



The Gainesville Iguana

*A progressive newsletter
and events calendar*

September, 2019

Vol. 33, Issue 9

**Even as
Brazil burns:**

Save the Santa Fe



By John Moran

The Santa Fe River Bill of Rights (SAFEBOR) campaign to enact new legal safeguards for the beloved river bordering Alachua County is now in full swing.

If the ballot initiative is approved by Alachua County voters in the 2020 general election, the county's home rule charter will be amended to recognize the right of the Santa Fe River to naturally exist and flourish as an ecosystem, and the river's right to be free of activities or practices that infringe upon those rights.

Existing regulatory laws have failed to protect Florida waters, organizers say, and falling aquifers and slime-filled

rivers and springs with diminished flows increasingly are the focus of news stories and citizen concern. Since the Santa Fe River springs are the top layer of groundwater that provides our drinking water, another serious concern is the health of that drinking water.

In order to secure a spot on the November 2020 ballot, campaign organizers and volunteers are poised to gather more than 18,000 petition signatures from registered Alachua County voters in the next six months. With voter approval, Alachua County will be legally positioned to elevate the rights of communities and

See RIVER, p. 21

5 reasons to support the Santa Fe River Bill of Rights

1. Our laws are failing to protect the Santa Fe River because the river does not currently have legal rights of its own.
2. The Santa Fe River and springs are part of the largest concentration of freshwater springs in the world; they deserve to exist and to thrive.
3. The river is pivotal in the economic, social, cultural, and spiritual life of Alachua County's citizens, and is used to "brand" Alachua County.
4. We want our children to be able to have the same experiences we've enjoyed in the springs and on the river.
5. The Santa Fe River springs are the top layer of the groundwater that supplies our drinking water. If we save the springs, we save our drinking water. ♻️

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Nestlé's drain on Ginnie Springs

*By Merrilee Jipson and Jim Tatum
Board Members of Our Santa Fe River*

What's wrong with bottled water and Nestlé?

What's right about it? I can think that maybe if you are out somewhere, hot and thirsty, it is convenient to have a bottle of water handy. Of course you could

have that same amount of water in a nondisposable container. And it would be free. And likely it would be healthier. And you would not leave a plastic container to trash the ground.

What's wrong? Everything.

Pulling millions of gallons of water out of

See NESTLÉ, p. 14

What do chickens, City Commission meetings have in common?

by Janice Garry

I have chickens in my backyard. Sometimes they fight over a worm or tasty bug. If one chicken has a tidbit another chicken might try to steal it. One chicken pecks aggressively to try to steal the bug, the other chicken pecks back to protect her prize. Whichever chicken wins, she struts around, puffs up her feathers, cackles her self-praise to the other chickens and shows a good deal of self-satisfaction. “I’m the chicken, I’m the chicken!”

I learn a lot about people from watching my chickens. Sometimes when I go to City Commission meetings, I see people trying to steal the prize. I’m not totally sure what the prize is. Sometimes I think people are trying to steal the limelight and attention. Sometimes I think they are proud of their own ideas and want to make sure everybody in the room knows that their ideas are the best. Sometimes I think they just want to peck at the commissioners and the other chickens in the room. Once they’ve had their say, I watch their feathers puff up and see them strut back to their chairs, self-congratulatory that they’ve put on such a good show of voicing their ideas or criticisms or cynicism. It’s pretty interesting.

I like to think that as humans, we’ve grown beyond chicken behavior. I like to think that we can all put our worms and bugs together and come up with a feast for our community. I like to think that the point of meeting together is to collaborate. Commissioners and those who attend city meetings are interested in our community doing well. There are loads of good ideas and some not so good ideas. Through discussion and research we can make the distinction.

Recently at City Commission meetings, the aggressive pecking

has peaked. To the point that people have been forced to leave. To the point that the Commission is rethinking how to reform public input to be less inflammatory. There’s a good deal of finger wagging and pointing back and forth. As with most problems, responsibility, and solutions, lie with both sides.

What makes sense? First and foremost, it makes sense that citizens would have input into their government. In Gainesville, there are a couple avenues. A single email address sprays out to all six commissioners and the mayor. CityComm@cityofgainesville.org. Citizens can write their thoughts and ideas any time. There is no automatic system to confirm delivery (don’t ask me why), but sometimes I’ll CC myself on a message. When I get my own message in my inbox, I rest assured that it also got through to the commissioners. The volume is such that typically, commissioners do not respond to an individual email. Citizens can also make an appointment to meet with a commissioner. The administrative staff are helpful and accommodating. Citizens can follow topics of interest by going on the City of Gainesville site and entering key words, such as “tree.” The citizen will be sent notifications of meetings at which the word “tree” is a part of the discussion. The citizen might attend the meeting or, after the meeting, access the minutes online. And, back to the topic at hand, citizens can speak at City Commission meetings.

It makes sense that there would be guidelines, such as a time limit for each person. It makes sense that there is an expectation that the audience would be respectful of each speaker and not express favor or disapproval about what is said. It’s intimidating to most people to get up in front of the mic. Having commentary from the audience can lessen citizen participation. It also makes sense that comments would be about issues and not a personal attack on any person or commissioners. I’ve heard commissioner’s intelligence diminished, their morality disputed and their motives denigrated by chest puffing chickens, uh, speakers. Geez! Really? How can that be a constructive way to get things done?!

We’re all in this together. Each of us bears a responsibility to find a way to share ideas respectfully. Maybe tech can help. Maybe citizens could text in messages that would go on the public record. There could be input to the meetings without having to physically attend. There are lots of ideas bouncing around and we need to stay informed and keep exploring options. In the meantime, leave egos at the door. Enter with ideas worth sharing and know that the person across from you may have another great idea. Birds of a feather ... flock together? 🐦

Hey, Readers!

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

www.gainesvilleiguana.org

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We thank you very much!

From the publisher ...

Resilience...

by Joe Courter

I was out with my friend Lee shooting pool and talking, and he was telling me about all the drama at the City Commission meetings, the issues over three-story apartments and a parking garage in the Porter’s neighborhood, controversy over city emails as public record, and the general tension and lack of decorum at meetings. I was aware from some things I’d seen on Facebook and in the Sun, but was not following it like he was. I mentioned my mind had been preoccupied with the shooting in El Paso, and my outrage over how little the fact this gunman drove from just outside Dallas ... 900 miles ... to do his racist killing had been discussed. That this was more about Dallas than El Paso. Lee said: “What shooting in El Paso?”

We all tend to be in our information silos and have our priorities as to what is important. Lee is plugged in locally and impacting real issues. I am out in the wider world mentally, trying to understand it, see where it is going. I watch very little television news now, almost none. I keep up with Democracy Now!, NPR (increasingly frustrating), and The New Yorker, and read a lot off my screen from the hive mind of Facebook friends and sources like the Intercept, the Atlantic, Tariq Ali, and others. It is a long way from Walter Cronkite.

So we all get our information from all over the place; the real question is how does it affect us, and what if anything do we do with it.

In our wonderful blue dot community, I see a lot of activity going on, and I can only hope that it is going on elsewhere. I see people going down to Miami to witness against the migrant children camps. I see Moms Demand Action having a rally at Cypress and Grove against gun violence. Electoral organizing by various groups has begun. There was a large event marking Medicare’s birthday and the ongoing push for Medicare for All. Renters’ rights have become an organizing effort.

As to be seen in these pages, environmental efforts regarding the Santa Fe River and Nestlé sucking water from Ginnie Springs join the ongoing fight against phosphate mining in Bradford County. People like Jenny Brown and Paul Ortiz are out with important books. Challenges to the prison industrial complex are growing on numerous fronts, against cash bail, solitary confinement, and voting restrictions, and for restorative justice. I have watched friends turn into kickass union and community organizers. We saw this town stand up to the Alt Right when Richard Spencer came to town.

There are those who are just pulling blankets over their heads as the growth of an authoritarian, dare I say fascist, government becomes normalized. There are those who have abandoned hope of defeating the information overlords, seeing the whole system as a corrupted hopeless situation, an artificial construct to keep the masses occupied. That is not how I roll. The CMC recently hosted some people on their way to El Paso to set up a community center with resources for migrants, longtime organizers. One of them spoke of a concept that struck me as appropriate for our times. It was this:

“Resilience: the capacity to recover quickly from difficulties; toughness.”

We need to have that within us, and within our organizations. We need to build it up and have it at the ready. We have a drunken uncle who has moved into our house and has his friends over raising hell. We need to get him to move out, take his friends with him, and then get the house back in order, straighten up the furniture, clean up the yard, and make it even better than it was. He may not want to go, he may face arrest if he leaves and he knows it. But we know what is right, and what is right is worth fighting for.

So whether for kids in cages, for our neighborhoods, for our rivers and springs, or for our rights and liberties, we know what the bigger fight is, and it lies ahead in the next 16 months. Get ready. We are all in this together. 🐦



Joe Courter

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

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

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Jenny Brown



WITHOUT APOLOGY
THE ABORTION STRUGGLE NOW

WITHOUT APOLOGY
THE ABORTION STRUGGLE NOW

BY JENNY BROWN

A necessary argument for building a fighting feminist movement to advance reproductive freedom

“By examining the failings and triumphs of previous movements for abortion rights, *Without Apology* manages to make perfect sense of the current political moment. This book will turn concerned individuals into activists and help beleaguered activists remember how it feels to believe that we can win.”
—**Amelia Bonow, Shout Your Abortion**

October 2019 • VERSO • Versobooks.com

JENNY BROWN organizes, teaches and writes with National Women’s Liberation (womensliberation.org). She was a leader in the successful fight to place the morning-after pill over the counter in the United States, a project director with the Redstockings Women’s Liberation Archives (redstockings.org), and formerly editor of the *Iguana* and *Labor Notes*.

Why the U.S. owes Central America

By Cesar Chelal

This article was originally published on August 9 by The Japan Times. Read more at japantimes.co.jp.

