

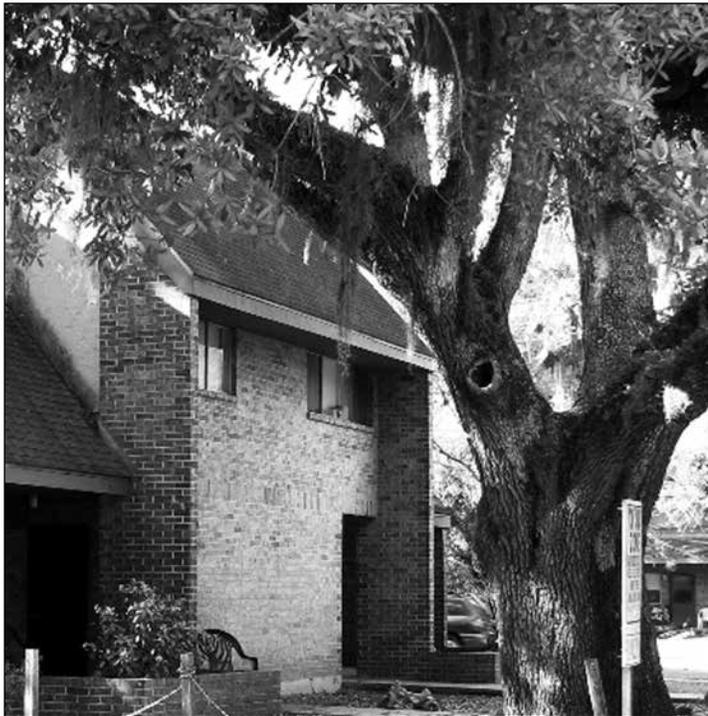


The Gainesville Iguana

A progressive newsletter and events calendar

July/August, 2019
Vol. 33, Issue 7/8

Saving neighborhoods



Seminary Lane, prior to demolition in 2009. Photo courtesy of the Gainesville Sun, 3/22/09.

Stand for Seminary Lane

by The Gainesville Alliance for Equitable Development

For years, Seminary Lane Apartments - located in one of Gainesville's oldest historically black neighborhoods - was home to citizens who needed an affordable housing solution to their economic woes.

After years of neglect and disinvestment, the 2-story town-house-style apartment homes fell into disrepair and, in 2009, were torn down with the promise to tenants that more suitable affordable housing would be built for them at the Seminary Lane site.

Instead of keeping this promise, the residents and their families were displaced and, for roughly 10 years, the property that these citizens once called home has remained vacant. The promise to rebuild Seminary Lane has remained unfulfilled.

Recently, a developer from Orlando made an offer to purchase the Seminary Lane property with plans to build a 5-6 story student housing complex consisting of over 350 units with 3 beds each.

In recent years the community surrounding Seminary Lane has seen an influx of housing catering to students (approx. 6 apartment complexes/clusters and numerous rental houses). The

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LGBTQ migrants and Gay Pride™

by Heather Vrana

Now that the glitter is ground into the carpet and the rainbow flags are put away 'til next season, it is crucial to remember our comrades in Central America whose gay pride parades sometimes lead northward toward the Mexico border, across the deadly Sonoran Desert, and into the United States.

To be LGBTQ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual,

Transgender, or Queer) in Central America is "to carry a heavy colonial burden," in the words of Nahil Zeron, Honduran Latinx scholar-activist, who spoke at the Latin American Studies Association meeting in May. "We migrate across borders of gender, heterosexuality ... to liberate our bodies."

That is not to say that there is no fun.

See LGBTQ, p. 20

Prison abolitionists block FDOT vehicles drawing connections between bail and slavery

by Fight Toxic Prisons

On June 17, a demonstration at the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) offices at 5007 NE 39th Ave, disrupted the activity of Department of Corrections (FDOC), which has a \$19.6 million contract to lease out prisoners as unpaid slaves to do road work for the State.

The protest came at the close of a weekend-long gathering of activists from across the country, the Fight Toxic Prisons (FTP) Convergence. The group also coordinated the [Father's Day Bailout](#) / Juneteenth rally later that day at the Alachua County Jail. The bailout raised almost \$14,000 and has successfully bailed out three pre-trial prisoners including Gerald Bell, held on a \$7,000 bond for drug-related charges.

"The Alachua County Sheriff's Office continues holding people on high bail amounts that don't allow people to prepare their legal defense. This results in an increased likelihood of state prison sentences," said Karen Smith, an organizer with the Incarcerated Workers Organizers Committee (IWOC).

"It's equivalent to selling people back into slavery," Smith said, when explaining how the issues of prison labor contracts and money bail are connected.

The slavery that IWOC and FTP speak of was the topic of a major in-depth investigation last month by the [Jacksonville Times-Union](#).

The groups are targeting FDOT, as it is among the largest entities in the state to continue using slave labor, alongside the University of Florida.

Ironically, both the City of Gainesville and the Alachua County Commission voted to stop exploiting prisoners' labor earlier this year. As a result, they are creating living wage jobs in the place of these contracts. FDOT and UF must do the same.

Alachua County is surrounded by prisons, with over a dozen local, state and federal facilities in a 60 mile radius where tens-of-thousands of people are held in cages, underfed, abused and forced to work with little or no pay. Most of these prisoners' sentences started at a county jail, where they faced state coercion to accept a bad plea deal or go into trial unprepared.

Alachua County jail holds hundreds of pre-trial detainees on any given day, who would walk free if they were wealthy enough, and stand a chance at defending themselves in court.

While those with money are released from confinement, those in poverty face harsh choices: languish at risk or accept a guilty plea to get out of jail—often to crimes they didn't commit.

As a result of not having enough money to get bailed out, they succumbed to a deeply flawed justice system where tough-on-crime rhetoric created policies that are not based in actual goals of public safety, rehabilitation or community health.

More information about the demonstration can be found at tinyurl.com/Iguana1011. More information about the 2019 Fight Toxic Prison Convergence can be found at tinyurl.com/Iguana1001. ✨



A day of action centered at the Alachua County Jail as part of the Father's Day Bailout project on Monday, June 17. The focus was on raising money to bail out men who have not yet had a trial, yet are held in jail because they can not pay the bail money.

Around 60 people were gathered at the NE 39th jail location, and Danielle Chances of the Legal Power Advocacy Hub read off the names of the inmates being held at the jail, through a megaphone, followed by a quick drum and horn salute. Occasional pauses for chanting were sometimes met with vocal response from the inmates in the jail itself.

In the crowd were not only attendees from the 2019 Fight Toxic Prisons Convergence, but family members of prisoners living behind the walls of the jail looming 200 ft away.

Friends of Susan B. Anthony to celebrate Women's Equality Day

The Friends of Susan B. Anthony will celebrate Women's Equality Day with their annual festive luncheon on Saturday, Aug. 24. (Women's Equality Day is Aug. 26.)

This event, which began as an informal birthday party for Susan B. Anthony over forty years ago, is now held in conjunction with the anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment, which gave women the right to vote.

Each year a local woman is recognized who exemplifies the spirit of Susan B. Anthony. This year, Shirley Bloodworth will be honored for her work to further civic education and her concerns for issues affecting the elderly.

The featured speaker will be Ann Christiano, Director of the newly established Institute for Public Interest Communication at the University of Florida and a professor in the Department of Public Relations at UF's College of Journalism. Her presentation is "Women and the Media."

The luncheon will be held at the Wyndham Garden Conference Center at 11:30 a.m. and costs \$25 for adults. For further information and reservations, contact June Littler at fosba@fosba.com or at 352-371-6944, or go to www.fosba.com.

The reservation deadline is August 20; no tickets will be sold at the door. Last year's luncheon was sold out, so make reservations early. ✨

From the publisher ...

Yes, human caused

Eating and sleeping are things we share with every other living being in the world. Finding what to eat and determining where to sleep are handled in a variety of ways. Some need to work at it harder than others. Some spend their time as independent entities, some join herds or small groupings. Some live in small areas, others have to either search a wider area or even undertake stunning long-distance migrations. There are ones who live below the water, who live on land or burrowed under it, or who have the ability to soar in the sky. What a wondrous planet we all share.

We humans, though, we are the freaks of the planet in so many ways. Our very brief presence on the planet has seen us develop from nomadic hunter/gatherers to creators of planned agriculture and societies, and with that the cultural practice of acquiring and transmitting knowledge and the use of available materials to create tools and weapons. We are leaving our mark on the planet in so many ways, from the structures we leave behind to, especially now, impacting the climate of the planet itself.

Our freaky-ness is also within each of us, because apart from all the other beings on the planet, we have a highly developed sense of self-awareness and memory. We can see the wondrous-ness around us and figure out how it works. We can move beyond the here and now observation to remember and reflect on the past, and we can speculate and plan on the future.

But here we find ourselves now, living in a world of overwhelming information and, thanks to human ingenuity, a future with a multitude of threats. We have luxuries kings and queens could not dream of, and immense knowledge at our literal fingertips, yet so many live a sped-up, frantic, over-stimulated lifestyle with no time or inclination for civic engagement. Others are trapped in desperate poverty, just trying to survive, excluded from the opportunities so many take for granted.

Meanwhile... in this nation and others... authoritarian populism is on the rise, powered by media-savvy, super rich, extreme minority. Reactionary fear is played as an electoral weapon. The fact is we have a president prone to rash decisions. He has no commitment to truth and utters falsehoods regularly. He is a proven con man with a long history to prove it. He has a small cabal of war hawks around him, and we are on the verge of war on Iran. We are going backwards on so many fronts. It is frightening, and there is no easy path out.

Naomi Klein wrote an important book in 2007 called Shock Doctrine: The Rise of Disaster Capitalism. It describes times when a shocking event in a nation is exploited to institute major changes. Think 9/11, or Katrina in New Orleans. Well, Trump's election was also a shock to so many of us, but it seems to me that rather than one big shock, we are in a situation of constant pulsating shocks to our sensibilities. Things we hold dear, policies we have made incremental positive changes in over the years, are being attacked. We seem paralyzed. Clear progressive leadership is marginalized or dismissed (think Rev. William Barber or Bernie Sanders). Organized labor is, well, disorganized. Media-created distractions abound while truth and historical analysis are hard to find.

We human beings are making a mess. We are mucking up this wondrous place we could all be sharing. And it is this nation that is at the fore, no surprise given its history of conquest and dominance. Evolution has facilitated we humans to do all the bad we've done. We have also developed the tools to try and undo it and set it moving on a better path. The youth of the world are waking up to this truth. The Sunrise Movement and Green New Deal are bold plans. They need broad support, and we must all do what we can to turn this mess around. ✨



Joe Courter

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Bernie Sanders' Democratic Socialism speech was a landmark

By Keeanga-Yamahtta Taylor

This article was originally published by Jacobin Magazine on June 18. See more at jacobinmag.com.

Last Wednesday, Bernie Sanders passionately argued for a “democratic socialist” United States. Sanders’s clear arguments for a complete transformation of the country showed why the mainstream media and the leadership of the Democratic Party have tried to marginalize his electrifying presidential campaign.

