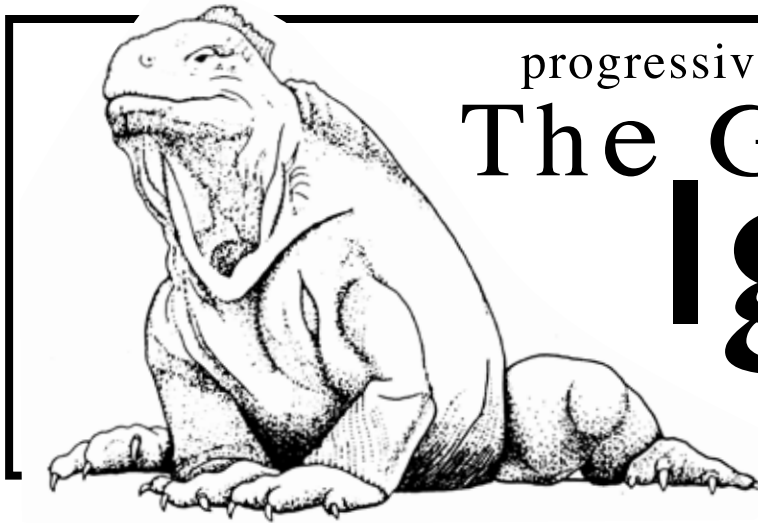




progressive news • events • directory

The Gainesville Iguana

'a soapbox for Alachua County activists'
Oct. 2026 ~ vol. 39 ~ issue 10

HOPE FOUNDATION SCANDAL

Former Attorney General Ashley Moody neck deep in it!!

by WLRN staff

A state grand jury found that the DeSantis administration "misappropriated" \$10 million in taxpayer money by diverting funds from a healthcare settlement into the non-profit Hope Florida Foundation, according to a report obtained by CBS News Miami.

The grand jury described the transfer as part of a "sophisticated scheme" to funnel state funds into political action committees and the Republican Party of Florida to defeat a 2024 ballot measure legalizing recreational marijuana, CBS News Miami reported Wednesday.

The \$10 million was originally part of a

\$67 million settlement with healthcare giant Centene, which had overbilled Florida's Healthy Kids program meant to insure underprivileged children. State officials altered the settlement terms shortly before the 2024 election, directing \$10 million to Hope Florida, a charity linked to First Lady Casey DeSantis, while reducing the state's direct return to \$57 million.

Within weeks, Hope Florida awarded \$5 million grants to two separate non-profit organizations. Those groups subsequently transferred millions into Keep Florida Clean, a political action committee led by James Uthmeier, the Governor's former Chief of Staff who currently serves as

Florida Attorney General. He has said no wrongdoing occurred.

Despite finding the funds were used for political purposes, the grand jury reported there was insufficient evidence to bring criminal charges. Jurors noted that "nobody will take responsibility" or claim memory of who made the decision to divert the funds, presenting an obstacle to criminal prosecution.

"Despite our finding that the money was misappropriated, we find insufficient evidence to charge anyone criminally," the grand jury report noted. "Nobody will take responsibility for deciding the \$10

See HOPE, p. 24

Election voter's guide

by Joe Courter

Time to vote, following is the list of folks, all Democrats who could be part of a hoped-for Blue Wave. We really need to make it happen, and having Angie Nixon win so convincingly in the primary is really a good sign. People are ready for change!

Consider plugging in to help get out the vote. Places that really could use help are some of the local grassroots races.

Jason Fultz, Merrilee Malwitz-Jipson, and Amy Trask are all progressive folks who would be challenging the direction of the Florida legislature. Even if you do not live in their districts, they could use help with campaign work, should you want to venture out of our Blue Bubble here in Gainesville.

Hunter Miller is in a run-off against a DeSantis School Board appointee; help there can really make a difference, too.

The Supervisor of Elections office has a great website for
See ENDORSEMENTS, p. 24



Vote Angie Nixon (pictured above) over Ashley Moody for Senate. This says it right here — we need a fighter! Photo by Malcom Jackson, Reuters.



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Want your article, ad, event or PSA in the Nov./Dec. Iguana?
(Due to come out Thursday, Nov. 19)

Deadline is Wednesday, Nov. 11

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

The Iguana mission:

We believe in advocacy journalism and strive to deliver grassroots progressive news written by those on the ground. We aim to engage readers, get them thinking critically, and ultimately join the activists who fill our pages in the fight for a more just, equitable world. We're also a community calendar, promoting cultural events, because we believe having fun and enriching the heart and soul are as important as engaging the mind when it comes to community building and solidarity.



Save the date:

Iguana's Readers Celebration
Marking the start of our 40th year!

Saturday, Dec. 5, 1-4pm
First Magnitude Brewery

Copies of the third printing of
PubNotes 2012-2025 available

More details in the Nov/Dec Iguana



Hey, Readers!

We are now accepting both Venmo (gnv-iguana) and
PayPal (gainesvilleiguana@cox.net) donations.

Links to both can be found on our website:

www.GainesvilleIguana.org



Vote
Alachua
KIM A. BARTON
SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

2026 GENERAL ELECTION

★— Election Day is —★
Tuesday, November 3



Polls will be open
from 7 A.M. to 7 P.M.

Election Day is your last
opportunity to cast your ballot
in the General Election!



On Election Day, you must vote at your assigned
precinct. Please check your voter information card
or visit VoteAlachua.gov to find your polling place.

QUESTIONS?

CALL 352-374-5252 OR VISIT
VOTEALACHUA.GOV

Publisher Notes

When things get real

I had a profound moment at the C&G Farmers Market recently. A woman I know came up to me and, with sad eyes, said her partner had deported himself out of immigration fears. A bit stunned, I reflexively made a lame comment that referred to the recent abduction of a Gainesville family, like “well it is happening all over,” but my mind was reeling as I saw her walking away; that was so inadequate!

That same day I’d seen the press conference from Austin, Texas where a Door Dash driver had been shot by ICE and was now in custody — a bullet still lodged in his back. The two situations collided in my brain: it is all horrible — on every level — that this is happening. Loving couples and families are put into pain and stress because of this fascist policy driven in an authoritarian coup, being perpetrated on our nation.

I guess I, like many, have been sheltered from seeing those pained eyes in front of me, not just on a screen. We tend to think it is not real until it is someone you know. Well, folks, it is real.

As is happening around the country, those who have seen those eyes have stepped into action doing support work, helping neighbors and community members weathering the storm in cities everywhere. Now ICE has kind of moved more low key, but the abductions continue, here and elsewhere, and so have the valiant attempts to resist and mitigate the damage to our social fabric.

There is great work being done here by the Rural Women’s Health Project, various churches, and others, but it is all Band-Aids. How will it end? How do we turn it around? What can feed our hope to keep resisting?

I had some of that hope generated last week while watching speeches from the UN General Assembly annual meeting. This nation, and this leader we have, are such outliers on the world stage. Lula from Brazil, Sanchez from Spain, Burnham from England, Macron from France: they and so many others are worth hearing addressing international cooperation, ending conflicts, raising people out of poverty and starvation. The speeches are each about 20 minutes long — go find them. People around the world are all watching the same horror played out here as the world order is being disrupted by our MAGA occupied country.

Those hopes I’d gotten got dashed a bit upon reading a piece from Tariq Ali on his substack <<https://tariqali1943.substack.com>>, pointing out how impotent the UN is currently, and how the very design of the UN, however well intended coming out of WWII, was seriously flawed with the Security Council members each able to veto anything substantially altering the existing power arrangement. But that flaw was also pointed out by a number of leaders who spoke — both to expand the Council and get rid of the veto. Perhaps some backbone growing reforms are possible there?

It IS hopeful that the pattern of growing authoritarianism is obvious once you start recognizing it — we just need to do better at helping people see it and build resistance to it. Historian Timothy Snyder is a great resource for this: he is an author of books, writes a regular Substack, and does many interviews. Find him on YouTube.

I just read both Gil Durán’s “The Nerd Reich” and Naomi Klein’s and Astra Taylor’s “End Times Fascism,” new books on the top of the best seller list (I’m a masochist). Find the books or YouTube interviews with either or both authors. What we are heading into with the rise of giant tech money and power, combined with the cult of Christian nationalism, is a massive challenge to our democracy. We need an overwhelming rejection of the Trump agenda and its enablers this election. The vote is the peoples’ power; that is why these rich authoritarians make it harder and harder for us to do it. The Democrats are not ideal, but in this case, vote blue all the way. It is the system we have, voting is math and we need to try and maximize what it gives us. So please get your ballot in and encourage all in your world to vote, too. The need for it is beyond real, it is an imperative. 🐢



Joe Courter

Subscribe!

The Gainesville Iguana is Alachua County’s independent progressive newsletter.

Individuals: \$15

(or more if you can)

Low/No income: what you can

Groups: \$20

Gainesville Iguana

P.O. Box 5155, Gainesville, FL 32627

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

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

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Local Indigenous Peoples' Day events

The Indigenous Peoples' Task Force (IPTF) was formed in 2020 by two women, Sylvia Guerrero-Paluzzi and Anna Borrero-Schwait, with a vision to change Columbus Day in Alachua County and eventually statewide, with Florida joining the other 15 states that no longer recognize Columbus Day and instead recognize Indigenous Peoples' Day.

The mission is to acknowledge and honor all of the indigenous peoples of the Americas and the Caribbean as the first people, who have a rich cultural heritage.

This cultural heritage is showcased by inviting indigenous people to share through dance, storytelling, and artistic expression. By doing so, communities that have been diminished, dismissed, or abolished

for thousands of years are uplifted, and recognized as important contributors to the shared history of the Americas, pre-Columbus.

The Indigenous Peoples' Task Force is offering several events in Gainesville during October in honor of Indigenous Peoples' Day and for Native American Heritage Month in November.

The City of Gainesville will once again recognize Indigenous Peoples' Day instead of Columbus Day on Monday, Oct. 12, at City Hall from 5:30 to 6:30pm. This event will be followed by an evening of shared history with Elder Duane Whitehorse and his wife, Maria, as they share their stories at the Matheson Museum at 7pm. All events are free and open to the public.

A complete listing of all events in October and November, are listed on the flier to the left. Join us as we listen to our shared history and learn about our Indigenous brothers and sisters.

For more information, please email sylvia@indigenouspeoplestaskforce@gmail.com.

End rape culture Flipping the System

A culture of violence is built on a culture of excuses. Ending rape culture starts with disrupting it in our everyday lives, calling out offensive jokes that aren't funny, shutting down harmful conversations, and refusing to shield bad behavior behind friendships or social status. We cannot count on broken systems to fix themselves. We must hold institutions accountable, actively intervene in our own circles, and demand true justice for survivors.

Flipping the System is a student-led non-profit organization working to end sexual violence and promote accountability across college campuses. We unequivocally condemn the horrific assault at Cornell University and the institutional failures that followed. When an institution responds to gang rape with minimal consequences to the perpetrators, it sends a clear message that student safety is secondary to organizational protection. Rape is a crime and it must be prosecuted and penalized as one.

For more, see flippingthesystem.org


2026

IPD Task Force

**The Indigenous People's Task Force invites you to events in honor of
Indigenous Peoples' Day and American Indian Heritage Month**

ALL EVENTS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

**Indigenous Dance Workshop
with the Whitehorse Family**
Wednesday, October 7, 10:30 am
Constans Theatre/Nadine McGuire Pavilion, Studio G6

**Harn Museum Nights:
INDIGENOUS PEOPLES CELEBRATION**
Thursday, October 8, 2026, 6 - 9 pm
Participate in hands-on art activities and meet guest artists. Dance demonstration led by powwow performers Duane Whitehorse (Kiowa) and Maria Whitehorse (Taino)

City of Gainesville Proclamation Ceremony
Monday, October 12, 2026, 5:30 pm
200 E University Avenue, Gainesville
Join in the official recognition of Indigenous Peoples' day by the City of Gainesville,
Followed by:
Storytelling and Q and A
Monday, October 12, 2026, 7:00 pm
Matheson Museum, 513 E. University Avenue

River of Grass FILM SCREENING
Thursday, October 15, 2026, 6:00 pm
The Hippodrome, 25 SE 2nd Place
Screening and panel discussion with the director, interdisciplinary artist Sasha Wortzel.
Sponsored by The Lynx Books

Beading Workshop with Gator AISES and ISA
Monday Oct 19th, 6 pm
The Lynx Books, 601 S Main Street

Robin Wall Kimmerer
GAINESVILLE READS 2026 KEYNOTE EVENT
Sunday Oct 25, 7 pm
The Phillips Center, 3201 Hull Road, UF

**When the Sky Speaks and the Body Trembles:
TIMUCUA SPIRITUAL PRACTICES IN COLONIAL FLORIDA
WITH DR. GEORGE AARON BROADWELL**
Wednesday, October 28, 7 pm
Matheson History Museum

Becoming Buffalo FILM SCREENING
Wednesday, November 4, 6:00 pm
Matheson Museum, 513 E. University Avenue
Screening and discussion with director Montana Cypress







School of
THEATRE +
DANCE







**City of
Gainesville**

MORE INFO, EMAIL SYLVIA@indigenouspeoplestaskforce@gmail.com

ADDITIONAL EVENTS AND FULL SCHEDULE: <https://guides.uflib.ufl.edu/c.php?g=1051579&p=11406471>

 LATE FAME Oct 1-11	 THE WORK IN PROGRESS Oct 1-18	 THE SHINING Oct 8-11
 <i>cocktails & classics</i> CITIZEN KANE Sat, Oct 17 8:30 PM	 IT ENDS Oct 22-Nov 1	 <i>Hilda's Letterboxd picks</i> SUSPIRIA Oct 29-Nov 1
 AMERICAN HARDCORE Oct 17-25	 <i>the fest</i> WHO'S WATCHING Sun, Oct 25 1:00 PM	 <i>the fest</i> A FAT WRECK Sun, Oct 25 7:00 PM
 <i>John Carpenter fest</i> THE THING Fri, Oct 30 8:30 PM	 <i>John Carpenter fest</i> HALLOWEEN Sat, Oct 31 8:30 PM	 HEPP CINEMA playing in October!

