 donation
Doors 9 / Show 10

Friday
January 19th

Changeville:Gainesville’s Social Change Festival



The Changeville Music & Arts Festival is a space for artists doing good in the world to come together with the Gainesville community and create a new vision for what our world can look like. Every musician and comedian that plays Changeville, every VR experience or film that we showcase, is

chosen because of its connection to social change.

“When music, books, film and comedy accompany movements, change happens.”

See <http://changeville.us/> and the Changeville Facebook page for more information.

Additionally all the music shows (see website, there are many great shows!), Changeville will host a number of experts, influencers and artists in their Panel and Workshop Series listed next, focusing on aspects of activism that relate directly to artistry. Any Changeville ticket or wristband is requested for entry and can be shown at the door.

The Workshops

COMPASSIONATE COMMUNICATION & SOCIAL CHANGE

Presented by: Leif Stringer Coaching & Communication Training

Date/Time: Thursday, Feb. 8, 10-11:15am

Location: The Midnight

We can only build our community and world when we can communicate and truly listen to each other. Learn how to do that better with therapist and communication specialist, Leif Stringer.

HOW TO CREATE SAFER SPACES IN YOUR COMMUNITY

Presented by: Shawna Potter of War On Women

Date/Time: Friday, Feb. 9, 12:30-2pm

Location: The Bull

With hate crimes and harassment on the rise, knowing how to be a good ally to your fellow punks is more important than ever. “No Sexism, No Racism, & No Homophobia Allowed” is a great idea, but how do you implement it? And what is it missing? This workshop should help people recognize some of the privileges they walk around with, as well as provide skills on how to use it for good. You’ll leave with concrete methods to be a better ally for folks who experience all kinds of discrimination in your local scene. Whether you play in a band, book shows, take photos, or just wanna mosh – you have the power to create a safer scene.

The Panels

STORYTELLING & SOCIAL CHANGE: NARRATING A COMMUNITY

Date/Time: Thursday, Feb. 8, 3:30-5pm

Location: The Midnight

Stories have the power to move people, changing opinions and inspiring actions. Join us for this panel discussing the use of storytelling for the benefit of communities whose stories may be silenced or marginalized. How can we use story to empower our communities?

Panelists:

Aaron Foley, Detroit’s Chief Storyteller

Nicole Moore, Director of Communications, Lady Parts Justice

Dr. Jaron Jones, Co-Founder, Self Narrate

Steven Butler, Artistic Director, Actors’ Warehouse, Inc.

Moderator: Taylor Durant, Director, Guts & Glory GNV

HOW TO USE THE ARTS TO INSPIRE ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE

Date/Time: Friday, Feb. 9, 9:45-11am

Concerns about the environment are more pressing today than they ever have been. Dive deep into the issues at this panel on how we can use the arts to actually inspire environmental change.

Panelists:

Megan Murphy, Green Hands Coordinator, St. Augustine Amphitheatre

Kentucky Costellow, Environmental Educator; GUTS/ Gainesville

Trish Riley, Director, Cinema Verde

Moderator: Anna Sampson, Director, We Are Neutral

See *CHANGEVILLE*, p. 16

www.civicmediacenter.org
coordinators@civicmediacenter.org
352-373-0010
433 S. Main St., Gainesville 32601
Park just to the south on SE 5th Ave, or after 7 pm at the courthouse (just north of 4th Ave), or GRU (2 blocks east of CMC).

Civic Media Center Events

Every Mon Monday Movie

Every Thu Volunteer Meeting, 5:30-6:30pm

Every Thu Poetry Jam, 8pm

Wed, Jan 17 Zero Waste Workshop, 7pm

Fri, Jan 19 Open Art Jam, 8-11pm

Sat, Jan 20 Water is Life Fest (Water Week!) 6-11pm

Mon, Jan 22 Documentary night: “Growing Up Coy,” 7pm

Tue, Jan 23 IWW meeting, 6pm

High-energy bluegrass band Boilin’ Oil show, 7:30pm

Fri, Jan 26 Women in 1930s Cinema presents “Rain,” 7pm

Mon, Jan 29 Documentary night: “When Heritage Equals Hate: Truth About the Confederacy in the United States” - hosted by locally organized group called People Who Care, 7pm

Fri, Feb 2 Open Art Jam featuring Nate Hays, 8pm

Mon, Feb 5 Documentary night: “Big Oil” hosted by Divest GNV, 7pm

Fri, Feb 9 Changeville Virtual Reality, 3-7pm

Women in 1930s Cinema Presents “The Women,” 7:30pm

Sat, Feb 10 “Earthman” Lanny Smith, and Permaculturist/adventurer Alan Ruben from the Omega Institute night of music and education- kid friendly, 7pm

Mon, Feb 12 Black Hats present film “Sankofa,” 7pm

Tue, Feb 13 IWW meeting, 6pm

Fri, Feb 16 Open Art Jam, 8pm

Sat, Feb 17 Women in 1930s Cinema presents “Dames,” 7pm

Mon, Feb 19 Documentary night: “The Most Dangerous Man In America,” 7pm

Thu, Feb 22 Food Justice Study Group Meeting hosted by Florida Organic Growers, 6:30 pm

Fri, Feb 23 Lecture with Dan Berger on prisons and political prisoners, 6-8pm

Sat, Feb 24 Teach-in: People’s Empowerment Series, 4-6pm

“Earthman” Lanny Smith presents night of music and discussion with Florida Coalition for Peace & Justice- kid friendly, 7pm

Mon, Feb 26 Marlon Riggs “Black is... Black Ain’t” 7pm

Tue, Feb 27 IWW meeting, 6pm

Please support the CMC however you can: volunteering, memberships, donations, ideas, attendance at our events. Grassroots support keeps us going.

THOM HARTMANN
6-8 AM

DEMOCRACY NOW !
AMY GOODMAN
8A, 1P, 4P

MÚSICA EN ESPAÑOL
VÍCTOR PEREZ
11A-1P

JAZZVILLE
ROBBIE STEVENS
6-8 PM FRIDAY
8-10 AM SATURDAY
8-NOON SUNDAY

PLUS GREAT SHOWS BY:
FRED SOWDER
BILL PERRY
H.R. GERTNER
D.J. CRAMELA
D.J. LUTRA
ELECTRA
JIMMY ROCKS
DAVID BARSAMIAN
MICHAEL JOHNATHON
KEN STERN
DENNIS BYRNE
JOE AND CRAIG
GEORGE COLLINET
STAN
And others

LISTENER SUPPORTED
COMMUNITY RADIO !

FULL SCHEDULE AT
WGOT.ORG



Sunday
Domingo

Monday
Lunes

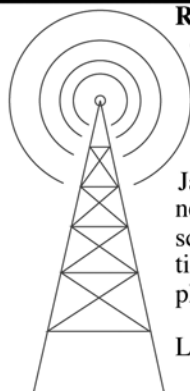
Tuesday
Martes

Wednesday
Miercoles

Thursday
Jueves

Friday
Viernes

Saturday
Sabado



Radio Notes: Find schedules for WUFT and WGOT, our local non-corporate stations, at www.wuft.org and wgot.org respectively. WGOT is now a full-time over-the-air broadcast at 100.1 FM. More info on local independent radio on pg 10.

Jacksonville's public station WJCT at 89.9 has varied news programming as well during the day - check their schedule. In addition, there's music 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.

21 Sunday Assembly - "About Marijuana": SFC Downtown (530 W. Univ. Ave), 11 am, 3rd Sundays - see saginawville.weebly.com.

Women's March 1st anniversary meet up "Power to the Polls", Bo Diddley Plaza (111 E. Univ Ave), 2 pm - for more, see pg 2.
No Exit final performance at Acrosstown Rep (619 S. Main St), 2 pm.

