



Brandi Alduk, a New York Starbucks worker, at a rally on Dec. 9, the one-year anniversary of the Starbucks organizing drive. Photo by Jenny Brown.

2022 Review

Harsh conditions, good surprises

by Jenny Brown

Was it the pandemic? Was it new disasters from climate change? Was it the fact that employers are still begging for more workers?

Whatever it was, workers were ready to throw down this year. In the face of inflation and short-staffing we demanded more money in our paychecks, and more time for our lives outside of work. We organized; we even exercised our strike muscles. And crucially, union members stood up to demand more from their unions and their leadership.

Workers overturned a lot of conventional wisdom in 2022.

Small shops are supposed to be nearly impossible to organize, yet it was just a year ago that Starbucks workers in Buffalo won their union election, followed by 266

other stores around the country — more than 7,000 workers. Slower than that breakneck pace, but still fast by any other standard, the News Guild has organized 145 shops — another 7,000 workers — in the past five years.

Similarly, most organizers would say it's foolish to hold a National Labor Relations Board election with less than 60 percent of the workforce signing union authorization cards (some would say 70 percent). But organizers of the Amazon Labor Union looked at the high turnover at their 8,000-worker Staten Island warehouse and decided to go for it after they got the legally required minimum, 30 percent. They sent Amazon corporate scrambling and sent shock waves through corporate boardrooms when they won in April.

See 2022 REVIEW, p. 4

DeSantis allies plot hostile takeover of Florida college

New College's reputation: most progressive public college in the state

by Michelle Goldberg

New College of Florida has a reputation for being the most progressive public college in the state.

X González — a survivor of the Parkland school shooting who, as Emma González, became a prominent gun control activist — recently wrote of their alma mater, “In the queer space of New College, changing your pronouns, name or presentation is a nonevent.”

In *The Princeton Review's* ranking of the best public colleges and universities for “making an impact” — measured by things like student engagement, community service and sustainability efforts — New College comes in third.

Naturally, Gov. Ron DeSantis of Florida wants to demolish it, at

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Goodbye, Old Friend

by Joe Courter

Well, I have done it. I no longer have a *Gainesville Sun* being delivered to me. No more newspaper to read with my morning coffee, as I've had for most all of the last 35 years. The final straw was continuing to receive it and read it after the elimination of letters to the editor and the editorials from various sources, and finding it such a hollow experience.

Oh, I knew this break was coming, beginning with the elimination of the *Scene* magazine a few years ago and the gap that caused. We are in such a culturally rich city and there goes the part of the newspaper devoted to it. Next big thing was dropping the Saturday paper, another loss for the theater and music scene, and as well the sports on TV listing. And for those that cared, no reports on their high school sports is big, too.

Yes, there is social media filling the gap to an extent. Information available on social media and the web is vast, but it is not the common source we used to have, so we are no longer on the same page (no pun intended).

It is the unintended consequence of our technology evolving coupled with corporate ownership exploiting these new opportunities to cut costs and make more profits. And face it, we people have changed our habits as well, opting for all the shiny objects offered to us.

I heard former *Sun* publisher Doug Ray speak at the Florida Free Speech Forum recently, and he brought up some interesting points. He said young people's decline in reading newspapers began in the '80s and '90s, predating social media. I believe a lot of young people fell under the spell of Reagan's projected optimism as well, but it does underscore readership drop off.

So what do we have? Choices. Just like our TV viewing; I grew up near NYC, there were less than ten choices of channels and some of them had shaky reception.

Now? Almost unlimited choices (if you'll spend the money). Moreover, we can curate our own consumption, watching not only what we want but when we want.

So, old fart that I am, who learned to read before I ever watched a TV screen, I now need to make friends with reading my local newspaper on a screen. But I will really miss that trip to the delivery box in the morning, and the spread of the paper on the table as I read, dropping crumbs on it, leaving rings from my coffee cup. That I can deal with, I guess. And I don't have all that paper to recycle, either.

The part that is gone, and I will miss, is those letters to the editor from my fellow townspeople, reflecting the pulse of my community on a variety of issues. Nathan Crabbe at the *Sun* was doing a great job of finding editorials, especially in the Sunday paper. That is gone, too.

This affects everyone for the worst – the lack of government watchdog and corruption reporting, the things newspaper reporters used to do. They are gone now, too.

Investigative journalism will have neither the financial backing nor the platform to get their stories published. This does not bode well for the maintenance of an informed citizenry so needed for our elections to produce wise leaders, and holding elected leaders accountable.

But perhaps that horse has already left the barn: this Congress ... holy smokes ... we are in deep trouble. ☹️



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From the publisher ...

Wars 2003 and 2023

I've been thinking more about this Ukraine mess in the past weeks, and it just hit me as I contemplate 2023, that this spring will be the twenty-year anniversary of the Bush administration's war based on lies and the invasion of Iraq, which came right on the heels of the post-9/11 invasion of Afghanistan. There was worldwide resistance to the Iraq war, demonstrations all over the world on a scale never seen before or since. Google "2/15/03 demonstrations."



Joe Courter

Here in 2023, it is a very different situation. It's being seen like a distant sporting event, and there is cheering for it in this country. The U.S. is merely funding it, and is not going to be sending troops as was the case in 2003. And, regarding the cheering, imperialism kinda sucks no matter who is doing it, and support of the resistance to Russia's invasion of Ukraine is understandable. But it is still war, and the threat of wider war in Europe does exist. We are dealing with an authoritarian leader with no graceful way out. The situation is very dangerous.

As with the Russians in Ukraine, for the U.S. in Iraq and Afghanistan there were some friendlier areas, but in other areas there was really stiff defense of their country against these invading troops. The locals were motivated to fight back. Additionally the Iraqi and Afghan resistance were aided by internationals who helped kill and harass the invading U.S. forces, using smaller-scale munitions and home field advantage, and causing a lot of death and injury from these tactics. Same here for Russia in Ukraine, and things have gotten bogged down with the increased resistance. The US and Russia in their turn had discounted how much fight back they would face.

Two days ago I read the following powerful article in the *New Yorker*: "Trapped in the Trenches in Ukraine" (tinyurl.com/Iguana1518). It follows a number of Afghanistan and Iraq vets as they fight with the Ukrainian resistance against the Russian military. They are gruff macho guys whom combat has hardened to where war is normal. Gritty trench warfare, but with cell phones and drones (!). One featured guy, Doc, is talked about here:

"The cause for which he is fighting in Ukraine is righteous because it consists of one country resisting occupation by another. But Doc's adversaries in Iraq and Afghanistan viewed their causes similarly — and, in Afghanistan, that galvanizing sentiment may be why the Taliban prevailed. This is a thorny topic for veterans, and Doc was not willing to concede a moral equivalence between the U.S. and Russian invasions. However, the experience of defending a country against an outside aggressor that was superior in numbers and in firepower had given him a new appreciation for his former enemies. 'I used to think, What kind of pussy fights with mines?' he said. 'And here I am, laying mines.'"

Wars are about territory and resources, things that could be worked out otherwise, but the powers that be did not choose that route. Politics and negotiation, coming to agreements in written policy, take a lot of work and often require concessions. We modern humans are impatient, plus we have all these great toys ... these weapons with which we think we will surely prevail. Plus, there are certain entities which make a lot of money from war, and they exert influence for their own sake. Peace is not profitable.

Carl von Clausewitz claimed almost two hundred years ago: "War is the continuation of policy with other means." U.S. Marine Major General Smedley Butler said almost a hundred years ago, "War is a racket." (He had been sent to Nicaragua to win it over for U.S. corporations.)

There seems to be unlimited money to feed the war machine. And now there seems to be a willing gamesmanship, that involves a multi-tiered gamble: that Russia will collapse under internal or economic pressure, and that the conflict won't escalate to a wider war. Someone else once wrote, "Where are we going, and why are we in this handbasket?"

Do good, be nice, organize to make things better if you can, and hope for the best in 2023. Onward. 🐢

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From 2022 REVIEW, p. 1

Democratic reformers within their unions floored everyone — not least the sleep-walking incumbents. In the Auto Workers, the Unite All Workers for Democracy caucus, formed in 2019, has notched amazing wins in its short existence.

Last December UAWD activists won their one-member, one-vote campaign so that members could elect the top union officers. Then members used their new voting power to end the seven-decade tenure of the Administration Caucus, which was tainted by recent corruption scandals — not to mention the ongoing scandal of rolling over to concessions like two-tier contracts.

It's not time for a victory lap yet — the presidency goes to a runoff in January. Reformers are gearing up for what could be a tough last mile now that they've lost the element of surprise.

We may see more of this soon. Members of the 1.3 million-strong Food and Commercial Workers are also demanding more from their international union. Reformers centered in the group Essential Workers for a Democratic UFCW will bring resolutions to their convention in April for coordinated bargaining and a \$100 million investment in new organizing to counter low pay and fractured schedules for the union's 835,000 grocery members.

They also want one-member, one-vote for top officers, like the Teamsters and now the Auto Workers have. Grocery companies are posting the highest profits since the 1980s, but apart from brief hazard pay during the height of the pandemic, store workers have seen few gains.

Last year's big news in union reform was the victory of a reform slate in the Teamsters. The new leadership is gearing up for the UPS contract in the coming year, covering 340,000 workers.

Teamster locals are also retooling — one of the biggest just elected new leadership. Local 135 has 14,000 members, mostly in Indiana. Assisted by Teamsters for a Democratic Union, members tired of concessions organized to put up a slate of officers — “leaders that would mobilize the members to win the contract we deserve,” said UPS driver Corey Warren. The local now has 200 members on strike at a MonoSol chemical products factory fighting forced overtime.

Meanwhile in Mexico, workers took some major steps forward in ousting the country's long-dominant, corrupt “employer protection unions,” with auto workers at a big General Motors plant in

central Mexico forming an independent union in February. That win has inspired several other victories, including among 3M plant workers in San Luis Potosi who make everything from Post-Its to N95 masks and workers at a VU Manufacturing auto parts plant on the border who produce arm rests and door upholstery for Nissan, Tesla, and the Big Three.

Strikes worked

The year started with Massachusetts nurses approving a contract at St. Vincent's Hospital, owned by the giant for-profit chain Tenet, after a 10-month strike. Tenet owns 60 hospitals and was testing its ability to permanently replace strikers and bust the union — spending an estimated \$50 million on the effort—but the nurses held out and won guaranteed nurse-to-patient ratios, no concealed weapons in the hospital, and limits to “just-in-time” policies that had allowed managers to send nurses home mid-shift.

Minneapolis teachers struck in April and won a substantial raise for lower-paid educational support professionals. Like many workplaces, the lower-paid staff are primarily people of color. They also won language to support retention of teachers of color; increased hiring of counselors, nurses, and librarians; and they got class-size limits into the contract for the first time — though the caps are too high, teachers said.

In May, teachers in Brookline, Massachusetts, won after a one-day strike when a thousand descended on City Hall. Striking is illegal for public workers in Massachusetts, though that also didn't stop them — nor stop teachers in nearby Haverhill and Malden from walking out in October.

In September, Philadelphia Museum of Art workers struck after management had dragged its feet for two years. They won a first contract after a 19-day strike.

And in November, 48,000 academic workers in the University of California system kicked off the largest U.S. strike of the year.