FREE **SUNDAY OCTOBER 18, 2026**
2PM- 4PM

MOVIE AND DISCUSSION

GAZA FIGHTS FOR FREEDOM

A FILM BY ABBY MARTIN



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HEARTWOOD
SOUNDSTAGE



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10/31	HAUNTED HEARTWOOD GOTH DJ SETS & COSTUME CONTEST
11/6	THE BROOK & THE BLUFF
11/7	GRASS IS DEAD W/ MASON VIA
11/8	AMANDA ANNE PLATT & THE HONEYCUTTERS W/ THE ONES TO BLAME
11/10	PARKER BARROW
11/11	THE HEAVY HEAVY W/ THE POINT
11/12	BUNGALOW COLLECT
11/13-16	TOM PETTY WEEKEND
11/18	SPAFFORD

TICKETS AT HEARTWOODSOUNDSTAGE.COM
619 S Main St, Gainesville, FL 32601

Half a million Floridians are waiting on health care Here's how you can help

by Scott Darius
Florida Voices for Health

Contributor's note from Jason Bellamy-Fulfs and the North Central Florida Central Labor Council: At this summer's AFL-CIO convention, presenters from this campaign spoke to union members from across Florida. In the coming months, we hope to work with the FL Voices for Health and others who are leading this campaign to get more union households involved. Until everyone is covered!

As Gainesville residents we live in the shadow of some of the best hospitals in the world, and yet, a short drive from those doors, there are people struggling to access health care.

I work with Florida Voices for Health, and our job is to listen to Floridians who are living with the consequences of a broken system. Some of the hardest stories we hear come from people in what we call the coverage gap.

In Florida, the most a single parent with two kids can earn and still qualify for Medicaid in Florida is about \$8,000 a year. If you're a single adult, you don't qualify no matter how little you make. Roughly half a million Floridians find themselves

earning too much to qualify for Medicaid, but also too little to qualify for tax credits in the ACA Marketplace. This means they have no options for regular care.

One of them is Debbie, a full-time caregiver from Pensacola. She takes care of her 23-year-old son, who has Down syndrome and autism. When he aged out, she lost her own Medicaid coverage. Hurricane Michael had already wrecked their home and the van that carries her son. Debbie now pays out of pocket for her medications and can't get the specialty care she needs. Her choices are a \$700-a-month premium or no coverage at all.

"Without Medicaid expansion," Debbie told us, "I have no way of accessing health care so that I can properly care for my disabled son. How is this humane?"

I've never had a good answer to that question. But I know how we fix it.

We've waited long enough.

For a decade, the Florida Legislature has had the chance to expand Medicaid. It would save our state an estimated \$200 million a year, bring billions in federal dollars home, and create hundreds of thousands of jobs. Florida is one of the last handful of states that hasn't done it,

which means our federal tax dollars are already paying for other states' expansion.

Our coalition has since decided that if Tallahassee won't act, we'll take the question directly to the people. The Florida Decides Healthcare ballot initiative would let Floridians vote to close the coverage gap on the 2028 general election ballot.

The initiative can only make the ballot if about 890,000 registered Florida voters sign petition. That means people, not politicians, have to make it happen. Despite the legislature's recent attempts to make this process even harder, our campaign has pioneered an innovative, easy, and less expensive way to make the will of the people the law of the land – our digital petition request system.

So here are two asks, and both take about two minutes.

Ask #1: Request your own petition.

Go to www.medicaidflorida.org and request a petition for yourself. Your petition and a couple of extras will be mailed to you with a prepaid return envelope. Share the petition with others in your circle, sign it, fill it out, and return it. This is the single most valuable thing you can do, because every valid signature moves us closer to the ballot.

The strongest weapon against oligarchy & fascism: our labor!

- Please get involved with your workplace union if you're fortunate enough to have one.
 - If one doesn't already exist, then consider helping to start one.
 - Join a labor-adjacent organization like the local Alachua County Labor Coalition (laborcoalition.org) and/or the AFL-CIO campaign "Department of People Who Work for a Living" (deptofpeoplewhowork.org).
 - Keep an eye on the news and support workers elsewhere (e.g., Amazon, Starbucks) who are taking the fight directly to the oligarchs.
 - Join our efforts to elect pro-labor politicians, and then help us hold them accountable.
- Sign up here: <https://forms.gle/76CtjMSXaauAb2MN7>

If the workers are organized, all they have to do is to put their hands in their pockets and they have got the capitalist class whipped.

-Big Bill Haywood

unionhall.aflcio.org/north-central-florida-central-labor-council

workerscreateallwealth.substack.com



Ask #2: Take the 10-and-10 challenge.

Send that same link to ten people you know: friends, coworkers, classmates, neighbors, your group chat, your book club, the people you play pickleball with. Then ask each of them to do two things: request their own petition and send the link to ten people of their own.

Do the math. You message ten people. If each of them messages ten, that's a hundred. Another round makes a thousand. Three rounds of a text message is a thousand Floridians with a petition in hand, and you started it from your couch. Organizing doesn't always feature a big rally or a viral moment. It comes down to one person telling another, "Hey, this matters to me, and I need your help."

Those of us who care about health care are often working on fixing different ends of this broken system: insulin prices,

Medicaid, advancing single payer, and all the things in between. Opponents of change count on us being so focused on our own piece that we never come together. But I believe the opposite is true. Everyone we bring into one of these fights is someone who can join the larger movement for a health system that works for people. Medicaid expansion is concrete, winnable, and ready for us to take on right now.

Debbie is waiting. So are hundreds of thousands of others whose names we'll never know, and some of them live right here in Alachua County. So please, take out your phone right now and go to www.medicaidflorida.org. Request your petition. Then send the link to ten people, and challenge them to do the same.

Ten people. Two minutes. Let's go.

To learn more about Florida Voices for Health, visit healthyfla.org. 🐘

We're almost there

It's crunch time for the candidates, and for you, too

*by Donna Waller, President
League of Women Voters
of Alachua County*

This is what I think of as the beginning of the home stretch. Our general election forum at the Graham Center is over. The Vote411.org site has been updated. The last day to register to vote is Oct. 5. Early voting begins Oct. 19. Nov 3 is coming up fast.

Before Oct. 5, we should be appearing everywhere, encouraging people to register. Start at home. Talk to your friends and family. Encourage everyone to participate, regardless of ideology. Remind people that they can register or check their registration status through the Vote411 site. You cannot have a democracy without citizens.

After Oct. 5, it's all about turnout. Turnout in the primary election was an embarrassing 27 percent in Alachua County. We have to work hard to make sure nothing like that happens this time.

The League has lots of materials reminding people to vote and explaining to potential voters how to educate themselves concerning issues and candidates. The next time you see us tabling at an event, take a handful and help us distribute them.

Take them to businesses you frequent and to the churches you attend. Post them on community bulletin boards and in your dentists' offices and nail salons. Put the idea of voting in places in which it seldom appears. If you contact Alison Keel, the chair of Voter Services, we can provide materials and get them to you.

It is crunch time for the candidates. If you are a supporter, it is crunch time for you, too. You can't have a democracy without good leaders, either. Running for public office is difficult. Give all you can of your time and your money in these last weeks. Let your friends and neighbors know whom you support and why. Yes, put out those yard signs. It means everything.

Educate yourself on the ballot proposals. This year, the state legislature has proposed three amendments to the state constitution. The League of Women Voters of Florida opposes all three. They all concern fiscal matters which should be handled by the legislature and not embedded in the state constitution.

Amendment 3 pits our personal interest against the common good. If it passes, it will undermine home rule and the autonomy of local government. In Alachua County, all of the smaller municipalities, with the possible exceptions of Newberry and Alachua will instantly go bankrupt, as will most of our surrounding counties.

Amendment 1 would mean less state money to help provide services, and Amendment 2 would further reduce financing for rural counties. The League is not opposed to tax relief, but these ill-considered amendments are not the way to do it.

If you live in the city of Gainesville, you will be asked to vote on a change to the city charter.

This proposal changes the way in which a replacement would be chosen if there is a sudden vacancy on the city commission.

The LWV has not taken a position on this. Our local chapter did not study it. As you make a decision on this, I would recommend looking at the way vacancies are filled currently.

Most LWV members can tell you the pros and the cons. You haven't heard about it because the legislature has made it illegal for governmental entities to advocate for or against referenda or spend money to educate the citizens.

Our Speakers Bureau has an excellent program on the ballot propositions. Invite them to speak to another organization or to a group of your neighbors about these state constitutional amendments. The contact is Candy Birch (candywv@yahoo.com).

Please try to be an educator for your neighbors, friends, and family. We must talk about these issues everywhere. As my column last month noted, these are unusual and perilous times in our democratic republic. Wrap yourself in the Constitution and devote the next month to saving it. We really can do it. 🐘

*"Do not think your single vote
does not matter much. The rain
that refreshes the parched ground
is made up of single drops."*

~ Thomas Sowell



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Malwitz-Jipson
★ DEMOCRAT ★
for Florida House District 10

Row, row, row your vote,
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2026



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Pd Pol Ad, Approved by Ken Cornell, Dem for Alachua County Commission, Dist. 4



AMY WON'T BE BOUGHT. AND SHE WON'T BACK DOWN.

[VoteAmyTrask](https://www.facebook.com/VoteAmyTrask)

Amy Trask is a mom, domestic violence survivor, and advocate who turned lived experience into action — helping write the **HAVEN Act**, which passed the Florida Legislature with bipartisan support and was signed into law earlier this year.

Now she's running to lower costs, take on greedy corporate special interests, and stand up for working families.

New data shows HD-22 sits in a roughly D+2 political environment, which means we have a real opportunity to flip this seat!

AmyTraskForFlorida.com

Paid for by Amy Trask, Democrat, for Florida House District 22

A pep talk from Amy Trask for these trying times:
tinyurl.com/iguana2560

VOTE BLUE ON NOVEMBER 3



U.S. Senate
Angie Nixon



U.S House District 3
Seth Harp



FL Governor
David Jolly



Attorney General
José Javier Rodríguez



Chief Financial Officer
Annette Taddeo



Comm. of Agriculture
Joey Atkins



FL Senate District 6
Jason Bellamy-Fults



FL House District 10
Merrilee Malwitz-Jipson



FL House District 22
Amy Trask



Alachua County Comm. District 4
Ken Cornell



Alachua County School Board District 1
Hunter Miller



Florida Amendments
Amendment 1 - NO
Amendment 2 - NO
Amendment 3 - NO

JASON BELLAMY-FULTS
FOR FLORIDA SENATE DISTRICT 6



JOIN US!
TAKINGBACKFLORIDA.ORG



AFFORDABILITY

Let's address the cost of living issues that are crushing Florida families. Too many people in our state are uninsured or underinsured and struggling with unaffordable housing costs and utility bills. All working people deserve the right to a livable wage, healthcare, and union representation.

END THE CORRUPTION

Stop the blank checks for Tallahassee politicians. No more big business lobbyists buying our elected officials and writing the legislation that they want. No more corporate handouts in our state budget or misuse of public funds.

LOCAL CONTROL

We live in a diverse state. no one in Tallahassee knows what's better for our communities than the people who live there. If Tallahassee politicians can't help us achieve our goals, they can at least get out of the way. Stop the endless preemptions and respect home rule and local democracy.