28 "Take 'Em Down Jax" protest against white supremacy monuments in J'ville, Heming Park (135 W. Monroe St), 2 pm.
If you appreciate this calendar, please consider supporting the Ig with a donation &/or subscription: PO Box 14712, Gainesville FL 32604.

4 Future of Beaches talk, Harn Museum, 3 pm.

11 Operation Catnip spay clinic, see ocgainesville.org.

The Royale final performance at Hipp (25 SE 2nd Pl), 2 & 7 pm.

Candidates Forum, dntn library (401 E Univ Ave), 2:30 pm.

African Women Artists talk, Harn Museum, 3 pm, free.

I Love Local Food Week - pg 24.

Lobo Marino & Wax Wings, Boxcar, Depot Park, 7 pm.

Acoustic Eidolon & Elaine Mahon at Sandhill Stage, (7204 SE Cty Rd 234), 7:30 pm, \$20.

18 Sunday Assembly - "Poverty & the Law"; see 1/21.

25 Active Streets + 352 Creates street fair, downtown, 11 am-3 pm.

Candidates Forum, United Church (1624 NE 5th Ave), 3 pm.

22 Democratic Socialists of America meet, downtown library (401 E Univ Ave), 6:45 pm.

Growing Up Coy, Civic Media Center (433 S. Main St), 7 pm.

Weekly Candle-holding Witness for the undocumented, BD Downtown Plaza, every Monday, 7:30-8 pm.

29 Take Me to the River, Phillips Ctr, 7:30 pm.

When Heritage Equals Hate: Truth About the Confederacy, hosted by People Who Care, CMC, 7 pm.

5 Interfaith Alliance for Immigrant Justice meets 1st Mondays, Emmanuel Mennonite Meeting House (1236 NE 18th Ave), 6 pm.

Gvl Citizens for Active Transportation meets at CIED (530 E. Univ Ave), 1st & 3rd Mondays, 7 pm.
Big Oil hosted by Divest Gainesville, CMC, 7 pm.

Keep up with the CMC at civicmediacenter.org for events created after this calendar was printed, and into the future.

12 Fla Free Speech Forum w/ 1st Amendment lawyer Gary Edinger, Wyndham Garden Conf. Ctr (2900 SW 13th St), 11 am.

Women's March meets, 2nd Mondays, United Church (1624 NW 5th Ave), 6:30 pm.

Sankofa, hosted by Black Hats: CMC, 7 pm.

DARWIN DAY

19 Grow Gvl 3rd Mon meeting, Working Food Comm. Ctr (219 NW 10th Ave), 6 pm.

The Most Dangerous Man in America (doc on Daniel Ellsberg & Pentagon Papers), CMC, 7 pm.

PRESIDENTS' DAY

26 Candidates Forum, dntn library (401 E. Univ Ave), 6 pm.
Black Is Black Ain't, CMC; 7 pm.

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

Anti-war signholding resumes, 4:30-5:30 pm: 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, Archer Rd & SW 34th St; 2nd & 4th Tues, University Ave & W 13th St.

PFLAG meets, 3rd Tuesdays, United Church (1624 NW 5th Ave), 7 pm.

23 Alachua County Commission meets, 2nd & 4th Tues, 9 am & 5 pm, County Admin Bldg; citizens comment, 9:30 am & 5:30 pm. Tonight: **wetlands protection** - see pg 7.

"Gainesville: Sanctuary City" - Mayor Lauren Poe at Sr. Ctr civics class, (5701 NW 34th Blvd), 1:30 pm.

IWW meets, CMC, 6 pm.

Boilin' Oil performs bluegrass at CMC, 7:30 pm, \$5-10.

30 "Role of Police" civics class w/ GPD captain Tony Jones, Sr. Rec. Ctr (5701 NW 34th Blvd), 1:30 pm.

Free English classes by Latina Women's League, Millhopper Library (3145 NW 43rd St), Tuesdays thru 4/3, 6-7:30 pm.

6 Legislative Summit w/ area pols, Sr Ctr (5701 NW 34th Blvd), 10:30 am.

School Board - see 1/16

IWW meets, CMC, 6 pm.

The Conch storytelling at Lightnin Salvage, 7 pm.

600 Highwaymen: The Fever at UF Squitieri Theatre, 7:30 pm (through 2/10).

13 County Commission meets - see 1/23

20 PFLAG meets - see 1/16.
Candidates Forum, Sr Rec Ctr (5701 NW 34th Blvd), 2 pm.

Dave Dondero, Wax Wings, & Michael Claytor at Loosey's, 7-11 pm.

27 Vietnam Vets panel, UF Pugh Hall Ocora, 6 pm.

IWW meets, CMC, 6 pm.

True Story Theater: The Immigrant Experience, Parkview Baptist Church (3103 NE 13th St), 7 pm, \$10 requested.

17 Vets' Resource Fair, MLK Ctr (1028 NE 14th St), 9 am-1 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.

Gvl Candidates Forum, Lewis Police Annex, 524 NW 1st St, 6 pm.

24 Joe Additon Fla House campaign kick-off, dntn library (401 E Univ Ave), 6-8 pm.

Botanical Illustration for beginners at Depot Park, 6:30 pm.

Dismantling Racism group, Em. Mennonite Mtg House (1236 NW 18th Ave), 2nd & 4th Weds, 7 pm.

Greater Gvl Equality Connection, World of Beer (3265 SW 34th St), 6 pm.

31 Zero Waste workshop by SSJ Sierra Club, Gvl Farmers' Market - see 1/17.

Paul Ortiz book-signing (*An African-American and Latinx History of the United States*), Third House Books (113 N Main St), 7 pm.

Ballet Boyz, Phillips Ctr, 7:30 pm.

7 Fla Earthskills Gathering, Little Orange Creek Nature Park (24115 SE Hawthorne Rd), 8 am; runs through 2/11 - see floridaeearthskills.org.

Voter Engagement talk, UF Pugh Hall Ocora, 6 pm.

Kayser Ennekin Fla Senate campaign kick-off, White Buffalo (111 S. Main St), 6 pm.

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

Charlie Hunter Trio at Heartwood Soundstage, 8 pm.

14 Dismantling Racism - see 1/24.

VALENTINE'S DAY

21 Humanists, UUFG, 7 pm.
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.

28 Dismantling Racism - see 1/24.

18 Gvl VegFest fundraiser at Blaze Pizza (3617 SW Archer Rd), 5 pm.

CMC Volunteers meet every Thursday, 5:30 pm.

Green Drinks, w/ Cong. candidate Yvonne Hinson, Heartwood, 5 pm.

Political Polarization talk, UF Pugh Hall Ocora, 6 pm, free.

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

"Corporate Personhood and Money as Speech" talk, Gvl Pride Ctr (3131 NW 13th St), 7 pm.

Riverbend Reunion, 1st Magnitude Brewing, free.

Open Poetry every Thursday at CMC, 9 pm.

25 MLK historian speaks, UF Pugh Hall Ocora, 6 pm.

History of Tacachale w/ author Steve Noll, Matheson Museum, 6 pm, free (pre-registration at EventBrite.com required).

Feb 1 Extremism on Campus symposium, UF Pugh Hall MacKay Aud, 6:30 pm; also 2/2, Emerson Hall (for UF faculty & staff).

Sierra Club meets, UUFG (4225 NW 34th St), 7 pm.

Indivisible Gvl letter-writing party, Gvl Friends Meeting House (702 NW 38th St), 7:15 pm.

8 Cinema Verde enviro film festival opens at Hipp, 5:30 pm; also 2/9; moves to Heartwood Soundstage 2/10-11; see pg 24.

Changeville Festival downtown, 2/8-9; see pg 10 & changeville.us.

Stonewall Democrats, 901 NW 8th Ave, 2nd Thursdays, 5:30 pm.

Living Wage Campaign meets, 901 NW 8th Ave, 5:30 pm..

UF Law Public Interest Environmental Conference opens, 6 pm; runs through 2/10.

War on Women, others, Atlantic.