In the course of a single speech, Sanders demonstrated the existential threat he poses to the political status quo in the United States by exposing the roots of the hardship and deprivation that roil wide swaths of the country. He named capitalism as the culprit and democratic socialism as a solution. What a breathtaking turn of events.

Sanders’s address bowled through the diminished expectations of twenty-first century liberalism and the cruelty of right-wing demagoguery. In doing so, he provided a powerful counter-narrative to the entire political establishment, which has situated blame any and everywhere for the social and economic catastrophe that is unfolding in working-class and poor communities — except the economic system undergirding it all.

From housing and health insecurity to poverty wages to the racism of the criminal justice system to the overwhelming reality of climate change, it’s clear that things are unraveling. It is a feeling that is experienced in the daily lives of ordinary people and yet is regularly made invisible by the political class and the economic elite. Sanders exposed these conditions as a way of life for millions of Americans, and he named the system at their root — capitalism.

Sanders described how “unfettered” greed and exploitation by the “billionaire class” is the central source of misery in the lives of ordinary Americans. Perhaps most poignantly, he graphically illustrated the most macabre disparity within US society by highlighting the stark difference in life expectancy between the rich and the working class. He noted an eighteen-year difference in life expectancy between the richest area of Virginia and the poorest. He said further, “While the rich get richer, they live longer lives. While poor and working families struggle economically and often lack adequate health care, their life expectancy is declining for the first time in modern American history.”

In a country where the political establishment has long denied the existence of “class” as a phenomenon in the United States, where notions of unfettered social mobility is supposed to be a defining feature of “American exceptionalism,” that a leading candidate for the US presidency has made class warfare the centerpiece of his campaign is a stunning turn of events.

In the last several decades, liberalism has lamented the absence of “opportunity” as the source of hardship in the lives of ordinary Americans. This has meant overvaluing skills training,

education, and financial literacy to bridge the “opportunity gap.” Strategically, it has also meant an inordinate focus on mentorship, role modeling, grant-funded social initiatives, and other programmatic responses that essentially accept the limitations of our society rather than challenge them.

At the same time, conservatives have either blamed individual behavior or regulatory impingements on markets as the root of inequality. Among both liberals and the Right, then, there’s been an ingrained acceptance of a minimized role for the state in solving the crisis of inequality in the United States. Guaranteed, state-provided social provision seems like a hazy memory of a world that no longer exists.

Last Wednesday, Sanders did more than call for a revamped welfare state. He described “economic rights” as human rights and linked various aspects of these rights — the right to housing, health care, education, jobs, and a good life — to “freedom.”

We shouldn’t underestimate Sanders’s political narrative as a powerful rejoinder to the typical mainstream explanations for poverty and hardship. Trump and the “nightriders” of the Republican Party laud the strength of the economic “fundamentals” while ignoring how its benefits are accruing almost exclusively at the top of society. But Trump’s Republicans are not completely clueless. Their vicious and raw provocations of race, ethnicity, and religion are intended to distract from their (more often than not completely legal) pilfering.

The white supremacists that head up the Republican Party want us all to believe that the biggest problems in the country are not their grotesque policies that steal the wealth of many and redirect it to the few. Instead, they point the finger at Mexicans, Muslims, and “the blacks.” Sanders did not resort to flowery homilies that claim this weaponized racism “isn’t us” or is somehow outside of the norms of American politics or other tripe. Instead, he argued that the wealthy use racism to destroy the living standards of ordinary workers by constantly fraying the “mutuality” that otherwise might bind us together.

Beyond pointing out the centrality of scapegoats to Trump’s plunder, Sanders provided workers a framework with which to understand their oppression and exploitation. This is especially true for black workers, who have been told for forty years that their lower living standards and greater hardship is their own doing. In the same way that the eruption of the Occupy Movement helped cut through President Obama’s rhetoric — who blamed black communities for the conditions rendered by decades of racism — Sanders’s depiction of capitalism and the billionaire class as the culprit for inequality is vital to advancing a structural understanding of racial inequality.

There are critics who complain that Sanders does not talk enough about racism specifically, but they often do so by underestimating the economic dimensions of racial oppression in the United States. There is no race without class in this country. Black people are overrepresented among the ranks of the poor and working class because racism is used to justify lower wages, substandard housing, and tiered access to health care and education. This doesn’t mean that racism can be dismantled by fighting only against economic inequality. But it also means that the overlap between economic inequality and racism should not be ignored.

When Sanders attacks the oligarchs of the Walmart empire, this

is unmistakably confronting the overlapping issues of racism and class exploitation. Walmart is the largest private employer of African Americans, with nearly 46 percent of its workforce identified as black. When Sanders names the company’s notorious low wages and business practices as prime examples of practices that drive inequality, he is highlighting a key feature of what leads to greater levels of poverty and dispossession in black communities. When Sanders takes on Walmart, as he did in his speech, he is amplifying the voices of organized Walmart workers, a disproportionate number of whom are African American, that have been organizing for a \$15 minimum wage and humane benefits for years.

To this end, it matters that Sanders used Martin Luther King Jr as a guidepost throughout his speech — not in a cheap way, but by drawing on the heights of King’s militancy when he politically fused the struggles for racial justice with calls for a “radical reconstruction” of US society.

Most importantly, Sanders linked the possibility of ending capitalist oligarchy to a “political revolution” that calls on the many to stand up to the few. Unlike most mainstream politicians, who tell you that a vote for them is the solution to your problems, Sanders emphasizes the collective — “not me, us.” He could become president in 2021, but without an organized movement on the ground, the economic transformations he has argued for may be suffocated before they see the light of day. In other words, the Sanders campaign may be an entry point for many into political activism — not a graveyard.

Of course, the Sanders speech was not perfect. His literal entombment in a sea of American flags went along with a silence on the crimes of US foreign policy. Whether it is the nearly one trillion dollars allocated by the federal government to the Department of Defense or the lawless and relentless drone campaign conducted by the military, US imperialism remains the most imposing impediment to peace in the world and a shackle on developing the kinds of social programs at the heart of his program for change.

In the spirit of Sanders’s “political revolution,” the expansion of the US welfare state from the thirties through the sixties was propelled by mass movements, sit-down strikes, rent rebellions, and urban uprisings. It would also do our side good to remember that Roosevelt ordered the internment of more than 120,000 Japanese-Americans in concentration camps during World War II and Lyndon Johnson spent hundreds of billions of dollars incinerating Vietnamese men, women, and children.

Yet to focus on this and other omissions is to truly miss the forest for the trees. Sanders is a reflection of the deepening radicalization in this country, but he is also helping fuel it forward by naming the source of misery and rejecting the well-worn habits of blaming American workers for their own despair. He is helping crush the political center made up of political mush like the underwhelming Beto O’Rourke, Kamala Harris, and Joe Biden.

It is still very early, and it remains to be seen if Sanders can overcome the dirty tricks of the Democratic Party and the wider political establishment that seeks to contain and tamp down his insurgency. But Sanders has lifted the discussion of politics and what should be expected from the richest society in the history of the world out of the gutter. It is clearly a new day in US politics. ✨

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Peace Poetry Contest winners share poems

This year marked the tenth anniversary of the Peace Poetry Contest in Alachua County, hosted by Gainesville Veterans for Peace, where are students, grades K-12, were encouraged to submit one original poem focusing on their interpretation of "peace." This year, VFP received 300 poems from all grades, and the poems were judged by a panel of community judges and writers. The winners were asked to read at the Peace Poetry Reading at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Gainesville on May 4, and their poems are published in the *2019 Peace Poetry Contest Book*. We are pleased to include a couple of the winning poems here.

My Life Has Changed Forever

It was a day like any other day,
I tell my parents it's game night, let's play!
Then I hear banging on the door,
I grab the game, there's banging once more.

Dad goes to see who's there,
He sees it's something worse than a bear.
He yells, "Run! Run!"
I think I see a gun!

We grab food and sheets,
Definitely less than a feast.
I hear cracking, they're coming in,
What's about to begin?!

I'm just a small child,
Did I do something wild?
We get pushed in the truck, all out of order –
I'm going to the border!

There's no escape.
I must now accept my fate.
Where's my brother, Trevor?
My life has changed forever.

*Diego Frenock, Grade 4, Jordan Glen School
First Place, Grades 3-4*

Allahu Akbar

They call it a war on terrorism
But it's more like a form of hypnotism
Here let me tell you their confession
Straight to the point with no digression

The U.S. says that they eliminate
Yet they're the ones that cultivate
Have you ever heard of the group ISIS
Well yeah, the U.S. created that crisis

With aid from the news, yes they deceive
To make sure you're in the dark and naïve
They paint you a picture, a little blurred
And give you false info, completely absurd

They say "their women are oppressed"
Just look at the way they are dressed
However, they don't tell you they have a say
Look, they wear it for the culture by the way

The Israelis come push them off their land
And then claim that that's their mainland
The news then attempts to hypnotize
And makes it out that Palestinians terrorize

They say the conflict is a mess
Seems pretty simple nonetheless
The news takes those lies
And make the Muslims the bad guys

Real quick I just remind
I'm not full of hate; I think I'm pretty kind
I really just want this world to integrate
And yes, my title means god is great

*Muhammad Farahat, Grade 12, Buchholz High School
First Place, Grade 12*

Santa Fe College faculty adjuncts demand union

by Jason Fults

For the past two years, adjunct faculty at Santa Fe College have been working hard to improve their status, wages, and working conditions. Despite teaching a majority of the class load in many departments, these faculty are treated like second-class citizens by the college, including being paid less than half the rate of their full-time colleagues, with no benefits and no job security from one semester to the next.

Alongside numerous efforts within the College Senate, a "recommending" body where adjuncts have little voice to begin with, they began collecting union authorization cards. The Santa Fe Organizing Committee has been, from the beginning, comprised of full and part-time faculty and staff who support adjuncts' right to union representation and fair wages and benefits.

At the outset of this campaign, the college unfortunately responded by hiring an anti-union law firm that immediately went to work to stymie the adjuncts' efforts. When confronted about this action at a College Senate meeting, President Sasser responded that it was his personal preference that the adjuncts not have

union representation. The Organizing Committee was justifiably outraged at the president's anti-union stance and the use of public funds to beat back a union drive.

At the college's May Board of Trustees meeting, the Organizing Committee turned out 50+ supporters, including adjuncts, staff, students and community supporters. County Commissioners Ken Cornell and Marihelen Wheeler were on hand to show their support as well.

Dozens of community members and elected officials wrote letters to President Sasser letting him know their dissatisfaction with the college's actions.

The atmosphere at the Board meeting was electric. Speaker after speaker highlighted the plight of the college's adjuncts, including their struggles with poverty, but also the love they have for their work and the difference they make everyday in students' lives. However, rather than hear from all speakers, the Board chose to limit public comment and continued with their meeting.