PAID FOR AND APPROVED BY JASON BELLAMY-FULTS, DEMOCRAT, FOR FL SENATE DISTRICT 6



Among the nobodies

Emergency medicine: ‘We could do better’

This was played on Shift Change, the Wombat radio collaboration with the Shands Arts in Medicine program, heard Wednesdays at 6am and 6pm. It features interviews and music selections by health workers and occasionally patients at Shands Hospital. Shows are archived at tinyurl.com/iguana2597. Wombat can be heard locally at 90.1 FM or streamed anywhere you are via the internet.

by Matthew Ryan

Paul came into the emergency department borne by paramedics on a county stretcher, all of his possessions stuffed into a five-gallon plastic bucket. His beard was long and matted. His clothes were threadbare. Torn shoes. No socks. Nothing to look at. The triage note read: “Homeless, known to ED, no acute distress.”

My fellow emergency staff and I parked him in the hallway — not out of cruelty, but of necessity. The department was overrun.

Even so, I paused. He looked tired, thin,

almost timid. He avoided eye contact, held his bucket tight. He thanked me when I brought him a blanket. His voice was quiet, almost gentle.

“You been here before?” I asked, already knowing the answer.

“Off and on,” he shrugged. “No better place to be when it’s cold.”

That’s all. No demands. No complaint. Just a man worn down by life, seeking a patch of warmth.

I felt pity for Paul. I’ve always felt pity and a need to be kind and, if the situation is right (often it is not), to spend a moment talking with patients. But decades ago, as a resident, I’d learned quickly that efficiency was praised and sentiment was not. Toughness was rewarded; lingering was not.

(These days, as a senior physician, I can allow myself to show emotion when tragedy hits hard, but I sometimes still struggle to find compassion — especially at

2am, when the shelters are full, the detox beds are taken and the trauma bay won’t stop filling.)

That night, looking at Paul and his plastic bucket, I thought: I could do better. We could do better. Looking at him, I found myself imagining him as a boy, young and hopeful — before the beard, before the bucket, before whatever fractures led him here. Maybe he never lived a great, comfortable, safe life, but he was a kid and never asked for the life he has now.

I didn’t know how, other than to just see him. To be present. I would catch his eye when I passed, nod, ask quietly, “You good?” even if I didn’t always wait for the answer.

In emergency medicine, we see the truth of people — not the filtered version from clinics or the scripted lines of an intake form. We see them when the masks fall off: Vulnerable. Stripped bare of dignity and self-worth. We see what the system ignores. In that way, the ED serves as



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more than just a safety net; it's an embassy to the unseen, the nobodies — the people who are alone in a world that has long since stopped looking.

Every day, we care for those living in the shadows of health care: the undocumented man working the blueberry fields. The child with untreated asthma living in the back seat of a car. The woman with schizophrenia discharged to the streets. The man in front of me with the plastic bucket.

When COVID-19 struck, inequity wasn't a subplot — it was the whole story. Privilege shaped outcomes. Minorities died at higher rates. Poor communities lacked access to tests, masks, vaccines. Frontline workers — paramedics, housekeepers, social workers, emergency-medicine providers — risked everything while others Zoomed from safety. The ED became a battleground — not just against the virus, but against indifference.

Some patients don't need an ICU bed. They need eye contact. A hand on the shoulder. A warm meal. A place that doesn't ask them to explain why they've "failed to thrive" — as if they stopped trying, or ever had a choice.

I am proud of being able to play that role. And ashamed when I fail to honor it.

As always, there was a temptation to treat Paul and his situation as a routine ED matter — but in reality there was nothing routine about him.

That night, after we ruled out anything acute, Paul was discharged. The shelters were full. The social workers had already provided him with a bus pass, which he couldn't use until morning.

Before he left, I slipped a few sandwiches and bottles of water into his bucket.

He smiled — resigned, maybe, but not ungrateful.

"Thanks," he said softly.

Then he turned and walked out into the night, carrying nothing but that bucket.

I recalled the words of poet Eduardo Galeano, who described the nobodies as "nobody's children, owners of nothing."

As I see it, medical providers stand at a crossroads. We can lean into our role as throughput specialists — measuring our worth in how quickly we can move people in and out, what we sometimes call "treat and street." Or we can reclaim our place as moral first responders: the ones who bear witness to our patients' experience, intervene on their behalf and

remind the rest of medicine what justice looks like.

Because the nobodies are not nobodies. Sometimes they are our patients. And we are their best — sometimes their only — chance of being seen.

I never saw Paul again, but I still think about him — his thin frame, baggy clothes, pants cinched by a worn belt. What would it be like to carry everything you own in one hand? How hard must it be to survive that way?

I don't know how his life became what it

is now. I doubt that he grew up wanting it this way. But whether he realizes it or not, he changed how I see people.

And I'm grateful — both for the privilege of this work and for the reminder to remain humble and grounded in it.

This piece was originally published in Pulse: Voices from the Heart of Medicine. I appreciate their editorial guidance and the home they provided for it.

Editor's Note: This is from Matthew Ryan's May 4 Substack. See more at matthewryanwrites.substack.com.

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by TOM TOMORROW



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Two years ago the reflecting pool was reflecting, the East Wing existed and was welcoming visitors to the People's House, and the Kennedy Center was financially stable and artistically thriving. Gasoline was semi-affordable and USAID was saving human lives all over the world.

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~ Brad @Braddroflit

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Teaching history in Florida

Now, teachers are expected to omit information offensive to those with specific political leanings

by Wesley Smith
*Social Studies/History teacher,
Buchholz High School*

How is being a history teacher in the state of Florida different in 2026 than it was in 2020? First, some background: one of the major changes is the Stop W.O.K.E. Act passed by the Florida legislature and signed into law by Governor DeSantis. Among other things, this law restricted how gender, race, and sexuality could be taught in public schools and universities. The Florida Department of Education created new standards in tandem with the law that required history teachers to stress the ostensible “benefits” of chattel slavery, such as “new skills” that the enslaved persons acquired after being kidnapped from Western Africa.

The higher education part of the Act was struck down in 2022 as an unconstitutional First Amendment violation. The standards are in a constant state of revision. But this almost doesn’t matter because the ultimate goal of even proposing the legislation and standards is to sow confusion and make teachers afraid enough of losing their jobs to teach history while omitting information offensive to those with specific political leanings.

The question history teachers ask themselves is what to cover and not cover that still presents a complete picture of their subject. As a U.S. Government teacher, I would be giving an incomplete view of the Constitutional amendments if I omitted the 13th, 14th, and 15th amendments (respectively granting enslaved persons freedom, equal protection under the law, and the right to vote), not to mention the 19th (granting women the national right to vote) or the 24th (eliminating the fees created largely to prevent Black people from voting).

I would be remiss not to mention the Three-Fifths Compromise when discussing the Constitutional articles. One of the best examples of judicial review is the U.S. Supreme Court overturning *Plessy v. Ferguson* with their unanimous decision in *Brown v. Board of Education* (not to mention being directly relevant to the Black students in the classroom at this very moment).

So, how do history teachers navigate these contradictions in the classroom? I can only speak for myself. I try to present the facts as I know them and leave it up to students to decide how those facts paint a historical fig-

ure, group, or political party. I keep things as empirically verifiable as possible. For example, I have shifted from saying “Republicans and Democrats are for and against the following things” to “Republicans and Democrats have voted for and against the following things” because that is something students and their families can go look up on congress.gov.

I also present balance as much as possible. In the same lecture about political parties, I make sure to include an equal number of items that each party has voted for and against. This also goes for reading primary source documents. Students read excerpts of statements by both the National Rifle Association and the Sierra Club, among other special interest groups both liberal and conservative. Primary source documents are an important way to remove bias, because the students are reading the unedited words as originally spoken or written by the original authors without any perceived meddling from their instructor.

If this were only about the interaction between students and teachers in the classroom, the article would be over. But this discussion isn’t complete until parents and guardians are mentioned. I try to communicate with upset parents mostly via email, so there is a written record of all the conversations we have. Similarly, if a student says something or a group of students say something in class that could potentially be controversial later, I will jot down what was said.

Does this prevent every unpleasant interaction with students, parents, or guardians? Mostly, yes, but not always. A couple of years ago, I mentioned that students could earn extra credit for summarizing and analyzing a current newspaper article. A parent complained because they didn’t think I mentioned enough sources on one side of the political spectrum. I changed to asking students to check with me about the source they were going to use, since the point was not to prefer *The New York Times* over *The Wall Street Journal*, but to avoid students using vloggers, podcasters, or YouTubers as news sources.

One more: a few months ago, students in one class asked how I.C.E. could still operate during the partial government shutdown over Department of Homeland Security funding. I explained that private donations were funding I.C.E. The students

pivoted to wondering whether anyone who attacked the U.S. Capitol on Jan 6, 2021 was now working for I.C.E. I admitted that, since many I.C.E. employees wear masks, many of the people at the Capitol also did, and President Trump pardoned 1,500 people involved with the Capitol attack, it was not impossible.

One student apparently contacted her parents immediately after class and got them to complain to my school’s administrators. (*Side note:* this is one of the many problems with the ubiquity of cell phones: students who would’ve calmed down or forgotten about this once they got home in the 20th century now have a knee-jerk reaction and contact their parents before the school day is even over). The administration asked for my side and responded to the parents in a way supporting my actions. I cannot underscore enough the importance of having a supportive administration. Certainly, there are other history teachers who would have a different story if they were writing this article.

What history teachers do is help students turn information into knowledge and knowledge into wisdom. Veteran history teachers have done this, and will continue to do it, while adapting to the changing priorities of presidential administrations, state education departments, and legislatures. I worry about newer teachers being discouraged and leaving the profession. Ultimately, caring teachers will strive to welcome and teach all their students, regardless of who is working against the teachers. Though I am sure teachers would breathe easier if people were not actively working against them.

Note: Need another reason to vote against Byron Donalds and for David Jolly for Governor? Donalds’s running mate for Lieutenant Gov. is Bryan Avila. Who is Avila? A hard right culture warrior conservative out of the Florida legislature. According to the Florida Politics website, “He passed the controversial ‘Stop WOKE Act’ in 2022, which bars instruction that tells students and employees they are inherently racist, sexist or oppressive because of their race, sex or national origin. The 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals blocked the law’s workplace training provisions in March 2024 and its classroom instruction provisions in July 2026.”

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People from a number of organizations gathered at the Gainesville Police Dept. at noon on Wednesday, Sept. 17, to protest GPD's cooperation with ICE in the ongoing deportations of area residents. After the demonstration, they addressed the City Commission meeting. Speakers included representatives from United Church of Gainesville, the GINI organization, and the Badass Feminists of Gainesville. Photo by Chuck Ross.

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And the good news is ...

Evidence-based approach shows de-escalation is a learnable police skill

by Logan Lowery ~ Florida State University ~ Phys.org ~ Sept. 4 ~ tinyurl.com/iguana2561

FSU and the Leon County Sheriff's Office have joined to produce a major study in de-escalation by law enforcement officers, showing (over 3 years and >1,000 recorded incidents) that training in specific methods can significantly defuse the ~3 percent of "agitated interactions" between cops and civilians which can lead to use of force.

In blow to Trump, Supreme Court blocks mail ballot restrictions from taking effect in 2026

by Dion Nissenbaum ~ Votebeat/Truthout ~ Sept. 14 ~ tinyurl.com/iguana2562

The Supreme Court allowed an injunction against the Trump administration's new mail-voting restrictions to remain in place through the Nov. 3 midterm election. As a result, voters can continue using existing state mail-ballot procedures rather than navigating new federal requirements shortly before Election Day.

Trump's press ban prompts widespread solidarity — and fewer images of the president

by Brian Stelter ~ CNN ~ Sept. 22 ~ tinyurl.com/iguana2564

President Trump's decision to bar CNN, MS NOW and Politico from the White House prompted an unusually broad show of solidarity across the news industry, with major newspapers, press organizations and advocacy groups condemning the move as a threat to press freedom. ABC, CBS, NBC and Fox News also suspended presidential pool video coverage rather than replace CNN, while several publications declined to use White House pool photographs, reducing the amount of independent imagery of Trump's activities reaching the public.

Unions win withdrawal of shutdown mass firing orders

by Democracy Forward ~ Sept. 25 ~ tinyurl.com/iguana2563

The Trump administration agreed to abandon guidance giving federal agencies open-ended authority to conduct mass layoffs during government shutdowns, settling a lawsuit brought by unions. A federal judge had previously blocked more than 4,000 planned layoffs, and agencies will now have to remove blanket layoff authority from shutdown plans and provide advance notice of future changes.