Violent crime and corruption play a significant role in explaining the current migration wave from Central America. But where does all of this come from? Today's refugee wave is a direct consequence of past U.S. interference in Latin America's political and economic development.

Trump sees Latin America as the center of much of the evil that beseeches the contemporary United States. His disgraceful and race-baiting comments about "rapists," etc., warrant no repetition. But it is interesting to note what goes unrecognized in the current U.S. debate about immigration from Central and South America. It is instrumental to ask why these countries are so broken politically, economically and socially.

True, violent domestic crime and corruption play a significant role in explaining the current migration wave from Central America. But where exactly does all of this come from? That's the pivotal question.

Let's zero in on the almost 70 percent of the children who crossed the U.S.-Mexican border in 2014 that came from what is called the Central American northern triangle, formed by Guatemala, Salvador and Honduras. Those three countries have suffered for decades from various waves of U.S. intervention in their social and political affairs.

Perhaps Guatemala best exemplifies the consequences of this intervention. For many years, the U.S. controlled the coffee and banana trades. In addition, there were heavy-handed demands for oil concessions from the Guatemalan government. As far back as 1918, the Woodrow Wilson administration — from today's perspective widely considered a "liberal" stalwart — warned the Guatemalan government, "It is most important that only American oil interests receive concessions."

In 1954, the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency carried out a covert operation that deposed the democratically elected Guatemalan President Jacobo Arbenz. That coup installed Carlos Castillo Armas. But his was only the first in a series of U.S.-backed authoritarian regimes in Guatemala and it was preceded by U.S. efforts to isolate Guatemala internationally.

The deposed Arbenz had instituted near-universal suffrage, introduced a minimum wage and turned Guatemala into a democracy. Castillo Armas quickly assumed dictatorial powers, banned opposition parties, imprisoned and tortured political opponents and reversed the social reforms of the Arbenz government.

The coup was universally condemned and gave rise to strong anti-U.S. sentiment throughout the Americas. Nearly four decades of civil war followed, with leftist guerrillas fighting a series of U.S.-backed authoritarian regimes. The consequence was the genocide of the country's Mayan population, when more than 200,000 indigenous people were murdered by Guatemalan military regimes supported by the U.S.

The direct echo effect of all those disgraceful and criminal actions conducted and/or directly supported by the U.S. government is arriving at U.S. borders today.

What other outcome can one expect in a country like Guatemala that was systematically amputated politically and economically?

As it did in Guatemala, the U.S. also supported the Salvadoran government in its war against the leftist guerrillas from the FMLN political party. It provided military aid in the amount of between \$1 million and \$2 million per day.

U.S. officers took over key positions at the top levels of the Salvadoran military and made critical decisions in conducting the civil war. The war lasted over 12 years (1979 to 1992) and resulted in more than 75,000 people murdered or "disappeared."

According to the United Nations, while 5 percent of the murders of civilians

were committed by the FMLN, 85 percent were carried out by the Salvadoran armed forces and paramilitary death squads.

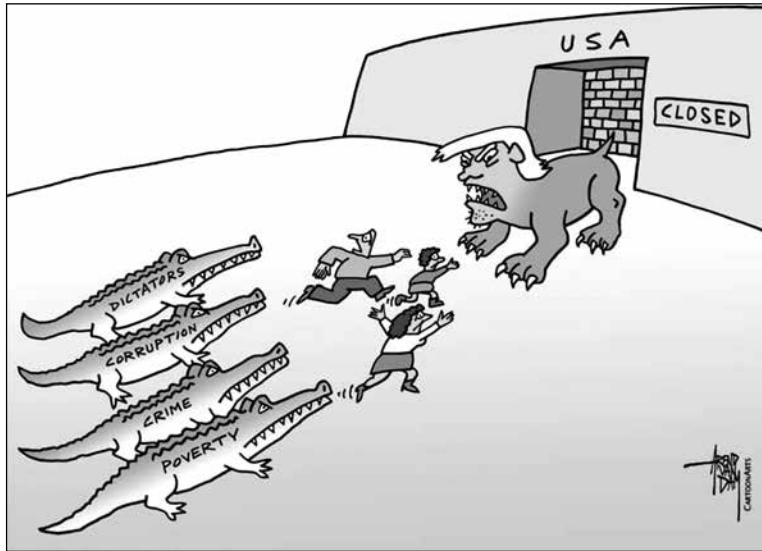
The squads mutilated the bodies of their victims as a way of terrifying the population. The so-called Atlacatl Battalion, which savagely murdered and mutilated six Jesuit priests, was reportedly under the tutelage of U.S. Special Forces just 48 hours before the killings.

Honduras has had historically strong military ties with the U.S. In 2009, Manuel Zelaya, a liberal reformist, was ousted in a military coup. The U.S. refused to call it a coup while working to ensure that Zelaya did not return to power, in flagrant contradiction to the wishes of the Organization of American States.

Today, the country is in disarray: Violent gangs are everywhere, while government spending on health and education has declined.

The most innocent interpretation of the chain of events described above is that Trump simply doesn't know the roots of Latin America's profound civic crisis, the roots of which often involve rude and illicit U.S. interference in Latin countries' domestic affairs.

But even if Trump were historically versed, he would not accept the facts and root causes that are there for all to see. After all, in his world, everything is always the fault of the others —



Democrats, foreign nations and especially Central and South American countries. But such a distorted world view does not mean that the U.S. can shed its direct responsibility for its past grave misdeeds in the region.

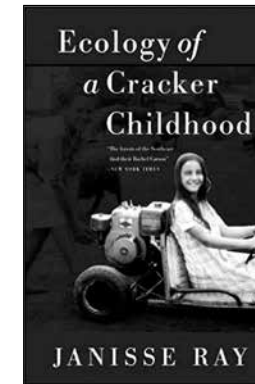
The children that are coming to the U.S. are the direct and logical consequence of that legacy of shame on the part of the U.S. over the past century.

While it would be naive to blame the U.S. for the all the ills in much of the region, it would be equally naive to ignore how the U.S. intervention has helped create the situation that plagues it today.

For a more detailed account of the issues involved in Central America migration, check out Rebecca Gordon's *TomDispatch.com* piece, "How the U.S. Created the Central American Immigration Crisis" at: <https://tinyurl.com/Iguana1022>. 🐊

Loving the Longleaf Pine: Ecology of a Cracker Childhood

By Elizabeth McCulloch



It's been twenty years since Janisse Ray published "Ecology of a Cracker Childhood." This classic of environmental literature is set in rural southern Georgia. It tells us of Ray's family, with deep roots in this land for many generations, and of what we all lost when the vast forests of longleaf pine were replaced by plantations of slash and loblolly.

Though the family was quite poor, and for a few years the father had frightening spells of mental illness, this is a memoir of an idyllic childhood. Ray grew up in a small house in the middle of her family's junkyard on Route 1. The whole family worked together - cleaning, hauling, dismantling. The parents were deeply in love with each other and devoted to their children.

Ray alternates chapters about members of her family with chapters about the longleaf pine forests. Of the plants and creatures those forests supported, many are now endangered or extinct. Her accounts of the evolution of the longleaf pine, of the life course of many creatures - red cockaded woodpecker, flatland salamander, Bachmann's sparrow, indigo snake - are written as fascinating stories.

She imagines the physical experience of each creature but avoids the folly of humanizing them. In minute detail she describes the salamanders crawling back to breed in the lowland puddles where they were hatched, the red-cockaded woodpeckers drilling cavities for their nests, then pecking away at the surrounding bark to send the sap trickling down, "forming a scabby quagmire that helps protect the woodpecker nest from rat snakes..."

Ray's adult life, as well as her book, have focused on efforts to restore this rich environment. Her writing combines the deep knowledge of a naturalist with the gift of clear, precise, often poetic description.

Ray's book, published in 1999, helped inspire many people to bring back the longleaf pine.

America's Longleaf Restoration Initiative (ALRI) is a coalition of groups who support the protection of existing forests and development of new one. Once there were over 75 million acres of longleaf forest in the nine "longleaf states" from Texas to Virginia, including about 20 million acres in Florida stretching across the panhandle and two thirds of the peninsula. In their 2019 report ALRI tells us that the coalition's efforts have increased longleaf pine ecosystems from a historic low of about 3 million to almost 5 million acres. The goal is 8 million acres of longleaf pine by 2025.

The Alachua Conservation Trust leads the local implementation team for longleaf pine restoration in North Florida. They have funding to help private landowners buy longleaf seedlings, and they provide training for prescribed burns. They are also helping with restoration projects in the Ocala National Forest and at Camp Blanding. If you are a private forest landowner interested in longleaf restoration or managing with prescribed fire, you can contact ACT. Or you can help with ACT's mission by volunteering to table at events, move exotic vegetation and plant native species, maintain trails, or help in the office. Write info@alachuaconservationtrust.org or call 352 373 1078.

Note: Whitney, Means and Ludlow's Priceless Florida: Natural Ecosystems and Native Species, Pineapple Press, 2004, explores in detail all of Florida's natural ecosystems, including the pine uplands. It is beautifully illustrated, with text boxes of definitions and explanations to make the information accessible even to a scientific ignoramus like me.

Elizabeth McCulloch's magic realist eco-fiction novel, *Dreaming the Marsh*, is available for pre-order from twistedroadpublications.com, and will be published September 10. 🐊

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Light for Liberty Vigil held at Homestead detention center for migrant children

By Pam Smith

On July 12, more than 25 Gainesvillians answered the call to go to Homestead, Florida to take part in a Light for Liberty Vigil. It was one of many vigils across the southern part of the United States to highlight the plight of jailed immigrants.

Homestead was the location for the largest detention center for migrant children, with more than 3,000 children held there. Many had been separated from their families at the border.

The detention center sits on federal land, which allows it to be unlicensed, unregulated and unaccountable. The majority of these kids have relatives or sponsors waiting for their release, but the government was not releasing them.

About a month after our vigil, the feds closed down this detention center and said that the children have mostly gone to homes, but we have no way to verify this. They may have been moved to less accessible places, where witnesses cannot document their plight. The children who turn 18 are shackled and transferred to adult detention centers.