The adjuncts and their supporters left the room and continued to rally on the lawn outside the meeting. When it concluded,

President Sasser made an appearance, along with the college's lawyer, and again attempted to justify the college's position. He was met with powerful resistance, including chants of "let them vote!" and "strike!"

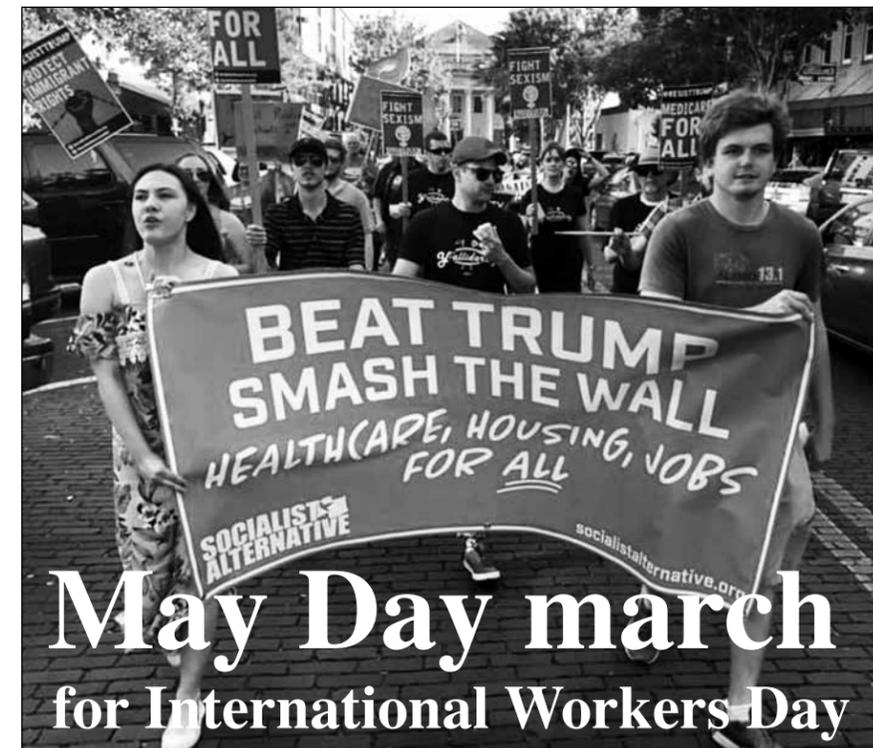
It is unclear whether the college has had a change of heart and decided to respect their adjuncts' legal right to an election, or whether they are simply accepting the inevitable after losing in their efforts to prevent the election. But it now appears likely that an election will occur in the next few months.

Adjuncts will undoubtedly have to contend with anti-union rhetoric from the administration and will need community support to win their campaign.

We must prevent the ongoing uberization of our economy by standing with any and all working people who are fighting for a living wage and to be treated with respect.

The ACLC will continue to support Santa Fe's adjuncts, just as they have other wage-workers throughout this community.

If you would like to get involved, contact: livingwage@laborcoalition.org.



Members and supporters of Socialist Alternative lead the May Day march in downtown Gainesville that commemorates the anarchist led Chicago worker's strike of 1886. Photo by Ranson Thomas.

Women's World Cup well worth watching

by Joe Courter

The Women's World Cup will wind up Sunday, July 7, but by all means try and catch the quarter finals June 27-29 and semi finals July 2-3.

Why? Because the women play hard and clean, with very little "diving" that plagues the men's game.

Seeing how far the world has come with respect and support for the women's game is a mirror of women gaining their rights and respect in their own societies.

Once the game starts, no commercials! Go find a crowd at Cypress and Grove, First Magnitude, or other locale of your choice and feel the energy. You deserve a break, an escape, which shows humans striving to be their best in head to head competition.

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We're stepping up – join us for a day to halt climate crisis

We're calling for a global strike on Sept. 20. Disrupting our normal lives is the only way to secure our future

This article was originally published by The Guardian on May 24. See more at www.theguardian.com.

by Naomi Klein, Bill McKibben and others

On 20 September, at the request of the young people who have been staging school strikes around the world, we're walking out of our workplaces and homes to spend the day demanding action on the climate crisis, the greatest existential threat that all of us face. It's a one-day climate strike, if you will – and it will not be the last. This is going to be the beginning of a week of action all over the world. And we hope to make it a turning point in history.

We hope others will join us: that people will leave their offices, their farms, their factories; that candidates will step off the campaign trail and football stars will leave the pitch; that movie actors will scrub off their makeup and teachers lay down their chalk; that cooks will close their restaurants and bring meals to protests; that pensioners too will break their daily routines and join together in sending the one message our leaders must hear: day by day, a business as usual approach is destroying the chance for a healthy, safe future on our planet.

We are well aware that, by itself, this strike and a week of international climate

action won't change the course of events. The good news is that we have the technologies we need – the price of a solar panel has plunged 90% in the past decade. And we know the policies to make them work: all across the planet some version of a Green New Deal has been proposed, laws that would speedily replace fossil fuels with the power of sun and wind, along the way providing good jobs and stabilising strong local economies. We salute the people – many of them young – working hard to pass those measures against the entrenched opposition of the fossil fuel industry.

The September day of global action is designed to support those people. We hope all kinds of environmental, public health, social justice and development groups will join in, but our greatest hope is simply to show that those working on this crisis have the backing of millions of human beings who harbour a growing dread about our environmental plight but who have so far stayed mostly on the sidelines. It may take a few attempts to get those kind of numbers in the streets, but we don't have too long: our window for effective climate action is closing fast.

We know not everyone can join us. On a grossly unequal planet, some people literally can't do without a single day's pay, or they work for bosses who would

fire them if they dared try. And some jobs simply can't stop: emergency room doctors should keep at their tasks. But many of us can put off for 24 hours our usual day to day routine, confident it will be there when we return. We hope some people will spend the day in protest: against new pipelines, or the banks that fund them; against the oil companies and the politicians that spread their lies. We hope others will spend the day putting insulation in the walls of their neighbours' homes, or building cycle paths. We hope everyone will take at least a few minutes in a city park or a farm field or on the roof of their apartment to simply soak in the beauty of the world it's our privilege to protect.

Obviously this is a lot to ask. A day in the life of the world is a big deal, and all of us are used to our routines. But we're not comfortable letting schoolchildren carry all the weight here – they need our backing. And disrupting our normal lives seems key – it's normal life that is doing us in, the fact that we rise each morning and do pretty much the same things we did the day before, even amid an unfolding crisis.

We are the people who happen to be alive at the moment when our choices will determine the future for tens of thousands of years: how high the seas will rise, how far the deserts will spread, how fast the forests will burn. Part of our work must be to protect that future.

Margaret Atwood, Geneviève Azam, Tom Ballard, Fadel Barro, Nnimmo Bassey, May Boeve, Patrick Bond, Mike Brune, Nicola Bullard, Sharan Burrow, Valérie Cabanes, Rachel Carmona, Dr Craig Challen, Noam Chomsky, Maxime Combes, Thomas Coutrot, Cyril Dion, Tasneem Essop, Christiana Figueres, Prof Tim Flannery, Nancy Fraser, KC Golden, Tom BK Goldtooth, Maggie Gyllenhaal, Dr John Hewson, John Holloway, Prof Lesley Hughes, Tomás Insua, Satvir Kaur, Barbara Kingsolver, Winona LaDuke, Jenni Laiti, Bruno Latour, Annie Leonard, Michael Mann, Gina McCarthy, Heather McGhee, Luca Mercalli, Moema Miranda, Jennifer Morgan, Tazio Müller, Kumi Naidoo, Mohamed Nasheed, Carlo Petrini, Dr Anne Poelina, Mark Ruffalo, Peter Sarsgaard, Dr Vandana Shiva, Rebecca Solnit, Gus Speth, Prof Will Steffen, Tom Steyer, Chris Taylor, Terry Tempest-Williams, Aurélie Trouvé, Farhana Yamin, Lennox Yearwood are signatories to this article. 🐾

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Proposed phosphate mining update

by Carol Mosley, Bridges Across Borders & Bradford Environmental Forum

The Upper Santa Fe River basin gets little attention though it includes the New River, which feeds the Santa Fe River. The New River is the county line between Bradford and Union County, and the proposed HPSII phosphate mining would straddle that river.

The fight began in 2016 when four local families made it clear they intended to mine nearly 10,000 acres in both counties, and on both sides of the New River. Union County enacted a Moratorium against accepting any mining application until they updated their Land Development Regulations and Comprehensive Plan. Bradford County did not enact a Moratorium and received a Master Mining Plan from HPSII in April 2016.

That put them in a “quasi-judicial” mode and now they sit in silence as we talk to the wall. But, Bradford commissioners hired consultants (OEC) to help them make their decision, so we wait for their report number two from the hydrologist.

The first one showed he was not convinced the proposed process would work as theoretically described. We have submitted a records request so as to get the documents in process and not wait for a summary or have little time for review.

Meanwhile, there is much more going on in the background. HPS filed a Harris Act claim against Union County for more than \$298 million. A Motion to Dismiss is scheduled for June 26 in Union County. If that claim is dismissed, it is not clear what leg HPS would have left to stand on.

Approximately 90 days after the consultant's report is made official, Bradford County will hold a Hearing on whether to deny the application, accept it, or accept it with conditions. Our role will be to provide the “competent and substantial evidence” to show Bradford County that denying the application is what they must decide.

Local groups, and Alachua County, too, are all watching, scrutinizing, and preparing for whatever comes next. We'll keep you all posted.

Meanwhile, if you know geologists, hydrologists, environmental specialists or other researchers who want to get involved, let us know at 352-485-2524. 🐾

SATCHMO
by Terry Teachout AT THE WALDORF
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IRATION PEPPER, KASTASTRO & FORTUNATE YOUTH JULY 27	BACKYARD STAGE NAHKO & MEDICINE FOR THE PEOPLE NATTALI RIZE OCTOBER 12	SEP 13 PROPAGANDHI, THE COATHANGERS
WIDESPREAD PANIC AUGUST 2-4 SOLD OUT!	ZZ TOP CHEAP TRICK OCTOBER 16	SEP 14 HOT WATER MUSIC, THE MENZINGERS, SUBHUMANS
COMMUNITY FIRST NIGHT OWL CINEMA "A LEAGUE OF THEIR OWN" AUGUST 9 FREE EVENT!	BILLY CURRINGTON OCTOBER 18	SEP 15 ST. PAUL & THE BROKEN BONES, DIRTY DOZEN BRASS BAND, AARON LEE TASHAN
		SEP 20 GZA
		SEP 22 THE GROWLERS, PHOSPHORESCENT
		SEP 27 SHOVELS & ROPE
		SEP 29 SON VOLT

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We thank you very much!