Court cases in the news:

- 🦎 Administrative judge sides with teacher punished for Charlie Kirk Facebook post ~ tinyurl.com/iguana2565
- 🦎 Appeals court rejects Trump's third-country deportation policy ~ tinyurl.com/iguana2566
- 🦎 Court blocks Trump's "loyalty question" on civil service job applications ~ tinyurl.com/iguana2567
- 🦎 Federal appeals court blocks IRS from sharing taxpayer data with ICE ~ tinyurl.com/iguana2568
- 🦎 Federal court blocks Postal Service from interfering with mail ballots in November election ~ tinyurl.com/iguana2569
- 🦎 Federal panel halts what would be first data center on public lands ~ tinyurl.com/iguana2570
- 🦎 Judge: FEMA can't withhold anti-terrorism money over election rules ~ tinyurl.com/iguana2571
- 🦎 Judge blocks Trump limits on how long foreign students and journalists can stay in U.S. ~ tinyurl.com/iguana2572
- 🦎 Judge blocks Trump's latest attempt to restrict birthright citizenship ~ tinyurl.com/iguana2573
- 🦎 Judge blocks Trump's ban and says CNN, MSNOW and Politico must have White House access restored ~ tinyurl.com/iguana2574
- 🦎 Judge strikes down Trump policy barring some immigrants from Head Start preschools ~ tinyurl.com/iguana2575
- 🦎 Medical groups, patients sue Trump administration over Medicaid work requirements ~ tinyurl.com/iguana2576
- 🦎 States sue feds over endangered species rollbacks ~ tinyurl.com/iguana2577
- 🦎 Trump administration faces second lawsuit to block ICE agents at polls ~ tinyurl.com/iguana2578
- 🦎 U.S. judge issues permanent injunction against "dreadful" Manhattan ICE jail ~ tinyurl.com/iguana2579
- 🦎 Voting groups file federal challenge against Florida's "SAVE" Act ~ tinyurl.com/iguana2580 🦎

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Editors' Picks: News that didn't fit

As millions of kids lose SNAP food benefits, free school meals are also at risk

by Juliana Kim ~ NPR ~ Sept. 3 ~ tinyurl.com/iguana2589

Cuts to SNAP are having a ripple effect on school meal programs because SNAP enrollment helps determine which students and schools qualify for federally funded free breakfasts and lunches. More than a million children have lost food benefits since July 2025, and declining SNAP participation could force more schools, including some in Miami-Dade County, to end universal free meals or divert money from other educational needs to keep feeding students.

Canadian Prime Minister Carney delivers an address to the European Parliament

Sept. 17 ~ Strasbourg, France ~ tinyurl.com/iguana2581

Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney calls for a much deeper Canada-European Union alliance to strengthen both sides against threats including climate change, democratic erosion, trade coercion and technological dependence. He proposed expanded cooperation on critical minerals, energy, defense, AI, research, digital trade and financial services, arguing that Canada and Europe can protect their sovereignty and shared values through "collective resilience" rather than isolation or domination.

Ectopic pregnancy deaths have nearly doubled. It's worse in states with abortion bans.

by Agnel Philip, Propublica and Andrea Suozzo, Propublica ~ Florida Phoenix ~ Sept. 14 ~ tinyurl.com/iguana2584

The number of women who died after an ectopic pregnancy has spiked in recent years. Yet with prompt and appropriate medical care, women should not have died. "A death related to ectopic pregnancy should really be a never event," said an

OB-GYN in Philadelphia. It is believed that this increase in deaths is due to state restrictions on abortion.

Exclusive: He marched with Nazis in Charlottesville. Now he's expected to join the Florida legislature

by Christopher Mathias ~ TPM ~ Sept. 14 ~ tinyurl.com/iguana2585

Marshall Rawson, the Republican nominee for a seat in the Florida House of Representatives marched alongside neo-Nazis at the deadly 2017 "Unite the Right" rally in Charlottesville, Virginia. He operated a pseudonymous social media account on X that he used to advocate public lynchings. It is a very conservative north-central Florida district including northern Alachua County, but he has a great opponent in Merrilee Malwitz-Jipson who would benefit greatly from campaign support in whatever way you can. (Marshall also tried to ban The Iguana from the Bradford County Library ... he's that kinda guy.)

Florida Board of Governors bans undocumented students from public universities

by Logan McBride ~ The Independent Florida Alligator ~ Sept. 3 ~ tinyurl.com/iguana2586

The Florida Board of Governors voted unanimously to block Florida's 12 public universities from offering admission to undocumented immigrants starting at the beginning of the 2027-28 school year. Around 60,000 undocumented immigrants are currently enrolled in higher education in Florida, and roughly 8,000 graduate from Florida high schools every year. This ruling could cost the schools \$15 million a year.

Florida professors fear being targeted or cancelled

by Jay Waagmeester ~ Florida Phoenix ~ Sept. 14 ~ tinyurl.com/iguana2587

Florida university professors fear their students are spying on them and lament elimination of DEI from general education courses and canceled research grants. "I live in a constant state of waiting for political activist students associated with groups like Turning Point to try and get me in trouble based on my choice of course materials," said one tenured associate professor.

Just in case: The offline library

by Rachel and the City ~ tinyurl.com/iguana2582

You can build your own offline internet! Wikipedia, the TED talks, Khan Academy, the repair guides and an emergency FAQ, sitting on your own drive and opening with the wifi off. The videos play too. It is free, it is legal, and you can do most of it in an evening. There are 96 free PDFs from FEMA, the EPA, the National Weather Service, the Red Cross, the USDA, the Geological Survey and the Consumer Product Safety Commission. Download them while the internet works, because the whole point of having them is the day it doesn't.

Schools, libraries sound alarm over potential changes to federal internet program

by Robbie Sequeira ~ Stateline ~ Sept. 10 ~ tinyurl.com/iguana2588

A multi-billion-dollar federal program that helps schools and libraries afford broadband internet is under review by the Trump administration, leaving education officials and advocates worried about potentially significant cuts. The FCC said it is reviewing "whether the program should be narrowed or otherwise reoriented to reflect the extent to which its connectivity objectives have been achieved."

The erosion of the voting rights act: Impact & implications

by Dr. Gwendolyn Zoharah Simmons ~ Florida Free Speech Forum ~ Sept. 14 ~ tinyurl.com/iguana2591 (53 min. video & transcript)

Dr. Simmons is a retired professor and veteran of the Civil Rights Movement, going back to the 1960's Student Non-violence Coordinating Committee in Mississippi. She describes how the Voting Rights Act of 1965, once a powerful federal safeguard against racial discrimination in elections, has been steadily weakened by Supreme Court rulings, particularly the 2013 Shelby County v. Holder decision that effectively ended the law's preclearance requirement. She argues that without those protections, states have been freer to adopt voting restrictions that disproportionately burden Black voters and other minority communities, eroding one of the civil-rights movement's most important achievements. 🐢



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Recommended blogs / web sites



joycevance.substack.com

Joyce Vance is a law professor and former U.S. attorney who writes about pressing issues, untangles questions about the legal system, and details what we can do to protect the right to vote.

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Robert Hubbell



Citizen. Optimist. Realist.

Robert B. Hubbell, a former lawyer, writes about current political issues and policies.

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roberthubbell@substack.com



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thelefthook.substack.com

Robert Reich writes at robertreich.substack.com



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to arm you with the truth — about how the system works and doesn't, where the power is located and where it's lacking, and the myths and lies used by those who are blocking positive social change."

Support independent voices!

There are many on YouTube or wherever; here are some good choices:

- Gil Duran • Katie Phang • Jess Craven
- Qasim Rashid • Jim Acosta • Allison Gill • Zeteo



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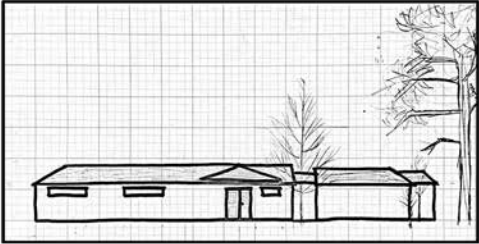
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ALCOHOL STUDY

PURPOSE
Exploring differences in alcohol response among older healthy adults

WHO WE NEED

- Alcohol drinkers
- Age 65 to 80
- 12+ years education
- no history of substance use treatment
- Current non-smokers

WHAT HAPPENS

- Initial phone screening
- If eligible, invited to 2 lab visits
- We'll measure:
 - Responses to questionnaires and alcohol
 - Brain Activity
- Transportation and lunch provided
- Compensation up to \$220



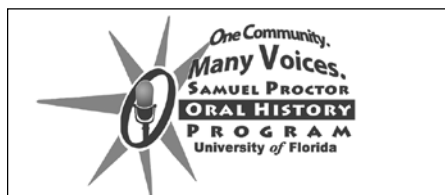
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UF UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

This study is conducted by Sara Jo Nixon, Ph.D., University of Florida, Department of Psychiatry

Oral History Program

History and the people who make it: Barbara Sampson Carter



This interview excerpt is from a continuing series of transcripts from the collection of the Samuel Proctor Oral History Program at the University of Florida.

Barbara Sampson Carter [C] was interviewed by Bruce Barton [B] on Nov. 18, 1973. Carter, a Lumbee Indian, talks about her frustrations with the poor treatment of Lumbee people in the county's social services department, as well as the struggles to create an equitable education system for Native students.

Transcript edited for length and clarity by Beth Grobman; a full transcript of this interview is available at tinyurl.com/iguana2595

B: Barbara, Thank you for this interview. Could you give us a little resume?

C: I'm 27. I was reared on a farm — which I didn't like then, but I'm proud of it now. My mother taught school. I went to Pembroke High School, where I got married when I was sixteen. That took a lot of my teenage life away from me. I really had to accept responsibilities as a mother and a wife, when I should have been home, going to basketball games and all that kind of stuff teens do.

B: Why did you get married at such an early age?

C: Lack of facts, really. [Laughter]

B: They didn't have sex education in high school?

C: No. I was blind to sex education. I got pregnant and didn't know how I got pregnant. That is the reason I got married when I was sixteen, because I was pregnant, and didn't know how I got pregnant.

B: Do you think it was the fact that you're an Indian and went to a school that didn't have a course in sex education?

C: Yeah, if we would've had that in school, then you'd know what can happen.

B: When you went to high school, was it an all-Indian school?

C: Yes, it was.

B: Do you think that this was part of the

problem, being isolated from what other people were doing and thinking? Do you think it would have been better if there had been Indian, Black, and white kids going there so that they could learn from each other?

C: Probably so, and I'm sure if we would've had white kids going there, we would have had better education, better books, better everything, because I can remember — like, when I was in high school, when we got our typing books, we really thought we were getting new books, but they were books that the white kids had used in Lumberton, then they gave 'em to us.

B: Growing up in Robeson County as a Lumbee Indian teenager, what did you do for recreation?

C: Nothing, really. That's probably one reason I got pregnant.

B: Well, where did the kids go?

C: We went to ballgames, or to a movie. We didn't have any dances, and that's not been that long. I really don't see any improvement in recreation. There's really nothing, and like, if you went to the movies, over in Lumberton, you [the Indians] had to sit upstairs in the balcony with old hard seats, and it was cold up there.

B: You mean they had segregation in the movie theater?

C: Oh, did they ever! They had tri-racial segregation — had a section for Blacks, one for Indians, and one for Whites. That must have been a little stiff on their financing, though. It seems like it would've been a lot easier just to have bathrooms that said "Female" and "Male," instead of bathrooms that said "White Women," "Black Women," "Indian Women," "Black Men," "Indian Men," and "White Men." Three sections in the movie.

B: It's interesting how we all just accepted that as a way of life back then.

C: I don't know if we all really accepted it. I remember one time, going to the movies, and my girlfriend — she was really a good-looking Indian girl, with black straight hair, black eyes, and olive skin. And my hair is dark brown, and skin's just a little lighter, but we went to go downstairs [in the white section], and I paid my money, and the lady didn't say anything. And then my girlfriend paid her money, and the lady

said, "Don't you belong upstairs?" I said, "Look lady, no, she don't belong upstairs. We paid here, we're going in here, or we don't go in at all."

B: So you didn't see the movie?

C: No, 'cause she wasn't going to let my friend go in downstairs.

B: I remember, that the thing that was frightening to me growing up as an Indian teenager in Robeson County was seeing so much violence among Indian people. I don't ever remember hearing about an Indian killing a white. It was always Indian killing Indian. Is that what you remember?

C: Yes, but, you know, that's not really our fault. That goes back to there was no place for us to go, you know, so they resorted to this kind of stuff.

B: Do you think it's better now?

C: Yeah, some. Not much. Like I said, I don't see that much improvement in the recreation, as far as places for the kids to go.

B: Are you proud to be an Indian?

C: Yeah, I've always been proud to be an Indian.

B: Would you just as soon be named a Lumbee Indian as anything else?

C: I'm first Indian, and then a Lumbee. The name doesn't really matter that much to me, whether it's Lumbee, Cherokee, whatever, you know. I'm first an Indian.

B: Well, did you know about the piece of legislation passed in [19]56 by the United States Congress that you, as a Lumbee Indian, have a name, but aren't entitled to any of the other benefits of other Indians?

C: Like reservation Indians? I think that's a bunch of bull.

B: You think we're better off than reservation Indians?