We met at a Publix parking lot in Homestead to take a school bus onto federal land where the detention center is located.



On July 12, Pam Smith (left), Carol Barron (middle), and Lynda Lou Simmons (right) joined more than 4,000 people from all over Florida to hold vigil at what was the largest detention center for migrant children in the United States in Homestead, Florida. The detention center has since closed. Photo courtesy of Pam Smith.

Publix would not allow us to park in their lot, so we had to find parking across the street in another big parking center.

There were about 4,000 people from all over Florida who came to be witnesses, led by rabbis from local synagogues. There was a quiet, peaceful feel to the vigil. It was blistering hot at 7 pm. At nightfall, the witnesses who had held daily vigils for months, projected a power point presentation of facts onto the detention fence.

They also set up ladders so that we could

see and be seen by the kids to let them know they had support. Many of us waved signs that said “Los queremos” (We love you) over the fences. We sang and yelled loudly hoping our words would reach them.

This is a long fight. Each side hopes to hold out and wear down the other side. I hope we can be the side that defeats the evil that is the other side.

To quote Martin Luther King, “The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice.” ☘

Renters’ rights and acts of worker solidarity to combat white supremacy

by Jesse Cosme,
Alachua County Labor Coalition

Over the past couple years there has been a heightened awareness around white supremacist activity. In these times, it is important to recognize the role of capital goal of alienating workers from one another in perpetuating white supremacy and misogyny, among other oppressive and divisive phenomena.

Much has been written historically about the role of white supremacist and masculine violence rhetoric as tools of the capitalist class to divide white men workers from everyone else, dating back to slavery. With the growing tides against worker solidarity since the 1970s, there has been a growing tide of white supremacy that is crashing upon us with immense force.

In this climate, it is essential for us to continue to build worker solidarity across all areas of society. This is why programs like the Renters’ Rights platform by the Alachua County Labor Coalition are so important.

It is important to continue to unify working people across all the issues they are impacted by. As the city and county work together to find solutions around affordable housing, renters, who are primarily workers, must not be left behind. This is an essential step in building worker solidarity.

As it is an essential step, it is just one step among many more that must be taken to build worker solidarity and go further in bringing power into the hands of workers.

The Gainesville City Commission is currently in the process of voting on formulating an ordinance based on the recommendations derived from their Renters’ Rights subcommittee. It is imperative that all renters stand in solidarity with one another and write the city commission to express the importance of these recommendations.

Send your emails to citycomm@cityofgainesville.org. Together, through worker solidarity, we can fight white supremacy, and create better conditions in Gainesville and beyond. ☘

Rolling Stone: Why cannabis could be legal in Florida as soon as 2020

It was a rocky road to medical marijuana, but a new push towards full recreational legalization could put an initiative on the 2020 ballot — and it’s looking like there’s plenty of support, says Rolling Stone Magazine. Read about it at: <https://tinyurl.com/Iguana1013>

You may also be interested in:

“Lawmaker files bill: It’s time to decriminalize certain amounts of cannabis” at: <https://tinyurl.com/Iguana1014>

and

“Recreational weed group hits signature-gathering milestone” at: <https://tinyurl.com/Iguana1015>. ☘

According to the New York Times, the children at the facility reported feeling “despondent because they have no idea when they will be released ... rules prohibit them from listening to music or writing in a journal. Some reported having suicidal thoughts.”



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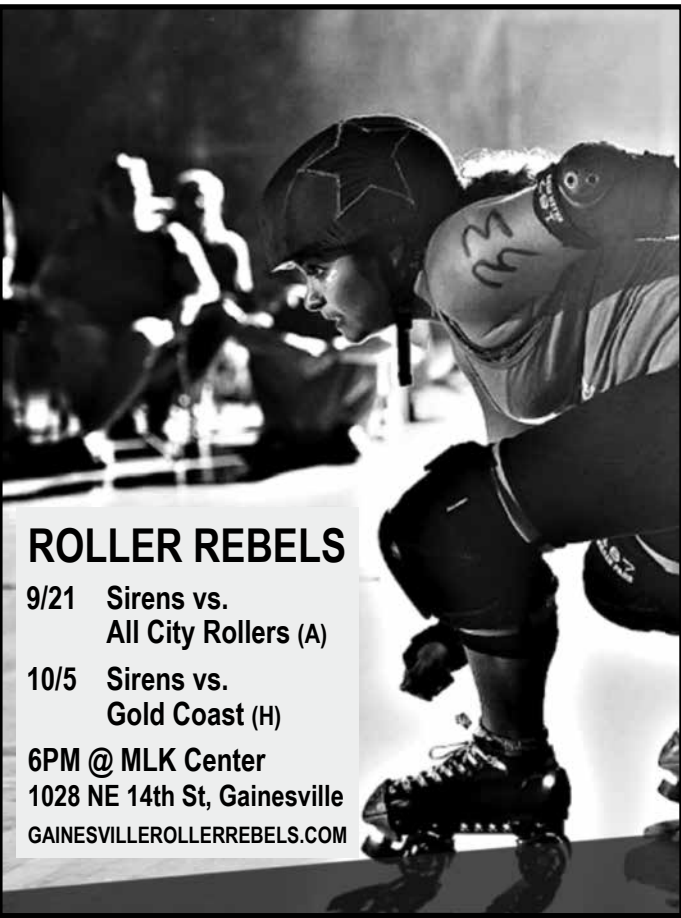
Sunday Assembly Gainesville is a secular, radically inclusive community that meets to hear great talks, sing together and celebrate the wonder of the one life we know we have.

We gather at 11 AM on the 3rd Sunday of the month.

CIED Building of Santa Fe College
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Downtown Gainesville, FL

Established 2016 - Accredited 2017

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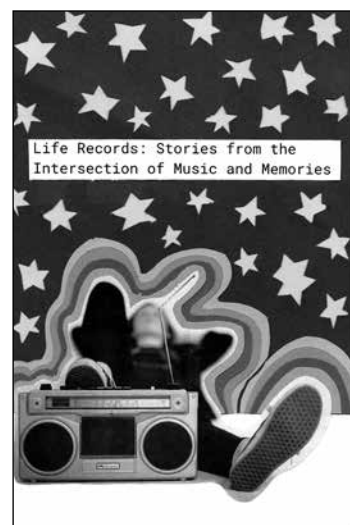


ROLLER REBELS

9/21 Sirens vs.
All City Rollers (A)

10/5 Sirens vs.
Gold Coast (H)

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Tutors needed: Indivisible Gainesville Tutoring Program

by Indivisible Gainesville

When we canvassed in East Gainesville throughout the spring, summer, and fall of 2018, we asked community members what they are most concerned about in terms of governmental impact in their lives.

The poor quality of education and low funding for our public schools were by far the most common concerns we heard.

As an effort to respond to this concern and have a positive impact in our community beyond what we can control at the legislative level right now, we have decided to partner with the Woodland Park Boys & Girls Club in providing after-school tutoring beginning in the 2019/2020 school year.

They have an amazing Director and staff that already run a tutoring program for the 50-60 kids in attendance, but they are short-handed and could greatly benefit from committed volunteers to come in an hour or two a week and provide one-on-one reading and simple math instruction.

Can you spend one hour per week helping these amazing kids? We understand that this is a big commitment. The Director of the program also emphasized how important consistency is with these children, so please consider whether you will be able to show up on a regular basis.

You can learn more about the Woodland Park Boys & Girls Club at: <https://www.facebook.com/woodlandparkbgc/>

Please let us know your availability at: <https://tinyurl.com/Iguana1021>. 🐢

Somebody has to take responsibility for being a leader.

- Toni Morrison
1931-2019

Donald Trump is a racist

President George W. Bush’s chief speechwriter, Michael Gerson, has a message for people who are excusing President Trump’s racism. Although Conservatives from outside the administration such as Gerson are starting to speak up, Congress seems incapable of tackling or afraid to tackle the fact that the man who is president is woefully ill-suited for the job. While they fiddle around, playing strategy, a man who mental health experts (see www.dangerouscase.org) say is too unstable and too dangerous to wield the power he has, remains in charge of our military and our economy and is setting a racist tone catalyzing hate and fear in our society. More from Gerson below:

by Michael Gerson, Washington Post

I had fully intended to ignore President Trump’s latest round of racially charged taunts against an African American elected official, and an African American activist, and an African American journalist and a whole city with a lot of African Americans in it. I had every intention of walking past Trump’s latest outrages and writing about the self-destructive squabbling of the Democratic presidential field, which has chosen to shame former vice president Joe Biden for the sin of being an electable, moderate liberal.

But I made the mistake of pulling James Cone’s ‘The Cross and the Lynching Tree’ off my shelf—a book designed to shatter convenient complacency. Cone recounts the case of a white mob in Valdosta, Ga., in 1918 that lynched an innocent man named Haynes Turner. Turner’s enraged wife, Mary, promised justice for the killers. The sheriff responded by arresting her and then turning her over to the mob, which included women and children. According to one source, Mary was ‘stripped, hung upside down by the ankles, soaked with gasoline, and roasted to death. In the midst of this torment, a white man opened her swollen belly with a hunting knife and her infant fell to the ground and was stomped to death.’

God help us. It is hard to write the words. This evil—the evil of white supremacy, resulting in dehumanization, inhumanity and murder—is the worst stain, the greatest crime, of U.S. history. It is the thing

that nearly broke the nation. It is the thing that proved generations of Christians to be vicious hypocrites. It is the thing that turned normal people into moral monsters, capable of burning a grieving widow to death and killing her child.

When the president of the United States plays with that fire or takes that beast out for a walk, it is not just another political event, not just a normal day in campaign 2020. It is a cause for shame. It is the violation of martyrs’ graves. It is obscene graffiti on the Lincoln Memorial. It is, in the eyes of history, the betrayal—the re-betrayal—of Haynes and Mary Turner and their child. And all of this is being done by an ignorant and arrogant narcissist reviving racist tropes for political gain, indifferent to the wreckage he is leaving, the wounds he is ripping open.