JULY

- 5 All American Song Fest: Showtune Shenanigans** (*All American Show Tunes*)
by John Lowe & Will Winter
- 12 Summer of '69: 50 Years On**
(*A Tribute to the Music & Events of 1969*)
by Tran Whitley & Friends
- 19 California Dreaming**
(*A Tribute to the Early Laurel Canyon Music Scene with covers of Mamas & Papas, Spirit, Byrds, Monkees, Linda Ronstadt, CSNY, and Lovin' Spoonful*)
by Other Voices
- 26 Captive Eddies**
(*Original Rock, Reggae and Roots*)

AUGUST

- 2 The Duppies** (*Ska, Reggae*)
- 9 Ramblin' Mutts** (*Blues*)
- 16 A Tribute to the 50th Anniversary of Woodstock**
by The Relics
- 23 Philip JazzDad Thomas** (*Jazz*)
- 30 The Progressive Rock Expedience**
(*A Tribute to '70s Progressive Rock with covers of Emerson, Lake & Palmer, Deep Purple, Genesis, Kansas, Styx and Elton John*)

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Climate change? Climate challenge

WORLD OCEAN RADIO is a weekly series of five-minute audio essays on a wide range of ocean issues. The excerpt below is a transcript from a show that ran on June 11. Available for RSS feed, podcast, and syndicated use at no cost by community radio stations worldwide. Join us: find the 'pod on iTunes, Stitcher, Soundcloud, or wherever you listen to your favorite podcasts. Or join at worldoceanobservatory.org/world-ocean-radio.

We speak of climate change and the climate challenge; we articulate our growing despair over what can be done at what scale to mitigate or adapt; we fear that no single person, or no single action, can make a difference on a scale of consequence that is affecting every aspect of our lives. We cling to straw, Styrofoam container and plastic bag bans, knowing that, while each bit helps and counts, the total does not even approach a transformative response to the problem.

So what constitutes a real solution? Some friends and neighbors here in Maine, ardent advocates for change and social justice, have begun a movement for conversion—the re-purposing specifically of Bath Iron Works, a subsidiary of General Dynamics, and the state's largest defense contractor and a major employer, that is now contracted for construction of Zumwalt destroyers for the U.S. Navy at its shipyard on the Kennebec River.

BIW is a small element in the so-called American military industrial complex. The U.S. Navy is a massive collection of firepower and mobility, and is larger than the next 13 national fleets combined. The cost to operate, maintain, and renew this Navy is astronomical. A Zumwalt destroyer costs \$7 billion. General Dynamics has already received corporate subsidies of

\$194 million from the State of Maine and the city of Bath, with another \$45 million recently approved by the state legislature.

How many times do the taxpayers have to pay for these ships—at federal, state and local levels—to a for-profit company that in 2017 compensated its CEO at a reported \$21 million and otherwise distributed ample profits to its private shareholders? The entire enterprise is a house of cards justified in the name of national security.

But changing climate is now also understood as a challenge to national and local security. Sea level rise threatens to inundate the thousands of U.S. Navy coastal facilities in the U.S. and around the world. Ironically, for over a decade now, the Pentagon has acknowledged the immediate risks and threat-multiplier effect of climate-caused conditions in the form of flooding, drought, wildfires, dislocation, refugee relocation, in turn leading to further political instability, escalating conflict, and the possibility of climate war.

Additionally, the Pentagon has the largest carbon footprint on the planet, generating more than 70 percent of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions, and uses more oil than that consumed by 175 countries combined. U.S. foreign policy is predicated on oil, with military deployments engaged overtly and covertly in the protection of global oil resources worldwide. Bath Iron works is a very small part of a very big situation. Frankly, as such, it is dispensable, American national defense is not really compromised by one less destroyer.

But BIW could become a model example of climate conversion, a shift from a fragile and artificial viability into a new place attuned to the new realities of the climate-changed world, a more stable workplace for a skilled workforce re-programmed to 21st century needs, national and regional, and engaged in the creation of new responses to changing natural, financial, and social circumstance.

BIW could run on new non-fossil fuel energy; it could build new cargo ships and coastwise transports that will be required to service offshore wind or distribute goods beyond the already exceeded capacity of highways and trucks; it could fabricate alternative energy devices, high speed trains, electric buses, wind and solar arrays, hi-tech greenhouses, underwater turbines, aquaculture and desalination equipment, and other applied design and manufacturing production for a sustainable planet. It could determine its own future, not just rely on presidential,

congressional, or private corporate budgetary whims desperately affirmed by the State political delegation.

There are, in fact, stunning examples of such a conversions—one in Bath, Maine, of all places, where the closing of a naval air station brought sudden devastating despair to some 5,000 employees and the community economy. However, now, a regional re-development authority has mobilized to use public finance to convert and improve the facilities and to attract aerospace industries, small manufacturing companies, green start-up businesses, plastic recycling facilities, and other 21st century enterprise to re-employ workers, enlist new skills, and attract new investors with inevitable

positive consequence for the community and its quality of life.

A second comparable example is a new state-of-the-art aquaculture facility just down the road in Belfast, Maine, being constructed on the site a recently bankrupt paper mill, from the closing of which the community thought it would never recover.

Out with the old, in with the new; that's called regeneration. Swords into plough shares, isn't that how the story goes? These are examples of applied optimism, a positive reaction to the climate challenge, not as closing and collapse, but as opening and opportunity. Invention and conversion: these are pathways to the future. ✨

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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 16.

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.

30 Zines meeting every Sun, Civic Media Center, 3 pm. Artisans' Guild 50th Anniversary celebration, Heartwood Soundstage (619 S. Main St), with Bob McPeck, Janet Rucker, David Beede, more: 5:30-9:30 pm, \$25+.

7 Moving Sale, 1009 NW 11th Ave, 7 am-noon. "Birds & Brews" Audubon-guided bird walk starts at 1st Mag Brewing, 1st Suns, 6:45 pm.

14 "Nature's Gifts" herbal workshop presented by BLAAC2Basics, CIED (530 W University Ave), 2 pm. Sundays at AQ Jones - talks on local history, politics, culture, at AQ Jones Museum (1013 NW 13th Ave), 2nd Suns, 3 pm: rsvp 352-334-2010.

21 Sunday Assembly: Gina Hawkins on "Economic & Social Impacts of Litter" - SFC Downtown (530 W. Univ. Ave), 11 am, 3rd Suns: see pg 20 & sagainesville.weebly.com. Peaceful Paths Bingo, High Dive (210 SW 2nd Ave), 4-8 pm, \$5.

Million Dollar Quartet final performance, The Hipp, 2 pm. Classical Guitar by Christopher Mrofchak, High Springs Comm. Ctr (23760 NW 187th Ave), 2 pm.

4 1900: Louis Armstrong born.

11 PERSEID METEOR SHOWERS (PREDAWN, 8/11-13)

18 Benefit Show for hospice music program, Thomas Ctr (306 NE 6th Ave), 3:30 pm, \$10.

25

July 1 Witness for Immigrant Justice and Sanctuary, NW 23rd Ave & 43rd St, 5-6 pm, every Monday.

Gvl Citizens for Active Transportation meets at CIED (530 E. Univ Ave), 1st & 3rd Mondays, 7 pm. Weekly Candle-holding Witness for the undocumented, BD Downtown Plaza, every Monday, 7:30-8 pm.

8 Fla Free Speech Forum on summer hiatus: floridafreespeechforum.org.

Interfaith Alliance for Immigrant Justice on summer hiatus.

Women's March meets 2nd Mondays, United Church of Gainesville, 6:30 pm.

15 Grow Gvl 3rd Mon meet-up, Working Food Community Center (219 NW 10th Ave), 6 pm.

1834: Spanish Inquisition disbanded.

22 1209: Crusaders trespass at Bézier ("Slay them all - God knows his own."). If you appreciate this calendar, please consider supporting the Ig with a donation &/or subscription: PO Box 14712, Gainesville FL 32604.

29 1805: Alexis de Toqueville born. 1909: Chester Himes born.

5 IGUANA Deadline for Sept issue is Aug 21st; write gainesville-iguana@cox.net or call 352-378-5655 with events, updates, advertisements & info.

12 1919: Afghanistan independent.

19 Grow Gvl - see 7/15. 26 1883: Krakatoa erupts. 1920: US Women gain vote.



25 Veterans Support Group, UF HealthStreet (2401 Archer Rd), 11 am-noon, Tuesdays, free.

CMC Volunteers now meet every Tuesday, 5:30 pm.

Alachua County Labor Coalition meets, Emmanuel Mennonite Church (1236 NW 18th Ave), 6 pm.

1876: Crazy Horse & friends stand their ground against >200 armed trespassers.

1950: N. Korean troops trespass into S. Korea.

2 School Board meeting cancelled.

Gvl Citizens Against Death Penalty meets, Mennonite Meeting House (1236 NW 18th Ave), 1st Tuesdays, 6 pm.

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

Incarcerated Workers Organizing Committee meets, CMC, 6 pm.

16 NAACP Environment & Climate Justice Committee, Wlh. Johnson Ctr (321 NW 10th St), 3rd Tuesdays, 5:30 pm.

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

Full Moon Drum Circle, Depot Park, 8-11 pm. FULL MOON

23 County Commish - see 7/9.

School Board meets, 620 E. Univ Ave, 5:30 pm

Incarcerated Workers Organizing Committee letter-writing, CMC, 6-8 pm.

Alachua Cty Labor Coalition meets, Em. Menno. Church (1236 NW 18th Ave), 6 pm.

30 School Board meets, 5:30 pm

6 School Board resumes 1st/3rd Tuesday meetings, 6 pm; see sbac.edu. HIROSHIMA DAY

13 NAACP/E/C Justice Committee - see 7/16.

20 1619: 20 kidnapped Africans arrive in Jamestown, VA.

27 1991: Moldova independnt.

26 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.

Summer Movie series at Em. Mennonite Church (1236 NW 18th Ave), runs Weds through Aug; 7 pm, free.

"No Pride in Genocide" presented by Uhuru Solidarity Movement, CMC, 7 pm.

ChangeTheDebate Watch Party, W. Johnson Ctr (321 NW 10th St), 8-11 pm.

3 Non-Violent Communication workshop, Civic Media Ctr (433 S. Main St), 6 pm.

Fanfares & Fireworks, UF Bandshell, 6 pm.

Vets for Peace hiatus July & Aug.

Dismantling Racism on summer hiatus.

10 Edible Plant Project, 2nd Weds, Downtown Farmers' Market, Bo Diddley Plaza (111 E. University Ave), 4-7 pm.

Cell 411 workshop, CMC, 6 pm.

17 Peaceful Paths Pop-up Thrift Store, 2100 NW 53rd Ave, 10 am-5:30 pm, also 7/18-19.

Non-Violent Communication advanced workshop, CMC, 6 pm. 1938: Douglas G. "Wrong Way" Corrigan flies from Brooklyn to LA; lands in Dublin.

24 Connect the Dots show at CMC with Insignificant Other, 9 pm.

Keep up with the CMC at F'book & Instagram for events created after this calendar was printed, and into the future.