A credible threat of strikes worked too. An illegal two-day strike by 55,000 education workers in Ontario backed down the province's premier from an egregious union-busting bill when many more unions joined in a plan for a general strike in November.

Work fast, work sick

A common theme of labor struggles this year was dangerously long hours. Companies laid people off during Covid and never hired enough back to do the job.

Airlines used federal Covid relief money

to buy out experienced pilots and now they're running so lean that, in the words of American Airlines pilot Dennis Tager, carriers are “trying to sell tickets for flights [they] can't rationally provide to our passengers.” Fatigue calls — where pilots refuse to fly because they're too tired — are up fivefold, and on some days tenfold.

Railroad carriers slashed nearly a third of the workforce over six years, so it's no wonder they're fighting so hard against paid sick leave for those who remain. Every sick call disrupts their fragile scheduling regime. This is one reason the carriers pushed hard for the government to impose a contract that not only has no paid sick days but also allows managers to punish workers for calling in sick, an alarming policy.

“The railroad is not a place to work while you're sick,” a recent Maintenance of Way (BMWED) statement noted. “It's dangerous. It requires full concentration, situational awareness, and decision-making. Because carrier management decided to egregiously reduce [the] workforce, it's more dangerous than ever, and the onus of that rests with them.”

Other workplaces were already understaffed, and the grueling schedules mean new hires won't stick around. A leaked memo from Amazon this summer showed that management is worried that in a couple more years it will literally run out of people to hire. Every potential Amazon worker will already know how bad it sucks — ‘cause they worked there and left.

Dangerously long shifts are also a factor at Warrior Met coal in Alabama, where miners have been on strike since April 1, 2021. The company was requiring 12-hour shifts, with no premium pay, when the company took their weekends.

In California and Hawaii, therapists and social workers in the National Union of Health Care Workers struck in August to force Kaiser to hire enough staff to allow them time to actually help patients. Suicidal or addicted patients seeking help were waiting six to eight weeks for a follow-up appointment.

“After Covid, it's so much. We're gambling with people's lives,” said Kim Hollingsworth Horner, a member of the bargaining committee. They won additional time with pediatric patients, while California's legislature mandated no more than a 10-day wait for patients.

For teachers, the speed-up takes the form of too-large classes. Seattle Teachers struck for a week in September to try to get

the classes down to a reasonable size (not 44 students!).

The district tried to use its plan to integrate students with disabilities into general education classrooms — an equity goal the union supported — as an excuse to cut staff. Remaining teachers and paraprofessionals would be too overwhelmed make it work. And while the district was talking equity, the strikers said, what about raising paraprofessional pay?

Tiers on trial

Solidarity-wrecking two-tier was on trial this year. It's hard to get new workers excited about the union when the contract puts them in a permanent second-class category, whether that be a lower tier of wages or no pension or worse benefits or no overtime protections.

How would you like to work alongside someone with a better contract? How would you like to have a target on your back as a more expensive top-tier worker?

Yet unions have allowed it to creep into postal contracts, higher education, manufacturing, and logistics. Employers love it because they know it saps our unity, it gives the union a bad name, and it's only a matter of time before the whole workforce is on the second (or third) tier.

Last year strikers at John Deere and Kellogg's made it an issue. This year the Auto Workers reform slate made rolling

back two-tier concessions central to its winning election campaign.

And in June, 550 housekeepers at the University of Pennsylvania — 250 of them stuck on the bottom tier — organized to get everyone on the same scale, and won! They're members of Teamsters Local 215, but the leadership of the local wasn't much help.

"They told us we would never get rid of the two-tier system: 'It's in all our contracts, shut up about it.' But we abolished it in one shop," said housekeeper Jawuan Thomas.

The big showdown on two-tier is coming next year at UPS, where the new Teamsters top leadership has vowed to fight to abolish it.

Inspiring each other

UAW members manufacturing Case and New Holland farm and construction equipment went on strike in May in Ohio and Wisconsin. They're protesting a three-tier contract, along with excessive overtime. So far, the company is stonewalling. Strikers say the successful five-week John Deere strike inspired them.

Approval of unions in the United States, pollsters tell us, has gone from a low of 48 percent in 2009 to 71 percent today, the highest since 1965. Something's in the air.

Starbucks and Amazon victories have

inspired new organizing at Trader Joe's, REI, Target, Chipotle, Home Depot, Lowe's, and Apple stores.

After Buffalo Starbucks workers won their union election, "we just started getting flooded with emails and direct messages on social media saying, 'We're so inspired, how can we do it here?'" recalled Buffalo barista Casey Moore.

New organizing is inspiring more new organizing, and this is one reason corporate America is trying to avoid the next step: signing a contract.

Union members can help build this renaissance of new organizing by turning out for strikes and the like—but also, even more importantly, by fighting to make our own unions more militant and effective.

As Martha Gruelle and the late Mike Parker wrote in the Labor Notes book *Democracy Is Power*: "The union has to deliver in the workplaces of the already organized," so the labor movement has, in effect, millions of organizers, "millions of workers who tell their friends... they'd be crazy not to join a union." Labor has taken strides in that direction this year.

Jenny Brown, formerly an editor at the Gainesville Iguana, is an assistant editor at Labor Notes. This article originally appeared in Labor Notes on Dec. 19. Labor Notes staff contributed reporting to this article all year. ☘

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From TAKEOVER, p. 1

least as it currently exists. On Friday, he announced six new appointments to New College's 13-member board of trustees, including Chris Rufo, who orchestrated the right's attack on critical race theory, and Matthew Spalding, a professor and dean at Hillsdale College, a conservative Christian school in Michigan with

close ties to Donald Trump. (A seventh member will soon be appointed by Florida's Board of Governors, which is full of DeSantis allies.)

The new majority's plan, Rufo told me just after his appointment was announced, is to transform New College into a public version of Hillsdale. "We want to provide an alternative for conservative families in the state of Florida to say there is a public university that reflects your values," he said.

The fight over the future of New College is about more than just the fate of this small school in Sarasota.

For DeSantis, it's part of a broader quest to crush any hint of progressivism in public education, a quest he'd likely take national if he ever became president.

For Rufo, a reconstructed New College would serve as a model for conservatives to copy all over the country. "If we can take this high-risk, high-reward gambit and turn it into a victory, we're going to see conservative state legislators starting to reconquer public institutions all over the United States," he said. Should he prevail, it will set the stage for an even broader assault on the academic freedom of every instructor whose worldview is at odds with the Republican Party.

Rufo often talks about the "long march through the institutions," a phrase coined by the German socialist Rudi Dutschke in

1967 but frequently attributed to the Italian communist Antonio Gramsci.

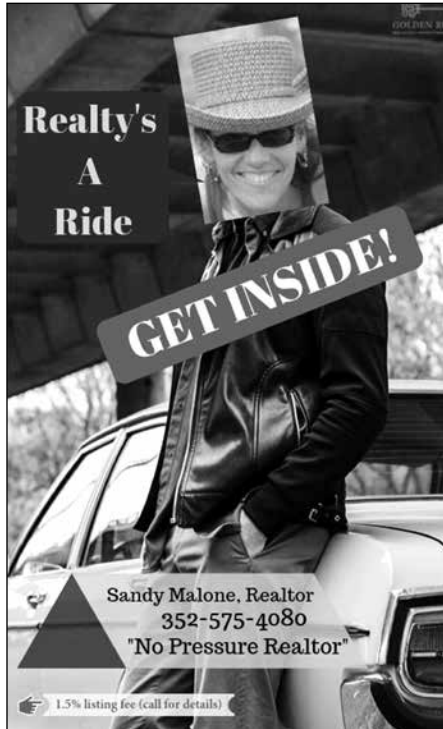
Thwarted in their hope of imminent revolution, the new left of Dutschke's generation sought instead to bore into political and cultural institutions, working within the system to change the basic assumptions of Western society. Rufo's trying, he said, to "steal the strategies and the principles of the Gramscian left, and then to organize a kind of counterrevolutionary response to the long march through the institutions."

This grandiose project has several parts. Rufo has been unparalleled in fanning public education culture wars, whipping up anger first against critical race theory and then against teaching on L.G.B.T.Q. issues.

This year, he is turning his attention to diversity, equity and inclusion programs, and, with his colleagues at the Manhattan Institute, will soon unveil model legislation to abolish such programs at state schools.

In New College, he sees a chance to create a new type of educational institution to replace those he's trying to destroy. When we spoke, he compared his plans to Elon Musk's takeover of Twitter.

Later this month, Rufo said, he'll travel to New College with a "landing team" of board members, lawyers, consultants and political allies.



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"We're going to be conducting a top-down restructuring," he said, with plans to "design a new core curriculum from scratch" and "encode it in a new academic master plan."

Given that Hillsdale, the template for this reimagined New College, worked closely with the Trump administration to create a "patriotic education" curriculum, this master plan will likely be heavy on American triumphalism.

Rufo hopes to move fast, saying that the school's academic departments "are going to look very different in the next 120 days."

The values of the people who are already at New College are of little concern

to Rufo, who, like several other new trustees, doesn't live in Florida. Speaking of current New College students who chose it precisely for its progressive culture, Rufo said: "We're happy to work with them to make New College a great place to continue their education. Or we'd be happy to work with them to help them find something that suits them better."

Of course, as both leftist revolutionaries and colonialists have learned over the years, replacing one culture with another can be harder than anticipated.

New College students may not go quietly. Steve Shipman, a professor of physical chemistry and president of the faculty union, points out that tenured professors

are covered by a collective bargaining agreement, which makes it hard to fire them unless there's cause. People like Rufo "are making statements to make impact," Shipman said. "And I really don't know how viable some of those statements are on the ground."

We'll soon find out. "We anticipate that this is going to be a process that involves conflict," said Rufo.

This article originally appeared in the opinion section of the Jan. 9 New York Times. Michelle Goldberg is an opinion columnist for the Times and the author of several books about politics, religion and women's rights.



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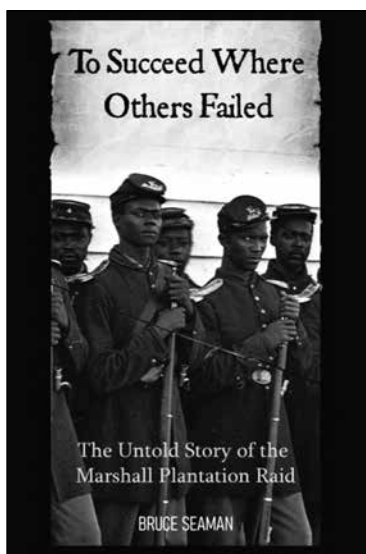
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‘To Succeed Where Others Failed’ Events on book detailing Marion County history



*The Marshall Swamp Trailway on CR 314 and the Florida Trail are in the vicinity of what was the Marshall Plantation of 1865 in Marion County, Fla.
Photo by Mary Savage.*

Retired Presbyterian minister and former Marion County DEC Chair Bruce Seaman will host several book-signings and discussions about his newly published book *To Succeed Where Others Failed: The Untold Story of the Marshall Plantation Raid*.