C: Yeah, I do. I think we have an advantage. Like, to me, that BIA [Bureau of Indian Affairs] is like communism. They're gonna tell you how to spend your money and where to spend it. And if it's my money, I'm gonna spend it where the hell I want to.

B: You really think that the average white in Robeson County feels superior to the Lumbee Indian?

C: I think any damn white person feels superior. I don't care where they are or who they are. It might be a little — it's not as bad, I'm sure, but all these white brothers telling me, you know, "I don't feel any better, I don't this, and I don't that," but really deep down inside, I think they do.

B: You have two children. Do you get any kind of subsistence from the county? Do you work for a living?

C: You know, we got enough people on welfare. I'm an able body. I can get out and work and support my kids myself.

B: So, where do you work?

C: At the Lumbee Regional Development Association. It's a federally funded program for Indians. I work with the adult education program. We have a total enrollment of about 230 adults in six centers.

B: These adult students, are they all Indians?

C: They are all Indian, and I can really see where we're really doing some good. One of the recruiters, Laneda Jacobs, [had a client who] would always give her an excuse. This guy could not read or write. He had drinking problem. He was just — nothing! He was just wasting away, and Laneda, who is a very convincing person, finally got him in school. He started going to school, really, really, dug on it, you know, and he enjoyed it so much. He starts to read, and he starts to write, and after he'd been in school a while, when he went to the insurance company where he'd always made his mark, and the lady said, "Well, you can put your mark here," and he says, "Lady, I don't mark anymore ... I can write my name." He did so well that we had a vacancy for a recruiter, and he applied, and he is one of the best recruiters we have. He's our living testimony that it can be done.

B: Do you distinguish between white people in Robeson County and white people outside? Do you see a difference?

C: Surely. Before I came to the job that I'm with now, and I've been there almost three years, I was working in Scotland County, which I really enjoyed. And I worked with two white ladies, three Black guys, and two Indian guys. The little white lady I worked with was from Rockingham, and she was a wonderful person. I just loved her. She was just one of the greatest people I've ever met.

B: So you couldn't say that, point-blank, all white people are terrible?

C: No, I don't say all white people are ter-

rible, but even her, as much as I hate to say it, she probably felt a little better. But if she did, she was pretty good at hiding it. She didn't ever let it show. But right on the other hand — like I said, there was two ladies I worked with from Rockingham. There was this old lady who was about fifty-five or sixty. She was as prejudiced as you ever saw.

B: Had you ever had any contact with Blacks before you moved out into the working world?

C: No, none other than my nanny, the lady that stayed with me when my mom was teaching school.

B: You mean you, as an Indian, had a Black nanny?

C: Yeah, and I loved her very much.

B: How did you find Blacks there? You know, all the misconceptions we hear about, they're out to rape all the women, and they're sex crazed, and they're gonna run away to Africa with all the white women. Did you find that to be true?

C: Well, there's fools in every race, but just like the little white lady who I thought so much of, there was this Black guy. His name was Curtis Fisher, who is one of the nicest persons I have ever met in my life. I mean Black, white, Indian. He is one of the greatest guys I have ever met, and his wife was the same way, and I visited in their home a lot, and he was a very well-educated person.

B: So you found out that probably most males, Black and Indian, aren't probably just out, all of 'em, panting after white women?

C: Right.

B: Do you have aspirations to go back to school?

C: I plan to go back to college. Our program with adult education will be up in June, and if we're funded another year, there's a possibility that I will continue to work with it, but maybe I can take some college courses at night.

B: What do you plan to study?

C: I'd like to major in sociology. Like in Robeson County, over at social service place, it's the most unfair place you've ever been to in your life.

B: Is it mostly staffed by white?

C: Right. That's unfair to start with.

B: So white people are out to help Indians and Blacks, and the administrators and people giving the help are white?

C: And those people over there look down on you like you are nothing.

B: This is at the welfare department, where you get food stamps and all that stuff?

C: Right. You know, those people are coming over there — first, the only reason they're going is because that's what they have to turn to. They need food stamps. They need welfare checks. And you know they must feel bad to go there to start with. They hate to ask for handouts. And you're standing there — like, this elderly lady had been standing there for a long time. She gets up there to the counter, and the lady's voice is so hateful to her and so rude. You don't have to be like that about people. You can respect people, I don't care what color they are. She's so mean to 'em, and it's not really fair what goes on over there. I wish there was something I could do about it, and I think if I could get a degree in that, I'd like to work with my people.

B: Have you found Indians to be prejudiced, for instance, against Blacks?

C: I have found Indians to be prejudiced against Indians.

B: No kiddin'?

C: No kidding.

B: So you think the problem is within our own ranks, say — or do you think the problem, if we're ever going to change anything, we'd have to get ourselves together?

C: That's right. Clean up our own backyard first.

B: What do you think is the best way for Indian people to help themselves?

C: To get educated. I think that's one of the best, and unity to pull together. But see, then, if you're not educated, you don't really understand all this stuff, and people can play you away, paint you a lot of pretty pictures.

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

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From HOPE, p. 1

million of taxpayer money would go to Hope Florida ... or had any memory of who made it."

"We recognize that this would be an impediment to criminal prosecution," the grand jury report noted. "While we can't prove who is responsible, we can plainly see that taxpayer money was misused for political purposes and we would like to see changes made to prevent this from happening again."

Gov. Ron DeSantis has repeatedly dismissed allegations regarding the settlement as a "hoax," saying he was not involved in the agreement details.

"I wasn't involved in the settlement agreement, but I'm very happy with how everything was done," DeSantis said Wednesday when asked by reporters at unrelated press conference in Miami.

The grand jury, according to CBS News Miami, called on the Florida Legislature to pass strict transparency laws requiring all settlement funds to return directly to the state's general fund to prevent similar diversions in the future.

CBS News Miami also reported that the grand jury concluded that then Attorney General Ashley Moody was aware of the plans to divert the \$10 million to Hope Florida and "authorized" her former chief deputy, John Guard, to sign the settlement agreement. CBS4 Miami reported that Moody has not responded to questions about her role in the Hope Florida settlement agreement.

Moody was appointed last year to the U.S. Senate to fill the vacancy after Sen. Marco Rubio was tapped to become Secretary of State by President Trump.

Democrat Angie Nixon, who is running against Moody for the

Senate seat in November, called on the senator to step down because she had "broken the public trust."

"Ashley Moody has proven she will sell out vulnerable Florida families if she thinks it gives her or her extremist friends more power," Nixon said in a statement following the CBS News Miami report. "She has broken the public trust, and she must resign immediately."

This article was published by WLRN on Aug. 26. See more at wlrn.org.

From ENDORSEMENTS, p. 1

campaign information at votealachua.gov, and the local Democratic Party can help, too, at alachuademparty.com.

Here's the rundown (note some names below won't be on your ballots, based on where you live).

Let's do this.

- **Angie Nixon:** United States Senator
- **Seth Harp:** Representative in Congress: District 3
- **Eric Younce:** Representative in Congress: District 6
- **David Jolly:** Florida Governor
- **Gwen Graham:** Florida Lieutenant Governor
- **Jose Javier Rodriguez:** Florida Attorney General
- **Annette Taddeo:** Florida Chief Financial Officer
- **Joey Mendoza Adkins:** Florida Commissioner of Agriculture
- **Jason Bellamy-Fultz:** State Senator: District 6
- **Merrilee Malwitz-Jipson:** State Representative: District 10
- **Amy Trask:** State Representative: District 22
- **Ken Cornell:** County Commissioner: District 4
- **Hunter Miller:** School Board run-off

There are judges races on the ballot in November. There are no efforts to reject any of them, plus DeSantis would appoint someone worse, probably. Your choice.

Big No on all the Constitutional amendments (especially #3).

In the City there is an amendment on the back of the ballot for you. On this we say vote yes.



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‘Quiet’ secret hearing to cut Social Security outed

by Mary Savage

Social Security is on the ballot this election year, and opposing legislation that creates a fiscal commission, or Social Security commission, should be everyone’s top priority in the upcoming lame-duck session of Congress to be held after the Nov. 3 elections. “Lame duck” is political slang for an elected official at the end of their term. The danger of a lame duck session is that politicians can vote against the interests of the American people and get away with it. They’re out of office and won’t have to face voters or another election. In other words, they don’t care.

A fiscal commission is secretive, elitist and un-American. The regular and democratic process of Congress that includes hearings, public input and a public vote by lawmakers is the American way to go. Remember that the Social Security Trust Fund is set to send out payments reduced 22-25 percent by 2032. A retired person, for example, who gets \$2,000 a month, will receive only \$1,500. Millions of Americans – seniors, disabled, widows/widowers, children – depend on their monthly Social Security payment. Republicans say they have to reduce the debt, but Social Security contributes nothing to the debt. We don’t want to privatize or raise the retirement age or impose means testing. We want legislation to raise the FICA wage cap so the wealthy pay their fair share into the trust fund. Right now, the FICA wage cap is at \$184,500 – way too low.

This is why we should be alarmed that on Monday, Sept. 21, House Republicans held a budget hearing in Dallas, Texas (not Washington, D.C. where Congress and committees usually meet) to create a secret, closed-door commission to cut Social Security and Medicare. They thought the hearing would remain quiet, but word got out and heroic members of Social Security Works, the Alliance for Retired Americans, and a reporter from ‘Lone Star Left’ showed up. Only three were allowed into the hearing that was oddly held on private property.

What’s even more alarming is the hearing was seemingly for an audience of one: billionaire Republican donor Harlan Crow, who has been linked to Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas through decades of unreported luxury travel, property transactions and other questionable

financial support. (Who reading this just sarcastically thought to themselves: “Ethics? What are ethics?” or courageously uttered out loud, “Sugar daddy”?) The hearing was held at Old Parkland, a private complex owned by Crow, when Congressional guidelines on field hearings require the use of public space.

Members of Social Security Works and the Alliance for Retired Americans and brave reporter Michelle H. Davis from ‘Lone Star Left’ were given the run-around by staffers who gave conflicting times for the public to enter the building, leaving senior citizens and disabled persons out in the Texas heat while only the three were allowed into the air-conditioned building.

Where was the press? The media? NPR blathers about “the market” and “global” this and that, but when it comes to real news that impacts ordinary Americans ... it’s crickets.

Thankfully, YouTube commentator Kenny Hesse of Real American spent an entire show talking about the scandal of a hearing and the treatment of public citizens. Sam Seder of the Majority Report talked about it, as well, as did Thom Hartmann on his YouTube show.

Everyone needs to keep up with the news from alternative media and not depend on the mainstream media these days. Your

earned benefits and quality of life are at stake. Below are links to the story and videos so you can see for yourself what happened at the scandal of a hearing.

Link to the ‘Lone Star Left’ story ‘Congressional GOP Gave Harlan Crow Private Hearing In Dallas, Seniors Waited Outside’ is at: tinyurl.com/iguana2596.

Link to the Really American video with host Kenny Hesse: tinyurl.com/iguana2593 🐢

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OCT 4 - 10

Wed 10/7 Free Porch Sessions, 6:30–9:30pm, Heartwood Soundstage (619 S Main St), Wednesday acoustic jams, free; tinyurl.com/iguana9879

Thu 10/8 Sexual Assault Awareness Demo, time TBA, UF, Feminist Collective-led protest, free; pg 28

Thu 10/8 Equality Florida, 6pm, University Club (18 E Univ Ave), Pride-related event, free

Thu 10/8 Indigenous Peoples Day observance, 6–9pm, Harn Museum (3259 Hull Rd), crafts and dances, free; pg 4 & harn.ufl.edu/event/art-after-dark-museum-nights-8/

Thu 10/8 UF Soccer, 7–9pm, vs Alabama, Dizney Stadium (157 Gale Lemerand Dr), free; tinyurl.com/iguana9937

Fri 10/9 UF Homecoming Parade, 11:45am–2:30pm, free, traffic advisory (Gator Growl 7pm at O'Dome)

Fri 10/9 "Fences", 8–10pm, Star Center Theatre (11 NE 23rd Ave), August Wilson's classic drama, \$20–22; tinyurl.com/iguana9931

Sat 10/10 Goldenrod Gallery opening, 10am–2pm, Micanopy Native American Heritage Preserve (406 SE Tuscawilla Rd, Micanopy), local artists celebrate conservation, free; tinyurl.com/iguana9932

Sat 10/10 Fix It Clinic, 11am–2pm, Gvl Hackerspace (4101 NW 6th St), appliance repair-if-possible workshop, free (2 items max); tinyurl.com/iguana9933

Sat 10/10 "The Trail Within", 1 & 3pm, Blue Creek clubhouse (7498 NW 50th St), author Sherrilene Classen on solo Appalachian Trail trek, free; yoursacredsummit.com

Sat 10/10 "Our Water, Our Future, Our Voice", 2–5pm, Alachua Lions Club (15125 NW 142nd Terr), Suwannee-St. Johns Sierra Club gathers water scientists, advocates, & public, free (livestream available); tinyurl.com/iguana9934