31 Zine Read Meet Up, CMC, 6 pm.

7 Fast/Vigil for Kings Bay 7 & Hiroshima/Nagasaki (Aug 6-9, Brunswick, GA) - see kingsbayplowshares7.org.

14 Humanists meet, UUF (4225 NW 34th St), 6:30 pm.

21 1991: Latvia independent.

28 The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time preview at Hipp; 8? pm.

27 NAACP meets, SF Blount Ctr (401 NW 6th St), 6 pm.

Friday at Black Films Matter, The Hipp (25 SE 2nd Pl), 8:30 pm.

Open Poetry every Thursday at CMC, 8 pm: Gvl's longest-running poetry jam, open to all; informal & welcoming to both readers & listeners, this week in SKA space.

Kristen Arnett, author of Most Deadly Things, speaks at CMC sponsored by Third House Books, 6 pm. 1880: Helen Keller born.

4 Veg for Life Potluck Picnic & Vegan Cookout, Westside Park (1001 NW 34th St), 11 am.

INDEPENDENCE DAY

11 Stonewall Democrats meet, Pride Ctr (3131 NW 13th St), 2nd Thursdays, 5:30-6:30 pm.

Frog Drinks hosts Fla Herpetological Society, 1st Mag (1220 SE Veitch St), 6 pm.

"Phoenix Rising" storytelling at The Woolly (20 N Main St), 7 pm.

Improv Comedy Night, The Hipp (25 SE 2nd Pl), 8 pm.

WORLD POPULATION DAY

18 Amazing Grace (Aretha Franklin concert film), The Hipp (25 SE 2nd Pl), 6 pm.

1918: Nelson Mandela born. 1921: John Glenn born.

25 NAACP - see 6/27. Sublime & Michael Franti at St. Aug. Amphitheatre (also 7/26) - see pg 9.

Aug 1 Sierra Club hosted by Frog Drinks at 1st Magnitude Brewing (1220 SE Veitch St), 6-9 pm.

The Conch storytelling, 1st Thursdays at Lightnin' Salvage, 7 pm. 1291: Switzerland independent. 1960: Dahomey (now Benin) indep.

8 Climate Crisis Intergenerational Discussion, Wilhelmina. Johnson Ctr (321 NW 10th St), 10 am-noon.

15 "Pants on Fire" storytelling at The Woolly, 7 pm. FULL MOON

22 1945: French Paratroopers land in Vietnam.

29 1966: Beatles' last concert. 2005: New Orleans floods.

28 Alivia Hunter at Heartwood Soundstage (619 S. Main St), 7:30 pm.

De Lions of Jah roar reggae at Free Fridays Concert, Bo Diddley Plaza (111 E Univ Ave), 8 pm; see pg 10.

1969: New York City cops trespass into Stonewall Inn.

5 All-American show tunes, Bo Diddley, Plaza, 8 pm, free. 1811: Venezuela declares independence. 1962: Algeria declares independence.

12 Summer of '69 + 50, Free Fridays Concert at Bo Diddley Plaza, 8 pm; see pg 10.

QUEERAOKE at CMC, 9 pm. Whether here or anywhere: please support live music!

19 Bluegrass Jam & potluck, CMC, 3rd Fridays, 6-9+ pm.

Dragformation Showcase, Hipp (25 SE 2nd Pl), 7 pm, \$10.

Story Summit, Heartwood Soundstage (619 S. Main St), 7-10 pm.

Other Voices sing California Dreamin' (etc): Free Fridays concert, Bo Diddley Plaza, 8 pm; see pg 10.

Macbeth opens at Acrosstown Rep (619 S. Main St), 8 pm; through 8/11.

26 Gvl Artwalk, last Fridays, 7 pm - see pg 10 & artwalkgainesville.com.

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

Redneck Revolt Benefit Show, CMC, time tba.

Captive Eddies release reggae, rock & roots: Free Fridays concert, Bo Diddley Plaza, 8 pm.

2 The Duppies do ska & reggae, Bo Diddley Plaza, 8 pm, free.

9 Ramblin' Mutts bark the blues, BD Plaza, 8 pm, free; see pg 10. NAGASAKI DAY

16 Bluegrass Jam & potluck, CMC, 3rd Fridays, 6-9+ pm.

The Relics relive Woodstock, Bo Diddley Plaza, 8 pm, free.

23 Philip JazzDad Thomas, BDP, 8 pm, free; see pg 10.

30 The Progressive Rock Experience rolls from ELP to Elton John, BD Plaza, 8 pm, free.

Afro-Feminism film at Santa Fe CIED (530 E Univ Ave), 6 pm.

29 Community Meditation, CMC, 9-10 am every Saturday; Yoga class 10 am every Saturday now.

Plant Club meets, CMC, 2 pm.

Girls Rock Camp Student Showcase Concert, High Dive, 4 pm.

6 1st Saturday Invasive Species Round-up - see Gainesville Greenway Challenge on F'book, 9 am.

Veg for Life - see 7/4. Satchmo at the Waldorf final performance, Actors' Warehouse (619 NE 1st St), 3 pm; see pg 9.

13 Gvl Memories Community Project - bring pre-1941 G'ville photos to Matheson Museum Archives (418 E. Univ Ave), 11 am.

Environmental Club, CMC, noon.

Java Jam (coffee, music, etc), Curia on the Drag (2029 NW 6th St), noon.

People's Assembly, free food, CMC, 6-9 pm.

Swap City Sirens vs Orlando Sun Blockers, MLK Ctr (1028 NE 14th St), 6 pm, \$8 adv/10 door; see pg 20.

20 Free Store at CMC, 2-5 pm.

Punk Bird Bash, with Radon, No More, Piss Test, & others: CMC, doors 8 pm.

27 ACLC Medicare for All party, Working Food (219 NW 10th Ave), 5 pm; see pg 24.

Connect the Dots music, CMC, 8? pm.

Palimony, Whiskey & Co., & Magic Dust at The Atlantic; doors, 9 pm.

3 "Sirens & Strings", 201 SE 2nd Ave (just east of Hipp), 4-6 pm.

Veg for Life vegan potluck, UUF, \$2+ veg dish for 6, 1st Sats, 6:30 pm.

10 Sugar Mama's Pop-up Restaurant, Working Food (219 NW 10th Ave), 6 pm.

The Currys, Heartwood, 8 pm.

17 Free Store at CMC, 2-5 pm. 1st Magnitude Brewing 5th Anniversary Party, 1220 SE Veitch St, 1 pm-midnight; more on Sunday.

24 Women's Equality Day luncheon, Wyndham Gardens Conf Ctr (2900 SW 13th St), 11:30 am, \$25 - see fosba.com (reserve seats by Aug 20) & pg 2.

Swamp City Sirens vs Beachside Brawlers - see 7/13 & pg 20.

31 1957: Malaysia independent. 1991: Kyrgyzstan independent.



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

And the good news is ...

Three Florida Democratic Reps. co-sponsoring U.S. House effort to study slavery reparations

By Robin Bravender, Florida Phoenix

WASHINGTON — The U.S. House was slated to hold a hearing on June 19 on legislation that would establish a commission to consider reparations for the descendants of slaves.

Three Florida Democrats — U.S. Reps. Frederica Wilson, Alcee Hastings and Al Lawson are among the bill's 57 co-sponsors.

The bill isn't expected to be signed into law anytime soon, but it's elevating the national discussion about reparations for slavery as Democratic politicians — including White House hopefuls — are increasingly willing to support the idea.

The legislation, led by Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee (D-Texas), has the stated goal of addressing "the fundamental injustice, cruelty, brutality, and inhumanity of slavery in the United States and the 13 American colonies between 1619 and 1865." It would establish a commission to consider a national apology and reparations for slavery.

The bill would "begin the long-delayed process of atonement for slavery," Jackson Lee said earlier this year when she introduced the bill. She warned that the continuing economic implications of slavery remain largely ignored by mainstream analyses.

"These economic issues are the root cause of many critical issues in the African-American community today, such as education, healthcare and criminal justice policy, including policing practices," she said. "The call for reparations represents a commitment to entering a constructive dialogue on the role of slavery and racism in shaping present-day conditions in our community and American society."

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) said in February that she supports the bill, suggesting that it could see a floor vote in the chamber this Congress. The measure is unlikely to move in the GOP-led Senate, but it promises to fuel Democratic discussions on the campaign trail.

It's been a particularly hot topic for candidates seeking the Democratic presidential nomination in 2020.

Democratic candidate Beto O'Rourke pledged his support for reparations for descendants of slaves last week during a campaign stop in South Carolina.

In the Senate, presidential candidate Cory Booker (D-N.J.) is

the lead sponsor of companion legislation to the House bill that would require a study of reparations. His Senate co-sponsors include his fellow White House contenders Kirsten Gillibrand (N.Y.), Kamala Harris (Calif.), Elizabeth Warren (Mass.), Bernie Sanders (Vt.) and Amy Klobuchar (Minn.).

Author Marianne Williamson, another Democratic presidential candidate, has proposed a \$200 billion to \$500 billion plan of reparations for slavery to be paid over 20 years.

Barack Obama opposed reparations for descendants of slaves when he ran for president in 2008, telling the NAACP that reparations would offer "an excuse for some to say 'we've paid our debt'" and to avoid the "much harder work" of enforcing anti-discrimination laws, improving schools, rehabilitating young men coming out of prison and lifting Americans out of poverty.

The House hasn't held a hearing on slavery reparations since 2007, when the panel considered similar legislation from longtime Rep. John Conyers (D-Mich.). Conyers introduced the same measure every Congress for decades, but it never advanced. Jackson Lee took the lead on the effort after Conyers' 2017 retirement.

The commission outlined in the legislation would consist of 13 members, including three appointed by the president, three appointed by the speaker of the House, one appointed by the President pro tempore of the Senate (currently Iowa Republican Sen. Chuck Grassley), and six selected by organizations that have championed reparations.

As the House Judiciary Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties examines the proposal on Wednesday, the panel will hear from several prominent champions of reparations.

Ta-Nehisi Coates, a journalist and the author of "The Case for Reparations," — a 2014 article in *The Atlantic* that's credited with renewing interest in the ongoing debate — will be among those testifying to Congress.

Coates summarized his argument this month in an interview with the *New Yorker*, saying, "The case I make for reparations is, virtually every institution with some degree of history in America, be it public, be it private, has a history of extracting wealth and resources out of the African-American community. ... [B]ehind all of that oppression was actually theft. In other words, this is not just mean. This is not just maltreatment. This is the theft of resources out of that community."

Actor Danny Glover is also slated to testify Wednesday. Glover is also a UNICEF goodwill ambassador who has publicly supported the congressional discussion about reparations.

Glover was quoted in 2015 saying, "I'm not holding out for the reparations, but I think certainly that reparations provide an opportunity for us to organize in different ways around the question itself ... If you don't bring up the issue, the brutality of it, you don't get a discussion around it."

To read this article with links to sources, go to: tinyurl.com/Iguana1000

From *NEIGHBORHOODS*, p. 1

completion of this newest complex would mean that over 1,000 additional transient students would occupy a mid-rise building, bringing with them increased traffic, noise, trash, and a student culture that would not only alter the character of the community, but contribute to the erasure of the indigenous people and culture of this historic residential and business district that has been in existence since Reconstruction.