15 "Atomic Art Around a Hot Bikini Cloud" talk, Harn Museum (3259 Hull Rd), 6 pm.

CMC Volunteers & Poets.

22 Felon Disenfranchisement history talk, UF Pugh Hall Ocora, 6 pm.

Food Justice, CMC, 6:30 pm; pg 6.

Mar 1 CMC Volunteers & Poets. FULL MOON

19 Fla Arbor Day celebration at Matheson Museum (513 E. Univ Ave), 11:45 am-1 pm, free.

Don David Trio at Heartwood, 8 pm.

Art & Music Jam, CMC, 8 pm-2 am.

WGOT 10th Anniversary Show w/ Radon & other local notables: The Atlantic, doors 9 pm: see pg 10.

1809: Edgar Allan Poe born.

26 UF Social Justice Summit, Reitz Union (686 Museum Rd): allyship & advocacy "For the Gator Good" w/ Zulema Valdez & Tim Wise, 8:30 am (continues 1/27).

Yoho Donor Protest, Alachua County Labor Coalition at Crime Prevention (4701 SW 34th St), 4:30-6 pm: pirate dress encouraged.

Rain in "Women in 1930s Cinema" series, Civic Media Ctr, 7 pm.

Downtown Artwalk, 7-10 pm; see pg 20 & artwalk.gainesville.com.

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

Jacob Johnson, The Kennedys, Sandhill Stage, 7:30 pm, \$20.

Intimate Apparel opens at Actors' Warehouse (619 NE 1st St), 8 pm; pg 16.

Michael O'Meara, Heartwood, 8 pm.

Palimony debut at Loosey's, 9 pm.
Whether here or anywhere: please support live music!

2 Pasture Prime, Heartwood, 8 pm.

Art & Music Jam featuring Nate Hays, CMC, 8 pm-2 am.

Ricky Kendall & Jordan Burchel, The Atlantic, 9 pm.

GROUNDHOG DAY

9 Changeville Virtual Reality, CMC (433 S. Main St), 3-7 pm.

The Women in "Women in 1930s Cinema" series, Civic Media Ctr, 7:30 pm.

Gaslight opens, Acrosstown Rep (619 S. Main St), 8 pm; see pg 6.

Gumbo Limbo, Heartwood, 8 pm.

16 Art & Music Jam, 1st & 3rd Fridays, CMC, 8 pm-2 am.

IGUANA Deadline for March issue is Feb 27th; write gainesvilleiguana@cox.net or call 378-5655 with events, updates, advertisements & info.

23 "Prisons & Political Prisoners" talk by Dan Berger, CMC, 6 pm; see pg 21.

Downtown Artwalk, 7-10 pm; see pg 20 & artwalk.gainesville.com.

2 1904: Theodor "Dr. Seuss" Geisel born.

20 Collectors Day, Fla Mus. of Natural History, 10 am-3 pm

Springs Run Festival 2018: music, more at 1st Magnitude, 2-11 pm, \$10..

Water Is Life Fest - music, art, talks, more: Civic Media Ctr (433 S. Main St), 6-10 pm, \$5-10.

Wild & Scenic Film Festival: music too - Swamp Head Brewery (3650 SW 42nd Ave), 5-10 pm, \$14; pg 4.

Roe v. Wade 45th anniversary celebration - bands, theater... - at The Wooly (20 N. Main St), 8 pm, \$5-15; pg 15.

27 Great Invader Raider Rally - 9 am: see cityofgainesville.org.

Hoggetowne Medieval Faire opens, County Fairgrounds, 10 am-6 pm & 1/28, 2/2-4: hoggetownefaire.com.

Interfaith Dialog, Em. Mennonite Church, 2nd & 4th Sats, 10 am.

Pints & Predators, 1st Mag, 1-5 pm.

Voices from Women's March, UF Reitz Union, 4:30 pm.

The Scoop on Poop! scatology exhibit opens at Fla Mus of Natural History; runs through 5/6; \$7.50/kids \$5.

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY

3 Fla Earthskills Benefit Concert, 1st Magnitude, 2-5 pm.

Veg For Life vegan potluck, UUFG, 1st Saturdays, \$2+veg dish, 6:30 pm.

Cabaret, Phillips Ctr, 7:30 pm.

Electric Kif, Heartwood, 8 pm.

10 Interfaith Dialog - see 1/27.
Solar Saturday EcoFair + Cinema Verde at Heartwood Soundstage, noon-5 pm (+ films 2/11).

Peace Camp w/ "Earthman" Lanny Smith & permaculturist Alan Ruben, 10665 SW 89th Ave, Hampton, 7-10 pm.

17 Dames in "Women in 1930s Cinema" series, CMC, 7 pm.

Gvl VegFest, Depot Park (200 SE Depot Ave), 10 am-5 pm; see pg 7.

24 Interfaith Dialog - see 1/27.

Heartwood 1st Anniversary show, noon-2 am - see pg 14

"Daughters of Sweet Waters" dance/film/workshop celebration of Florida springs & rivers: Matheson Museum, 2-4 pm, free.

Kinetic Derby, Depot Park, 10 am.

"People's Empowerment" teach-in, CMC, 4-6 pm.

Peace Camp - see 2/10.

AJJ & others at The Wooly.

3 "The Highwaymen" photos/talk at Matheson Museum, 4 pm, free.

Heartwood Soundstage celebrates first anniversary with reprise of Heartwood Festival February 24

Heartwood Soundstage will celebrate its first anniversary on February 24 with the Heartwood Festival, featuring over 20 great bands, food vendors, and activities for kids including a bounce house.

Heartwood has been a welcome addition to the Gainesville music scene, offering a top notch, intimate listening room that is connected to a state-of-the-art recording studio, video production, and live streaming capabilities. In addition, there is an outdoor area that can host festival-size crowds, just a few blocks south of the heart of downtown.

“It’s hard to imagine it’s been a year since

we held our first event,” said owner Bob McPeck. “It’s been a year of hard work, but it’s been worth it. We opened with a bang with the first Heartwood Fest. Two days before, we got our certificate of occupancy, and the night before we were still putting sound treatment on the walls and making last minute adjustments. Somehow it all came together, not just with a fabulous festival, but with over 75 shows since. We so appreciate all the wonderful support we’ve received from the community of Gainesville.”

Highlight performers at this year’s festi-

val include the Currys, who sold out two shows at Heartwood in 2017; Hedges, who headlined the Tom Petty Memorial Concert on Oct. 20 (attended by several thousand people); a special appearance by Morning Fatty; and indoor concerts by Ricky Kendall, Michael Claytor.

Indoor shows will be shown outside on a large LCD screen between outdoor sets.

Tickets are \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door, or \$30 for an all access (inside and outside) VIP pass. Tickets and more information are available at heartwood-soundstage.com. 🐢

HEARTWOOD

s o u n d s t a g e

All regular shows start at 8 pm, doors at 7

Advance tickets at heartwoodsoundstage.com

Jan 26
Michael O’Meara and Band CD release

Feb 2
Pasture Prime, great bluegrass!

Feb 3
Electric Kif and Dynamo

Feb 7
Jazz guitar great Charlie Hunter

Feb 9
Marci Gras night with Gumbo Limbo, and food

Feb 17
Award winning blues artist Cassie Keenum with Rick Randlett and Friends

Feb 24
2nd Annual Heartwood Festival
Indoors and outdoors, tons of bands
noon till 2 am

619 S Main St, Gainesville, FL
352-448-4849

Hey, Readers!


The Gainesville Iguana has opened a PayPal account, and we’re now accepting donations through our website at www.gainesvilleiguana.org.

Go to our home page and just click on the **Donate with PayPal** to support us via PayPal account or credit card.

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From MARCH, p. 2

profiling and targeting of communities of color. It is our moral imperative to dismantle the gender and racial inequities within the criminal justice system.