The story brings to light the March 1865 Union raid on the Marshall Plantation, which was located near today's Silver Springs, by black soldiers before the end of the Civil War. Historical research cited reveals the story of enslaved

persons freed by the raiders who then led the way to Florida's east coast. The cost per book is \$15.

The Rev. Seaman has served the Marion County community in many ways, including as DEC Chair from 2007 to 2010, past president of The Bridges Project Ocala, and co-host of the Friday Forum luncheons.

Details and events can be found at:
bruceseaman.com/calendar. 🐾

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100 years after the Rosewood Massacre

In January 1923, a white mob descended on the mostly Black town of Rosewood, Florida, not far from Gainesville, burning it to the ground, killing at least six, probably many more. No one was ever prosecuted or held accountable for the massacre, and it was mostly forgotten until an investigative reporter unearthed its history nearly 60 years later. A century later, descendants of the massacre's survivors and others refuse to let this history be swept under the rug. Learn more at:

Remembering Rosewood: Descendants mark racial violence that razed Florida town 100 years ago by Isabella Douglass and Zachary Carnell of WUFT
tinyurl.com/Iguana1520

History and the people who make it: Mary Hall Daniels, last known survivor of the Rosewood Massacre interviewed by Ryan Morini and Sherri Sherrod Dupree for the UF Samuel Proctor Oral History Program
tinyurl.com/Iguana1521

Rosewood Massacre: Families mark 100 years since white mob razed Black town and killed Black residents with NPR's Amy Goodman and Juan González interviewing Jonathan Barry-Blocker, whose late grandfather, Rev. Ernest Blocker, was a survivor of the 1923 massacre.
tinyurl.com/Iguana1522

From the Rosewood Massacre to Martin Luther King: Where do we go from here? by Amy Goodman and Denis Moynihan
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The fourth annual Sunshine State Book Festival will take place Jan. 27 and 28, featuring 150 authors writing in 15 genres.

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There will also be 10 readings by authors of various genres, 12 children's book authors telling stories to kids, and a panel of 4 fantasy and sci-fi authors titled Other Worlds.

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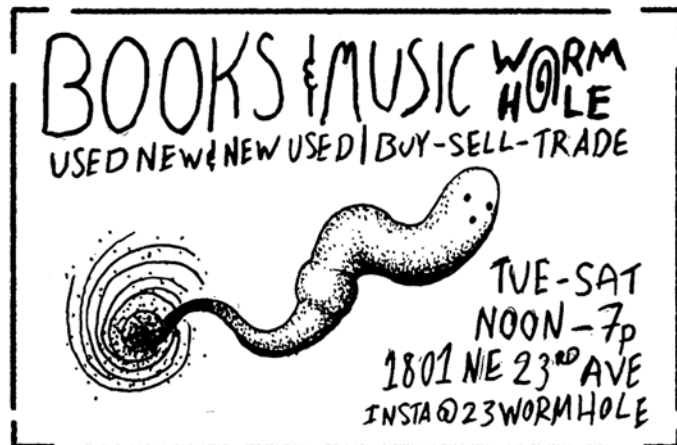
Social media ‘directly aided’ fascist insurrection in Brazil

by Jake Johnson

The fascist attack on Brazil’s main government complex was “directly aided” by major social media platforms such as Facebook, TikTok, and Telegram, the global watchdog group SumOfUs said Monday as the country’s authorities continued their cleanup efforts, investigation, and arrests of suspects involved in the anti-democratic assault.

The insurrection, carried out by supporters of far-right former President Jair Bolsonaro, “can come as no surprise to social media executives, who were warned time and again that their platforms, tools, and algorithms were directly aiding a violent uprising in Brazil,” said Flora Rebello Arduini, campaign director at SumOfUs, a nonprofit that has been monitoring the proliferation of election lies on social media in the South American country.

Referencing the Jan. 6, 2021 assault on the U.S. Capitol, which was also abetted by social media giants, Arduini added that “we’ve now seen this happen in two of the world’s major democracies — if governments fail to respond, more will inevitably pay the price.”



The Gainesville Free Grocery Store is a mutual aid project hosted by the Civic Media Center.

We aim to provide healthy and accessible food to our community and to support food justice in the greater Gainesville area.

For more info: Facebook: [freegrocerystore](https://www.facebook.com/freegrocerystore)
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In late October, on the eve of Brazil’s presidential runoff, SumOfUs released a report detailing how TikTok and Meta — the parent company of Facebook, Instagram, and WhatsApp — were putting the “integrity of the election on the line through their disastrous recommendation systems.

“Far-right extremists, who are openly agitating for a military coup, are operating freely on Meta’s platforms, and Meta is not only allowing them to spread their message and recruit new members, but the platform’s algorithms are prioritizing anti-democratic groups, accounts, and posts,” the report found.

SumOfUs estimated that Facebook ads sowing doubt about the Brazilian election and agitating for a military coup accumulated at least 615,000 impressions.

“Despite TikTok’s recent doubling down on election disinformation in wake of an embarrassing exposé of the election disinformation epidemic unfolding on its platform,” the October report continued, “this research shows TikTok influencers freely pushing election lies on the platform, racking up hundreds of thousands of views.”

Fears of far-right violence have been high in Brazil since Bolsonaro’s defeat at the hands of leftist President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva. In the wake of Sunday’s attack — for which at least 1,500 people have been arrested thus far — Lula accused Bolsonaro of “encouraging this via social media.”

Meta said Monday that it has deemed the attack on Brazil’s government buildings a “violating event” and has begun removing “content that supports or praises these actions.”

But critics say Meta and other major social media companies ignored or brushed off warnings that their platforms were being used as crucial organizing hubs for the insurrection.

The Washington Post reported Monday that “in the weeks leading up to Sunday’s violent attacks on Brazil’s Congress and other government buildings, the country’s social media channels surged with calls to attack gas stations, refineries, and other infrastructure, as well as for people to come to a ‘war cry party’ in the capital, according to Brazilian social media researchers.”

Pointing to SumOfUs’ research, the *Post* noted that “Facebook and Instagram directed thousands of users who plugged in basic search terms about the election toward groups questioning the integrity of the vote.”

The newspaper added that “researchers in Brazil said Twitter in particular was a place to watch because it is heavily used by a circle of right-wing influencers — Bolsonaro allies who continue to promote election fraud narratives.”

“Billionaire Elon Musk, who completed his acquisition of Twitter in late October, fired the company’s entire staff in Brazil except for a few salespeople,” the *Post* reported. “Among those fired in early November included eight people, based in São Paulo, who moderated content on the platform to catch posts that broke its rules against incitement to violence and misinformation.”

In a statement on Monday, SumOfUs called for “a rigorous investigation into yesterday’s actions, including into the role of social media platforms in facilitating the attack on Brazilian democracy.”

This article was originally published on Jan. 10 by Common Dreams. See more at [commondreams.org](https://www.commondreams.org).

And the good news is ...

Ten surprisingly good things that happened in 2022

Despite what you might think, progressive gains have been made – and should inspire us to keep going

With wars raging in Ukraine, Yemen, Somalia, and elsewhere; *Roe v. Wade* overturned; and our resources being wasted on militarism instead of addressing the climate crisis, it can be hard to remember the hard-won progress that is being made.

As we end a difficult year, let's pause to remind ourselves of some of the positive changes that happened in 2022 — successes that should inspire us to do more in the year to come. While some are only partial gains, they are all steps toward a more just, peaceful, and sustainable world.

Here they are:

1. Latin America's "Pink Tide" grew.
2. The U.S. labor movement caught fire.
3. Despite assaults on our elections, people fought back and gained some notable wins.
4. Peace came to Ethiopia.
5. Mainstream media finally did right by Julian Assange as his international support grew.
6. Indigenous and Global South voices were finally heard at the latest United Nations climate summit, COP27.
7. Some 200 countries (minus the U.S. and the Vatican) committed to stemming the loss of nature worldwide.
8. Congress passed the Respect for Marriage Act.
9. The World Cup put the spotlight on Palestine.
10. A multi-polar world is here.

This is a condensed version of an article by Medea Benjamin published in The Progressive on Dec 30. See the full article at tinyurl.com/Iguana1509

Industry lobbyists fret as Sanders prepares to take over powerful Senate Health Panel

'Lol good,' responded Public Citizen's Rick Claypool, mocking the corporate lobbyists' complaints

Healthcare industry lobbyists who are used to exerting significant influence over legislation and committee activity in Washington, D.C. are fretting that they may see their sway diminish after Sen. Bernie Sanders — a vocal opponent of K Street's outsized power — takes over the Senate's top health panel in the new Congress.

Politico reported Tuesday that "multiple lobbyists representing health insurers,

pharmaceutical companies, providers, and health systems" expressed concern that "they're going to have to 'bank shot' their advocacy to get their messages across — lobbying other lawmakers on the committee and getting into the ears of progressive policymakers and left-leaning organizations."

"Sanders' well-chronicled antagonism toward lobbyists has some concerned they'll

be unable to blunt criticism of their clients' profits or corporate executive salaries," the outlet continued. "They are anxious Sanders might seek to revive policies like importing drugs from Canada and other nations, an idea loathed by drugmakers."

This is a condensed version of an article by Jake Johnson published in Common Dreams on Jan 4. See the full article at tinyurl.com/Iguana1510

'Much-welcome step': FDA rule change will let retail pharmacies offer abortion pills

This is the most important government action today and it didn't involve Kevin McCarthy, said one journalist

The Food and Drug Administration late Tuesday formalized a regulatory change that will allow retail pharmacies in the U.S. to dispense abortion pills for the first time, removing a major barrier to access as Republican lawmakers wage all-out war on abortion throughout the country.

Prior to the newly finalized change, the provision of mifepristone was heavily restricted, with only certified doctors or

clinics allowed to offer the drug — one of two medications that can be taken in tandem to induce an abortion. In 2020, medication abortion accounted for more than half of all abortions in the U.S.

The New York Times, which first reported the FDA's move Tuesday, noted that "in December 2021, the FDA said it would permanently lift the requirement that patients obtain mifepristone in person from

a health provider, a step that paved the way for telemedicine abortion services which conduct medical consultations with patients by video, phone or online questionnaires and then arrange for them to receive the prescribed pills by mail."

This is a condensed version of an article by Jake Johnson published in Common Dreams on Jan 5. See the full article at tinyurl.com/Iguana1511

Driven by economic injustice, Gen Z deemed 'most pro-union generation' in U.S.

Young people see that their parents are worse off than their grandparents, they're worse off than their parents, said one economist. They recognize that their lives have been impacted by the decline in unions.

Saddled with student debt and, in many cases, spending the early years of their professional lives working during the pandemic, members of Generation Z are proving to be the most pro-worker generation in the United States today, *Marketplace* reported. Although union membership in the U.S. as of 2021 had fallen to about half the rate seen in the early 1980s, when the Bureau of Labor

Statistics (BLS) began tracking unionized workplaces, approval of labor unions among Americans has gone up steadily in the last several years.

Gallup reported last year that 71 percent of Americans now approve of labor unions, up from 64 percent before the pandemic. According to a poll released in October by the Center for American Progress

(CAP), 64.3 percent of Generation Zers — born between 1997 and 2012 — approve of unions, while 60 percent of Millennials support them and the mean approval rating among Baby Boomers and Generation X hovers around 58 percent.