The developer has publicly stated that there will be only one commercial entity that will be housed in the mid-rise (with its owners receiving a penthouse). This business is not minority-owned and is new when compared to the other existing businesses in the area that are owned by African Americans. He has also stated that though he does not have to, he will include 6-8 "affordable homes" down the street from the mid-rise.

The inclusion of only one business that is non-minority owned in the mid-rise, and only 6-8 affordable homes (3 percent of total) compared to over 350 units of student housing is gentrification and inequitable development.

Join us and sign a petition telling the Gainesville Florida Housing Corporation Inc., the Gainesville Housing Authority, our City Commissioners and the leadership of Gainesville to:

- Cease all activities regarding the sale of this property and conduct a full investigation of the deal and the laws pertaining to the property's sale.
- Implement and uphold the principles outlined in the Equity Plan introduced by Commissioner Gail Johnson and practice community stabilization by advancing racial and economic equity in housing.
- Transform how developers work with the community to create places that represent local priorities and create opportunities for the indigenous people and business owners of the community.
- Make good on the promise to former Seminary Lane Residents and the citizens of Gainesville by building housing on this site that they and others in economically similar situations can afford.

The petition is available at: <https://actionnetwork.org/petitions/petition-to-stand-for-seminary-lane> or tinyurl.com/Iguana1009

Thank you for your support! Visit the Alliance at <https://www.facebook.com/gainesville-alliance-for-equitable-development-48727811535832/> or tinyurl.com/Iguana1009

Beware of Project Blitz!

"Project Blitz" (yes, they really call it that) is a major political scheme by a coalition of hardcore right-wing Christian nationalist groups to push legislation reshaping the US into a theocracy, beginning with "symbolic" measures such as mandatory "In God We Trust" posters in classrooms and going toward legalizing across-the-board discrimination against the LGBTQ+ community, non-believers, and others.

For an introduction, see tinyurl.com/Iguana1003, for an in-depth report go to: tinyurl.com/Iguana1004, for information on defending actual freedom of/from religion, go to: www.blitzwatch.org/

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Editors' picks: News that didn't fit

✪ **The indictment of Assange is a blueprint for making journalists into felons** by Glenn Greenwald in *Common Dreams* *The First Amendment is meaningless if it only protects people the government recognizes as journalists. Now every journalist and citizen must decide whether their personal animus toward Assange is more important than preserving press freedom in the United States.* Go to: tinyurl.com/Iguana1005

✪ **'India is fighting for her soul': Arundhati Roy on fascism, Modi and being a writer in today's world** in *Scroll.in* *'In this blitzkrieg of idiocy, Facebook "likes," fascist marches, fake-news coups, and what looks like a race toward extinction — what is literature's place?' Literature provides shelter. Shelter of all kinds.* Go to: tinyurl.com/Iguana1006

✪ **Why the UAW Lost Again in Chattanooga** by Chris Brooks in *Labor Notes* *The union lost, 776 yes to 833 no, with 93 percent of eligible workers casting ballots at the Volkswagen plant in Chattanooga. "The company's anti-union tactics were horrible." Find out why.* Go to: tinyurl.com/Iguana1007

✪ **Scientists Say They Have Created An Environmentally Friendly Alternative To Styrofoam** by Steve Hanley in *Cleantech.com* *Styrofoam is a perfect example of a capitalist economy run amok. Though it has many wonderful uses, it is a disaster from an environmental perspective. It's non-biodegradable, releases toxic fumes when burned, and takes 500 years to break down. But we can live without it.* Go to: tinyurl.com/Iguana1008



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WGOT streams worldwide wherever you are, Tune in!

By Fred Sowder
WGOT Station Coordinator

For over 11 ½ years, WGOT has existed, through thick and thin, as the Civic Media Center's radio station. Summertime is always a bit slow, but there are things you can do to help us out, with little or no cost involved.

First, tune in on our worldwide internet stream. There's a direct listen link at wgot.org or you can find us on the streaming app TuneIn. You can probably even listen to us on your television. We've been streaming since April and are still getting the word out, so please help spread the word on social media and elsewhere.

We're always looking for volunteers to make your community radio station sound better. More live programming is a top priority, with scheduled music and interviews planned for the upcoming Punk Bird Bash at the CMC on July 20 with Radon, NoMore, Thunderclap, and Piss Test. If all goes well, we hope to step up our live coverage of Fest 18 in November. We won't be able to do it without your help, so please check Facebook for details on our next volunteer/board meetings.

For those of you who have a few bucks to spare, our Facebook Shop is open. There, you can order great WGOT swag like t-shirts (those raglan shirts are very popular), tote bags (the Gainesville plastic bag ban is coming in 2020—prepare



Little Jake and the Soul Searchers playing Free Fridays at Bo Diddley Plaza on June 7, part of WGOT's sponsorship of African American Music Month. (Photo by Doug Clifford)

now), and other accoutrements. All proceeds help keep WGOT up and running throughout the year. The GoFundMe streaming and Patreon sustaining fund campaigns continue and are a vital part of our financial existence, so chip in if you can. Local businesses can help us by becoming on-air sponsors. With just over a dollar per mention, you can join the ranks of loyal sponsors like Daily Green and Buckhalter Heating & Air.

We're wrapping up a great month-long sponsorship of African American Music Appreciation Month in the Free Fridays concert series at the Bo Diddley Plaza in

partnership with the City of Gainesville, where bands such as Little Jake and the Soul Searchers and The Shakedown have entertained the masses. We'll be sponsoring more Free Fridays shows later in the season featuring The Duppies, Captive Eddies, Ramblin' Mutts, and Phillip "Jazzdad" Thomas.

As we look toward fall, we hope to have a back-to-school fundraiser with DJ sets from station favorites as well as benefit shows featuring Gainesville's musical talent that are always crucial to our success. So keep us tuned in at 100.1 FM or streaming live at wgot.org. And thank you. 🐸

Business responds to AIDS

by WellFlorida

Businesses in Alachua County are invited to participate in Business Responds to AIDS, a partnership between WellFlorida Council and local businesses interested in sharing HIV prevention messages and materials with their customers, employees and neighborhood.

The program helps to raise community awareness about HIV/AIDS, motivate residents in high prevalence neighborhoods to get tested, increase the number of persons who know their HIV status and link them to services.

Businesses help reduce the stigma and complacency about the need for HIV prevention and are essential partners in stopping the spread of AIDS in their communities. Some participating businesses provide free condoms and serve as HIV-testing sites.

Thank you to the Gainesville businesses currently participating in the program. For a full list, visit <https://everyonestopaidnow.org/its-everyones-business/> or tinyurl.com/Iguana1012.

Businesses interested in joining the program can contact Jeffrey Solius at jsolius@wellflorida.org or call 352-313-6500 ext. 134.

WellFlorida Council Inc. is the local health council for North Central Florida and specializes in consultancy for health causes. Visit www.wellflorida.org for more information. 🐸

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Everyone's Doing It. It's Everyone's Business and ARTAS are components of the High Impact Prevention project overseen by WellFlorida Council. Visit: EveryonestopAIDSnow.org for more information.

The next issue of the Iguana will be published the last week of August.



www.civicmediacenter.org
coordinators@civicmediacenter.org
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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

NOTE: CMC will be closed for its regular hours during summer break until July 8

Recurring events:

- THURSDAYS: Volunteer Meeting @5:30pm
 - THURSDAYS: Poetry Jam @8pm
 - SATURDAYS: Meditation @9am
 - SATURDAYS: Yoga @10am
 - SUNDAYS: CMC Zine Committee Meeting @3pm
-
- WED, JUL 3 Nonviolent Communication Basics Workshop @6pm
Dream Defenders Meet Up @7pm
 - TUE, JUL 9 IWOC meeting @6pm
 - WED, JUL 10 Cell 411 @6pm
 - SAT, JUL 12 QUEERAOKE @9pm
 - SAT, JUL 13 Environmental Club Meeting @12pm
Peoples Assembly with free food @6pm
 - WED, JUL 17 Nonviolent Communication Beyond Basics Workshop @6pm
 - FRI, JUL 19 Bluegrass & Old Time Jam @6pm (Potluck then Jam)
 - SAT, JUL 20 Free Store @2pm
Punk Bird 1 year Anniversary Show w/Radon, No More @8pm
 - TUE, JUL 23 IWOC Letter Writing Night @6pm
 - WED, JUL 24 Connect the Dots Live Music w/Insignificant Other @8pm
 - FRI, JUL 26 Redneck Revolt Benefit Show
 - SAT, JUL 27 Connect the Dots Live Music @9pm
 - WED, JUL 31 Zine Read Meet Up @6pm
 - FRI, JUL 26 Redneck Revolt Benefit Show
 - SAT, JUL 27 Connect the Dots Live Music @9pm
 - WED, JUL 31 Zine Read Meet Up @6pm
 - FRI, AUG 16 Bluegrass & Old Time Jam @6 (Potluck then Jam)

Check Instagram and Facebook for more details and other as yet unscheduled events in August

Please support the CMC however you can:

- volunteering & ideas
- donations
- memberships
- attendance at our events

Grassroots support keeps us going!

To get weekly announcement email, contact: coordinators@civicmediacenter.org and request to be added to the list.

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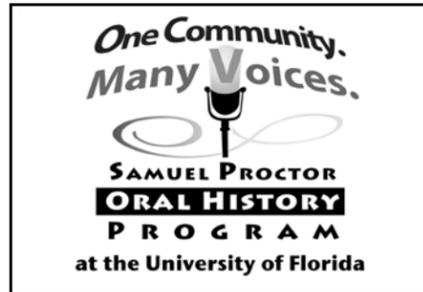
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(and others!)

History and the people who make it: Magaline Duncan



Magaline Duncan [D], farmworker, was interviewed by David Lynch [L] in July, 2013.

This is the 53rd in a series of transcript excerpts from the UF Samuel Proctor Oral History Program collection. Interpolations in {curly brackets} by Iguana.

Transcript edited by Pierce Butler.

L: Where and when were you born?

D: January 23, 1942 in Madison, Florida. I grew up—eight years old when we left. We moved to Pahokee. When we moved here {Apopka}, I was thirteen.

L: You went to high school in Apopka?

D: Unh-uh.

L: You worked?

D: Uh-huhh.

L: What was life like during your childhood? What did your parents do?

D: They were working. We didn't have a very good childhood because when {I was about 6 years old} my father died, then everything was on my mother. So it was kinda hard. But we made it. She used to do housework and work down in a diner. My six brothers passed away and one of my sisters so it came to three left. We just worked helping clean the diner. We used to pick cotton, pick up pecans.

L: What were some of the best lessons that you learned when you were a kid that you still hold today?

D: How to stay out of trouble. The next thing: how to be yourself. The next thing: don't go around—back then the kids didn't use to run in the streets like they do now. 'Boy you better be back home,' they said.