Reproductive Rights

We believe in Reproductive Freedom. We do not accept any federal, state or local rollbacks, cuts or restrictions on our ability to access quality reproductive healthcare services, birth control, HIV/AIDS care and prevention, or medically accurate sexuality education. This means open access to safe, legal, affordable abortion and birth control for all people, regardless of income, location or education.

LGBTQIA+ Rights

We firmly declare that LGBTQIA Rights are Human Rights and that it is our obligation to uplift, expand and protect the rights of our gay, lesbian, bi, queer, trans or gender non-conforming brothers, sisters and siblings. We must have the power to control our bodies and be free from gender norms, expectations and stereotypes.

Worker’s Rights

We believe in an economy powered by transparency, accountability, security and equity. All women should be paid equitably, with access to affordable childcare, sick days, healthcare, paid family leave, and healthy work environments. All workers – including domestic and farm workers, undocumented and migrant workers – must have the right to organize and fight for a living minimum wage.

Civil Rights

We believe Civil Rights are our birthright, including voting rights, freedom to worship without fear of intimidation or harassment, freedom of speech, and protections for all citizens regardless of race, gender, age or disability. We believe it is time for an all-inclusive Equal Rights Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

Disability Rights

We believe that all women’s issues are issues faced by women with disabilities. As mothers, sisters, daughters, and contribut-

ing members of this great nation, we seek to break barriers to access, inclusion, independence, and the full enjoyment of citizenship at home and around the world. We strive to be fully included in and contribute to all aspects of American life, economy, and culture.

Immigrant Rights

Rooted in the promise of America’s call for huddled masses yearning to breathe free, we believe in immigrant and refugee rights regardless of status or country of origin. We believe migration is a human right and that no human being is illegal.

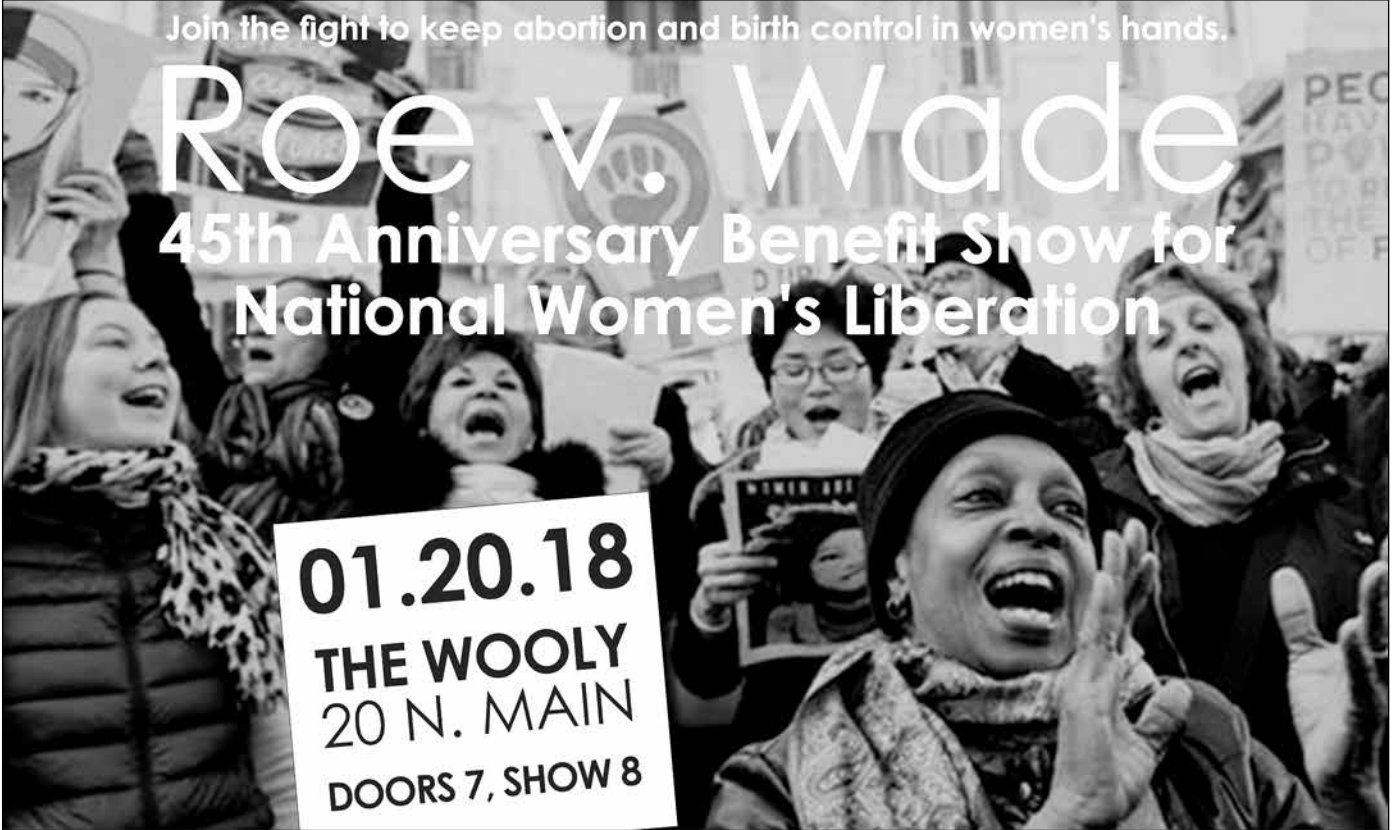
Environmental Justice

We believe that every person and every community in our nation has the right to clean water, clean air, and access to and enjoyment of public lands. We believe that our environment and our climate must be protected, and that our land and natural resources cannot be exploited for corporate gain or greed – especially at the risk of public safety and health. 🐢

Join the fight to keep abortion and birth control in women's hands.

Roe v. Wade

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From CHANGEVILLE, p. 11
THE OTHER: DE-OTHERING
THROUGH ART

Date/Time: Friday, Feb. 9, 2-3:30pm
Location: The Bull

Much of the rhetoric we hear on the news, in politics, and in our daily lives is based around fear of “the other.” It’s easy to believe false statements about people whose stories we haven’t heard. Art is one of the most powerful ways that we can “de-other” people. This panel explores how we can use art to break down stigmas and stereotypes.

Panelists:
Chad Moses, To Write Love On Her Arms
Talia Raymond, Minister, United Church of Gainesville; Professional Dancer
Mallory O’Conner, Author
Moderator: Nicole Harris, Teacher, GHS; Canes On Da Mic Poetry Club - GHS

ALLYSHIP

Date/Time: Friday, Feb. 9, 3:30-5pm
Location: The Bull

The word “ally” is used all the time in social movements but many people actually have a hard time defining what being an ally looks like. If you want to learn how to be the best ally you can be, or if you have ever had questions that you weren’t sure how or who to ask, this panel is for you.

Panelists:
Shawna Potter, War On Women
LB Hannahs, Student Affairs, UF
Will Atkins, Director, UF Multicultural & Diversity Affairs
Moderator: Dr. Jaron Jones, Co-Founder, Self Narrate

VIRTUAL REALITY SHOWCASE
We are proud to host a selection of cutting-

edge social change-focused Virtual Reality & Augmented Reality installations.

The VR showcase takes place Feb. 9 at the Civic Media Center in downtown Gainesville from 3-7pm. Entry is free with a Changeville Multi-Venue Pass (buy tickets at www.changeville.us) or \$3-10 sliding scale at the door.

We will be showcasing:

Melita (Produced by Future Lighthouse)

In 2026, the world is collapsing due to climate change. Anaaya, a brilliant Inuit female scientist, is appointed to find a planet that humans can inhabit. Melita, an advanced AI, is sent to help her. Together, they embark on a journey against time and preconceptions to save humanity from extinction. During their search for a suitable planet, the relationship between Melita and Anaaya evolves and a drastic decision changes things forever for the both of them and the rest of humanity.