Like, I suspect, many others, I am finding it hard to look at resurgent racism as just one in a series of presidential offenses or another in a series of Republican errors. Racism is not just another wrong. The Antietam battlefield is not just another plot of ground. The Edmund Pettus Bridge is not just another bridge. The balcony outside Room 306 at the Lorraine Motel is not just another balcony. As U.S. history hallows some causes, it magnifies some crimes.


What does all this mean politically? It means that Trump’s divisiveness is getting worse, not better. He makes racist comments, appeals to racist sentiments

and inflames racist passions. The rationalization that he is not, deep down in his heart, really a racist is meaningless. Trump’s continued offenses mean that a large portion of his political base is energized by racist tropes and the language of white grievance. And it means—whatever their intent—that those who play down, or excuse, or try to walk past these offenses are enablers.

Some political choices are not just stupid or crude. They represent the return of our country’s cruelest, most dangerous passion. Such racism indicts Trump. Treating racism as a typical or minor matter indicts us. 🐢

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Free Fridays
CONCERT SERIES

AUGUST

30 The Progressive Rock Experience

(A Tribute to '70s Progressive Rock with covers of Emerson, Lake & Palmer, Deep Purple, Genesis, Kansas, Styx and Elton John)

SEPTEMBER

6 The Nancy Luca Band with Anna Marie

(Classic Rock)

13 Morningbell (Psychedelic Rock)

20 The Impostors (The Beatles Tribute)

27 Gilberto De Paz & Tropix (Latin Fusion)

In partnership with The Latino Film Festival

OCTOBER

4 Gumbo Limbo Cajun Band

(Cajun, Creole, Swamp Pop & Zydeco)

11 A Tribute to Jimi Hendrix

by Michael Derry & Friends

18 Savants of Soul (Soul, Rock, Indie)

25 UF World Music Ensembles

(Jacare Brazil, Agbedidi Africa, and others)

Each Friday a new band brings original and cover tunes to the Plaza concert stage 8-10pm, May through October

111 E. University Ave. All shows may be subject to change
<http://gnvculturalseries.org/free-fridays-concert-series/>

Activist Pia Klemp turns down France's medal for bravery

Pia Kelmp is a ship captain, and a human and animal rights activist from Germany who faces prison time in Italy for helping with the rescue of hundreds of migrants in the Mediterranean. She recently refused a medal for bravery, the Medaille Grand Vermeil, awarded by the city of Paris. The comments below are from Klemp's Facebook page explaining to the Paris Mayor her rationale for refusing the award.



Paris, I love you. I love you for all the free and solidarian people that live in you. Fighting for their freedom everyday, standing shoulder to shoulder, distributing blankets, friendship and solidarity. I love you for those who are sharing their homes, love and struggles everyday - regardless of their nationality, regardless if they have papers or not.

Madame Hidalgo, you want to award me a medal for my solidarian action in the Mediterranean Sea, because our crews 'work to rescue migrants from difficult conditions on a daily basis'. At the same time your police is stealing blankets from people that you force to live on the streets, while you raid protests and criminalize people that are standing up for rights of migrants and asylum seekers. You want to give me a medal for actions that you fight in your own ramparts. I am sure you won't be surprised that I decline the medaille Grand Vermeil.

Paris, I'm not a humanitarian. I am not there to 'aid'. I stand with you in solidarity. We do not need medals. We do not need authorities deciding about who is a 'hero' and who is 'illegal'. In fact they are in no position to make this call, because we are all equal. What we need are freedom and rights. It is time we call out hypocrite honorings and fill the void with social justice. It is time we cast all medals into spearheads of revolution!

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Freedom of movement and residence! ✊



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House Of Waking Life to open

by Brooke Danielle Rosen

The House Of Waking Life (HOWL) is a center for lucidity, wellbeing and creative exploration in a 111-year-old house downtown at 109 SE 4th Ave.

The house previously operated as Aurora Healing Arts for several years, home to Ecstatic Dance and a place of refuge, learning and community.

The HOWL, aiming to open in October, is the manifestation of a life-long dream cultivated by Brooke Danielle Rosen and is being realized with the help of Caleb von Radugge, along with other friends and family.

It will offer classes and groups such as live figure drawing, writing, qigong, movement, yoga, and meditation, as well workshops, monthly events and one-on-one sessions in massage and other healing work.

Ecstatic Dance will continue on Sunday evenings, shared bi-monthly with Flow Space.

The center will also house a small beverage cafe and shop with local products, an open garden, meditation labyrinth, art gallery, and outdoor stage.

The intention is to serve as an oasis and an access way for balance, self-exploration, liberation and connection.

To stay tuned as the project evolves, go to HouseOfWaking-Life.com; schedule offerings and information will be available online in mid-September. There are surprises in these walls ... this house is magick, after all. ✊

And the good news is ...

FL lawmaker files bill to undo new law that makes it harder for felons to vote

by Mitch Perry, Florida Phoenix

A Florida Democratic lawmaker has filed legislation to undo part of a new law Republicans passed that makes it harder for felons to vote.

Riviera Beach state Rep. Al Jaquet's bill would remove the most controversial element of the law that implements Amendment 4, the felon voting rights constitutional amendment that nearly 65 percent of Floridians approved last fall. In short, Jaquet's legislation would remove the new provision the Republican-led Legislature put into law that says felons have to pay all fines and fees before they can vote.

Backers of the felon voting rights constitutional amendment said voters believed the right to vote would be restored automatically to felons who completed their sentences. (It does not apply to murderers or those convicted of sex crimes).

The new provision about requiring paid court fees and fines has sparked federal lawsuits from civil rights groups, who allege that the requirement is tantamount to a "poll tax." Specifically, the groups claim that a felon's right to vote is now conditional, based on their wealth. The groups claim that's a violation of the First Amendment and the 14th, 15th and 21st Amendments, as well as what's called the "ex post facto" clause of the U.S. Constitution.

"For many who completed their terms of incarceration, probation and parole, this could mean obtaining a lawyer to figure out the costs, finding sufficient employment, saving their hard-earned money to pay all at once and then maybe being able to register to vote in their lifetime," Jaquet said in a written statement. "This was not the intent of the amendment. We must return the eligibility to vote to Floridians who have made mistakes, served their time, and paid their full debt to society.

Republican lawmakers have defended their new fees and fines requirement, saying it's what the advocates for the proposal themselves were touting to voters on the campaign trail last year. In a request for an advisory opinion from the Florida Supreme Court last week, Republican Gov. Ron DeSantis quoted the attorney who supported the amendment telling the

Florida Supreme Court in 2017 that "all terms" of the sentence included paying fines and fees.

But advocates for the measure say that there was no mention of felons having to pay off any legal obligations in the ballot language itself.

The new law does allow felons to petition a judge waive fees or fines or convert them to community service hours.

The issue was debated in both chambers of the Legislature earlier this year, but the Democrats' complaints about the provision fell on deaf ears in the Republican-controlled Legislature.

Before voters approved Amendment 4, Florida was one of only three states that prohibited anyone with a felony record from voting. Florida is now one of only eight states that prohibits anyone with a felony record from voting if they still owe legal financial obligations.

A preliminary analysis by University of Florida political science professor Dan Smith estimates that fewer than one in five people in Florida with a felony conviction (other than murder or a sexual offense) who have completed all terms of their sentence are likely to register to vote under the new law, due to outstanding fines, fees or restitution. ✊

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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.

Sept 1 "How to Influence Legislators" talk at Friends Meeting House (702 NW 38th St), 1 pm. If you appreciate this calendar, please consider supporting the Ig with a donation &/or subscription: PO Box 14712, Gainesville FL 32604.

8 Operation Catnip neuter & spay clinic: ocgainesville.org.

"Art in the #MeToo Era", Harn Museum (3259 Hull Rd), 3-4 pm. Art Speaks poetry night at Thomas Ctr, 5-8 pm.

UF Soccer, Dizney Stad., 6 pm.

15 Sunday Assembly: Felicia Lee on Sweetwater Wetlands Park - SFC Downtown (530 W. Univ. Ave), 11 am, 3rd Suns: see pg 7 & sagainesville.weebly.com.

6th Annual Folk in the Springs in High Springs, 11 am-7 pm.

Book Launch w/ Elizabeth McCulloch, Matheson Museum (513 E Univ Ave), 3 pm.

Life Records (stories about songs that change us) book event at Third House Books (113 N Main St), 3-4:30 pm - see pp 8 & 10.

Huge Blues Show, High Dive (210 SW 2nd Ave), 5:30-11 pm, \$20.

UF Soccer, Dizney Stadium, 7 pm.

22 Have a Heart FL benefit for Panhandle hurricane relief, Lions Club (26900 W Hwy 27, High Springs), 10 am-10 pm; see www.gmhfl.org/haveaheart/.

29 Indie Flea Pop Up, AUK Market (2031 NW 6th St), noon-5 pm.

Alachua County Labor Coalition public strategy meeting, dntn library (401 E Univ Ave), 12:30 pm.

Mushrooms at Museum, Fla Mus (3215 Hull Rd), 10 am-4 pm, free.

2 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.

LABOR DAY

9 Fla Free Speech Forum: Frank LoMonte on freedom of information & open government, Wyndham Garden Conf Ctr (2900 SW 13th St), 11:30 am: floridafreespeechforum.org.

Free HIV Testing, CMC, 5-7 pm.

Interfaith Alliance for Immigrant Justice meets, Em. Menno Church, 2nd Mondays, 6 pm.

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

ACT UP!, CMC movie, 7 pm.

Hipp Jazz Series returns with Joe Breidenstine; continues every Monday through December; 7 pm, \$5.

Post-Country Prom, w/ Gutless, Solo, & Cooper: Hardback Café (920 NW 2nd St), 8 pm.

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

Radical Rush art build, CMC, 6 pm.

23 Radical Rush, Santa Fe Coll, 11 am-2 pm; see pg 24.

"Cracked Up: Long Arm of Childhood Trauma" presentation at Hipp, 6:30-8:30 pm.