L: What are some of your favorite memories from childhood?

D: Like [laughter] how we used to have to clean up. If they said wash clothes, you better wash them clothes and they better be clean. Cuz if you didn't they would snatch 'em off the line and make you redo them. My parents used to get out and play

ball with us and jump rope, and hopscotch and all that good stuff.

L: What jobs have you done since becoming an adult and getting out on your own?

D: I done worked in the field, I worked in a hotel. I worked in a restaurant. I packed corn, I picked weeds up. We packed corn, when we'd be off, I would go to a hotel and work the rest of the evening. Most of my young life I was in the field, picking cotton, cropping potatoes, stringing em on sticks, picking up pecans.

Sometime we had to separate the people. Keep it from getting outta hand. I hit a guy once cuz he hit my baby brother in the head with a pipe and bust it. And when I seen all that blood, I got kinda mad. I just pushed him into that hot water thing and it bust on him. But other than that, you learn to control your temper. If my boss had it out, you really had it out because all our life we made them people rich.

One year, they told us they don't need us 'cuz they had hired another crew to do that corn work because those Mexicans were working for nothing. And all the years it was Black people putting up that corn, he wanted to get rid of us and hire Mexicans.

We were speaking up for everybody cuz they were scared to talk for theyself and something go wrong, then we gotta talk up for them. He told me, he said, 'Y'all can go too.' I told him we wasn't going nowhere, this our job. Sometimes you got to speak up for your job because if you don't, they'll walk all over you.

I left in '97 because they were getting ready to close down the farm and I started at the school. I worked there for 16 years. I got sick so I just retired.

I wasn't too old to work 'cause I would work. I would clean them three buildings. I told my boss I was gonna work until I hit 72, but I got a blood clot. I had to put it down.

See, I got one paper that's the holdup from me getting my retirement and all my other benefits. When I get that one paper, then I'm gonna get it. But, I still want me a part-time job. I mean, when you used to working, it's hard to don't work. And God knows I'm used to working since I was about seven years old. I liked to bring that tobacco home on sticks. You take a string and and you string it, and when you get to the end of this long stick, you wrap

it and you tie it down. The only thing I didn't like was when you went to put it up in the barn, that was some bad smelling stuff. Whoo! [Laughter]

But, we had to do it. Then we picked cotton and put it in the sheets, We picked up pecans and we separated them and put em in bags. We would go out after school and pick up pecans and pick tobacco, and pick cotton. We couldn't get water 'cause the water was way off. The man used to say, "We got some water somewhere." That's the one thing I don't ever want to work in no more. The cotton. Oh no. Unh-uh. That's a BACK breaker. Oh yeah. Back then, we do a sheet, we get a dime a piece. And cropping the tobacco and stringing 'em on the sticks, we get a dime a piece. Now my brother, he was about nine years old, he could drive on the {tractor}, plow a field. Him and my older sister, Oh Lord.

L: I heard that there was a lot of exposure to pesticides.

D: Oh yeah. We used to be out there in the field and that stuff rained down. We got that a lot of times. So many men started dying and getting sick. They were still doing it. Later on, they had made them have water so they could wash their hands before they eat. Those men didn't have nothing like that out there.

They started wearing gloves and goggles. When they used the pesticide, they had to wear boots and a rubber suit. That's what they should have been doing all along because those men were dying out there. My brother got sick. Yeah, he had cancer and he died. They would have killed us if we were still out there. They supposed to do it five o'clock in the morning, and we were going to work at seven and they would still be spraying. We didn't have no where to wash our hands either.

L: Have you personally experienced any health concerns from the pesticide?

D: No, not really. I have arthritis in my hands and it come from like that chicory, because that's big-head stuff, you got to catch that stuff with one hand and cut it with the other one. After a while, you don't have no feeling in your fingers. You couldn't wear gloves. And you didn't have no feeling in your feet 'cause it was so cold. You could not put a fire in that muck because it started burning and it's hard to put out. You would get that burn,

burn, burn down in that muck. So we could never put a fire there. Sometimes, you would cut your hand and you won't know you cut till you see them bleed.

L: You mentioned that you had a husband. When did you meet him?

D: Oh Lord. We were married in 1963. He died 1982. He worked on that farm for a long time.

L: Did y'all have any kids?

D: Yeah, two. My baby son passed away, but my other son, he in prison. For stupid stuff. He went to school, he graduated, went to college. [Laughs] They gave him ten years. For stupid stuff! He tried to rob a store and they got nothing. He said now "I wish I had another chance," well maybe he learning.

I took my kids to church, from when they were babies. And I used to sing in the choir in the church. My older daughter, she used to be so smart. She would come home from school every day and get that Bible and sit in that chair and read. But when they grown, they don't do what they supposed to do. Now my older daughter still go to church.

L: Do you think your faith has influenced you?

D: Yeah, it makes you strong. Make you believe. Don't ever doubt yourself. Because if you put a doubt on yourself, you gone have problems. But it gave me faith and believe. It gave me strength. When I go to church right now, even though I'm 71 years old, I go to Sunday School every Sunday.

L: Is there anything we haven't talked about that you would like to share?

D: It was a helluva ride. But other than that, it was good. What happened with us, I try not to think about it. You see and forgive, and leave it there.

L: What was the relationships like with the bosses that you had?

D: I would joke with 'em, they would joke with me. Sometimes the head boss would make me kinda angry. It's good that you can work places and get along with people.

When we first started that Farmworkers Association thing, there was about 7 or 8 of us. Believe me, we faced them people when they come down here. We had to face some people from Tallahassee, I think they went to Tallahassee too. But I couldn't go because I had another job working part-time.

I was taking medicine with a blood thinner. I was getting kind of slow in my work. Some days I just get weak, I get real tired. My doctor, he told me that they might have to amputate my leg for a blood clot. They were talking about keeping me because I had two blood clots in my leg.

We go and we working because we used to working. And some get in a lot of pain. And you don't know you're sick. I found that out. I was sweeping that wall down and that spider bit me on the finger. My hand went to swelling and I thought maybe it was coming from that spider bite. But it wasn't. Then I had arthritis in my knee. 'Cause I did a lot of mopping, a LOT of mopping, and a lot of sweeping, and a lot of pushing around that vacuum cleaner. My feet start bothering me and start swelling. I {dropped} a chair on my feet and those chairs, they're pretty heavy. That thing just hurt the top of my feet. Woah! Man, that thing hurt me. The doctor said, "Maybe one day you can get it operated on." Because where that chair hit, they thought it was broken. It wasn't. It was a blood clot.

Yeah, I had some good times and I had some bad times. My children are always pushing me about retiring anyways. I told them, "Just shut up 'cause I'll retire when I'm ready." [Laughter] When you get to a job that you can handle, it don't bother you. You know what you got to do and you go in and get it done. You have to know how to take control of your work. Don't let it control you.

L: Did you experience much discrimination about race or sex?

D: No, none of that. Because, you know, I just like people. I mean, the White people, the Mexicans, the Black people. We eat together, we laugh and talk. I have to give it to them, they were nice.

Audio & transcript of this interview to be posted at <http://oral.history.ufl.edu>. 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 MEDICARE, p. 24

Since then the cost of insurance premiums, deductibles, co-pays and many medications have all risen. As a result, many people who are nominally insured forego doctor visits or taking their medications. The 2016 election brought healthcare back to public attention through Bernie Sanders' campaign and Trump's threats to revoke the ACA. Although not revoked, the ACA was weakened. Mandatory coverage was abolished and insurance companies were permitted to issue short term plans with lower costs and fewer benefits.

It is exciting that now 70 percent of the public is in favor of Medicare for All and legislation is in place in the House and the Senate. But even if Democrats win the Presidency and both houses in 2020, any healthcare reform will be aggressively opposed by insurance companies. Experts and politicians are considering various proposals about how and whether to transition to Medicare for All, as well as whom and what it should cover and how to pay for it. Public option? Early buy-in of Medicare coverage? One state at a time? Allow some role for insurance companies?

We will be considering these challenges to universal healthcare as well as celebrating the anniversary of Medicare's enactment. Please join us for discussion and cake at a birthday party for Medicare Saturday July 27, 3 to 5 pm at Working Food, 219 NW 10th Avenue, Gainesville. ☼

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SUNDAY: CLOSED

From LGBTQ, p. 1

Central American gay pride celebrations have multiplied since the 2000s. Tens of thousands of people attended San Salvador's pride march in June 2018. A smaller annual celebration stops traffic in Guatemala City where capital city residents have come to expect it and often pause to observe. Hundreds of Hondurans celebrate pride in Tegucigalpa and San Pedro Sula, despite death threats and brutal attacks.

Central American capital cities and secondary cities, like Quetzaltenango, have thriving gay club scenes, which have long provided young people with a home away from home. But as daily life continues to be difficult for many Central Americans and more and more LGBTQ people are forced to migrate to United States, these support systems are destabilized.

Since the mid-twentieth century, the Constitutions of the Republics of El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala have opened with an affirmation of the state's duty to guarantee the freedom, justice, security, and common good of all inhabitants of the Republic.

On paper, the constitutional guarantees en-

dured through the nations' civil wars, while the government systematically targeted its citizens, reveals a foundational hypocrisy.

Since the end of the civil wars and in the so-called post-peace era, this impunity has only deepened. While criminal justice systems eagerly criminalize young, poor, and LGBTQ people, they repeatedly demonstrate their reluctance to prosecute cases of corruption and violent crime.

Emblematic of this determined impunity is El Salvador's 1993 blanket amnesty law that was passed just days after the release of the United Nations Truth Commission Report that evaluated war crimes and proposed accountability measures.

The Legislative Assembly, dominated by right-wing ARENA partisans, voted to shield all military and guerrilla personnel from prosecution for human rights abuses committed during the war.

The Inter-American Commission on Human Rights has since declared the amnesty law a violation of international law and the nation's Supreme Court struck down the law in 2016.

But, as recently as April, newly-elected president Nayib Bukele is considering a new

amnesty law. In any case, impunity rates in El Salvador (and other Northern Triangle countries of Guatemala and Honduras) are as high as 95 percent in some regions. El Salvador's status as one of the world's most violent peacetime countries endures.

In this already precarious context, LGBTQ people are particularly at risk.

For one, many LGBTQ Central Americans are poor, indigenous, or from rural communities—all groups that have been targeted by the state for centuries.

Even more, because of the very low public opinion toward LGBTQ people, violence against them is underreported. Simply collecting statistics about anti-LGBTQ violence is nearly impossible.

In other words, violence against LGBTQ people usually does not make it to the offices of the public ministry to be considered part of the astoundingly low 95 percent impunity rate.

Hate crimes on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity, like so many other crimes, are scarcely prosecuted and are largely tolerated. In immigration detention centers/concentration camps, LGBTQ detainees are subjected to higher

rates of sexual violence, harassment, and neglect than other detainees.