Oil In Our Creeks (Produced by Contrast VR & One Third Blue)

In this immersive VR film by Contrast VR, AJE Online, and One Third Blue, follow Lessi through her village, to the farm and into the creeks and classrooms as she shows us both the environmental devastation and the youth who provide her community with a sense of hope.

Experience 180 degrees of intense landscape shots from the present showing the effects of the oil spill fused with 180 degrees of animation to show how the community appeared before the spill for a full 360 degrees of immersion. Oil In Our Creeks surrounds viewers with that past, present and future of a community grappling with the very local impact of the global oil trade.

Traces

Traces is a cinematic virtual reality film exploring the memories of one woman living with Alzheimer’s disease. In the film, the main character Willie White, an 88-year old woman living with dementia, recounts her time as a young girl living in the fields near Mason, Tennessee.

As her words transport us back in time, traces of memory fall in and out—the old wooden farmhouse where she was raised, the coconut cakes her mom would make on Sunday mornings, her favorite white dress, the hymns she’d sing in the choir at church. Through these vibrant recollections, illustrated through re-enactments, we journey with Willie as she searches for the words to one of her fa-

vorite songs and the meaning of memory in this new and fragmented landscape.

One Tree, One Planet (presented by the Florida Museum of Natural History in conjunction with Naziha Mestaoui)

One Tree, One Planet celebrates Earth’s rich diversity of animals, plants and microbes represented by the Tree of Life, the immense network of relationships that

links all living things. The message of the series is simple: We’re all related.

UF scientists have teamed up with renowned artists to create two multimedia art pieces inspired by the Tree of Life to premiere at the Florida Museum in November. Join us and discover how you are connected to all life forms with which we share our planet, and get inspired with ways you can help protect life on Earth.

BehaviorMe

Virtual reality simulations designed to teach basic life skills to kiddos and young adults with autism spectrum disorder and developmental disabilities.

Using the science of behavior analysis, BehaviorMe is revolutionizing the way life skills are taught and learned in clinics and schools. 🐢

Viewpoint: Electrical workers talk sexual harassment over coffee

by Erin Sullivan

This article was originally published on Dec. 1 by Labor Notes. See more at www.labornotes.org.

Some days the men I work with amaze me. It was just about time for coffee when the Matt Lauer story broke. [NBC fired the “Today” co-host November 29 over allegations of sexual harassment. -Ed.] So one of the guys says, “Why now? Why are all these women coming out now? Why didn’t they come forward before?”

It became a moment in which we were able to have that heartfelt, tough conversation. I said, “I can tell you from a woman’s

perspective and a girl’s perspective.”

I said, when you are a child and this happens to you, the first thing you feel is shame. Shame that you did something to make this happen. That if you had not been in that space at that point in time then maybe this wouldn’t have happened.

Second, you think, “No one is going to believe me.”

Third, you don’t want to relive the entire trauma over, you just want to block it out—and you try as hard as you can to do that. Some act out, some pick up substances, some do other behaviors to get out of themselves.

See HARASSMENT, p. 21



Actors' Warehouse

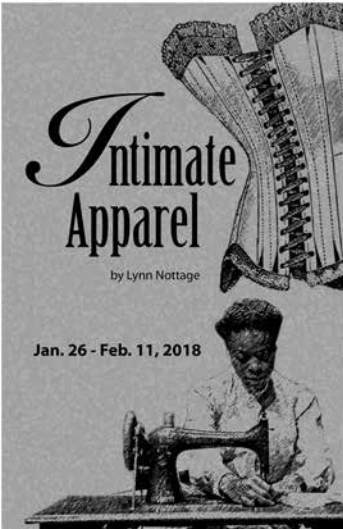
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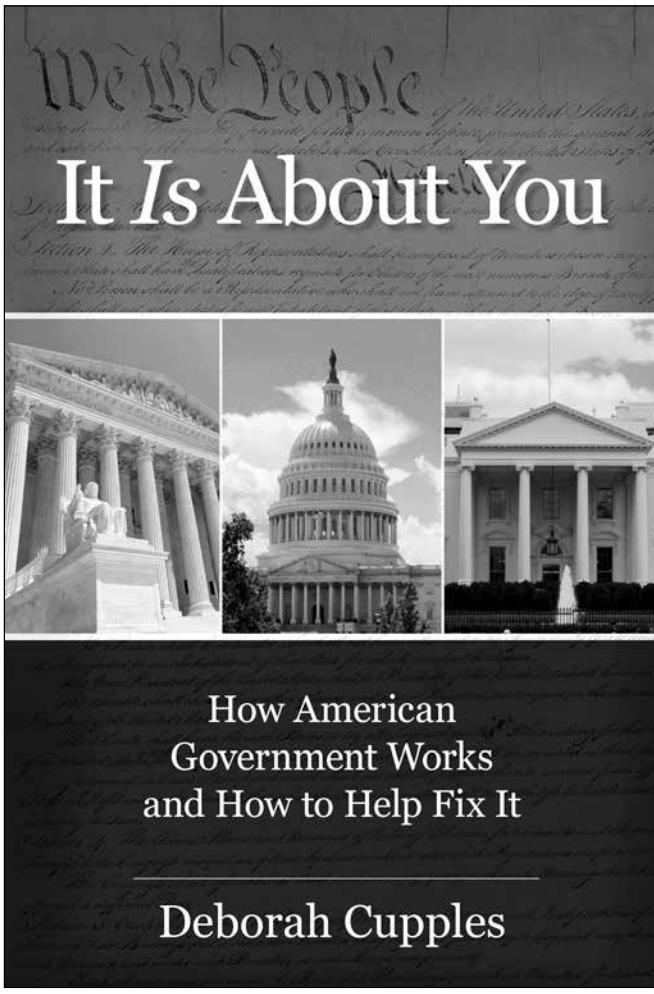


Intimate Apparel
by Lynn Nottage
Jan. 26 - Feb. 11, 2018



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Deborah Cupples

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History and the people who make it: Perla Meissner

Perla Meissner [M], Holocaust survivor, was interviewed by Jessica Alpert [A] in September, 2005.

This is the 45th in a series of transcript excerpts from the UF Samuel Proctor Oral History Program collection.

Transcript edited by Pierce Butler.

M: I was born in a place [in the Czech Republic] called Munkatch on 11 February, 1926. My mother’s name was Yitta Bernstein. My father was Avram Shlomovic.

We were three girls. I was oldest. My sister Rahel that I call Ruchi, three years younger, and I had one more sister a year younger than Ruchi who perished in Auschwitz – Elky.

My earliest memory would be my grandfather teasing my mother, asking how come she has red hair. He said my mother was blond, and my father was threadbare, and how come she has a red? Red was not appreciated at the time. Red people—most of them are bad, angry, not trusted.

A: Your home, what it was like?

M: Some were very religious, some were less, and some were Zionists. I just tumbled there in an organization called B’nai B’rith, a youth organization of Mizrahi. I liked it very much. I disliked going to school, because I was maybe the only one who couldn’t write on Shabbat. I hated school, hated studying, hated everything! But in B’nai B’rith, I belonged.

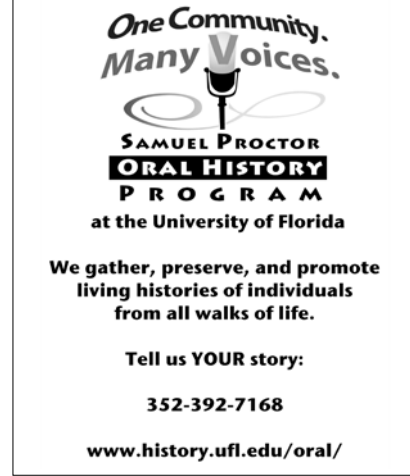
My parents belonged to the part of the Czech Republic called Karpat Rusia, that was so Jewish that I saw the non-Jewish world as the outskirts. Then we moved to Prague. I think I was seven. My parents had a kosher delicatessen. I loved to read, and next door there was a library for young people, a lovely library. Whenever I didn’t go to school, I spent my time there. And movies! Mm! I was given money to go to the movies once a week.