This is a condensed version of an article by Julia Conley published in Common Dreams on Jan 5. See the full article at tinyurl.com/Iguana1512 ✨

Harn Museum of Art *is excited to introduce* **Art After Dark**

Thanks to a private grant, the Harn Museum of Art will remain open to the public until 9pm every THURSDAY beginning Jan. 5.

The extended hours offer Harn visitors more time to explore the permanent collection, experience special exhibitions, shop in the store and enjoy food and drinks while listening to music. 🎵



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Water rights amendment

Sign petition for clean, healthy water

by Janice Garry

What right is even more fundamental than freedom of speech, or freedom of religion or right to bear arms?

It is the right to turn on the faucet and have water that is not toxic to drink.

Or to swim in springs that are not contaminated with fecal material.

Or to go fishing and not catch fish that are toxin-laden from polluted water.

Or to not read about 1,000 manatees dying in a single year because their sea grass was killed by nutrient pollution that fed algae blooms.

Or to go to the beach and not become ill from breathing the air spoiled by thousands of fish killed by nutrient-fueled red tide. And on and on.

That is why Florida needs a constitutional right to clean and healthy water. And that is why the Right to Clean Water statewide initiative (see: floridarighttocleanwater.org/) is working to get a constitutional amendment on the 2024 ballot.

Current laws and regulations in Florida were largely written with lobbyists in the room who were protecting, not the water, but corporate profits. A constitutional amendment to make clean and healthy water a fundamental right of Floridians and put the impetus on state agencies to not "harm or threaten to harm" any Florida water entity would change the trajectory of what is protected. Follow the link to read the text of the amendment; to read about the smart, committed people running a constitutional amendment petition drive and to see the petition.

Then ride the wave of this fundamentally important petition drive. Contact Janice Garry (janice.garry@gmail.com) to sign a petition, to obtain petitions for friends and family to sign and to support the campaign. Citizen ballot initiatives are harder than ever to get on the ballot. But we can do it. We can ban together to salvage Florida's waters for ourselves and for generations of human and non-human species.

Send me a message. I'll be waiting. 🐬

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Learn Your Part. Do Your Part

Editors' picks: News that didn't fit

- **Busted: Florida utility company allegedly paid 'journalist' for hatchet job on candidate**
reported by Ana Kasparian | *The Young Turks* | Dec. 21 | VIDEO - 10:57 minutes | tinyurl.com/Iguana1504
A *Good Morning America* producer, Kristen Hentschel, used her connections to try and influence elections while being paid on the side by massive utilities. According to an NPR report, she used her ties with ABC "at least three times to trip up Florida politicians whose stances on environmental regulations cut against the interests" of clients of Matrix LLC, a political consulting firm that was accused of spying on environmentalists and journalists for the benefit of its corporate clients.
- **Concerns over disinformation grow after Musk relaxes Twitter ban on political ads**
by Jessica Corbett | *Common Dreams* | Jan. 4 | tinyurl.com/Iguana1507
Twitter has relaxed a ban on political and issue-based advertising that's been in place for over three years. Critics are concerned about the social media giant serving as "a major new forum for massive amounts of money to be spent to influence politics."
- **Farewell, Brother Staughton**
by Carl Mirra | *History News Network* | Dec. 4 | tinyurl.com/Iguana1498 | Also see story on page 14 of this issue.
Legendary activist, historian and labor lawyer Staughton Lynd died on Nov. 17, days before his 93rd birthday. Along with Howard Zinn, Staughton participated in the legendary Mississippi Freedom Summer, and was a prominent anti-Vietnam war activist. The *New York Times* called him the "elder statesman of the New Left."
- **First-of-its-kind study links US gun violence epidemic to climate emergency**
by Julia Conley | *Common Dreams* | Jan. 3 | tinyurl.com/Iguana1508
The research follows several international studies showing the connection between extreme weather events and domestic violence. Thousands of shootings in the U.S. in recent years were attributable to higher-than-average temperatures.
- **How to ban 3600 books from school libraries**
by Judd Legum and Rebecca Crosby | *Popular Information* | Dec. 12 | tinyurl.com/Iguana1516
A right-wing extremist has launched a crusade to ban thousands of books from Florida public school libraries with the use of the 2022 "Don't Say Gay" law.
- **Meet Will Witt, conservative influencer behind pro-DeSantis propaganda operation The Florida Standard**
by John Knefel | *Media Matters* | Dec. 8 | tinyurl.com/Iguana1499
Will Witt, a conservative influencer with a history of making bigoted statements – including referring to LGBTQ people as "groomers" and supporting the racist "great replacement" conspiracy theory – is at the center of Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis' reported efforts to build an alternative conservative media ecosystem in his state.
- **Muzzled by DeSantis, critical race theory professors cancel courses or modify their teaching**
by Daniel Golden | *ProPublica* | Jan. 3 | tinyurl.com/Iguana1500
Seven states, including Florida, have passed legislation aimed at restricting public colleges' teaching related to critical race theory. As fewer faculty members are protected by tenure, they're finding it harder to resist laws that ban certain racial topics. Courses, such as "Race and Social Media" and "Race and Ethnicity" are being cancelled; students suffer the consequences.
- **Quitter of the year: Ben Sasse**
by Jack McCordick | *The Soapbox* | Dec. 30 | tinyurl.com/Iguana1501
The Nebraska senator is finally getting out of politics – after years of never really getting into it – to take over as the next president of UF. While a senator, he voted in line with Trump's position 85 percent of the time. Sasse's previous academic job was president of tiny Nebraska Midland University, where faculty were allegedly forced to sign a loyalty oath, promising not to speak ill of Sasse or the university.
- **White contractors wouldn't remove Confederate statues. So a Black man did it.**
by Gregory S. Schneider | *The Washington Post* | Jan. 2 | tinyurl.com/Iguana1517
City and state officials turned to Black-owned Team Henry Enterprises after a long list of White-owned bigger contractors refused a job removing a giant statue of Confederate general Robert E. Lee in Richmond, Virginia. For a Black man to destroy such a symbol would put his life, his family, his livelihood on the line. And that was just the beginning.
- **Will GOP voters ever wake up to how much GOP lawmakers screw them over?**
by Thom Hartmann | *Common Dreams* | Jan. 4 | tinyurl.com/Iguana1505
From stagnant wages to soaring costs for rent, medical, and prescription drugs – the so-called "conservative" voter never seems to figure out what's going on. For example, Americans pay 10 times as much as Canadians for some drugs because Republicans block efforts to bring competition to that marketplace.
- **Women detained at Baker County Detention Center cite a systemic pattern of unlawful voyeurism**
by Alexandra Martinez | *Prism Reports* | *Daily Kos* | Dec. 23 | tinyurl.com/Iguana1503
"Corrections" officers in Baker County's immigrant-detention center face reports of voyeurism and medical neglect, along with over 160 complaints of abusive treatment, reported earlier in the *Iguana*. ✨



SCAN ME

In memoriam

Forever young: Staughton Lynd

Andy Piascik, a long-time friend of Staughton Lynd, wrote the article below four years ago. Lynd died Nov. 17, just five days before his 93rd birthday. "It is no overstatement to say that Staughton inspired millions of people around the world," Piascik said.

by Andy Piascik

Suddenly Staughton Lynd is all the rage. Again. In the last several years, Lynd has published a number of new books as well as new editions of classics such as *Rank and File*, plus a memoir co-authored with his wife Alice. In addition, two books about his life as an activist have been published, one on the years through 1970 by educator Carl Mirra (*The Admirable Radical: Staughton Lynd and Cold War Dissent, 1945-1970*) and another about his work since 1970 by historians Mark Weber and Stephen Paschen, *Side by Side: Alice and Staughton Lynd, the Ohio Years*.

In an epoch of imperial hubris and corporate class warfare on steroids, a Lynd revival could hardly have come at a better time. Soldier, coal miner, Sixties veteran, recent college graduate — there's much to be gained by all from a study of Lynd's life and work.

In so doing, it's inspiring to discover how frequently he was in the right place at the right time and, more importantly, on the right side.

Mississippi

During the tumultuous summer of 1964, Lynd was invited to coordinate the Freedom Schools established in Mississippi by the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC). The schools were an integral part of the Herculean effort to end apartheid in the United States and became models for alternative schools everywhere.

That August, Lynd supported the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party (MFDP) at the Democratic Party convention. Led by Fannie Lou Hamer and Bob Moses, the MFDP had earned the right to represent their state with their blood and their extraordinary courage.

Instead the party hierarchy supported the official, illegal delegation, a pathetic band of reactionaries who — the irony is too delicious — supported not the candidate of their own party Lyndon Johnson but his opponent and their ostensible enemy, Republican Barry Goldwater, for president.

This back-stabbing was carried out by liberal icons Hubert Humphrey, Walter Reuther and Walter Mondale and endorsed, alas, by Reverend Martin Luther King.

Vietnam

In early 1965, Lynd spoke at Carnegie Hall in one of the first events organized in opposition to the U.S. invasion of Vietnam.

A short time later, Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) asked him to chair the first national demonstration against the war, where he was again a keynote speaker. That April 17, a crowd of 25,000 that was five times larger than even the most optimistic organizers had anticipated turned out in Washington, and what would become the largest anti-war movement in U.S. history was born.

That summer, Lynd helped organize the Assembly of Unrepresented People in Washington. Timed to coincide with the 20th anniversary of the murder of tens of thousands of civilians in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the gathering also included a rally at the White House where peace with the people of Vietnam was declared.

Lynd has recalled the bemusement with which the relatively small band of demonstrators was received by those charged with protecting the government from its people. In reply, he told a military police officer that they were the first of what would eventually be millions, a statement that sooner than anyone could imagine proved prophetic. By 1967, a majority of people in the U.S. had declared peace with Vietnam.

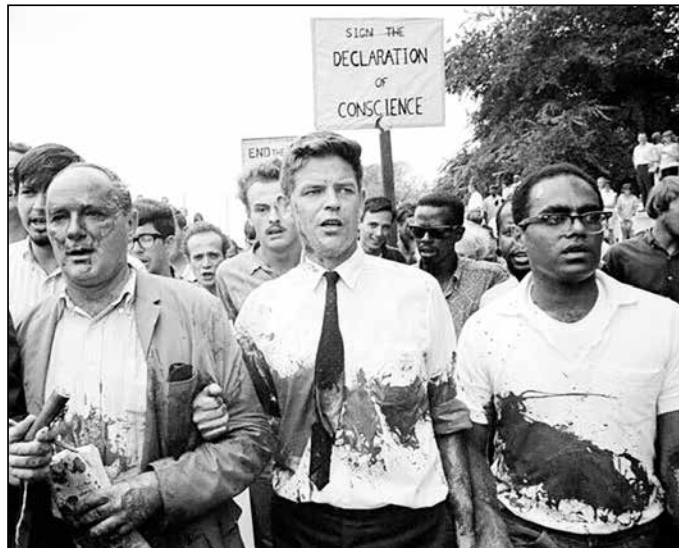
Movement contributions

Lynd would continue as one of the seminal figures of the 1960s. He was both a tireless organizer and the author of numerous articles in important movement publications like *Liberation*, *Radical America*, *the Guardian* and *Studies on the Left*.