This is the precariousness of life and the criminalization of sexual identity and expression that so many people are fleeing when they cross the border to Mexico, and then travel northward through extreme conditions to cross another border to enter the United States, where their fates remain uncertain.

A 2017 Amnesty International report found that "gay men and trans women are exposed to gender-based violence at every point on their journey [to the U.S.] in search of protection."

The report, entitled "No Safe Place," found that threats of violence were so pervasive as to constitute LGBTQ people as one of the "risk profiles" for asylum seekers, according to the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

The report states "it is therefore acknowledged that these people may need international protection in accordance with the 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol."

Even the U.S. State Department acknowledged that "NGOs reported that public officials, including police, engaged in violence and discrimination against sexual minorities" in its Country Report on Human Rights Practices for 2017.

It is well-known that the state agencies in charge of processing identification documents, the police, and the Attorney Gen-

eral's Office harassed transgender and gay individuals when they applied for identification cards or reported cases of violence.

Furthermore, public opinion surveys on questions of basic social equity in housing, civil status, access to health care, and public safety consistently demonstrate that public opinion toward LGBTQ citizens is discriminatory, and that these opinions are informed by conservative evangelical and Catholic religious beliefs.

The governments of El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala consistently demonstrate that they are unwilling to protect their LGBTQ citizens. They shirk their basic responsibility to ensure their right to life, leaving LGBTQ people uniquely vulnerable.

So, what is to be done? LGBTQ advocacy groups in Central America persistently fight for visibility by forming community organizations, holding marches, pressuring lawmakers, falling in love, and simply holding hands on the street.

Congresswoman Sandra Morán, the first out lesbian to be elected in Guatemala, has been tireless in her work as an intersectional feminist and gay icon. Translatinx scholar-activists like Zeron and Pilar Sálazar Argueta are pushing the conversation forward in the diaspora.

Other experts in Latin American history, culture, and politics are responding to urgent emails from attorneys representing asylum-seekers, writing expert wit-

ness briefs, testifying in courts that to be forced to return to Central America is to be made to confront of a life of day-to-day risk, housing and health insecurity, and street harassment—or worse.

As an ever-more-corporatized Pride Month fades, it is time to ask: what is a parade, a march, a migration? Don't we all want to feel free? To belt out "At first, I was afraid, I was petrified ...," then "Did you think I'd crumble ... Did you think I'd lay down and die?"—and all together now—"I will survive ... Oh, as long as I know how to love, I know I'll stay alive ... I've got all my life to live ... And I've got all my love to give and I'll survive ... I will survive ..."

Resources

Human Rights Coalition of Alachua County: <https://hrcaalachua.com/>

Madres Sin Fronteras: <https://www.facebook.com/MSFGainesville/>

QLatinx (Orlando-based organization of queer Latinx folks): <https://www qlatinx.org/>

Familia: Trans Queer Liberation Movement (national organization working to achieve collective liberation of trans, queer, and gender non-conforming Latinxs): <https://familiatqlm.org/>

TransLatin@ Coalition (Los Angeles-based group that supports Latinx leaders and community organizers): <https://www.translatinacoalition.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

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 builds awareness and lobbies for sensible climate policies, btancig@gmail.com, 352-214-1778

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

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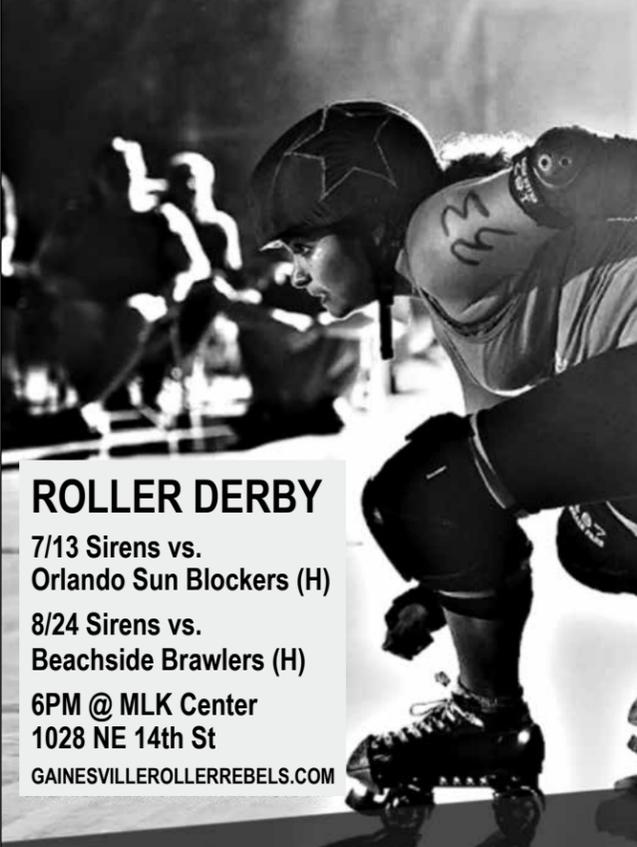


Sunday Assembly Gainesville is a secular, radically inclusive community that meets to hear great talks, sing together and celebrate the wonder of the one life we know we have.

We gather at 11 AM on the 3rd Sunday of the month.
CIED Building of Santa Fe College
530 W. University Avenue
Downtown Gainesville, FL

Established 2016 - Accredited 2017

sagainesville.weebly.com | [@SundayAssemblyGainesville](https://www.facebook.com/SundayAssemblyGainesville)
sundayassembly32601@gmail.com | [@sagainesville](https://www.instagram.com/sagainesville)



ROLLER DERBY

7/13 Sirens vs. Orlando Sun Blockers (H)
 8/24 Sirens vs. Beachside Brawlers (H)
 6PM @ MLK Center
 1028 NE 14th St
GAINESVILLEROLLERREBELS.COM

Iguana Directory

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

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. gainesvillegreens.webs.com, alachuagreen@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, 502 NW 16th Ave., 2B, Gainesville, 32601

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

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

Continued from preceding page

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

Democratic Party of Alachua County Meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month at 6pm. in the Alachua County School Board Meeting Room at 620 E University Ave. Office is at 901 NW 8th Ave., 352-373-1730, alachuadems.org

Divest Gainesville advocates divesting City financial assets from fossil fuel industries and educating on racial justice and climate change, youngersn@outlook.com

Divest UF is a student-run organization and a loose collective of Gators seeking to divest the university from fossil fuels, the prison industry, and arms & surveillance companies. http://www.divestuf.org, Facebook @Divest UF

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 Quarterly magazine founded in 2008 with political, social and arts coverage, thefineprintmag.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 6pm first Tuesday every month at Mennonite Meeting House, 1236 NW 18th 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 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; we offer wellness activities, support groups and brief overnight respite stays. Call the Warmline Support: 352-559-4559, gainesvillerespite.org

Gainesville Roller Rebels - a womens' Flat Track roller derby team needs skaters and volunteer assistance, join@gainesvillrollerrebels.com

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 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)

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; gainesvillehumanists@gmail.com.

Humanists on Campus UF organization provides a community for freethinking, secular humanists. Goals include promoting values of humanism, discussing issues humanists face internationally. We strive to participate in community service and bring a fun, dynamic group to the university! Preferred contact info: email 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, projectmanagement@indivisiblegnv.org

Incarcerated Workers Organizing Committee (IWOC), branch of IWW, GainesvilleIWOC@gmail.com

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@lwvalachua.org<mailto:info@lwvalachua.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

Madres Sin Fronteras (Mothers Without Borders) is a local grassroots immigrant-led organization that works to protect the rights of immigrants' families in our community and to ensure that all are treated with dignity and respect. Email: msfgainesville@gmail.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: Our.Circle.Of.Care@gmail.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, 352-575-0495, nwl@womensliberation.org

NCF AWIS - an advocacy organization championing the interest of women in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) across all disciplines and employment sectors. Meetings are usually the first Monday of the month (except holidays) from 5:30 -7:30pm, 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 Revolution North-Central Florida, inspired by Bernie Sanders, bringing progressive voices into the Democratic party, contact@ourrevncfl.com

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

Prairie Creek Conservation Cemetery promotes natural burial practices that conserve land and reunite people with the environment. info@prairiecreekconservationcemetery.org, 352-317-7307

Pride Community Center of North Central Florida Resources for the LGBT+ 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

Putnam County Florida Democratic Party, http://www.putnamcountyfloridademocrats.com,

check website or call for upcoming meetings, 107 S. Sixth St., Palatka - For information on volunteer activities call Fran Rossano at 352-475-3012

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. Let's all help protect the planet and buy used. Open to the public. Tues-Sat: 10am-7pm, Sun noon-5. 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"

Students for Justice in Palestine, a cultural and

political organization, sjpuflorida@gmail.com

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 LGBT+ group open to queer folk of all sorts, including students, non-students, faculty and staff. www.grove.ufl.edu/~pride

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://vfp Gainesville.org/

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

Zine Committee meets Sundays at 3pm at the CMC to preserve and promote Travis Fristoe Zine Library at the CMC, cmzinecommittee@gmail.com or on Facebook 🐿

Medicare for all

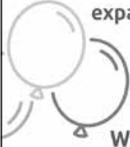
by Gaby Gross, Alachua County Labor Coalition

Before the Affordable Care Act (“Obamacare”) was enacted in 2010, the main work of our organization was to push for single-payer, universal healthcare. We believed then and still do that healthcare is a human right and that its delivery would be less costly and more efficient without the intervention of insurance companies. Although it definitely did not offer universal healthcare, the ACA provided significant improvements in healthcare coverage and it was unfeasible to work against it. The ACLC turned its energy to local issues.

See *MEDICARE*, p. 19




Join us as we celebrate one of the greatest public health triumphs of the 20th century with cake, refreshments, and discussion about improving and expanding Medicare to cover all Americans!



**Saturday, July 27th, 2019, 5:00 @
Working Food (NW 10th Ave., Gainesville, FL.)**

info@laborcoalition.org | 352 375 2832

ALACHUA COUNTY
LABOR COALITION

FEATURING



Dr. Chad Hood
Why Medicare Half-Measures
Aren't Enough



Mystery Guest!

Jane Yii



There was a celebration of the life of Jane Yii at the Civic Media Center on Sunday, June 16. She was a prominent and prolific presence in the Gainesville music scene from 1977 to 2005. She had relocated to Vancouver, Washington, where she died from leukemia May 26.

At the memorial, local artist Elizabeth Barakeh (Beth) Hodges brought and donated this collage painting of Jane to the CMC, and it now hangs behind the stage area. Jane requested donations in her honor be made to either the Civic Media Center or the Gainesville Iguana. Her obituary can be viewed at tinyurl.com/iguana1002. Her music can be heard on her YouTube channel <janeyii>



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Groups: \$20 a year

The Gainesville Iguana

Gainesville's progressive newsletter and events calendar

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

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

(352) 378-5655

www.gainesvilleiguana.org

GainesvilleIguana@cox.net

facebook.com/gainesvilleiguana

Articles from current and past issues since 1996, and PDFs of print issues since 2012 are available at www.gainesvilleiguana.org