I got money to take the streetcar to go to school. Never used the tramway because I used everything for movies. Even that wasn’t enough. I was stealing a little bit from my parents—only for movies.

I lived in a world of dreams. I probably didn’t like myself too much; hated school, hated seeing myself being a bad student. I would have never been disrespectful to my parents, never. But I lied! *[Laughter]* And

I could steal. Shabbat afternoon, a very respectful member of the Jewish community in Prague had a group of girls who were talking about Bible stories. I came from a background where on Shabbat you had onion with eggs. My German was very Yiddish, and I knew it sounded terrible. They were making fun of me. I heard one girl remark, “You can feel the onion.” I said to myself, “I’m not coming back.”

The following Shabbat, we’re sitting around the table having the Shabbat meal,



and Mami mentioned that I’m going to this group and I said, “Mami, I’m not going.” My father said, “Tell us why.” I didn’t want to hurt them, so I didn’t want to give the reason. I didn’t give in, and never explained why not.

A: When did your life begin to change?

M: It had several changes. We came from a village into a big city. Prague had one million. It didn’t take long before another change: in [19]39, Hitler’s march into Prague. By birth we were Hungarian, so we were given permission to leave. I was twelve, and didn’t know Hungarian. They figured, “We can’t send her to school!” *[Laughter]*

I stopped schooling even before, because I was very disrespectful to one teacher in Prague who declared that all the Jews should be shot. I said, “I wouldn’t go so far. I would shoot you.” Eleven, something like that. She was a jinji ,and so was I: redhead. I hated her so much. Every time, remarks about Jews. The time I thought that she’s going to hit me, I hit her first. I was thrown out. I didn’t mind. *[Laughter]*

There was no reason to send me to school: no Hungarian. All the teaching was in Hungarian. I accompanied my father very often. He left every Sunday and came back Thursday night. I had family almost in every second village. Since I didn’t go to school, I traveled with my father, which I loved very much. He was my hero. Lovely man, really.

That was a turning point in my life, where I started to be aware that life might change dramatically, and I should cherish every day.

Carpathia is a country where winter reigns: months, and months, and months of snow and cold. On Shabbat, you had to wait for a little Shabbas goy to come and put the match to this. I found that stupid and pretentious, and I never stopped questioning. My father said, “Let her at least ask!”

Then we were in the concentration camp for one year. I don’t want to talk about the concentration camp. Not the suffering. It was this disappointment in everything the Jews believed in: that God will protect you. I was so angry, until today. I love to go to the synagogue, when I respect the rabbi, and the people, but I can’t say the prayers. For me, the prayers are a lie. All I was left with is my sister. I wanted her to finish high school. She made me proud. She’s everything that I could have asked for.

I came to Israel, because I couldn’t live among the goyim. My resentment toward them was so—I was so disappointed in humanity, what they were capable of doing. I felt anti-Semitism even more, because before I didn’t care so much. I knew that they didn’t change, and I wanted away.

There was a possibility to get to Palestine. Illegally. I registered for illegal transportation with Ruchi. There was a Czech village restricted to people getting prepared for war under the communist regime. The Russians believed that this large group of Jews would come to Palestine, and vote for communists. They didn’t know that everybody who left was anti-communist. We arrived the first of January, 1948, and went straight to the Army.

I didn’t have any profession. I didn’t know what to do. When I came out of the Army. I don’t know how to speak Hebrew. How ridiculous, no? So I worked as a maid for a year.

I went to the seminary for kindergarten teachers, just for six months, and I was

working for five years as a kindergarten teacher. Then I met Werner. When I met him, I felt very comfortable. I said to myself, “This is a person I would not be afraid to grow old with.” *[Laughter]* Well, we grew old enough! We both grew old.

Leaving Israel, that was so traumatic.

The first ten years in Salvador, I did not permit myself to enjoy what Salvador offered. Because I came from Israel, they said, “Why don’t you prepare us a Hanukah celebration?” I didn’t know how to say no. Then they asked me to a Purim celebration. I was very busy. I had many students for Hebrew, and my Hebrew wasn’t perfect.

I was teaching Israelis Spanish. I learned English, and Spanish. I was teaching the children Hebrew, and grown-ups, like your grandfather. I had a group of women—Jewish, non-Jewish, half-Jewish, married to Jews—who wanted to know about holidays and how to celebrate, and songs. I really, really loved it.

Judithka was eight, and Ronit six, when I took them [to Israel]. Ruchi had a very small apartment, and the three of us came. We went by boat. Ah, it was wonderful. I realized that I don’t have to live with a bad conscience all the time.

I had my classes, and my friends. Above all, I loved being a mother. Judithka was born. Then, I was fulfilled. Then Ronit, something was wrong with her heart, and hips. Traveling from doctor to doctor, it was very, very difficult. But she was so sweet, so patient. She was put in a cast from here to that, and one foot like that because she didn’t have the hip bone, here.

A: Hip socket.

M: It was so painful, and the child didn’t know why all of a sudden she can’t move. She was two months old, and I was holding her with this terrible cast. I was crying because I felt so sorry for her. On the third day, she looked at me and smiled. Accepted the situation as it was. I cried, laughed, because I was so grateful for that smile.

A: Tell me about raising your children in this different country.

M: I had this feeling that I have to present Judaism as a religion that has many positive sides. Holidays were very special. I decorated the house. Invitations, parties, synagogue. I was very active in having the children play an important role to bring the children to the synagogue, and

make the grown-ups come because of the children. The children felt very important. Seder, they were sitting at the table. Thirty, forty children reading to everybody, and they know that the community is proud of them, and they are giving the community Purim, and Yom Ha’atzmaut, and Hanukah. They felt that the American school-children envied them.

Judithka left when she was seventeen. I was sick at heart. I said to myself, “She’s doing exactly what you want her to. At that age, you went to the concentration camp; and your daughter’s going to Hebrew University in Israel. If you cry once, I’ll not speak to you”—I said to myself. I didn’t cry. Ronit stayed two more years, although they’re only a year apart. It didn’t take long before we came, too.

Werner was retired. We have enough money to live comfortable but carefully. Werner had his brother here, and I had my sister here with her family, and we had our girls here. The adaptation was much easier than I feared. The Gutfreunds lived here, Inge lived here. I was in Israel, but it was a little Salvador.

A: What about the civil war in Salvador? You left your home so long ago because of war, and now you’re leaving again because of war. Did that make it easier to leave?

M: Definitely. The Gutfreunds, the Bernhards weren’t there anymore. People were afraid to go out. They killed Ernest Liebes, who was Honorary Consul. That was a terrible, terrible time. And I have a very deep resentment against the communists.

There was so much hope, so much looking forward to the new world, and finally the Jews will have equal rights I think there is not a regime that caused more pain and disappointment than they did.

The fascists I hate because they are fascists. But communists for giving such false hopes! I had two uncles and two cousins who came back from Russia, and I knew exactly what was going on there, how antisemitic it was. In Latin America, if you were on the Left, you were automatically anti-Israel. I really hate it that because you belong to a certain ideology, you’re pro-Palestine, against the Jews, that’s something very, very wrong. So, it was easy for me to leave. I never allowed myself to become part Salvadoreñan. I did not want any attachments that would disappoint me again. Salvadoreñas didn’t disappoint me.

I didn’t talk to my children about

the war, and they knew. Nobody ever thought that I went through the concentration camp. But I came home once, and Judithka didn’t notice. I see her hiding a book. I said, “Judithka, you know you don’t have to hide books. You read any book you want to.” She said, “Mami, I don’t want you to read that book.” That was a book about concentration camp. I didn’t tell her, and she knew.