FALL EQUINOX

30 **IGUANA** Deadline for Oct issue is Sept 23rd; write gainesville-iguana@cox.net or call 352-378-5655 with events, updates, advertisements & info.

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

Alachua County Commission meets, 2nd & 4th Tues, 11:30 am & 5 pm, County Admin Bldg (12 SE 1st St).

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

3 CMC Free Grocery Store every Tuesday, 433 S. Main St, 2:30 pm.

School Board meets, 620 E. Univ Ave, 1st & 3rd Tues, 6 pm.

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

10 Job Fair, MLK Ctr (1028 NE 14th St), 9 am-1 pm; business clothing req'd.

Al. County Comm meets; see 8/27 - no 5 pm meeting 9/10.

Incarcerated Workers Organizing Committee meets, CMC, 6 pm.

"Donald Trump & the Death of Evangelical Christianity" talk, UF Pugh Hall, 6 pm, free.

Wax Wings at Satchel's.

17 NAACP Environment & Climate Justice Committee, Wilhelmina 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.

1787: US Constitution signed.

24 County Commish - see 8/27.

Radical Rush, UF Plaza of the Americas, 11 am-2 pm; pg 24.

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

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

Ichetucknee Alliance meets, Fla Spgs Inst, H.Spgs, 6:30 pm.

NAT'L VOTER REGISTRATION DAY: IF YOU'RE NOT REGISTERED, GO DO IT!

Oct 1 School Board meets, 5:30 pm.

WORLD VEGETARIAN DAY

28 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.

Interfaith Dialogue, Emmanuel Mennonite Church (1236 W 18th Ave), 1st & 4th Weds, 10 pm.

4 Fall & Winter Seed Dispersal by Working Food at dntn Farmers' Market, 4-7 pm.

1st Wednesday Open Mic Nite, Satchel's Pizza.

Vets for Peace meets 1st Wednesdays, 7 pm - call 352-375-2563 for directions.

1957: Little Rock 9 integrate Central High School.

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

Cell 411 workshop, CMC, 6 pm.

"Science on Tap: Hurricanes" at 1st Mag (1220 SE Veitch St), 6:30.

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

18 Preacher Lawson at Phillips Ctr (3201 Hull Rd), 7 pm (\$50) & 9 pm (\$35), \$10 students: see performingarts.ufl.edu/events/.

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

25 Radical Rush, UF Plaza of the Americas, 11 am-2 pm.

Volunteer Fair, Santa Fe College NW campus (3000 NW 83rd St), S-Breezeway, 11 am-2 pm.

Postmodern Jukebox, Phillips Ctr, 7:30 pm, \$10-45.

Whether here or anywhere: please support live music!

1991: Sandra Day O'Connor first woman Supreme Court justice.

2 Vets for Peace - see 9/4.

Us + Them Roger Waters [of Pink Floyd] tour movie, Hippodrome (25 SE 2nd Pl), 7 pm (also 10/6, 6 pm); \$9.

1869: Mohanda K. Gandhi born.

1967: Thurgood Marshall first black Supreme Court justice.

29 NAACP meets 4th Thursdays, SF Blount Ctr (401 NW 6th St), 6 pm.

Black Films Matter presents *Supa Modo*, Hipp, 6 pm (also 8/30&31).

CMC Volunteers meet every Thurs, 433 S. Main St, 5:30 pm.

"Crocs vs Gators" debate at Fla Museum, 6 pm, \$12-15.

SF River campaign launch - pg 21.

MindSpace Summer Showcase, 834 E. Univ. Ave, 7-10 pm.

Open Poetry every Thursday at CMC, 8 pm: Gvl's longest-running poetry jam, open to all; informal & welcoming.

5 Frog Drinks hosts The Amphibian Foundaton, 1st Mag (1220 SE Veitch St), 6 pm.

Sierra Club meets 1st Thurs, Life-South (4309 NW Newberry Rd), showing *What Lies Upstream*: 7 pm.

The Conch storytelling ("When Opportunity Knocks") at Lightnin' Salvage, 7 pm.

12 "Celebrating Women's Voices & Visions", theme of 15th Latin American Film Festival, Sept 12-28: 12 free films + events in 13 venues: see gainesvillelatinofilmfestival.com.

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

UF Soccer, Dizney, 6:30 pm.

Dems Debate vol 3, no 1: Cypress & Grove (1001 NW 4th St), 8 pm; see pg 20.

Jekyll & Hyde opens at Across-town Rep (619 S. Main St), 8 pm, \$20, \$15 seniors & students.

19 *Island of the Hungry Ghosts* film on Australian immigrant concentration camp, chosen to honor International Day of Peace: The Hippodrome, 6 pm (also 9/20, 8 pm & 9/21, 1 pm).

26 NAACP - see 8/29.

UF Soccer, Dizney, 7:30 pm.

"Fieldwork Fails" storytelling, Fla Mus, for 18 & older; \$10-15.

3 Invasive Species Round-up - see facebook.com/GvlGreenwayChallenge; 9 am.

Sierra Club - see 9/5.

The Conch storytelling ("Young and Dumb"), 1st Thursdays at Lightnin' Salvage, 7 pm.

30 Afro-Feminismos En Cuba: Perspectives De La Habana at CIED (530 W. Univ Ave), w/ snacks & live music; 7 pm; suggested donation of box of tampons or pads & \$5-20.

Progressive Rock Experience at Free Fridays Concert, Bo Diddley Plaza (111 E Univ Ave), 8 pm; see pg 10.

Gathering at Fla Coalition for Peace & Justice opens, 10665 SW 89th Ave, Hampton: weekend meeting/party to plan long-term future for peace center.

6 Sh'mal (the former Bob Ellenberg) Turns 80 birthday party at United Church (1624 NW 5th Ave), 6-10 pm.

God of Carnage opens at Actors' Warehouse (619 NE 1st St); runs thru 9/22, 8 pm, \$25/\$20 srs/\$15 students; pg 20.

Dreamgirls opens at Star Ctr Theatre (11 NE 23rd Ave), runs through 9/22, 8 pm, \$20/\$18 seniors/\$15 students.

Nancy Luca Band w/ Anna Marie, rocks Bo Diddley Plaza, 8 pm, free.

13 International Gala, Cotton Club (837 SE 7th Ave, 6-10 pm.

Out of This World art show, So. Main Arts & Heartwood (619 S. Main St), 6 pm.

Baer & the Lady, Vine Bread & Pasta (627 N. Main St), 6 pm; see pg 15.

Morningbell psychedically rocks Free Fridays Concert, 8 pm; see pg 10.

Theater Strike Force Improv Workshop, CMC, 8 pm.

Dems Debate vol 3, no 2: Cypress & Grove, 8 pm; see pg 20.

20 "Fading Out Violence" presented by Green Dot Gainesville, Bo Diddley Plaza, 9 am.

Bluegrass Jam & potluck, Civic Media Center, 3rd Fridays, 6-9+ pm.

Etienne Charles: Creole Soul, Phillips Ctr, 7 & 9 pm, \$10-50.

Impostors play Beatles at Bo Diddley Plaza, 8 pm, free; see pg 10.

Potty Mouth & others at The Atlantic.

27 Gvl Artwalk, last Fridays, 7 pm - see pg 5 & artwalkgainesville.com.

Hand Pan concert w/ Peter Levitov & others, Thomas Ctr, 7 pm.

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

Gilberto De Paz & Tropix bring Latin fusion to Bo Diddley Plaza, 8 pm, free.

4 UF Homecoming Weekend - no classes; Univ Ave parade, 11 am.

Gumbo Limbo Cajun Band, Bo Diddley Plaza, 8 pm, free; see pg 10.

1957: USSR launches Sputnik.

31 Labor Day Weekend Break-fast, Sr Center (5701 NW 34th Blvd), w/ talk on teachers' strikes, 8:30 am; canned food donation requested.

Community Meditation, CMC, 9-10 am every Saturday;

Yoga class 10 am every Saturday.

Red Dot Sale Last Day, Artisans Guild Gallery (201 SE 2nd Pl), ends 5 pm.

Back to School Fest at Heartwood (619 S. Main St), 6 pm, \$10-15.

Saved by the Bell Dance Party, The Wooly (20 N. Main St), 10 pm, \$5-7.

Gutless & Boston Marriage, Atlantic.

7 Multi-family yard sale, 1030 NE 20th Pl, 8 am.

Family Play Night, Hipp, \$5/child; pre-register at thehipp.org.

Brazilfest, Heartwood, 6 pm, \$10-15.

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

UF Football home game, 7:30 pm.

14 Carson Springs Wild Adventures Open House, 8528 E Cty Rd 225, 10 am-4 pm, \$10.

Viva Museum, Fla Mus, 10-2, free.

Park Ranger benefit ale release party, 1st Mag, 2-10:30 pm.

Butt Jokes: Crohn's Disease awareness event, CMC, 6-9 pm.

'90s Drag Dance Party, The Hipp Lower Level, 9 pm, \$5.

Queer the Fest benefit show, The Atlantic, 10 pm. FULL MOON

21 Internat'l Festival & Day of Peace - speakers, music, food, etc - Depot Park, noon-6 pm, pg 21;

UF march starts 10 am, Century Tower.

UF Home Football, time tba.

Free Store at CMC, 2-5 pm.

Free HIV Testing, CMC, 2-5 pm.

'90s Covers Night at Boca Backyard (next to Hipp), 10 pm.

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE

28 UF Football home game, time tba.

Oktoberfest: beer, live music, food, keg toss; Cypress & Grove, 1-10 pm.

Dance 4 Dems, Melrose, 7:30: pg 20.

Connect the Dots music, CMC, 8 pm.

Palimony CD release, Heartwood, 7 pm.

5 UF Home Football, time tba.

Fall Plant & Orchid Sale, Kanapaha Botanical Gardens (4700 SW 58th Dr), 9 am-5 pm, free entry.

Veg for Life - see 9/7.

Gvl Roller Rebels vs Gold Coast Derby Grrls, MLK Ctr, 6 pm; see pg 7.