Sat 10/10 Gvl Roller Rebels, 6pm, MLK Ctr (1028 NE 14th St), last home bout of season, Swamp City Sirens vs Millhopper Devils, \$15 adv, \$18 door; pg 21 & tinyurl.com/iguana9935

Sat 10/10 UF Football, "all day", BHG Stadium, vs S. Carolina, traffic advisory

Sat 10/10 Alt-rock w/ Android Paranoid, 7–10pm, Signal (7 SW 1st St), Radiohead tribute, \$58–76; tinyurl.com/iguana9936

OCT 11 - 17

Sun 10/11 "Finding Neverland" final performance, 2pm, Gvl Community Playhouse (1500 NW 45th Ave), musical based on creation of "Peter Pan", \$15–25; tinyurl.com/iguana9938

Sun 10/11 "Strength through Strides", 2–5pm, 1st Magnitude Brewing (1220 SE Veitch St), 1 mile domestic violence awareness walk, free (donations welcome); tinyurl.com/iguana9939

Sun 10/11 No.Ctl.Fla Blues Challenge, 5–9pm, Heartwood Soundstage (619 S Main St), NCF Blues Society's regional competition, \$13 adv, \$19 door; tinyurl.com/iguana9940

Sun 10/11 The Listening Room, 6–8pm, Cypress & Grove (1001 NW 4th St), 2nd Sundays acoustic shows (tonight: Michael Cassidy), free; cypressandgrove.com/calendar

Mon 10/12 Fla Free Speech Forum, 11:30am, Eastside High School Inst of Culinary Arts (1201 SE 43rd St), UF Prof. Adam Lebovitz on free speech, free with reservation by Oct 5, 6pm (\$ for lunch); pg 10 & floridafreespeech.org

Mon 10/12 Indigenous Peoples Day, 5:30–6:30pm, Gvl City Hall (200 E Univ Ave), recognition of America's roots, free; pg 4

Mon 10/12 Indigenous Peoples Day, 7pm, Matheson Museum (513 E Univ Ave), talks by Elder Duane Whitehorse (Kiowa) and Maria Whitehorse (Taino), free; pg 4

Tue 10/13 Free Grocery Store, 3–5:30pm, Civic Media Ctr (433 S Main St), food for all, free; pg 24 & gnvfgs.org

Tue 10/13 Old Time Picking Party, 6:30–9:30pm, Heartwood Soundstage (619 S Main St), open to all (acoustic), free; tinyurl.com/iguana9941

Tue 10/13 USNWT, 7pm, Cypress & Grove Brewing (1001 NW 4th St), US vs Spain soccer watch party, free; pg 28 & cypressandgrove.com/calendar

Wed 10/14 "Little Shop of Horrors" opens, 7–9pm, Hipp Theatre (25 SE 2nd Pl), musical fun w/ Seymour & Audrey, preview \$10–30, later \$55; tinyurl.com/iguana9942

Wed 10/14 "The Rocky Horror Picture Show", 8–11pm (also 10/21, 10/31 [6pm], 11/5), The Woolly (20 N Main St), live shadowcast, \$19.50; tinyurl.com/iguana9943

Thu 10/15 "River of Grass" talk, 11am–12pm, UF Pugh Hall (296 Buckman Dr), filmmaker Sasha Wortzel on her new Everglades doc, free; bobgrahamcenter.ufl.edu/calendar/

Thu 10/15 "River of Grass" screening, 5:30–7:30pm, Hipp Cinema (25 SE 2nd Pl), Sasha Wortzel's "lyrical and immersive ode to the Florida Everglades" w/ panel discussion, free w/ RSVP; pg 4 & tinyurl.com/iguana9944

Thu 10/15 1st Amendment talk, 5:30–7:30pm, UF Pugh Hall Ocora (296 Buckman Dr), Janet Coats & Kevin Goldberg on today's challenges, free;

Sun 10/15 Meet the Author, 7–9pm, A. Quinn Jones Ctr (1013 NW 7th Ave), Candace Webb, author of "Meditation Flow", speaks, free; tinyurl.com/iguana9945

Thu 10/15 "Hadestown: Teen Edition", 7pm (plus 7 more performances through 10/24), Eastside High School (1201 SE 43rd St), Greek myth folk opera, \$10 student/\$15 general; tinyurl.com/iguana9946

Thu 10/15 "Disenchanted!", 8–10pm through 11/8, Acrosstown Repertory Theatre (3501 SW 2nd Ave), musical comedy from fairy-tale princesses' point of view, \$20–25; acrosstown.org

Fri 10/16 Dystopian Dollar, 10am, D\$ (1820 NE 23rd Ave), ribbon cutting for new store in Repurpose Project family, free; pg 16 & repurposeproject.org

Fri 10/16 "Power Grab - Who Gets to Keep the Lights On in Gainesville", 6–8pm, Civic Media Ctr (433 S Main St), student-made film on Gvl Regional Utilities + panel & general discussions, free (masks required & provided); tinyurl.com/iguana9947

Sat 10/17 Fungi Fest, 9am–7pm (also 10/18), Rum 138 (2070 SW Ctr 138, Ft White), mushrooms, music & more, \$25 Sat, \$20 Sun (+\$5 parking); pg 11 & tinyurl.com/iguana9970

Sat 10/17 High Springs Artwalk, 12–5pm, downtown High Springs (18587 Main St, High Springs), arts + crafts, free; tinyurl.com/iguana9953

Sat 10/17 Fall Horticultural Expo & Plant Market, 9am–4pm, Al. Cty Ag Ctr (23100 W Newberry Rd), garden festival, edible landscape speaker, family fun, (fruit tree class requires pre-registration, limited to 100, bring pruners) free; ggcfl.org/fallexpo

Sat 10/17 Fall Plant Sale, 9am–5pm, Kanapaha Botanical Gardens (4700 SW 58th Dr), 35 vendors + open house, \$5; kanapaha.org/fall-plant-sale

Sat 10/17 No Kings demo, 9:30am–noon, Cora Roberson Park (600 NW 6th St), march from Depot Park, bring signs, chairs, water, & friends, free; pg 5 & tinyurl.com/iguana9954

Sat 10/17 The Great Pumpkin Bash, 12–5pm, Bo Diddley Plaza (111 E Univ Ave), City of Gvl's fest of food, games, more, free; tinyurl.com/iguana9955

Sat 10/17 Roselle Festival, 1–5:30pm, Frog Song Organics (4317 NE Hwy 301, Hawthorne), u-pick hibiscus, farm tours, live music, workshops, more, free (donations accepted); tinyurl.com/iguana9956

Sat 10/10 Fix It Clinic, 11am–2pm, Gvl Hackerspace (4101 NW 6th St), appliance repair-if-possible workshop, free (2 items max); tinyurl.com/iguana9957

Sat 10/17 Gvl Free Store, 2–5pm 3rd Sats, Civic Media Ctr (433 S Main St), free stuff for all (masks required & provided); civicmediacenter.org

OCT 18 - 24

Sun 10/18 "For the Animals" Chili Cook-off & Music Fest, 12–4pm, Heartwood Soundstage (619 S Main St), food, raffle, pet adoptions, 3 bands, \$25 (under 12 free w/ adult); pg 16 & fixthemall.org/chili2026

Sun 10/18 Sunday Assembly, 1pm, Pride Ctr (1204 NW 10th Ave), League of Women Voters pres. Donna Waller on Fla constitutional amendments on ballot, free; sagainesville.weebly.com

Sun 10/18 "Gaza Fights for Freedom", 2–4pm, downtown library (401 E Univ Ave), film & discussion, free; pg 5

Sun 10/18 Fla Forever Festival, 1–5pm, 1st Magnitude (1220 SE Veitch St), Fla Native Plant Society hosts music, speakers, food trucks, plant sales, more, free?; tinyurl.com/iguana9958

Sun 10/18 BobFest, 6–9pm, Heartwood Soundstage (619 S Main St), 10 acts honoring Bob McPeck, \$20–200; tinyurl.com/iguana9959

Sun 10/18 Angie Nixon speaks, 6pm, Springhill Missionary Baptist Church (120 SE Williston Rd), NAACP Freedom Fund Banquet, \$100; tinyurl.com/iguana9960

Mon 10/19 Early Voting Begins, 9am–6pm, 8 locations, free; pgs 2, 7 & 24; votealachua.gov/213/ Early-Voting

Tue 10/20 Better World Book Club, 6–7:30pm, Cypress & Grove Brewing (1001 NW 4th St), "Story of Stuff" by Annie Leonard, free; cypressandgrove.com/calendar

Thu 10/22 Last Day to Request Mail-in Ballot, 5pm, Supervisor of Elections office (515 N Main St, 352-374-5252), free; votealachua.gov/203/Vote-by-Mail

Thu 10/22 UF Soccer, 7–9pm, vs Auburn, Dizney Stadium (157 Gale Lemerand Dr), free; tinyurl.com/iguana9961

Fri 10/23 The Fest, 3 days of "368+ bands, comedians, wrestlers and counting" all over town; pg 15 & thefestfl.com/

Fri 10/23 Voices Rising Concert, 7:30pm (also 10/24, 4pm), 1st United Methodist Church (419 NE 1st St), Community Chorus "We Sing of One World" benefit for Greater Gvl Internat'l Ctr, \$?; pg 21 & vrcgainesville.org

Sat 10/24 FOL Book Sale opens, 9am–6pm, (noon–6pm Sun–Wed), FOL Bookhouse (430 N Main St), books, games, vids, music, more – bring boxes, free entry; pg 10 & folacld.org

Sat 10/24 United Nations Day, 9:30am–1pm, UF Oak Hammock (5100 SW 25th Blvd), talks, live music, buffet lunch, \$25 (register by 10/21); una-usagainesville.org

Sat 10/24 Fla Bat Festival, 10am–5pm, Lubee Bat

Conservancy (18405 CR-231), chiropterans, humans, food, beer garden (21+), ages 5–12 \$5, 13+ \$10, beer garden \$45; pg 24 & lubeec.org/flbatfestival

Sat 10/24 “Pumpkin Spice & Everything Nice”, 1–3pm, Rockwood Park (2221 NW 22nd St), Alachua Conservation Trust’s annual pumpkin carving & treats event, free; tinyurl.com/iguana9962

OCT 25 - 31

Sun 10/25 25th Annual Spirit of Pride Community Awards Dinner, 6–9pm, Sweetwater Branch Inn (625 E Univ Ave), keynote by author Sandra Gail Lambert, \$90 (must purchase by 10/19); tinyurl.com/iguana9963

Sun 10/25 Jazz at the Star, 7–9pm, Star Center Theatre (11 NE 23rd Ave), live jazz ensemble featuring Dr. David Smith \$20 (2 tickets \$35), tinyurl.com/iguana9964

Sun 10/25 Robin Wall Kimmerer, 7pm, UF Phillips Ctr (3201 Hull Rd), author of “The Serviceberry” & others on indigenous & capitalist economies, keynote of “Gvl Reads 2026, \$15 (negotiable: store@thelynxbooks.com); pg 4 & tinyurl.com/iguana9965

Wed 10/28 “Boo at the Zoo”, 3–7pm, Santa Fe College Teaching Zoo (3000 NW 83rd St), 30th annual celebration, one canned/non-perishable food item/person; tinyurl.com/iguana9966

Wed 10/28 “When the Sky Speaks and the Body Trembles”, 7pm, Matheson Museum (513 E Univ Ave), Dr. George A. Broadwell on Timucua Spiritual Practices in Colonial Florida, free; pg 4 & mathesonmuseum.org/events/

Wed 10/28 “A Personal Look at Sci-Fi”, 7:30–9pm, Theatre of Memory (1705 NW 6th St), sf grand master Joe Haldeman on history of genre, free w/ rsvp; tinyurl.com/iguana9967

Thu 10/29 Free Grocery Pantry, 2–5pm, Cone Park Library (2801 E Univ Ave), food for all, free; pg 24 & gnvfgs.org

Thu 10/29 Nick Shoulders, 8pm, Heartwood Soundstage (619 S Main St), US roots music & Leonie Evans, \$29 adv, \$35 door; tinyurl.com/iguana9968

Fri 10/30 Artwalk, 7–10pm, downtown Gvl, free; artwalkgainesville.com

NOV 1 - 7

Sun 11/1 Hispanic American Festival, 12–8pm, 1st Magnitude (1220 SE Veitch St), music, dance, food, free entry; tinyurl.com/iguana9969

Sun 11/1 Gvl Humanists meet, 1:30–2:30pm, downtown library meeting room B (401 E Univ Ave), free; gaineshumanist.com/meetings

Tue 11/3 Last chance to VOTE! pg 2, pg 7, pg 24

Wed 11/4 “Becoming Buffalo”, 6pm, Matheson Museum (513 E Univ Ave), film screening w/ Montana Cypress, free; pg 4 & mathesonmuseum.org/events/