With Michael Ferber, he documented the movement against the military draft in *The Resistance*, one of the best books about Sixties organizing.

Lynd was an enthusiastic supporter of the New Left and embraced precepts like participatory democracy and decentralization. Ex-radicals of his generation like Irving Howe, Bayard Rustin and Michael Harrington, by contrast, spent much of the Sixties attacking SNCC and SDS. He spoke for many when he mocked their enthusiasm for Johnson and the Democrats as "coalition with the Marines."

This, too, proved uncannily prophetic. Within a year of being elected in 1964, Johnson 1) ordered a massive escalation in Vietnam; 2) sent an invasion force to the Dominican Republic to support military thugs who had overthrown a democratically



David Dellinger, Staughton Lynd, and Robert Parris Moses (left to right) at the front of the Assembly of Unrepresented People peace march on Washington, Aug. 6, 1965, after being splashed with red paint by right-wing counter-protestors. Photo by Rowland Scherman. From the cover of My Country Is the World: Staughton Lynd's Writings, Speeches, Statements, and Interviews against the Vietnam War, edited by Luke Stewart.

elected government; and 3) armed and funded an incredibly violent coup in Indonesia in which over a million people were killed. The Peace Candidate indeed.

Blacklisted from academia and beyond

At the end of 1965, Lynd made a fateful trip to Hanoi where he witnessed the carnage inflicted by U.S. bombers. Up to that point, he was one of the most promising new scholars in the country. Upon his return, however, his career in academia was essentially at an end. A tenure track position at Yale suddenly disappeared. Department heads at other universities enthusiastically offered teaching positions, only to be overruled by higher-ups.

Lynd never looked back. He became an accomplished scholar outside the academy and one of the most perceptive and prolific chroniclers of “history from below,” with a special interest in working class organizing. From a series of interviews, he and Alice produced the groundbreaking book *Rank and File*, which begat the Academy Award-nominated documentary film *Union Maids*.

Youngstown

Lynd moved to Ohio in 1976, became an attorney and, when the mills in Youngstown began to close, assisted steelworkers in an unsuccessful attempt to take them over.

In a book he wrote about the effort, *The Fight Against Shutdowns: Youngstown's Steel Mill Closings*, Lynd explored the biggest little secret of all, one that people everywhere would do well to heed: We who do the work can build a better world, and we can best do it without the parasitic Super Rich who contribute nothing and weigh us down like a monstrous ball and chain.

Today

Lynd is eighty-six now. The step is slower and his eyesight isn't the best. Ten years ago he had open heart surgery — “an affair of the heart,” he calls it. “My cardiac surgeon said I came as close to becoming permanently horizontal as one can come without actually doing so.”

He talks of how deeply he misses dear friend Howard Zinn. He recalls driving through Mississippi late at night, hopelessly lost, just days after civil rights workers James Chaney, Andrew Goodman and Mickey Schwerner had been abducted and murdered.

He talks of his remarkable life's work with great humility and not at all wistfully, but in search of lessons it might hold, especially for the young.

A teacher extraordinaire, he is guided by the principle that a teacher is also a student and all students teachers. And he writes and writes, as prolifically as ever, one book after another as well as articles and book reviews for *Z*, *Counterpunch*, *the Industrial Worker* and numerous other periodicals and websites.

Lynd has seen more than his share of colleagues come and go. Some flamed out after a brief period of frantic busyness; others moved on to different lives and nice-paying gigs.

Still going strong, Lynd offers long-term commitment (“long distance running,”

as he calls it) and accompaniment — professionals living alongside workers and the unrepresented and contributing much-needed skills to the struggle for freedom, all the while walking side by side as equals — as alternatives.

He also believes as passionately as ever that a better world is indeed possible.

Andy Piascik is a long-time activist and award-winning author who writes for The Independent, Counterpunch, Znet and other websites and publications. His most recent book is the novel In Motion.

See "Farewell Brother Staughton" in Editors' Picks on page 13. 🐸

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SINCE 1974

So this is what it looks like when corporate media opposes a war

This article was originally published on Feb. 28, 2022, by Common Dreams — just four days after Russia invaded Ukraine. Feb. 24 marks the one-year anniversary of that invasion. See more at commondreams.org. The author will be speaking at the CMC on Feb. 15 — see box at end of story.

by Jeff Cohen

Having worked inside mainstream U.S. media during the beginning of the “War on Terror” and run-up to the U.S. invasion of Iraq, the differences in today’s war coverage are dizzying to me.

Civilians

While covering Russia’s horrific aggression in Ukraine, there is a real focus — as there always should be — on civilian victims of war. Today, the focus on that essential aspect of the Russian invasion is prominent and continuous — from civilian deaths to the trauma felt by civilians as missiles strike nearby.

Unfortunately, there was virtually no focus on civilian death and agony when it was the U.S. military launching the invasions. After the U.S. invaded Iraq in 2003 on false pretenses — made possible by U.S. mainstream media complicity that I

witnessed firsthand — civilian deaths were largely ignored and undercounted through the years.

Shortly after the U.S. invaded Afghanistan in October 2001, leaked directives from CNN’s management to its correspondents and anchors showed that the network was intent on playing down and rationalizing the killing and maiming of Afghan civilians by the U.S. military. One memo instructed CNN anchors that if they ever referenced Afghan civilian victims, they needed to quickly announce to their audience: “These U.S. military actions are in response to a terrorist attack that killed close to 5,000 innocent people in the U.S.” Such language was mandatory, said the memo: “Even though it may start sounding rote, it is important that we make this point each time.”

A few weeks after 9/11, what CNN viewer had forgotten it?

Noting the cursory U.S. television coverage of Afghan civilian casualties, a *New York Times* reporter wrote: “In the United States, television images of Afghan bombing victims are fleeting, cushioned between anchors or American officials explaining that such sights are only one side of the story. In the rest of the world, however, images of wounded Afghan children curled in hospital beds or women rocking in despair over a baby’s corpse, beamed via satellite by the Qatar-based network, Al Jazeera, or CNN International, are more frequent and lingering.”

The near-blackout on coverage of the civilian toll continued for decades. In April of last year, NBC anchor Lester Holt did a summing-up report on Afghanistan as “America’s longest war” by offering one and only one casualty figure: “2300 American deaths.” There was no mention of the more than 70,000 Afghan civilian deaths since 2001, and no mention of a U.N. study that found in the first half of 2019, due mostly to aerial bombing, the U.S. and its allies killed more civilians than the Taliban and its allies.

As the war on terror expanded to other countries, U.S. mainstream media remained largely uninterested in civilian victims of U.S. warfare and drone strikes.

International Law

Invasions and military force by one country against another are clearly illegal under international law, unless conducted in true self-defense (or authorized by the U.N. Security Council). In coverage of Russia’s invasion of Ukraine, U.S. mainstream media have correctly, repeatedly, and without equivocation, invoked international law and declared it illegal. As they did when Russia invaded Crimea in 2014.

By contrast, when the U.S. illegally invaded or attacked country after country in recent decades, international law has almost never been invoked by mainstream U.S. media. That was surely the case in the lead-up to the Iraq invasion — unlike in Britain, where major media prominently discussed the reality that invading Iraq would be a crime against international law unless authorized by a U.N. Security Council resolution. On a BBC television special six weeks before the invasion, for example, Tony Blair was cross-examined on that point by antiwar citizens.

In 1989, when the U.S. invaded Panama in perhaps the bloodiest drug bust in history, mainstream U.S. media made a determined effort to ignore international law and its violation—as well as the slaughter of civilians.

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Breakfast For Dinner venturé Wyatt Johnson
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Imperialism

Mainstream media in our country today are outraged by imperialism. On Friday night, MSNBC's Lawrence O'Donnell indignantly and repeatedly denounced "Russian imperialism."

As a lifelong opponent of imperialism, I'm also indignant that a powerful country like Russia is using force to try to impose its will and its own chosen leadership on the Ukrainian people.

But I've never heard O'Donnell or anyone at MSNBC denounce U.S. imperialism. Indeed, the existence of something called "U.S. imperialism" is so adamantly denied by mainstream U.S. media that the phrase doesn't appear in print without scare quotes.

This stubborn unwillingness to recognize U.S. imperialism persists despite the fact that no country (including Russia) has come close to ours in the last 70 years in imposing its will in changing the leadership of foreign governments — often from good to bad (for example, Iran in 1953; Guatemala in 1954; Congo in 1960; Chile, in 1973; Honduras in 2009). Not to mention other U.S.-led regime changes (for example, Iraq in 2003 and Libya in 2011).

This denial persists despite the fact that our country maintains more than 750 military bases in nearly 80 foreign countries (Russia has about 20 foreign bases in a half-dozen countries); that our military budget dwarfs that of every other country (more than 12 times larger than Russia's); that the U.S. provides nearly 80 percent of the world's weapons exports—including weapons sales and military training to 40 of the 50 most oppressive, anti-democratic governments on earth.

Speaking of U.S. imperialism, former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton has been all over the news in recent days commenting on Ukraine and accurately denouncing Putin as anti-democratic. But her commentary reeks of hypocrisy on many grounds; one is her key role, largely ignored by mainstream U.S. media, in

enabling the violent military coup regime that replaced elected Honduran President Manuel Zelaya in 2009.

So as we rally to support Ukrainian civilians against great-power aggression from Russia, let's do so with the understanding that imperialism should always be opposed, that all civilian victims of wars and violent coups are worthy whether Iraqi or Honduran or Ukrainian — and that all criminals who violate international law should be held accountable whether they're based in Moscow or Washington, D.C. ✨

Can independent journalism survive corporate control?

Jeff Cohen will be speaking at the Civic Media Center Wednesday, Feb. 15, at 7pm to discuss "Can Independent Journalism Survive Corporate Control?" Jeff was a founder of Fairness and Accuracy in Reporting in the 1980s and a co-founder of Roots Action (rootsaction.org), a watchdog and online lobbying group. The event is free; donations will be requested. ✨

Veterans for Peace Golden Rule Project

The Golden Rule is a project of Veterans for Peace. We aim to advance VFP opposition to nuclear weapons and war, and to do so in a dramatic fashion.

We have recovered and restored the original peace ship, the *Golden Rule*, that set sail in 1958 to stop nuclear weapons tests in the Marshall Islands, and which inspired the many peace makers and peace ships that followed.

The reborn *Golden Rule* is sailing once more, to show that nuclear abolition is possible, and that bravery and tenacity can overcome militarism.

The ship will be in Florida in January and February, including in St. Augustine Jan. 31 through Feb. 2. To see the ship's progress and full itinerary, and to learn more, visit vfpgoldenruleproject.org. Check it out on Facebook under GoldenRulePeaceBoat. ✨



GET ENGAGED....or just have
an affair with art on the
LAST FRIDAY OF THE
MONTH in downtown
Gainesville's Art District.

www.artwalkgainesville.com

GALLERY TOUR BEGINS AT 7 PM

Challenging racism at UF

Samuel Proctor Oral History Program Public Program Series

The Samuel Proctor Oral History Program (SPOHP) is a leader in promoting stories of Native Americans, African Americans, Holocaust survivors, refugees, immigrants, and diverse communities in the United States and beyond. The Doris Duke Charitable Trust noted that “SPOHP’s social justice research methodologies are the focus

of scholars and oral history programs across the globe.”