In Israel, Judith was education officer in the Army. It was Yom Hashoah. She said, “Mami, the person who was supposed to talk to my group couldn’t come. I need somebody, and it’s time for you to start speaking.” I couldn’t let her down. Both girls were sitting in the first row, and I didn’t look at them. The moment I finished, I forgot what I was saying. They were crying. Ronit didn’t say a word, and Judith said, “Mami, muchas gracias. You were really good. ¡A ver que puede!”

Somebody told me about the seminary in Yad Vashem, preparing people how to talk, explain things. So I went. Most of the time, I talked to soldiers. It’s still a terrible thing for me. I’m telling the children things without making it easy, but they’re not shocked.

They think I was a hero; having lived through a concentration camp must be something very special. It’s not like, “Poor thing.” They listen, and then they listen to the tape. Ronen went to Auschwitz, and he said, “Oma, I don’t know why, but I was not too impressed.” I said, “You don’t have to be impressed, you have to be knowledgeable.”

When Jonathan came home, he wanted to know in Auschwitz, which was my block. He went to his mother, and said, “I want to light a candle, and to say kaddish. And it has to be Block 13 in Auschwitz.” It was traumatic for him. You see how different they are.

Search for “Perla Meissner” at <http://oral.history.ufl.edu> for the complete transcript of this interview.

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

From DREAM, p. 1

Although I had never participated in any action, there were many people with a lot of experience to guide me. Throughout the week, I was able to learn from others and slowly develop some leadership skills that I have attempted to obtain through courses or training before, but never successfully mastered.

I was also able to step out of my comfort zone to participate in activities that I never thought I could do. Many of the leaders also taught us how to be more inclusive of all intersections and reminded us that immigration issues impact every community.

Although I did not directly participate in civil disobedience, I watched as many people volunteered to participate. I was inspired by their courage and their willingness to bring about change through whatever means necessary.

On the last day of the trip, there was a gathering held to inform everyone of the outcome of the vote for a continuing resolution. During the gathering, one of the United We Dream leaders gave a speech that reminded us that we had not lost that day. Instead, we had all won a family and had the opportunity to reclaim our humanity. As she spoke, many people cried or held

one another for support and tried to find the strength to continue fighting for their dreams. Together, we all healed and lifted each other up to remind ourselves that we would be back in January to continue to demand that Congress members pass a clean DREAM Act.

Undocumented youth are in desperate need of a clean DREAM Act, which would grant them a path toward a permanent legal status in the U.S., since the Trump administration’s decision to end DACA on Sept. 5, 2017.

DACA, or Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, was an executive action passed under the Obama administration that gave undocumented youth who came to the country before the age of sixteen an employment authorization card and a social security number. It also gave them protection from deportation, the ability to possess a driver’s license, and the opportunity to pursue higher education.

Unfortunately, with the end of DACA, thousands of undocumented youth are now at risk and 122 are falling out of status each day, which is why it is crucial for Congress to pass a clean DREAM Act by Jan. 19.

To start fighting for immigrant rights or to support immigrants, people can call their senators or representatives and demand that they support immigrant youth by voting on Jan. 19 for a spending bill that includes a clean DREAM Act.

Many people are also mobilizing this week throughout Florida and their events can be found on the Facebook pages of many immigrant rights organizations such as Florida Immigrant Coalition or United We Dream.

I hope that many people decide to be a spark in their community by fighting for the rights of others, and to all the undocumented youth afraid to come out of the shadows – I see you, I hear you and I love you.

Florida Immigrant Coalition Contact Information:

Phone Number: (305) 571-7254

Website: www.floridaimmigrant.org

United We Dream Contact Information:

Website: www.uwdtampabay.org

For a powerful article on deportations, see the article “No Refuge” by Sarah Stillman in the January 15 issue of the New Yorker <www.newyorker.com>. ☘

From HARASSMENT, p. 17

Think about one of your children feeling all of those horrible feelings. It’s more than any child should have to bear.

As a women in an industry surrounded by men, I have had my share of harassment. I shared with them some of the stories. Each and every one of them was fully attentive and most were shocked at some of the stories.

I said, “I did speak up to every man who harassed me.” I am a woman who has no problem speaking up. But my issue came with speaking out. In other words, I took on the harassment on myself. I didn’t want to be labeled as “That Girl,” and I didn’t want to feel less a part, any more then I already did. I also knew that if I spoke up, I would be the one moved—or worse yet, laid off.

We were able to talk about their daughters, how they felt as fathers, how they

speak to their sons about how to treat girls. It was very heartfelt, humorous at times, and it wasn’t about being a man, being a woman, being black, being white, being straight, or being gay. It was a conversation about being human.

I told them all, “The amazing thing is that, because of these women coming forward, we are able to have a conversation here at coffee that is respectful, educational, and informative.”

It’s moments like this when I have faith in humanity. If a dozen electricians can have these heartfelt, tough conversations, then it can be done. I walked away with such an empowered feeling. It was a moment when you sit back and know that you are the woman you always wanted to be: a woman of honor and dignity.

Then it was off to do electrical work.

Erin Sullivan is a shop steward in Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 3. ☘

Dan Berger speaks on prison issues

Former CMC volunteer, UF grad, and author Dan Berger is returning to Gainesville and the CMC Friday, Feb. 23 from 6-8 pm for a talk on prison issues. Dan is an assistant professor of comparative ethnic studies at the University of Washington Bothell.

His work on race, prisons, media, and American social movements has appeared widely in popular and scholarly journals. He is the author of *Captive Nation: Black Prison Organizing in the Civil Rights Era*. Berger is also the author or editor of three previous books: *Letters From Young Activists*, *Outlaws of America: The Weather Underground and the Politics of Solidarity*, and *The Hidden 1970s: Histories of Radicalism*. ☘

From 2018, p. 1

race, incumbent Harvey Budd has a very strong challenger in Gail Johnson, whom I support and would hope others would as well.

From her website: “As a working single mother and entrepreneur, I understand the many challenges that working families face – because this is my story. For many of us, life is perfect in Gainesville: a beautiful city surrounding a preeminent university. But we are still divided and many in Gainesville struggle. As a city, we need to do more to address the economic inequalities and work to create a Gainesville where everyone can enjoy the wonderful life and amenities we have here.”

That is how it stands as of now; the books don’t close until Feb. 18, so others could jump in, but that is not likely. Read about them, go to forums, look at their websites. Because of traditional low voter turnout, your vote and the work you do getting the vote out means a lot.

Early voting is March 10-17, and then Tuesday, March 20, is the Spring Election Day. ☘



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Readers: If there is inaccurate information here, please let us know. If you are connected to an organization listed here, please check and update so others can be accurately informed.

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

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

alachuagreens.weebly.com, alachuagreens@gmail.com, 352-871-1995

Alachua County Labor Coalition meets monthly and organizes to support local labor and advance the national campaigns for Medicare for All and a living wage. Contact: <http://laborcoalition.org/>, info@laborcoalition.org, 352-375-2832, PO Box 12051, 901 NW 8th Ave., Suite A1, Gainesville, 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 bstandly@aclufl.org

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

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

Continued on next page

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Thursday
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Continued from preceding page

Central Florida Democratic Socialists of America A local chapter of Democratic Socialists of America focusing on local social and political activism issues to better our community. General meetings are on the 4th Monday of every month at the Downtown Library in Gainesville in Meeting Room A. centralfldsa@gmail.com, www.fb.com/centralfldsa

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, 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, 433 S Main St.,Gainesville, 32601

The Coalition for Racial Justice gnv4all@gmail.com

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

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

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

Conservation Burial, Inc. promotes natural burial practices in cemeteries that conserve land and reunite people with the environment. 352-372-1095, act.davidp@gmail.com

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

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

Dream Defenders The Gainesville chapter seeks to create positive change by organizing creatively skilled young leaders who strategically confront institutions of oppression through building collective power, raising the consciousness of all people, and operating with the genuine desire for "justice and equality for all." We are building the world we wish to see. www.facebook.com/UFDreamDefenders/

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. 352-682-2542

Final Friends helps families learn how to accomplish legal home funeral care as an alternative to employing a commercial funeral home. We are an independent group of volunteers who provide free education, guidance and support to anyone who prefers to care for their own deceased loved ones prior to burial or cremation. www.finalfriends.org, final.friends.org@gmail.com, 352-374-4478

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

Florida School of Traditional Midwifery A clearinghouse for information, activities and educational programs. 352-338-0766 www.midwiferyschool.org

Florida Defenders of the Environment works to protect freshwater resources, conserve public lands, and provide quality environmental education since 1969, 352-475-1119, Fladefenders.org

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

Gainesville Citizens for Alternatives to Death Penalty works to abolish the death penalty. Join vigils when Florida has an execution. Meets first Tuesday every month at St. Augustine Church & Catholic Student Center, 1738 W. University Ave., 352-378-1690, www.fadp.org.