Fri 11/6 Holiday Marketplace, 5–8pm (also 11/7 9am–5pm & 11/8 11:30am–2pm), First United Methodist Church (419 NE 1st St), 8 shops + photos w/ Santa & Mrs Claus, \$5 entry Fri, free after Fri; fumcgnv.org/holidaymarketplace

Fri 11/6 GOC Fall Festival, 11am–5pm, Gvl Opportunity Ctr (1210 NW 14th Ave), mental health support program hosts food & festivities, free; goculbhouse.org/events/

Sat 11/7 Santa Fe Untamed Virtual Race Finale, 9am–1pm, Prairie Creek Preserve (7204 SE County Rd 234), Alachua Conservation Trust fundraiser, free; tinyurl.com/iguana9971

Sat 11/7 UF Football, 9am–4pm, Gators vs Oklahoma, traffic advisory

NOV 8 - 14

Sun 11/8 Emmanuel Garilus, 4pm, Trinity United Methodist Church (4000 NW 53rd Ave), Apollo-winning saxophonist benefits Cotton Club Museum, \$51.25–76.88; tinyurl.com/iguana9972

Mon 11/9 “Two Gainesvilles”, 11:30am, Eastside High

School Inst of Culinary Arts (1201 SE 43rd St), Fla Free Speech Forum: Laura Geyer on safety nets & disparities, free with reservation by 11/2, 6pm (\$ for lunch); thesafetynetcollaborative.com/

Tue 11/10 Free Grocery Fundraiser, 7–9pm, Superette (1511 NW 2nd St), help feed the hungry, \$?; pg 24 & gnvfgs.org

Wed 11/4 “The ‘Nam AC-48”, 7pm, Matheson Museum (513 E Univ Ave), talk by Andy Adkins, free; mathesonmuseum.org/events/

Sat 11/14 Downtown Festival & Art Show, 10am–5pm (also 11/15), Bo Diddley Plaza (111 E Univ Ave), 200+ artists, music, food, family fun, free entry; gaineshvilledowntownartfest.net/

Sat 11/14 Pride Center Grant Opening, time tba, PCCNCF (1204 NW 10th Ave), details tba; pccncf.org

Sat 11/14 “Art from the Archives”, 11am–4pm, Matheson Museum (513 E Univ Ave), exhibition of rarely seen art in honor of downtown art festival, free; mathesonmuseum.org/events/

RECURRING EVENTS

PROTESTS

Sundays, People’s Progressive Agenda, 2–4pm, NW 13th St, north of 23rd Ave

Sundays, ICE Out of Everywhere, 2–4pm, West Park, NW 34th SSt & 8th Ave

Tuesdays, Peace Picket, 4:30–5:30pm, corner of NW 42nd St & NW 16th Ave

Fridays, Visibility Brigade, 3:30–5:30pm, I-75/39th Ave overpass

Saturdays, Badass Feminists Gvl, 10am–noon every Sat, Oaks Mall (6419 W. Newberry Rd)

FARMERS MARKETS/FOOD PANTRIES

Monday Farmers Market, 4–7pm: Cypress & Grove

Saturday Farmers Market, 8:30–noon, 5920 NW 13th St

Saturday Haile Farmers Market, 8:30am–noon, Haile Village Ctr (5213 SW 91st Terr)

Food Pantry, Tue/Wed/Fri 10am–4pm Mon/Thu 12–4pm, UF HealthStreet (2401 SW Archer Rd), free, best choice available Mons & Thurs (health interview requested for repeat membership); 352-294-4880 & facebook.com/UFHealthStreet

Free Grocery Store hosts a walk-in (no IDs or appointment required) pantry of perishable and nonperishable food at the Civic Media Center (433 S Main St) every 2nd Tuesday of the month, 3–6pm, and another at the Cone Park Library branch (2801 E University Ave) every last Thursday of the month, 2–5pm, while supplies last.

MEETINGS & MEET-UPS

Civic Media Center volunteer meetings, 1st & 3rd Wednesday, at CMC (433 S Main St) & via Zoom

Gainesville official and public meetings: tinyurl.com/iguana9830

County official and public meetings: tinyurl.com/iguana9871

Alachua County Democratic Party meets 3rd Tuesdays, 6pm, LifeSouth (4039 W Newberry Rd)

Democratic Progressive Caucus, 4th Mondays, 5:30pm, LifeSouth (1221 NW 13th St)

Democratic Women’s Club meets 3rd Mondays, 11:30am (except Dec & Jan), B’Nai Israel (3830 NW 16th Blvd); gvilleddoris@hotmail.com

Democratic Women’s Club of Santa Fe Springs meets 4th Sunday 3–5pm (except Dec & July), High Springs

Women’s Club; dwcosfs@gmail.com, Facebook.com/dwcosfs

Stonewall Democrats, 2nd Thursdays, 5:30pm, ACDEC office (901 NW 8th Ave)

Artist Meetup, 5:30–7pm 2nd Thurs, Gvl Fine Arts Ass’n (1314 S Main St), exhibit & conversation, free; gaineshvillefinearts.org

Clubes de Escucha, 6–8pm, Curia on the Drag (2029 NW 6th St), primer y tercer Viernes de cada mes; clubesdeescucha.com

PFLAG meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7pm, for now at United Church of Gvl, 1624 NW 5th Ave.

Post-Incarceration Peer Support Group, 4–5:30pm (2nd Fridays), Downtown Library (401 E Univ Ave), for anyone 19+ released in last five years, free; tinyurl.com/iguana9873

MUSIC & ENTERTAINMENT

Please support GNV live music venues, they all have calendars: Heartwood Soundstage, Satchel’s, Loosey’s, Boca Backyard, the Wooly, One Love Café, Cypress & Grove, etc.

Art House films: thehipp.org/cinema

Basement Sessions, 7pm, The Hipp Basement (25 SE 2nd Pl), mostly jazz, \$10 sliding scale

“Bobo a Gogo: the Nacho Clowns Extremes’ Strange and Lovely Variety Show” starring Auntie Bobo, open stage every Monday (sign up by 8pm) at University Club (18 E Univ Ave)

Drag Bingo, 7–9pm last Thursdays, 1st Mag (1220 SE Veitch St)

Jazz on the Green, 7–9pm on 2nd Saturdays, Celebration Pointe (4225 Celebration Pointe Ave), free

Live Community Music, Wednesdays, 8pm Heartwood Soundstage inside & out

Living History Saturday, 9am–1pm (1st Sats, Sept–May), Morningside Nature Ctr (3540 E Univ Ave), farm life of the past re-enacted, free; tinyurl.com/iguana9312

MusicGNV Facebook local music news (updated Thursdays)

Thursday evening Poetry Jam, 8pm at Civic Media Center

OPEN MICS

(list may be out of date - check w/venue)

Gainesville is a talent-rich town, and open mics are a great way to have an evening of varied entertainment out of the house. Each have their own character.

“Bobo a Gogo: the Nacho Clowns Extremes’ Strange and Lovely Variety Show”, open stage every Monday (sign up by 8pm) at University Club (18 E Univ Ave)

The Bull: Monday, 7pm, sign up at 6:30pm

“Front Street” at Boca Backyard: 4th Wednesday of the month, 7:30–11pm

Mai Kai: Monday, 8:30pm, sign up at 8pm

The Midnight: every Tuesday, 8pm–?, sign up at 7:30

Satchel’s: first Wednesday of the month, 6–9pm, sign up at 5:30pm

Swamp Head Brewery: 2nd Wednesday of the month, 7–9pm, sign up at 6:30pm

OTHER CALENDARS

- Alachua Community Collective (on Facebook & Instagram)
- Civic Media Center (civicmediacenter.org)
- Gainesville Blue Activism Hub (linktr.ee/gnvbluehub),
- The Lynx Books (thelynxbooks.com/events)
- Visit Gainesville (visitgainesville.com/events), updated Thursdays ☞

Iguana directory

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

Readers: If there is inaccurate information here, 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 & knowledge of birds & other native wildlife, to protect & restore wildlife populations & their habitats, & to promote sustainable use of natural resources. We offer free birding field trips open to all, college internships, birding for kids, conservation activism, volunteer opportunities. AlachuaAudubon.org | facebook.com/AlachuaAudubon/

Alachua Conservation Trust, Inc. is a non-profit land trust protecting North Central Florida's natural, historic, scenic & recreational resources for over 36 years. 352-373-1078 | AlachuaConservationTrust.org

Alachua County Democratic Party (Alachua County Democratic Executive Committee - ACDED) is the official organization representing over 70,000 Democrats in Alachua County, whose mission is to elect Democrats. Get involved if you want to join like-minded people ready to fight to restore democracy & electing Democrats. Alachuademparty.com | 901 NW 8th Ave, Suite A-3, Gvn | 352-373-1730 | comms@alachuademparty.com

Alachua County Labor Coalition organizes to support local labor & advance the Medicare for All & A Living Wage Campaigns. Meets monthly on the 4th Tuesday at 6pm at Emmanuel Mennonite Church, 1236 NW 18th Ave, Gvn | info@laborcoalition.org | LaborCoalition.org

Alachua County Organization for Rural Needs Clinic is a not-for-profit in Brooker

providing low-cost, high-quality dental care for people in Alachua, Bradford & Union County with & without health insurance. 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 DSA is part of the largest socialist organization in the U.S., The Democratic Socialists of America (DSA). They have organized to build working-class democracy & power in workplaces, neighborhoods, local governments, & throughout Alachua County. They are member-funded & member-run. alachuadsa@gmail.com | www.instagram.com/alachuadsa

Alachua NAACP - With 2+ million activists across the country, we work to ensure the political, educational, social, & economic equality of rights of all people & to eliminate racial hatred & discrimination. Everyone invited to join. [Facebook.com/alachuaNAACP](https://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 & 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

The Awesome Foundation exists to forward the interests of awesomeness in the universe. The Gainesville chapter awards \$1,000 grants on a quarterly basis throughout the year. Projects must benefit our greater Gainesville community

of Alachua County. To donate, learn more or apply for a grant for YOUR awesome idea, go to awesomегainesville.org

Badass Feminists protest against the Trump administration every Saturday morning. If you are looking for a way to take action, please join the Facebook group Badass Feminists Gainesville.

Baker Interfaith Friends Volunteers visits people in immigration detention in Baker County, volunteers welcome! Contact: bakerinterfaithfriends@gmail.com or on Facebook.

Black Graduate Student Organization helps UF Black graduate & professional students foster meaningful & lasting relationships that aid in academic achievement & success. bgsoatuf@gmail.com | [facebook: UF BGSO](https://facebook.com/UFBGSO)

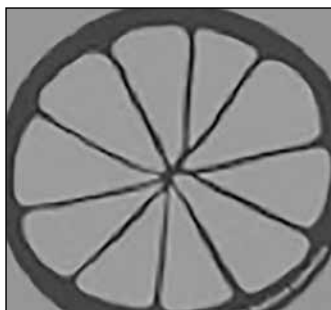
Citizens Climate Lobby builds awareness & lobbies for sensible climate policies. 352-214-1778 | btancig@gmail.com | citizensclimatelobby.org/chapters/FL_Gainesville | facebook.com/CitizensClimateLobbyGainesvilleFL

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

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 at <https://tinyurl.com/mwkwetyb> for news, action alerts, meeting alerts. ClimateRealityProjectgnv@gmail.com | facebook.com/groups/climaterealitygnvgroup

Coalition of Hispanics Integrating Spanish Speakers through Advocacy & Service is a

Spotlight on: The Feminist Collective



The Feminist Collective is an organization of both students and non-students who are dedicated to fostering critical inquiry, intellectual engagement, and community through the exploration of feminist scholarship and related social, cultural, and political issues. Through consciousness-raising sessions, volunteer initiatives, panel discussions, and creative workshops we encourage thoughtful dialogue, the exchange of diverse perspectives, collaborative learning, and community engagement and betterment.

feministcollectivegv@gmail.com / 610-858-9782 / [@femcollectivegv](https://femcoll.wixsite.com/femcollectivegv)

World ranked #1 Spain
VS.

#2 United States !!!

**USWNT
WATCH PARTY**

at Cypress & Grove
on the Big Screen in the Brick Room

**** Tuesday, Oct. 13, 7 pm ****

Fire up for Summer 2027
Women's World Cup

UF student-run group focusing on immigrant rights & immigrant advocacy. chispasuf@gmail.com | chispasuf.com | facebook.com/chispasUF

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

Community Spring is a local organization to help people get a step up on re-entering society after incarceration with financial & housing assistance as a means of overcoming structural poverty. 352-363-1259 | info@csgnv.org

Community Weatherization Coalition's mission is to help neighbors save energy & water, & reduce utility bills by engaging volunteers, building community, & 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 & natural areas. 352-376-4770 | info@conserveflorida.org | conserveflorida.org

Current Problems cleans up waterways across north Florida, removing over 1,000,000 pounds of trash (& recycling/reusing 63% of it) since 1993, & finding ways to reduce pollution sources; volunteers welcome. 352-222-6727 | currentproblems.org

Democratic Party of Alachua County meets monthly on the second Wednesday at 6pm on Zoom. 352-373-1730 | alachuadems.org

Democratic Socialists of America believe the economy & society should be run democratically to meet human needs, not to make profits for the wealthy. Check out the local chapter at alachuadsa.org or contact alachuadsa@gmail.com.