From NESTLÉ p. 1
our spring is slowly killing the springs and lowering the aquifer. Nestlé claims they only take water from sustainable springs, but this is untrue. The water from Ginnie Springs is sourced from a falling aquifer which is consistently going down and the springs flow about 30 percent less now than in past decades.

The State of Florida has declared the Santa Fe River and Ginnie Springs to be “in recovery” because the flow is lower than it should be. Nestlé will make huge extractions which are unnecessary and benefits only them, and can only have a negative impact on these already over-pumped waters.

A third of the 3-Prong Test, used by Suwannee River Water Management District (SRWMD) staff and their Board of Directors to issue these types of water use permits, must protect harming a protected water resource is given only if the withdrawal is in the public interest. Drying up the springs is not in the public interest. Making money from the water is in Seven Springs and Nestlé’s interest.

The Santa Fe River is also declared an “Outstanding Florida Waterway,” which is also supposed to provide extra protection from depletion from ravishment by greedy corporations.

Seven Springs Water Partnership, locally owned, gets the water free, up to over one million gallons per day, and they sell it to Nestlé. It costs them \$115, a one-time fee.

The State of Florida spends millions of dollars on projects beneficial to the Santa Fe River and its springs. This keeps the spring water usable for Seven Springs Water Partnership. Your tax dollars pays for this, and Seven Springs gets the benefits. So, when you purchase a bottle of water from Ginnie Springs, you are paying three ways, some to Nestlé, some to Seven Springs and some to the SRWMD without any sales tax or user fee.

Some environmental groups such as Our Santa Fe River, Amigos Dive Center, Friends of the Ichetucknee and others work hard to

pick Nestlé’s trash out of the river. They produce millions of plastic bottles that are discarded and contaminate the rivers and earth. However, they work for free so you are not paying them.

It is true that agricultural irrigation uses more water than the bottling plants, but one huge difference is that we may get tomatoes or potatoes from farms. We need agriculture to eat. We do not need to buy water in a bottle, we can get from our tap.

And the tap water is probably healthier than Nestlé’s. The water from Ginnie Springs contains over three times the maximum nitrate content recommended by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. Nestlé’s bottled water from Crystal Springs at the Hillsborough County plant contains over six times the recommended maximum. Nestlé’s website gives a detailed analysis of the mineral content of their spring water, but they fail to mention nitrate content.

In spite of their propaganda, Nestlé obviously cares much more for money than for the environment. Otherwise they would not consider further damaging an already fragile and damaged natural treasure.

To take ACTION to stop Nestlé’s newest American water bottling permit located on the Santa Fe River:

Contact the Governor DeSantis’ office at <https://www.flgov.com/email-the-governor/>

It is crucial to stay vigilant and pressure SRWMD staff and Board to do the legally right thing in terms of “reasonable and beneficial and with the public interest” and any other statutory right given to deny this permit (found in F.S. 373, Section II).

Please be thoughtful and take time with your response to them. These comments are vital to the public interest component of the permit process.

The River needs your voice to speak for it now.

This is one more reason Nature needs rights! 🐸

Editors’ picks: News that didn’t fit

- 🐸 **Abortion Is Our Right To Strike** by Jenny Brown in Jacobinmag.com
Abortion isn’t a “cultural” issue. The production of children, and who will pay for it, is a key economic battlefield.
See: <https://tinyurl.com/Iguana1018>
- 🐸 **From Trump to Johnson, nationalists are on the rise – backed by billionaire oligarchs** by George Monbiot in TheGuardian.com
The ultra-rich are benefitting from disaster capitalism as institutions, rules and democratic oversight implode.
See: <https://tinyurl.com/Iguana1017>
- 🐸 **ICE Raids Miss. Plant After \$3.75 Million Sexual Harassment Settlement** by Mike Elk in Paydayreport.com
ICE carried out what is believed to be the largest immigration raid in decades; immigrants rights advocates speculate that workers are targeted for raids after facilites have been investigated for worker abuse. See: <https://tinyurl.com/Iguana1019>
- 🐸 **LEAD STORIES: Just because it’s trending doesn’t mean it’s true**
Lead Stories tracks and debunks rumors spreading on Facebook and elsewhere: think of it as a not-quite-as-thorough-but-much-quicker snopes.com. See: leadstories.com
- 🐸 **Memo to mainstream journalists: Can the phony outrage; Bernie is right about bias** by Jeff Cohen in Salon.com
Mainstream media is shocked at Sanders’ suggestion that ownership influences coverage. Cohen tells you it’s true.
See: <https://tinyurl.com/Iguana1020>
- 🐸 **We Must End Neoliberalism, or Neoliberalism Will End Us** by Ina Fassbender in Truthout.org
We’ve created a monstrous ideology and been co-opted into accepting neoliberal capitalism’s false premises and promises. See: <https://tinyurl.com/Iguana1016> 🐸

Music. Story. Voice. Community.

Baer and the Lady Explores... a monthly series taking place at different local hangouts this fall. Curious minds of all kinds welcome. Join us for an integrative exploration of community topics through music and voice. A relaxing atmosphere to explore, ask questions, and hear stories from our community leaders. Musical hosts, Baer and the Lady.

[Facebook.com/baerandthelady/events](https://facebook.com/baerandthelady/events)

Where does cultural change really happen? Behind magical doors at the Pentagon? 37 floors up in a corporate office? Or...does it happen in our average day-to-day life, in bars, small towns, living rooms, at work? How do meaningful conversations even start, nonetheless NOT end in hurt feelings? We don’t know the answers to these questions, but we are curious.

We’ve spent a fair amount of our young lives feeling powerless. We thought the dysfunctional government didn’t have an impact on us, and then, it did. Directly. We lost our jobs, gained the right to marry, and we were forced to move to a safer place. Now, whenever we see the news, there is a real person behind that story. We might even know them. And, this sparked a curiosity in us about many issues.

We turned to the internet of course, becoming interested in the topics of our times. But, watching videos and reading the news has left many questions still unanswered for us. We want to know what is going on in OUR community, Gainesville, and if there are others asking the same questions?

When we started Baer and the Lady, we didn’t have a distinct vision for the project. We were simply trying to play our music, heal from past traumas, and try not to freak out in public. Some gigs later we have learned to see the power in music. The power to heal, bring people together, start

conversation, and empower those through times of action. It is universal. It is a reflection of our culture.

In the past, we have run a non-profit for grieving college students to heal in group settings. We have explored the history and effects of our Polynesian roots on the ground. And we have worked within the LGBTQ+ community to bridge gaps and make changes within our own circle.

So, this fall, we aim to try a new experiment. Blending music, art, voice, story, spirituality, and science into one night. We will be hosting a spectrum of community leaders with stories that NEED to be heard. Artists. Local businesses that act as community centers. We aim to create a welcoming and affirming space for all kinds of explorers alike.

Join us. There is no better time. 🐸

Flashbacks
Recycled Fashions has moved!

Our new address:
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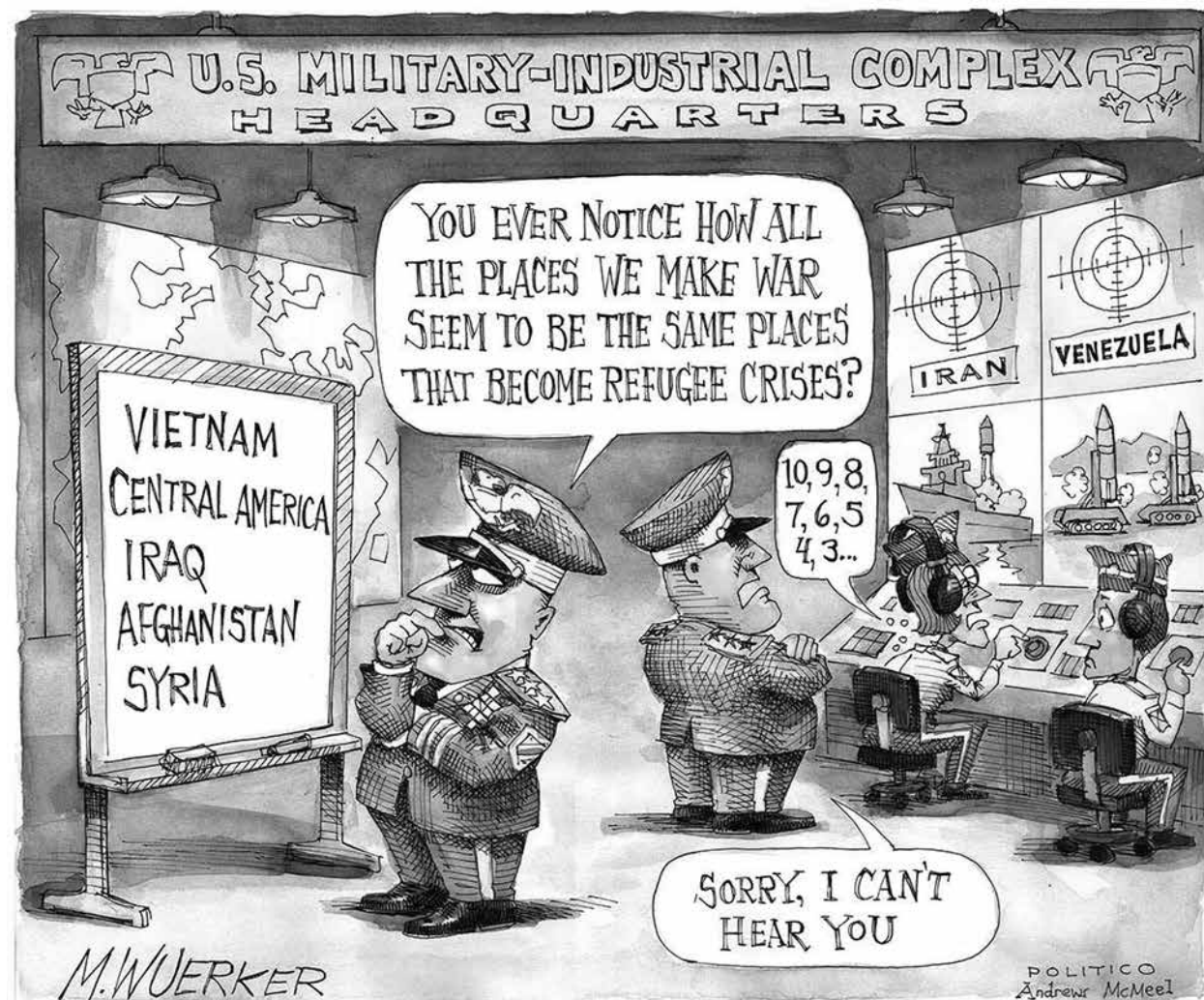
Breakfast at 8:30AM • Lunch at 11AM
Sunday Brunch 9:30AM - 3PM

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BAER AND THE LADY
explores

An integrative exploration of community topics through music and voice.