SPOHP’s *Challenging Racism at UF* public program series highlights stories of students, community organizers, faculty, and others who have been on the front lines of the effort to create a more just and welcoming world. This public program series is supported by an

Advancing Racial Justice grant from the University of Florida.

Refreshments will be provided. The livestream can be viewed via Zoom at <https://bit.ly/3HDA6TM>. Register in person at <https://bit.ly/3W72iOk>.

The series listing is below. For more information, email spohp@clas.ufl.edu. 🐾

SPOHP Series listing

January 17 – Report of the UF Presidential Task Force on African American and Native American History at UF

Smathers Library East, Room 100, 5pm

UF student, faculty, staff, and alumni members of the Presidential Task Force discuss two years of research on African and Native American history at UF, from 1853 to present.

February 13 – “OverKome!?”: Persevering with Collective Community-Led Development

Cotton Club Museum, 6pm

A community presentation on UF’s impact in the Black communities of Gainesville. The program will focus on housing, health care, and income inequalities.

February 23 – Stayed On Freedom: One Family’s Journey

Smathers Library East, Room 100, 5pm

Discussion and book signing for *Stayed On Freedom: The Long History of Black Power through One Family’s Journey*, the new work by Dr. Dan Berger. Dr. Zoharah Simmons, UF professor emerita, presiding.

March 3-4 – First of the First: Recognizing Lincoln High School Alumni Triumphs

Mount Carmel Baptist Church, Friday at 6pm, Saturday at 1pm

Two days of celebrating the perseverance and successes of 1965 Lincoln High School graduates. Come and hear stories of resilience told by a powerhouse of trailblazers.

March 21 – Bringing African American History to K-12 Classrooms

Pugh Hall Ocora, 5pm

Dr. Rebekah Cordova, an education specialist, will talk about creating new lesson plans on African American history for K-12 classrooms by utilizing SPOHP’s oral histories. This event is a collaborative initiative with the Department of Linguistics, funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

April 13 – Film Premiere of Oscar Mack

Pugh Hall Ocora, 5pm

World premiere of *Oscar Mack*—a film celebrating the life and experiences of the remarkable Oscar Mack, who challenged the Florida Ku Klux Klan in the 1920s. A discussion of the film will be led by family members and descendants of Mr. Mack.

April 21 – Documenting White Anti-Racist Activism in the Gulf South

National Webinar, 5pm

A presentation of the experiences of white anti-racist activists in Alachua and Putnam counties from 1980 to the present. 🐾



Letters from an American

One of the smartest daily reads out there. Great analysis and observations from a historian. No BS, no hype. Subscribe (there’s a free option). Read it.

<https://heathercoxrichardson.substack.com/>



MONDAY thru FRIDAY: 8 AM and 1 PM
WGOT.org / WGOT 100.1 FM
Gainesville’s Community Radio

Gainesville area events

Week of Jan. 15-21

- Tue 1/17 4:30-5:30pm: Peace Picketing every Tuesday, outside Fresh Market (NW 16th Blvd & 43rd St)
- Tue 1/17 6:30-8pm: Nat'l Women's Liberation Gvl chapter general meeting at Curia on the Drag (2029 NW 6th St), womensliberation.org
- Wed 1/18 6:30pm: Alachua County Labor Coalition Just Health Care Committee meets 3rd Weds, 235 S Main St # 206, masks required
- Thu 1/19 5-7pm: Free HIV testing every 3rd Thursday, Pride Center (3131 NW 13th St)
- Thu 1/19 6:30-7:30pm: Intimate Partner Violence Support Group meets, Pride Center (3131 NW 13th St)
- Fri 1/20 9am-12pm: Arbor Day planting & talk by Margaret Tolbert, Santa Fe Springs Preserve, alachuaconservationtrust.org/upcoming-events
- Fri 1/20 12pm: Arbor Day Tree Planting & Giveaway, Jonesville County Park (14100 NW 32nd Ave)
- Sat 1/21 10am-5pm: 36th Hoggetowne Medieval Faire (9409 SW Archer Rd), also 1/22, 1/27 (9am-4pm), 1/28, 1/29, hoggetownemedievalfaire.com
- Sat 1/21 7pm: Reinfred Addo poetry reading, Civic Media Center (411 S. Main St)
- Sat 1/21 8:30-11pm: Shoddy Beatles, The Woolly (20 N. Main St), \$15 adv/20 door

Week of Jan. 22-28

- Sun 1/22 2-5pm: Old Time, Bluegrass and Traditional Acoustic Jam, Civic Media Center (411 S. Main St), donation
- Tue 1/24 9:45pm: Rancho LaChua performs, Boca Backyard (232 SE 1st St)
- Fri 1/27 7-9pm: Sunshine State Book Fair, Trinity United (4000 NW 53rd Ave), sunshinestatebookfestival.com, see p.9
- Fri 1/27 7pm: Artwalk Gainesville, Gainesville's Art District, see p.17
- Sat 1/28 10am-5pm: Flatwoods Fire & Nature Festival -exhibits, talks, animals, music; Austin Carey Forest (10625 NE Waldo Rd)
- Sat 1/28 10am-5pm: Sunshine State Book Fair, Trinity United (4000 NW 53rd Ave), sunshinestatebookfestival.com, see p.9
- Sat 1/28 2pm: Free Grocery & pop-up flea market, Civic Media Center, see p.10
- Sat 1/28 7pm: Uncle Mosie, Tom Smith Band, Cypress & Grove (1001 NW 4th Ave), free
- Sat 1/28 8:10pm: Freedom Revolution music show, Civic Media Center, donation
- Sat 1/28 Pride Student Meet-Up, Pride Center (3131 NW 13th St)

Week of Jan. 29-Feb. 4

- Wed 2/1 7pm: Vets for Peace meets, call 352-375-2563 for info
- Fri 2/3 7pm: Film on Black Panther Fred Hampton, Civic Media Center
- Sat 2/4 11am-11pm: Spring Run, First Magnitude Brewing (1220 SE Veitch St)
- Sat 2/4 8pm: Experimental music, Wormhole (1801 NE 23rd Ave)

Week of Feb. 5-11

- Fri 2/10 7pm: Queer Market followed by music, CMC Courtyard
- Fri 2/10 8pm: Sirsy on tour from NYC, Loosey's Downtown (120 SW 1st Ave)

Week of Feb. 12-18

- Sun 2/12 10am-?pm: Veg Fest, Depot Park (874 SE 4th Ave)
- Sun 2/12 11am-4pm: Soma Courtyard art sale, CMC Courtyard
- Mon 2/13 6pm: "OverKome!" presentation on UF's impact in Gvl's Black communities - Cotton Club Museum (837 SE 7th Ave), see p.18
- Wed 2/15 7pm: Jeff Cohen on Indy Journalism, Civic Media Center, see p.16
- Sat 2/18 12pm-11pm: Swamp Head Brewery 15th Anniversary Celebration - food, music, beer (3650 SW 42nd Ave)

Week of Feb. 19-25

- Sun 2/19 11am: Melissa Desa of GROW-HUB speaks, Sunday Assembly at Pride Ctr (3131 NW 13th St)
- Sun 2/19 Holy River Dinner & Concert, FCPJ (10665 SW 89th Ave, Hampton), time TBA, see [Facebook.com/FLcpj](https://www.facebook.com/FLcpj)
- Tue 2/21 7pm: PFLAG meets every 3rd Tuesday, Pride Ctr (3131 NW 13th St)
- Thu 2/23 5pm: Author-activists Dan Berger & Zoharah Simmons speak, UF Smathers Library East, see p.24

Week of Feb. 26- Mar. 4

- Fri 2/24 7pm: Artwalk Gainesville, Gainesville's Art District, see p.17
- Fri 3/3 6-8pm: "Recognizing Lincoln High Alumni Triumphs," Mt Carmel Baptist Church (2505 NE 8th Ave)
- Sat 3/4 1-3pm: "Recognizing Lincoln High Alumni Triumphs," Mt Carmel Baptist Church (2505 NE 8th Ave)

Recurring events

- Monday Farmers Market, 4-7pm: Cypress & Grove
- Thursday Farmers Market, 4-7pm: Heartwood Soundstage
- Thursday evening Poetry Jam, 8pm: Civic Media Center

Please support GNV live music venues, they all have calendars: Heartwood Soundstage, Satchel's, Loosey's, Boca Backyard, The Woolly, Wormhole, One Love Cafe, etc.

COVID-19 remains a threat: about 400 deaths/day in the US alone ... be CAREFUL out there 🦋

Want to stay current on local live music and events?

Go to visitgainesville.com and click on "What's Good"! It's a weekly listing that comes out online every Thursday — you can even have it emailed to you. Without a *Gainesville Sun* Saturday paper or the *Scene* magazine, this is the best way to know what's happening in Alachua County.

Support Live Music, Theater, and Festivals! Get out into Nature! Leave the freakin' house and have fun!

Gary Gordon to teach community education classes

Santa Fe College in Gainesville will offer over 150 community education classes during its winter/spring term, split between in-person and on-line classes. For a complete listing, see: tinyurl.com/Iguana1524. Click the *Enrich* brochure link for details.

Two of the classes will be taught by author, musician, and former City Commissioner Gary Gordon: **Introduction to Screenwriting** and **American Revolution: 1763-1815**.

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352printshop@gmail.com



435 S. Main St.
Mon-Fri 9-8 Weekends 10-6

Intro to Screenwriting

Students will learn screenplay format and structure, developing loglines and beat sheets, and begin writing with weekly feedback. Portions of movies will be used to illustrate concepts. Best if the student already has an idea for a movie. (This is not about TV movies or short films; it's about feature-length films). Class participation is hoped for. Weekly assignments, but it's all voluntary as there are no grades. Best to bring an iPad or notebook or laptop — something to take notes.

Five Mondays, starting 1/30, 6:30-8:45pm.

SFC northern campus. \$69.

Register by calling 352-395-5193 or go online to: sfcollege.edu/communityed/, go to register, then go to Arts/Writing.

American Revolution: 1763-1815

This course will not focus on battles; instead this is an introductory course on information usually left aside when discussing the American Revolution will be presented. The pre-war period will cover the differences among the settlers who arrived from England/Great Britain and Netherlands, the period after the "French & Indian" War, and the differences among the Colonies before and during the War. The post-war period will include the disagreements over the reasons for the war, the Federalist and anti-Federalist papers—a strong or weak central government; the Whiskey Rebellion, Shay's Rebellion, the Alien and Sedition Acts, the lead-up to the War of 1812 and its immediate aftermath, after which the United States began to be recognized as a nation among nations. While some may find parallels between the Revolutionary period and today's political landscape, this course is not about that and will not draw those parallels or make conclusions.

Four Tuesdays, starting 1/31, 6:30-8:30pm.

SFC northern campus. \$54.

Register by calling 352-395-5193 or go online to: sfcollege.edu/communityed/, go to register, then go to History and Culture. ✨

Hey, Readers!

The *Gainesville Iguana* has a PayPal account, and we're accepting donations through our website at:

GainesvilleIguana.org

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

We thank you very much!

Gainesville Quaker Meeting

You are welcome here, where together we seek to live lives committed to peace and justice.

www.gainesvillequakers.org

352-372-1070

702 NW 38th St.

Worship each Sunday @ 11 am.