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, 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. We pursue policies to strengthen our local economy through energy efficiency, clean energy. gainesvillelovesmountains@gmail.com, 352-610-1090, http://gainesvillelovesmountains.wordpress.com/

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

Gainesville Peer Respite A non-profit, non-clinical mental health community providing sanctuary and support to those experiencing emotional distress. Peer Support Warmline is available 6pm-6am, and we offer wellness activities, support groups and brief overnight respite stays. Call the Warmline at 352-559-4559 for support or online at gainesvillerespite.org

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 8pm, gainesvillesocialists@gmail.com

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

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

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

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

Humanist Society of Gainesville meets at 7 pm on the 3rd Wednesday of most months at Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 4225 NW 34th St to discuss and promote secular, humanist, atheist & agnostic social influences-www.gainesvillehumanists.org or facebook.com/humanistsocietyofgainesville; gainesville-humanists@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 ufhumanistoncampus@gmail.com, alternative: j.bontems@ufl.edu, phone- 561-374-3537

Indivisible Gainesville* is one of 5800 local chapters of the national Indivisible movement, working to peacefully and systematically resist the Trump agenda. We are a group of local volunteers fighting against agendas of division, inequality, financial influence in government, and policies that neglect to benefit all American citizens equally. indivisiblegnv.org.

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

League of Women Voters of Alachua County Nonpartisan grassroots political group of women and men which has fought since 1920 to improve our systems of government and impact public policies (fairness in districting, voting and elections, e.g.) through citizen education and advocacy. http://www.lwvalachua.org/ info@lwv-alachua.org<mailto:info@lwv-alachua.org>

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. Contact Alachua County Green Party for info.

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

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

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

National Women's Liberation is a feminist group for women who want to fight back against male supremacy and win more freedom for women. Inequalities between women and men are political problems requiring a collective solution. Founded 1968. Join us: www.womensliberation.org, P.O. Box 14017, Gainesville, 32604, 347-560-4695, nwl@womensliberation.org

NCFAWIS 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 public. ncfawis@gmail.com or www.ncfawis.org

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 world. www.occupygainesville.org and https://www.facebook.com/occupygainesville

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

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

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

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

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

Quaker Meetinghouse Quakers have a 350-year tradition of working peacefully for social justice. Silent, unprogrammed worship Sundays at 11, followed by potluck. Visitors welcome. 702 NW 38th St. Facebook/GainesvilleQuakers for events or request Meetinghouse space at www.GainesvilleQuakers.org.

Repurpose Project, a nonprofit junk shop and community center, diverts useful resources from the landfill, redirects these items to the public for art and education, inspires creativity, and helps us all rethink what we throw away. Lets all help protect the planet and buy used. Open to the public. Tues-Sat: 10am-6pm. www.repurposeproject.org

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

Rural Women's Health Project is a local health education organization developing materials promoting health justice for migrant and rural women. Robin or Fran 352-372-1095

Samuel Proctor Oral History Program focuses on story-telling, social justice research, social movement studies, oral history workshops. http://oral.history.ufl.edu

Say Yes to Second Chances Florida is a coalition of nonpartisan civic and faith organizations who are working for Florida's Voting Restoration Amendment to allow people who've paid their debt to society to earn back their right to vote. https://www.floridiansforafairdemocracy.com/

Sierra Club meets the first Thursday of every month at 7:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Gainesville-4225 NW 34th St. 352-528-3751, www.ssjsierra.org

Sister City Program of Gainesville links Gainesville with sister cities in Russia, Israel and Palestine, Iraq, and Haiti. Meetings are the first Tuesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. at the Mennonite Meeting House, 1236 NW 18th Ave. (across from Gainesville HS). http://www.gnvsistercities.org

Stand By Our Plan informs the public on critical differences between the Comprehensive Plan and Plum Creek's proposal, which we do not support. Alachua County's Comprehensive Plan is the best blueprint for future growth in the county's unincorporated areas; it protects valuable wetlands,. standbyourplan@gmail.com; http://standbyourplan.org/

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

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

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

UF Radical Student Alliance A progressive grassroots organization that strives to combat social justice issues on campus; core values are transparency, democratic process, value of each member's input, and ability of any member to assume a leadership role. Meetings at 6:30 pm Tuesdays on campus, ufradstudentalliance@gmail.com.

United Faculty of Florida, UF chapter Run by and for faculty, the University of Florida Chapter of United Faculty of Florida (UFF-UF) represents over 1600 faculty and professionals at UF. UFF's origins lie in efforts by faculty to protect academic freedom, defend civil liberties, and end racial discrimination at UF. www.UFF-UF.org, 352-519-4130.

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

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

Veterans for Peace Anti-war organization that raises awareness of the detriments of militarism and war as well as seeking peaceful and effective alternatives. Meets first Wednesday of every month at 7 pm. 352-375-2563, http://vfpgainesville.org/

WGOT-LP 100.1 FM Community low-power radio station operating as part of the CMC. wgot947@gmail.com, www.wgot.org

Women's March Gainesville meets on the second Monday of each month: for location and agenda information, please see are on the second Monday of each month, see www.hearourvoice-gnv.org; m.facebook.com/wmflgnv/www.facebook.com/groups/wmflgnv/; Instagram.com/womensmarchgnv/; Twitter.com/WMFL_Gnv/ and/ or email wmw@hearourvoicegnv.org. Together we can do anything... Join Us! We Need You. Let's build this peaceful movement together!

World Socialist Party of the United States (WSP-US) welcomes anyone wanting to know more about Marxian socialism and our efforts to transform the dog-eat-dog-Devil take the hindmost world-created by capitalism into a democratically arranged world society of equality at boston@wspus.org. Upon request the Party will provide membership applications.http://wspus.org 🐾



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‘I Love Local Food’ Week celebrates our bounty

Gainesville’s 4th annual “I Love Local Food” Week 2018 will be held Sunday, Feb. 11, through Saturday, Feb. 17, and will kick off with a movie night at Forage Hall at Working Food, 219 NW 10th Ave. in Gainesville. Throughout the week there will be free workshops and other opportunities for individuals to learn about fresh, healthy, and local food our region has to offer, announced Working Food.

Thanks to partnerships with local farms, businesses, and community organizations, “I Love Local Food” week will feature ways people of all ages, backgrounds and experiences can connect to the local food movement and will show the variety of opportunities people in Gainesville and surrounding areas have to buy and eat locally. I Love Local Food Week will help Gainesville residents prepare for the “Eat Local Challenge” in May.

“Participants will have the chance to learn more about making fresh, healthy food a part of their diet and overall lifestyle,” says Anna Prizzia, President of Working Food. “This is a great opportunity for people to get involved and learn how important our local food system is to our economic well-being and the health of our community.”

Any organization or business that wishes to be a part of “I Love Local Food” Week and have their event featured can email Working Food for more information at anna@workingfood.org.

Our community can learn all about events and ways to get involved at www.workingfood.org. 🐸

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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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