8.31 MAI KAI KAVA BAR	GENDER EXPRESSION	5PM
9.13 THE VINE	GAINESVILLE HISTORY	6PM
10.11 CYPRESS AND GROVE	BUYING LOCAL	6PM
11.13 CIVIC MEDIA CENTER	OUR PRISONS	7PM
12.14 THE BULL	ESTRANGEMENT	6PM



INDIE & OLDER ROCK, ELECTRONIC, PUNK, AMERICANA, JAZZ, TALK

INFORMATIVO PACIFICA

MUSICA LATINA

MON-FRI: 6AM

THOM HARTMANN

MON - FRI: 7 AM

DEMOCRACY NOW!

AMY GOODMAN

MON - FRI: 8 AM - 1 PM

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ROBBIE STEVENS

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MARKUS ALEXANDER

MANU

(and others!)

Gainesville hosts Fight Toxic Prisons 2019

By Fight Toxic Prisons

The 2019 Fight Toxic Prisons (FTP) Convergence, which was the fourth annual national gathering of activists working at the intersections of prison abolitionists and environmental justice, occurred in Gainesville. Through the course of four days, June 14 – 17, activists in town hosted several community functions, starting with the “No Borders Fest” event on Friday, which served as the weekend’s official kick-off. That entire day was swarming with activity, including simultaneous workshops on prisoner support and abolitionist organizing 101 (one occurring in the main space, while the other happened in the Stetson Kennedy Annex), music, a prisoner art show, speakers, and “silent dance party.” The day also included a national convening of the Incarcerated Workers Organizing Committee and Continuing Legal Education (CLE) Courses on defending Amendment 4’s re-enfranchisement goals, prisoners’ rights and environmental justice in immigrant detention facilities. The sessions were packed with lawyers and activists eager to apply new skills and inspiration in their locales across the country.

Organizer and activists were present from all across Florida as well as Texas, California, Washington State, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Oregon, Missouri, Georgia, North Carolina, D.C., and New York, to name a few places. The bulk of the weekend’s events occurred at the Gator Wesley Foundation building on University Ave. This included panels, plenaries, break-out groups, discussing over a dozen topics related to prisons, repression, alternatives to incarceration, supporting political prisoners, challenging white supremacy, abolishing borders, solidarity with queer and trans prisoners and more.

The event concluded Sunday with a Fathers’ Day themed BBQ dinner and presentation at the MLK Center in East Gainesville featuring recently released political prisoners of the Move Organization, Mike Davis Africa and Debbie Sims Africa, as well as their son Mike Africa Jr, who was born in prison in 1978.

Following that event, a dozen people reconvened at the Civic Media Center for an impromptu banner and sign making party, accompanied by a spontaneous karaoke session inspired by the radical entertainment experts of Connect the Dots. The next morning, over 30 activists from the convergence payed a surprise visit to the Florida Department of Transportation offices, disrupting work for the number one prison slave contractor in the state, before heading to the County Jail for a publicly planned rally against the money bail system. To see videos and photos of convergence go to www.fighttoxicprisons.org



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

Civic Media Center Events

Recurring events:

TUESDAYS: Free Grocery Store @2:30pm
THURSDAYS: Volunteer Meeting @5:30pm
THURSDAYS: Poetry Jam @8pm
SATURDAYS: Meditation @9am
SATURDAYS: Yoga @10am
TBA: Zine Committee Meetings

MON AUG 26: TranQuility Clothing Swap Party @7pm
TUES AUG 27: Free HIV Testing @2:30-430pm
TUES AUG 27: IWOC Letter Writing @6pm
WED AUG 28: Storytelling for Social Activism with Planned Parenthood @7pm
FRI AUG 30: Disco for Good @9pm
SAT AUG 31: Sustaining Wellness Workshop @2pm
MON SEPT 2: CLOSED for Labor Day
MON SEPT 9: Free HIV Testing @5-7pm
MON SEPT 9: Movie Monday: ACT UP! @7pm
TUES SEPT 10: IWOC General Meeting @6pm
FRI SEPT 13: Theater Strike Force Improv Workshop @8pm
MON SEPT 16: Radical Rush Art Build @6pm
FRI SEPT 20: Bluegrass and Old Time Jam @6pm
SAT SEPT 21: Free Store @2-5pm
SAT SEPT 21: Free HIV Testing @2-5pm
MON SEPT 23: Radical Rush at Santa Fe College @11am-2pm
TUES SEPT 24: Radical Rush at UF @11am-2pm
WED SEPT 25: Radical Rush at UF @11am-2pm
TUES SEPT 24: IWOC Letter Writinwg @6pm
SAT SEPT 28: Connect the Dots Live Music @8pm

Check Instagram and Facebook for more details and other as yet unscheduled events in August. The CMC website is under reconstruction - Facebook is the best place to keep up with new events added after this list was made.

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.



Jennifer Downey, AP, Dipl OM
AP 1673

Acupuncture Physician

1330 NW 6th Street, Suite A
Gainesville, FL 32601

phone: 352-745-2977

e-mail: acujenn@yahoo.com

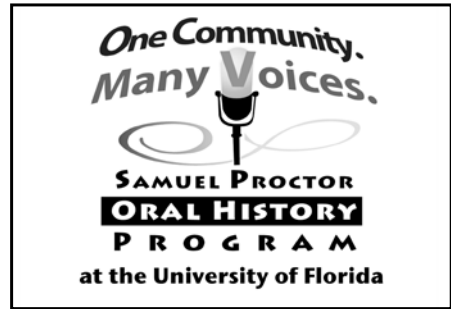


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History and the people who make it: Barbara Higgins



Barbara Higgins [H], civil rights activist, was interviewed by Stewart Landers [L] in August, 1992.

This is the 54th in a series of transcript excerpts from the UF Samuel Proctor Oral History Program collection.

Transcript edited by Pierce Butler.

H: My dad was a cook on the train and the man who was opening the White House Hotel here, on Main Street where some bank is now, he was on the train and the food was good, so he said, I'd like for you to come and cook for me. I was on the way, so by the time they got into Gainesville, I was born, January 14, 1926.

L: You mentioned a sister?

H: Yes. Most people thought we were twins. My sister died last year of cancer on October the 18th and so now I am alone. She was two years older than I am.

Okay, they came as a cook at the White House, both of them, and then this guy bought the Thomas Hotel, so he moved over to the Thomas Hotel. Then, he began to work at a restaurant, right across from campus, the College Inn.

This was way back, in the early '30s when the university was all boys. My mother, at first she taught school, and on the side, Daddy would bring home the boys' white shirts and she would do the shirts like for 25 cents per shirt. He started working for the law fraternity in the fall and in the summer, he would go to Asbury Park, New Jersey, and Ocean Grove, for many years. 1939, when the World's Fair was in New York, at the end of that summer he sent for my sister and I to come to New Jersey. We stayed with him for a week, and then he carried us to New York to see the World's Fair, and that was really exciting.

L: Before we get too far, can you give me your parents' full names.

H: My daddy's name was Albert Higgins and my mother's name was Annie L.

Higgins. My mother was from Hartford, Connecticut, but her family moved back to Georgia. She was in boarding school in Cordele. That is where she met my dad, cause his train was running from Cordele to somewhere. She was teaching school when she met him.

On week-ends she would be riding the train to go home, and when the car would pass the [men] were all hanging out the window and they would whistle and she just despised that. After she had gotten on the train, he came into the car one day and saw her and started talking and she didn't like him at all, but eventually she did. So they got married. They stayed there in Cordele and he still worked on the train and she still taught school.

L: Were you in Gainesville during the Second World War?

H: I was in college at Bethune-Cookman, in Daytona Beach. We only had about 7 boys in the whole school and about 350 girls, all black. Mary McLeod Bethune had come to Daytona Beach with \$7.50. She bought this home and started a little private school, and there was a school called Cookman in Jacksonville, so they sort of merged.

L: What year did you start Bethune-Cookman?

H: 1943.

L: And you graduated?

H: [19]47.

L: 1947, with a degree ... ?

H: In business. I wanted to be a secretary. No one told me that black women or girls, would not be able to work as secretaries anyplace, so there was no job for me. What I had to do, was to substitute teach at La Crosse, and then finally a lady who wanted to teach school was secretary in an insurance office. She decided she was going to go back to college, and someone knew that I wanted a job in business, so they told her. So then I started working in Central Life Insurance, a black insurance office and insurance company here in Gainesville. Then they moved to Ocala, and they weren't paying me enough money to go to Ocala, because when I first started work, about [19]49, I was only getting \$16 a week.

I got married after [19]47. Everything was segregated at that time, and there were no black businesses that needed a secretary unless it was an insurance company.

L: Were there any black doctors, dentists ...

H: No, Dr. Parker was the only black doctor we had, Dr. Cosby's father-in-law. Dr. Cosby's the dentist.

1932, was when my grandmother died. Well, my grandmother had 188 acres of land in Georgia, and she sold it all but 40 where the house was. She put the money in the bank in each one of her children's name.