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 your listing so others can be accurately informed. Readers should confirm times of meetings with individual organizations.

Alachua Audubon Society's mission is to foster appreciation and knowledge of birds and other native wildlife, to protect and restore wildlife populations and their habitats, and to promote sustainable use of natural resources. We offer free birding field trips open to all, college internship experiences, birding for kids, conservation activism, volunteer opportunities. AlachuaAudubon.org | facebook.com/AlachuaAudubon/

Alachua Conservation Trust, Inc. has been protecting North Central Florida's natural, scenic, historic and recreational resources for over 25 years. 352-373-1078 | AlachuaConservationTrust.org

Alachua County Greens is part of a worldwide movement built out of interrelated pillars that support its politics: the peace, civil rights, environmental and labor movements. Meetings are the 1st Sunday of the month @4pm; for location contact 352-871-1995 | alachuagreens@gmail.com | GainesvilleGreens.webs.com

Alachua County Labor Coalition organizes to support local labor and advance the Medicare for All and A Living Wage campaigns. Meets monthly on the 4th Tuesday at 6pm: on Zoom. 352-375-2832 | info@laborcoalition1.com | LaborCoalition.org

Alachua County Organization for Rural Needs Clinic is a not-for-profit in Brookier providing low-cost, high-quality dental care for people with and without health insurance to Alachua, Bradford and Union County residents. The Clinic fulfills its mission with the help of volunteers. 352-485-2772 | acornclinic.org

American Civil Liberties Union has no Alachua County chapter. For info on forming a new chapter, or for ACLU info, contact the Northeast Chapter at firstcoastaclu@gmail.com | northeastflorida.aclufl.org

Alachua NAACP – With 2+ million activists across the country, we work to ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights of all people and to eliminate racial hatred and discrimination. Everyone invited to join. Facebook.com/alachuaNAACP | NAACPacb.org

American Promise Association is a cross-partisan, citizen-powered endeavor to amend the US Constitution to ensure We The People – not big money, corporations, unions, or wealthy special interests – govern the United States of America. americanpromise.net

Avian Research and Conservation Institute

is a non-profit research group working to stimulate conservation action to save threatened bird species in the southeast. 352-514-5606 | arcinst.org

Black Graduate Student Organization helps UF Black graduate and professional students foster meaningful and lasting relationships that aid in academic achievement and success. bgsoatuf@gmail.com | facebook.com/UFBGSO

Central Florida Democratic Socialists of America is a chapter of DSA focusing on local social and political activism issues to better our community. Meetings are the 4th Monday of the month on Zoom. centralfldsa@gmail.com | facebook.com/NCFFloridaDSA

Citizens Climate Lobby builds awareness and lobbies for sensible climate policies. 352-214-1778 | ltancig@gmail.com | citizensclimatelobby.org/chapters/FL_Gainesville | facebook.com/CitizensClimateLobbyGainesvilleFL

Civic Media Center is an alternative reading room and library of the non-corporate press, and a resource and space for organizing. 433 S Main St., Gainesville | 352-373-0010 | coordinators@civicmediacenter.org | civicmediacenter.org

Coalition of Hispanics Integrating Spanish Speakers through Advocacy and Service is a UF student-run group focusing on immigrant rights and immigrant advocacy. chispasuf@gmail.com | chispasuf.com | facebook.com/chispasUF

Code Pink: Women for Peace is a women-led grassroots peace and social justice movement utilizing creative protest, non-violent direct action and community involvement. Facebook.com/CodePINKgainesville | CodePink4Peace.org

The Community Weatherization Coalition's mission is to help their neighbors save energy and water and reduce utility bills by engaging volunteers, building community, and learning together. info@communityweatherization.org | 352-450-4965 | communityweatherization.org

Conservation Trust for Florida, Inc. is a Gainesville non-profit land trust working to protect Florida's rural landscapes, wildlife corridors and natural areas. 352-376-4770 | info@conserveflorida.org | conserveflorida.org

Democratic Party of Alachua County meets monthly on the second Wednesday at 6pm: on Zoom. 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 | facebook.com/DivestGainesville

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 and surveillance companies. Divestuf.org | facebook.com/DivestUF

Goddsville Dream Defenders is a socialist, feminist, abolitionist organization in Gainesville, organizing to dismantle institutions and be a safe space for people of color. goddsville@gmail.com | facebook.com/UFDreamDefenders

Edible Plant Project is a volunteer-run, non-profit Gainesville collective aiming to create positive alternatives to the unsustainable food system in this county. facebook.com/groups/edibleplantproject

Families Against Mandatory Minimums works to reform Florida's sentencing laws and restore fairness to Florida's criminal justice system. PO Box 142933, Gainesville, 32614 | gnewburn@famm.org | 352-682-2542 | FAMM.org

Final Friends, run by volunteers, helps families learn how to accomplish legal home funeral care as an alternative to a commercial funeral home. 352-374-4478 | FinalFriends.org@gmail.com | FinalFriends.org

The Fine Print is a quarterly magazine based in Gainesville providing political, social and arts coverage through advocacy journalism. TheFinePrintUF.org

Florida Coalition for Peace and Justice provides space for meetings, workshops, and educational activities that promote peace, human rights, social justice awareness, conflict resolution, self-empowerment and environmental awareness. 352-603-3680 | florida4peace.org

Florida School of Traditional Midwifery is a clearinghouse for information, activities, educational programs regarding midwifery. 352-338-0766 | info@MidWiferySchool.org | midwiferyschool.org

Florida Defenders of the Environment works to protect freshwater resources, conserve public lands, provide quality environmental education. 352-475-1119 | FloridaDefenders@gmail.com | FlaDefenders.org

Florida Prisoner Solidarity is a carceral abolitionist collective with members inside and outside of prisons. Efforts focus on incarcerated individuals' needs and their care networks. P.O. Box 358439, Gainesville, FL 32635 | 850-895-1505 | FLPrisonerSolidarity@gmail.com | facebook.com/FLAbolition | FLPrisonerSolidarity.org

Gainesville Area AIDS Project is a program of Pride Community Center of North Central Florida that provides toiletries, household cleaners, hot meals, frozen food at no cost to people living with HIV/AIDS. 352-377-8915

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| info@GAAPonline.org | Facebook.com/ GAAPonline | gainesvillepride.org

Gainesville Area Chapter of Climate Reality Project works to address the climate crisis for future generations. The chapter mobilizes people to become powerful activists and push for aggressive climate action. The hope is to not only transform society but to change the world. climaterealityprojectgnv@gmail.com | @climaterealityprojectgnv | climaterealityprojectgnv.wordpress.com

Gainesville Citizens for Alternatives to Death Penalty works to abolish the death penalty. Join vigils when Florida has an execution. 352-378-1690 | mark1343@juno.com | www.fadp.org

Gainesville for All The Gainesville Sun's GNV4ALL initiative is an effort to identify and address problems related to inequities and racial injustice in our community. See Facebook for online activities. GNV4ALL@gmail.com | facebook.com/GNV4ALL

Gainesville Interfaith Alliance for Immigrant Justice organizes faith communities to work together for immigrant justice. Meetings are the second Monday of the month on Zoom. Richard@371-6772 | Gainesvilleiaij@gmail.com | gainesvilleiaij.blogspot.com

Gainesville National Organization for Women focuses on reproductive rights, ending sex discrimination, constitutional equality, promoting diversity, ending racism, economic justice, stopping violence against women, lesbian rights including marriage equality. Contact Lisa@352-450-1912 for meeting info | info@gainesvilleNOW.org | facebook.com/gainesvilleNOW

Gainesville 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., Gainesville | 352-372-1070 | GainesvilleQuakers.org | facebook.com/GainesvilleQuakers

Gainesville Stamp Club, established in the 1960's, is open to anyone interested in philately. Auction held every meeting. Advanced level program occasionally included. Under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. First and third Tuesdays starting at 7:30pm; no meetings in December nor holidays. Contact us for meeting locations and info. 352-371-1991 | Stamps4Laffs@yahoo.com

Gainesville Roller Rebels, a women's Flat Track roller derby team, needs skaters and volunteer assistance. join@gainesvillerollerrebels.com | gainesvillerollerrebels.com

Graduate Assistants United union represents UF grad assistants by fighting for improved working conditions, community involvement and academic freedom. 352-575-0366 | organizing@ufgau.org | UFGau.org

Grow Radio, a non-profit podcast station,

provides opportunities for community members to create and manage engaging, educational, locally-generated programming to promote music, visual arts, humanities for enrichment of the Gainesville community. 352-219-0145 | Bryson66@gmail.com | growradio.org

Humanist Families of Gainesville aims to raise ethical, secular children in a religious, moral environment. Meetings include children and are based on members' interests. facebook: Humanist Families of Gainesville

Humanist Society of Gainesville are people who believe that the world's problems can only be solved by responsible human actions based on rational analysis and decision-making free of dogma or guidance of imaginary supreme beings. They meet to discuss and promote secular, humanist, atheist and agnostic social influences. gainesvillehumanists@gmail.com | facebook.com/humanistsocietyofgainesville | gainesvillehumanists.org

Ichetucknee Alliance focuses on ensuring the restoration, preservation and protection of ecosystems along the 5.5-mile length of the Ichetucknee River, including associated springs. Meetings are on the 4th Tuesday every other month via Zoom. 386-454-0415 | ichetuckneealliance@gmail.com | ichetuckneealliance.org

Industrial Workers of the World (IWW) Gainesville General Membership Branch Union represents all workers, regardless of industry, trade, job, employment status. gainesvilleiww@gmail.com | iww.org

Institute for Tropical Ecology and Conservation is an academic nonprofit that provides undergraduate field courses in tropical marine and terrestrial ecology, hosts biology-based study abroad programs, provides a venue for researchers, conducts conservation and community service programs. 352-367-9128 | itec1@itec-edu.org | itec-edu.org

League of Women Voters of Alachua County Nonpartisan grassroots political group of women and men who fight to improve our system of government and impact public policies such as fairness in districting, voting and elections, through citizen education and advocacy. info@lvw-alachua.org | LWValachua.org

Madres Sin Fronteras (Mothers Without Borders) is a local grassroots immigrant-led organization working to protect the rights of immigrants' families in our community and to ensure all are treated with dignity and respect msfgainesville@gmail.com | facebook.com/MSFGainesville

MindFreedom North Florida is a human rights group for psychiatric survivors and mental health consumers, working to educate the public about harmful psychiatric practices and about humane alternatives to those harmful practices. 352-328-2511 | facebook: MindFreedom Florida

Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America is a grassroots organization working to end gun violence by electing gun sense

candidates, advocating for policies that save lives, educating parents on responsible gun storage. Alachua County events listed at momsdemandaction.org/events

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 information. Facebook.com / MoveToAmendGainesvilleFL

National Alliance on Mental Illness | Gainesville offers support, education and advocacy for families and loved ones of persons with mental illness and/or brain disorders. 352-320-0457 (information) | 352-335-7770 (helpline) | namigainesville.org

National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare works to preserve these threatened programs for senior citizens and families. Local volunteers needed. Our. circle.of.care@gmail.com | ncpsm.org