After she died, we all went to Georgia to the funeral. Americus is where she was, Americus, Georgia. There was a judge in Americus, and she had told him if anything happened to her what to do. So, he gave each one of the girls their money, and the boys, because Mama had three brothers.

Daddy had already bought this land here, so he began to build. They built a two story building, and he started the grocery store with the money which my grandmother left. He went from this grocery store to one on the corner of Depot and 5th Street. The little store out in Copeland now, he built that. He was on 8th Avenue, you know where Tom Coward has his laundromat. At one time we had four grocery stories. He moved farther down on 7th Street and 5th Street. He had that whole block in there: a grocery store, a barber shop, a pool room, and a restaurant.

L: Was your family somewhere near the top?

H: Well, we didn't consider our self as such. We were not hobnobbing with the big wigs, because Daddy didn't usually do that. When he died everybody said, Mr. Al, he never enjoyed himself, and I'd say, well we cannot say that, because he enjoyed himself when he was making a dollar. Therefore he enjoyed himself. That was his life, he wanted to make another dollar, another dollar, you know. He never closed up. He would close up the other stores, but this one here. He only closed up on Christmas day to come up here to eat and he'd stay closed for about one hour.

L: What church did you go to?

H: We go, we still do, to Spring Hill Baptist, over near Lincoln Middle School. My mother was one of the pillars, as we call it, of that church.

At that time, we had only social clubs that we could be in. The first thing I was a member of, was the Ultra Modernist Club — a social service club. As time went on,

I was very active in the civil rights movement. My daughter graduated [from Lincoln High School] when the black kids went to the Florida Theater, to have the sit-in or the stand-in. That was [19]63.

Then we all got involved in the NAACP, which I became secretary, was secretary for 18 years. And I was president and then Rev. Alexander was president. He was an older minister and the young children in NAACP did not want him because he didn't want to do anything. But he accomplished things in his own way.

Charles Chestnut and a few of the others went on to the university and had a sit-in at the restaurant on 13th Street, Humpty-Dumpty, that's what it was. That is when I really got involved.

They began to have meetings and demonstrations on how to protect yourself. We had people from the university to help us, and I think that has a lot to do with our progress, being in a university town. Teachers from the north, who really wanted to do something. Now quite a few of them wrote books on us, but they still taught us a lot, cause we were really green. We didn't really know what was going on.

L: Did you ever get involved in a organization called the Council for Human Relations?

H: Yeah, we used to have meetings every third Sunday at what is now the Rosa B. Williams Center, but was known as the Community Center at that time or the Recreation Center.

That was teachers from the university. They just wanted to come together, have pot lucks, talk about problems — they would try to see if they could help us to solve them. It accomplished a lot, and quite a few of us was upset when we disbanded because they thought that maybe we had done all we could. This particular group would work with the county and city government. We would meet with them one on one.

After this insurance company moved away, I started working at the county agent's office. That was one of these separate [but] equal things, and the county agent's office dealt with "4-H-ers" and farmers and Mr. English Green was the county agent. I guess he passed about 4 months ago. I worked there, but it was only a half-day job, so then I worked at the hospital as a nurse's aide, from 3 to 11. When Shands opened in 1958, I left Alachua General and applied to Shands

because Shands was paying more money. I got the job at Shands — it was just three blacks they had hired, the other two was midwives. I was working then from 4 till 12. Then I started working 12 till 8 on the midnight shift.

When I first started, all of Shands was on [the] third floor of the hospital. That was the only floor that was finished. Then the Christmas of [19]58 they had finished the fourth floor. So, we moved everything but O-B G-Y-N up on fourth floor, and I remained on O-B and G-Y-N on third floor, as a nurse's aide.

You could have a baby for \$45. You could stay until you were really well. They would leave the baby in the room with the mommies. There [was] a young girl that had a baby. She was 12 years old, and I was supposed to teach her how to take care of the baby. But when she got tired of the baby she'd turn over. The baby could cry or whatever and it wouldn't matter — she was treating her like a doll.

I got very upset about that and sent my daughter off to boarding school cause she was 12 years old. She wanted to know: "Mother why do I have to go?", and I said because mother works all the time to try to make things better, cause we were trying to buy a home. He had two jobs and I had two. So I sent her off to boarding school, to Camden, South Carolina. Boylan Haven

Mather Academy, it was a co-ed school. I hated to take her all the way to South Carolina, but that was the closest one I could find. She went for two years.

She didn't want to go, at first. The next year she was glad to go because she was one of the people who welcomed the other group to come in. I came home one night, and she was waiting up for me. She said, Mother I want to come home and go to school. I know why you sent me away, because of something that had happened on your job. She said, they taught us all about sex and everything at boarding school, so you won't have to worry. I said, well, okay. So she went on and she was Miss Lincoln.

To be continued in the October Iguana. Full transcript of this interview can be found at <https://ufdc.ufl.edu/oral/results/?t=barbara%20higgins>.

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



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September 6 – 22, 2019

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Mossman Hall

Tickets \$15

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Rest in power, Toni Morrison (1931-2019)



On August 5, the world lost the one and only Toni Morrison—the first black woman to win the Nobel Prize in Literature, winner of the Pulitzer Prize and National Book Critics Circle Award, recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom, and amplifier of black identity in America (particularly the often crushing experience of black women) through her advocacy work and eleven novels.

Throughout her inspiring and impactful life, Morrison encouraged us to fight back and dream; her legacy lives on today in the struggle for justice and equality.

We hope you'll take the time to read the countless remembrances of her life and influences, and if you haven't already, check out one of her deeply moving, empowering, and at times unsettling novels.

Thank you, Toni Morrison, for sharing your genius with us. Rest in power.

For more on Toni Morrison, check out "'Toni Morrison Will Always Be with Us': Angela Davis, Nikki Giovanni & Sonia Sanchez Pay Tribute" from Democracy Now! at https://www.democracynow.org/2019/8/7/remembering_toni_morrison. 🐾

Santa Fe River Bill of Rights campaign kickoff

Aug. 27 in High Springs

Aug. 29 in Gainesville

The public is invited to back-to-back SAFE BOR kickoff events, beginning at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 27 at the High Springs Brewing Company* in downtown High Springs at 18562 NW 237th St.

The Gainesville event begins at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 29 at the Millhopper branch library at 3145 NW 43rd St.

Learn more on our Facebook page at:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/608207302991818/>.

**Note change in venue location. This alternate location is across the street from the previously scheduled North Florida Springs Environmental Center. 🐾*

From RIVER, p. 1

nature above the claimed "rights" of corporations to harm public waters within the Santa Fe rivershed in Alachua County.

"The effort to grant legal rights to natural systems is part of a visionary new movement being adopted within the United States and internationally because people recognize that we need to fundamentally change the ways we are living with Mother Nature," says SAFE BOR steering committee chair David Moritz. Other steering committee members are nature photographer John Moran; writer Lu Merritt, who has worked with several springs defender groups in North Florida; and Merrilee

Malwitz-Jipson, a founding member of Our Santa Fe River.

The voters of Toledo, Ohio made headlines earlier this year when they overwhelmingly passed the Lake Erie Bill of Rights in the wake of a 2014 emergency shutdown of their city's municipal water supply, rendered unsafe to drink for three days by toxic algae and impacting more than half a million residents.

Learn more, download the petition, and check out volunteer and donor opportunities at SAFE BOR.org, and find us on Facebook and Twitter. Let's protect our drinking water and the river we love. 🐾

GREATER GAINESVILLE INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL AND UN INTERNATIONAL

Day of Peace

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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 bstandly@aclufl.org

American Promise is a national, cross partisan, grassroots endeavor to amend the US Constitution to "secure fair, free elections; protect the rights of all Americans to equal participation and representation; and return original liberties for people rather than new privileges for the largest corporations, unions, and special interests." americanpromise.net, local group forming: sandy.WeThePeople@gmail.com

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

The Coalition for Racial Justice gnv4all@gmail.com

Continued on next page

Continued from preceding page

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/humanistsocietyof-gainesville; gainesvillehumanists@gmail.com.

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

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

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.floridiansforairdemocracy.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.hearourvoicegnv.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 works to preserve and promote Travis Fristoe Zine Library at the CMC, new meeting time TBD - see Facebook, cmzinecommittee@gmail.com or on Facebook 🐸

RADICAL RUSH

What: Radical Rush 2019

When/Where:

Sept. 23 - SFC Oak Grove

Sept. 24 & 25 -- UF Plaza of the Americas

by Joe Courter

It began at a Civic Media Center volunteer meeting in 1998. All the Greek rush was going on as usual at the UF campus, and at first the thought came up as a joke, a parody of this annual ritual. Like "Rush CMC."

But then as the idea was tossed around, it was pointed out that it was pretty functional for them, and perhaps we could use the concept to benefit ourselves. Someone else pointed out that "radical" has a definition of getting to the root, of seeking fundamental change, and if we invited other progressive groups, it would be good for everyone, because we all need members, and "rush" means, in the case of the (college) Greeks, entertain bids for membership.

And thus, "Radical Rush" was born. Groups were contacted, dates set, tables borrowed, and it was done with over 20 groups participating.

And almost every year since then the CMC has helped coordinate the event at the UF campus, and in recent years also incorporated Santa Fe College. The dates for this year are Monday, Sept. 23, for SFC (in the Oak Grove) and then Tuesday and Wednesday, Sept. 24 and 25 down the diagonal sidewalk on the UF Plaza of the Americas.

It serves other purposes beyond just groups getting new sign-ups. It incorporates community organizations as well as campus-based groups, which helps break through that town/gown divide that so often affects college towns. And also, the activists from the many different organizations can be in one place and meet each other, too. Groups that join in are listed in the annual guide, which has a short description of the groups and their contact information.

Rad Rush is all about empowering progressive organizations, from campus and community, to grow and succeed, be it environmental, social justice, human rights, women's rights, LGBTQ rights, or political groups that support human needs over corporate greed. Watch for it and become part of making our little corner of the world, and the world beyond, a better place. 🐢

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Gainesville's progressive newsletter and events calendar



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Gainesville Iguana

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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

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