National Lawyers Guild consists of lawyers, law students, legal workers and jailhouse lawyers who use the law to advance social justice, support progressive social movements. gainesvillenlg@gmail.com | nlg.org

National Women's Liberation is a feminist group for women who want to fight back against male supremacy and win more freedoms for women. Inequalities between women and men are political problems requiring a collective solution. 352-575-0495 | nwl@womensliberation.org | womensliberation.org

North Central Florida Association for Women In Science is an advocacy organization championing the interest of women in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) across all disciplines and employment sectors. ncfawis@gmail.com | leanin.org/circles/ncfawis

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. Facebook.com/occupygainesville

Our Santa Fe River is a non-profit composed of concerned citizens working to protect the waters and lands supporting the aquifer, springs and rivers within the watershed of the Santa Fe River. 386-243-0322 | oursantaferiver.org

Paynes Prairie Chapter, Florida Native Plant Society promotes the preservation, conservation and restoration of the native plants and native plant communities of Florida. paynesprairie.fnpschapters.org | facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064434411932

PFLAG Gainesville is a local chapter of Parents and Families of Lesbians and Gays, the nation's foremost family-based organization committed to the civil rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual and

transgender people. 352-340-3770 | info@pflaggainesville.org | pflaggainesville.org

Planned Parenthood Clinic at Gainesville Health Center is a full-service health center for reproductive and sexual health care needs. Offering pregnancy testing and options counseling. 914 NW 13th St., Gnv. | 352-377-0881 | plannedparenthood.org (enter Gainesville FL in “find a health center” box)

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

Pride Community Center of North Central Florida has resources for the LGBT+ community, open Sat. 2-4pm: and by appt. 3131 NW 13th St., Suite 62, Gnv | 352-377-8915 | pccncf@gainesvillepride.org | GainesvillePride.org

Repurpose Project, a nonprofit junk shop/ community center, diverting useful resources from landfill and redirecting items to the public for art and education, inspiring creativity, and rethinking what we throw away. Help protect the planet and buy used. Check website for hours. 1920 NE 23rd Ave, Gnv | 352-363-8902 | info@RepurposeProject.org | repurposeproject.org

River Phoenix Center for Peacebuilding provides solution-based innovative ways to resolve conflicts, and offers related services such as mediation, communication skill building and restorative justice. 352-234-6595 | info@centerforpeacebuilding.org | centerforpeacebuilding.org

Rural Women's Health Project is a local health education organization that develops materials promoting health justice for migrant and rural women. Robin or Fran @ 352-372-1095 | info@rwhp.org | www.rwhp.org

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

Sister City Program of Gainesville links Gainesville with sister cities in Russia, Israel and Palestine, Iraq, Haiti. 352-376-8600 | Steve@gnvsistercities.org | http://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 | StandByOurPlan.org

Student Animal Alliance is a UF-based group whose purpose is to educate and bring fellow animal lovers together to better the lives of the animal around us. StudentAnimalAllianceUFL@gmail.com

| facebook.com/SAAatUF | instagram@studentanimalallianceUF

Student/Farmworker Alliance is a network of youth organizing with farmworkers to eliminate sweatshop conditions and modern-day slavery in the fields. billy@sfalliance.org or brett@sfalliance.org | facebook.com/sfalliance

Sunday Assembly Gainesville is a secular congregation celebrating life. There is talk, music, sing-along, discussion and fellowship. Meetings and events are on Zoom. SundayAssembly32601@gmail.com | SAGainesville.weebly.com

Suwannee-St. Johns Group Sierra Club is a local group within the nation's largest and most influential grassroots environmental organization, representing 14 North Central Florida counties. ssjsierra@gmail.com | sierraclub.org/florida/suwannee-stjohns | 561-707-4565

The Climate Reality Project Gainesville Area Chapter is the local chapter of an international nonprofit group dedicated to accelerating urgent action globally on the climate crisis. Join the chapter (see website) for news, action alerts, meeting alerts. ClimateRealityProjectgnv@gmail.com | facebook.com/GlobalClimateEducation | ClimateRealityProjectGNV.wordpress.com | ClimateRealityProject.org

UF Black Student Union strives to create, cultivate, and challenge all minority Gators to be better citizens of the Gator Nation. Facebook.com/groups/BlackStudentUnionUF

UF College Democrats is the official voice of the Democratic party on UF campus. 407-580-4543 | president@ufdemocrats.org | facebook: UF College Democrats | UFcollegedems.org

UF Pride Student Union is an LGBT+ group open to queer folk of all sorts, including students, non-students, faculty and staff, that educates and provides a safe space for those of marginalized sexualities and gender identities. UFPridesu@gmail.com | facebook.com/ufpsu | plaza.ufl.edu/jsoto19/PSU

UF Young Democratic Socialists of America is a student-run socialist organization dedicated to organizing students to fight for the needs of workers and students while building the capacity to fight radical and structural changes. Weekly meetings. ufydsa21@gmail.com | facebook.com/ufydsa

United Faculty of Florida, UF chapter is run by and for faculty, and represents over 1600 faculty and professionals at UF. Its origins lie in efforts by faculty to protect academic freedom, defend civil liberties, end racial discrimination at UF. 352-519-4130 | officemanager@uff-uf.org | www.UFF-UF.org

United Nations Association - Gainesville Chapter works to heighten citizen awareness/ knowledge of global problems and the UN's efforts to deal with them. facebook.com/

UNAUSAGainesvilleFICchapter | UNA-USAGainesvillefl.org

United Way Information and Referral is a human-staffed computer database for resources and organizations in Alachua County. 352-332-4636 or simply 211 | UW211help@gmail.com | unitedwayncfl.org

University of Florida HealthStreet is a community engagement program that employs community outreach practices to reduce disparities in healthcare and research. Free services include medical and social service referrals, health screenings, Narcan Nasal Spray Kits, clothing/toiletry items, health education, events, support groups. 352-294-4880 or healthstreet.program.ufl.edu/

UF Un-PAC is a non-partisan organization working to reform our democracy and get big money/lobbying out of politics. Our Youth Power Campaign works to make UF work better for students to participate in and understand our democratic system, including demands such as voter registration at Freshman Preview, classes cancelled on election days, and more transparency on how our tuition money is spent on lobbying and political influence. For information, go to: un-pac.org, @un_pac_uflorida, or email un.pac.uf@gmail.

Veterans for Peace Gainesville Chapter is an anti-war organization that raises awareness of the detriments of militarism and war, as well as seeking peaceful and effective alternatives. 352-375-2563 | Facebook.com/VFPchapter14 | vfp Gainesville.org

WGOT-LP 100.1 FM is a community low-power radio station operating as part of the Civic Media Center. info@wgot.org | www.wgot.org

Women in Science and Engineering (WISE) at UF aims to foster the success of women, non-binary folks, other underrepresented genders in science and engineering. People of all genders are welcome. uf.wise@gmail.com | Facebook.com/UFWiSE | wise.group.ufl.edu/about-wise

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom has been promoting peace since 1915. Donate or join the at-large Jane Addams Branch. Local info: juned@stevelittler.com | wilpfus.org

Women's March Florida - Gainesville/Ocala Chapter is a grassroots progressive mobilization network inspired and created by the women who brought about the Women's March on Washington. facebook.com/wmflgnv

World Socialist Party of the United States welcomes anyone wanting to know more about Marxian socialism and our efforts to transform the dog-eat-dog – Devil take the hindmost world that's been created by capitalism, into a democratically arranged world society of equality. wspan.org. 🐸

New book: 'Stayed on Freedom'

Highlights Gainesville's Zoharah Simmons' life, Black Power work

What: Presentation by author Dan Berger

Where: UF Smathers Library East

When: Thursday, Feb. 23

A talk featuring the new book *Stayed On Freedom* by author Dan Berger will be presented at the UF Smathers Library East on Thursday, Feb. 23, at 5 pm.

It is a bit of a homecoming, as Dan lived in Gainesville from 1999 to 2003, largely splitting his time between UF and the Civic Media Center.

The subject of this book is a Gainesvillian as well, Zoharah Simmons, a SNCC veteran and former professor of religion at UF, as well as a strong voice for human rights in our community. She will be sharing the stage with Dan at this event.

The book is a very personal look at the Black Power movement, which is often associated with its iconic spokesmen, yet it derived much of its energy from the work of people whose stories have never been told.

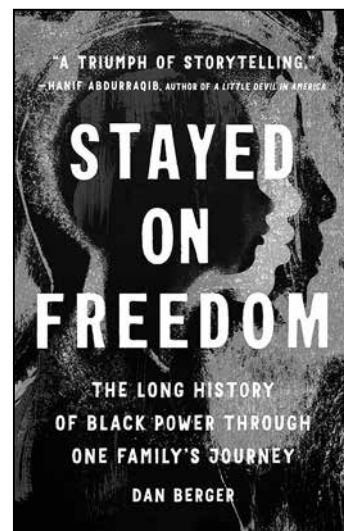
Stayed On Freedom brings into focus two unheralded Black Power activists who dedicated their lives to the fight for freedom. Zoharah Simmons and Michael Simmons fell in love

while organizing tenants and workers in the South.

Their commitment to each other and to social change took them on a decades-long journey that traversed first the country and then the world. In centering their lives, historian Dan Berger shows how Black Power united the local and the global across organizations and generations.

Based on hundreds of hours of interviews, *Stayed On Freedom* is a moving and intimate portrait of two people trying to make a life while working to make a better world.

More information on Berger and his other books can be found at danberger.info.



Want your article, ad, event or PSA in the
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Deadline is Wednesday, Feb. 22

Submit events, content, and questions
to: gainesvilleiguana@cox.net



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

www.gainesvilleiguana.org
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Instagram: [gnv_iguana](https://www.instagram.com/gnv_iguana)

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since 2012 are available at www.gainesvilleiguana.org

HEARTWOOD S O U N D S T A G E

JANUARY 2023

FRI 1.20	7:00 PM	SAVANTS OF SOUL
SAT 1.21	4:00 PM	BRAZILFEST
SUN 1.22	8:30 PM	MOON HOOCH
THU 1.26	4:00 PM	GNV MARKET
FRI 1.27	7:00 PM	MR. SIPP
SAT 1.28	7:30 PM	MADWOMAN SINGLE

FEBRUARY 2023

THU 2.2	4:00 PM	GNV MARKET
FRI 2.3	7:00 PM	MISS TESS
SAT 2.4	7:00 PM	MARBIN
SUN 2.5	7:00 PM	THE DAVID OTTENBERG
THU 2.9	4:00 PM	GNV MARKET
THU 2.9	8:00 PM	ACOUSTIC EIDOLON
SAT 2.11	7:00 PM	SHAUN MARTIN
SUN 2.12	3:00 PM	GRAMFEST
WED 2.15	7:00 PM	FRANK GATHERING
THU 2.16	4:00 PM	GNV MARKET
THU 2.16	7:00 PM	SWEETWATER GREENWAY
FRI 2.17	7:00 PM	PULP PRESENTS:
SAT 2.18	7:30 PM	INDIE LIVE W SPEAK EASY
SUN 2.19	6:30 PM	JOHN PRIMER
THU 2.23	4:00 PM	GNV MARKET
FRI 2.24 2.26	4:00 PM	HEARTWOOD FEST VII