Democratic Women's Club of Santa Fe Springs meets @ 3-5pm on the 4th Sunday monthly, except Dec & July, in High Springs. Contact: dwcsofs@gmail.com | facebook.com/dwcsofs

Divest Gainesville advocates divesting City financial assets from fossil fuel industries & educating on racial justice & climate change. youngersn@outlook.com | facebook.com/DivestGainesville

Divest UF is a student-run organization & a loose collective of Gators seeking to divest the university from fossil fuels, the prison industry, & arms & surveillance companies. Divestuf.org | facebook.com/DivestUF

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 & restore fairness to Florida's criminal justice system. PO Box 142933, Gainesville, 32614 | gnewburn@fam.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 | org@gmail.com | FinalFriends.org

Flipping the System is a non-profit organization dedicated to eradicating sexual violence on campuses. Through educational programming & events, FTS believes that a future free of sexual violence is possible. www.flippingthesystem.org | info@flippingthesystem.org | @flippingthesystem | 954-589-7626

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

Florida Free Speech Forum is a lecture series that provides a place for open & constructive dialogue. The group advocates, protects & defends freedom of speech through open dialogue. floridafreespeechforum.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 & outside of prisons. Efforts focus on incarcerated individuals' needs & their care networks. P.O. Box 358439, Gainesville, FL 32635 | 850-895-1505 | FLPrisonerSolidarity@gmail.com | facebook.com/FLAbolition | FLPrisonerSolidarity.org

Free Grocery Store is an all-volunteer mutual aid food pantry & garden in Gainesville supporting the right to healthy & nutritious food by distributing free food through delivery & in-person services, & by growing some of the food. The in-person pantry is on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at the CMC (433 S. Main St., Gnv.) with sign-ups beginning at 2pm & the pantry opening around 3pm til 5:30pm while supplies last. More info + info on home delivery at gnvfgs.org.

Friends of Susan B. Anthony, Gainesville recognizes local women who exemplify some of the qualities of Susan B. Anthony, that is, concern for full enfranchisement of women & minorities & equal rights for all citizens. fosba@fosba.com | fosba.com

Friends of the Library is an all-volunteer 501(c)(3) non-profit organization in Gainesville. We support the Alachua County Library District & literacy programs throughout Alachua County. Accepting donations of books, art, records, puzzles, games, etc. We have a huge sale every April & October. 430 N. Main St. | 352-375-1676 | www.folacld.org | Facebook.org | Instagram.org @FOLACLD

Gainesville Area AIDS Project, a program of Pride Community Center of North Central Florida, provides toiletries, household cleaners, hot meals, frozen food at no cost to people living with HIV/AIDS. 352-377-8915 | info@GAAPonline.org | GAAPonline.org | Facebook.com/GAAPonline | gainesvillepride.org

Gainesville Area Chapter of Climate Reality Project addresses the climate crisis for future generations. The chapter mobilizes people to become powerful activists & push for aggressive climate action. The hope is to transform society & to change the world. climateralityprojectgnv@gmail.com | @climateralityprojectgnv | climateralityprojectgnv.wordpress.com

Gainesville Books to Prisoners is a volunteer-run, donation-based organization that sends hundreds of books monthly to incarcerated people in Florida. We pack books at the CMC on the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays of the month, 6-7:30pm. We also need brown paper grocery bags & packing tape. Instagram: @gnvbooks2prisoners. Donate funds at paypal.com/gnvb2p

Gainesville Citizens for Alternatives to Death Penalty works to abolish the death penalty. Join vigils when Florida has an execution. 352-278-4342 | mark1343@juno.com | www.fadp.org

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

Gainesville Humanists, a chapter of the American Humanist Association, is an activist group of humanists, atheists, agnostics, & free thinkers. Meets first Sunday of the month at 1:30pm to discuss & plan actions that promote humanist values, such as resisting Christian Nationalism & resisting authoritarianism. Check website or meetup for venue gainesvillehumanists1@gmail.com | meetup.com/gainesville-humanists | gainesvillehumanists.com | Facebook: <https://tinyurl.com/Iguana2379>

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

DIRECTORY continued on next page

DIRECTORY from preceding page

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 Residents United educates, advocates, negotiates, & litigates issues of community concern — currently the State takeover of Gainesville Regional Utilities. www.GRUnited.org

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

Gainesville Stamp Club, established in the 1960s, is open to all interested in philately. Auction held every meeting. Advanced level program occasionally. Under 18 must be accompanied by adult. First & third Tuesdays starting at 7:30pm; no meetings in December/holidays. For meeting locations & info. call 352-371-1991 | Stamps4Laffs@yahoo.com

Gainesville Women for Democracy, previously Gainesville Women for Harris, are a group of women whose focus is to build coalitions with like-minded groups & individuals for the purpose of strengthening our communities, including surrounding rural counties, & preserving our democracy. Contact Julie Thaler via Facebook Messenger.

Generation Action UF, a student organization dedicated to promoting reproductive justice & health care on campus, provides UF students with free contraceptives, Plan B, & other key reproductive health care materials through The Brown Bag Project <3. UF students can discreetly request & receive condoms, internal condoms, dental dams, pregnancy tests, & Plan B. Instagram @ppgenactionuf.

Generation Vote is a youth-led, intersectional movement that fights for our right to vote & a just democracy for all. The UF chapter aims to be a reliable, nonpartisan local resource year-round to empower Gen-Zers to get out the vote. See the national website www.genvote.org, or follow the local chapter on Instagram @genvoteuf

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

Greater Gainesville International Center celebrates & elevates our diverse international community by serving as a hub between cultural, economic, educational & governmental partners, to unlock the full potential of our unique global city. Programs include 10 sister cities & refugee resettlement. Lauren Poe | poe@gnvc.org | 352-871-0895

Ichetucknee Alliance focuses on ensuring the restoration, preservation & 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 & Conservation is an academic nonprofit that provides undergraduate field courses in tropical marine & terrestrial ecology, hosts biology-based study abroad programs, provides a venue for researchers, conducts conservation & community service programs. 352-367-9128 | itec1@itec-edu.org | itec-edu.org

Jewish Voice For Peace in Gainesville was inspired by the JVP actions nationwide calling for ceasefire in Gaza. JVP envisions a world where all people live in freedom, justice, equality & dignity. jewishvoiceforpeace.org/resource/our-vision | Instagram: @jvp_gnv | jvpgnvpod@gmail.com

League of Women Voters of Alachua County is a nonpartisan grassroots political group of women & men who fight to improve our system of government & impact public policies such as fairness in districting, voting & elections, through citizen education & advocacy. info@lwv-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 & to ensure all are treated with dignity & respect msfgainesville@gmail.com | facebook.com/MSFGainesville

McRorie Community Garden is a community garden where local residents can grow vegetables & learn how to do so. It is at 615 SE 4th Ave, Gainesville, FL 32601 Volunteer Day is on the last Sunday of every month. mcoriegarden@gmail.com

MindFreedom North Florida is a human rights group for psychiatric survivors & mental health consumers, working to educate the public about harmful psychiatric practices & 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

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

National Committee to Preserve Social Security & Medicare works to preserve these threatened programs for senior citizens

& families. Local volunteers needed. Marion. Co.FL.1590@gmail.com | ncpsm.org

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

National Women's Liberation is a feminist group for women who want to fight back against male supremacy & win more freedoms for women. Inequalities between women & 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 & math (STEM) across all disciplines & employment sectors. ncfawis@gmail.com | leanin.org/circles/ncfawis

Our Santa Fe River is a non-profit composed of concerned citizens working to protect the waters & lands supporting the aquifer, springs & 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 & restoration of the native plants & native plant communities of Florida. paynesprairie.fnpschapters.org | https://tinyurl.com/Iguana1952

People's Progressive Agenda is a grassroots, working-class, member-led group organizing against the harmful impacts of Trump-era policies on our families & communities. peoplesagendax@gmail.com

PFLAG Gainesville is a local chapter of Parents & Families of Lesbians & Gays, the nation's foremost family-based organization committed to the civil rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual & transgender people. info@pflaggainesville.org | pflaggainesville.org

Planned Parenthood Clinic at Gainesville Health Center is a full-service health center for reproductive & sexual health care needs. Offering pregnancy testing & 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 & reunite people with the environment. 352-317-7307 | info@prairiecreekconservationcemetery.org | prairiecreekconservationcemetery.org

Pride Community Center of North Central Florida has resources for the LGBTQ+ community. 3850 NW 83rd St, 2nd floor, Gnv. Pccnfc@gainesville.pride.org | GainesvillePride.org. Library & community room open Mon-Thu 9am-7pm, Fri 9am-5pm (unstaffed).

Repurpose Project, a nonprofit junk shop/ community center, diverting useful resources from landfills & redirecting items to the public for art and education, rethinking what we throw away. Help protect the planet & buy used. Check website for hours. 1920 NE 23rd Ave, Gnv |

352-363-8902 | info@RepurposeProject.org | repurposeproject.org

The Resist Network: In order to prevent an authoritarian takeover, the U.S. must execute a peaceful, strategic Resistance. The RESIST Network supports the Alachua County Resistance through dissemination of messages that suggest meaningful & doable pro-democratic activities. The Network messages promote boycotts, buycotts, social justice, fact-based decision making, free speech. Messages will oppose voter suppression, disinformation, & corruption. Messages sent via email once or twice a month. To join, email theresistnetwork@gmail.com

River Phoenix Center for Peace-building provides solution-based innovative ways to resolve conflicts, & offers related services such as mediation, communication skill building & 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 & rural women. Veronica or Adriana @ 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

Sandhill Chapter, Florida Trail Association is the local organization to develop, maintain, protect, & promote the Florida National Scenic Trail, a 1,500 mile federally designated trail beginning at big Cypress National Preserve & ending at Gulf Islands National Seashore. 352-378-8823 | Floridatrail.org/Sandhill | Facebook.com/SandhillChapterFTA

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

Student Animal Alliance is a UF-based group whose purpose is to educate & bring fellow animal lovers together to better the lives of the animals 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 & 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 with talk, music, sing-along, discussion, fellowship. Meets the 3rd Sunday of the month. SundayAssembly32601@gmail.com | SAGainesville.weebly.com

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

Sunrise Movement Gainesville is a UF student-led organization focused on environmental justice through political engagement & community organizing. Instagram: @sunrisemvmtgnav.

The Majorie: Florida's independent reporting outlet dedicated to the critical intersection of social justice & the environment. themajorie.org

The Party for Socialism & Liberation - Gainesville pre-branch exists to carry out the struggle for Socialism inside the U.S. | Linktr.ee/psl_gainesville | psl_gainesville@proton.me | pslweb.org/join

UCW Florida (CWA Local 3165) is a union of Florida public sector higher education workers open to unrepresented employees at UF. Part of a national union, the Communications Workers of America is home to a network of higher education workers, United Campus Workers, across the Southeast & Southwest fighting for social & economic justice in our institutions & communities. UCWFL.org | uniteduf@ucw-cwa.org.

UF Black Student Union strives to create, cultivate, & 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 (students, non-students, faculty, staff) that educates & provides a safe space for those of marginalized sexualities & gender identities. UFPridesu@gmail.com | facebook.com/ufpsu | plaza.ufl.edu/jsoto19/PSU

UF Students for Justice in Palestine: In recognition of the failure of society to produce a just & reasonable solution to the Palestine-Israel conflict, SJP promotes public awareness & activism. We promote international law, human rights, justice for all affected. We welcome a diverse membership from all faiths & nationalities who believe in the attainability of peace. sjpuflorida@gmail.com

UF Young Democratic Socialists of America is a student-run socialist organization dedicated to organizing students to fight for the needs of workers & students while building the capacity to fight radical & structural changes. Weekly meetings. ufysa21@gmail.com | facebook.com/ufysa | @uf_ydsa

United Faculty of Florida, UF chapter is run by & for faculty, & represents over 1600 faculty & 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 & the UN's efforts to deal with them. facebook.com/UNAUSAGainesvilleFICChapter | UNA-USA Gainesvillefl.org

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

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

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

Unspoken Treasure Society empowers, uplifts, & advocates for the well-being, equity, and rights of the LGBTQIA+ community. Meetings are held the third Thursdays of the month at 7pm at 3850 NW 83rd St, Suite 201 in Gainesville. unspokensociety.org | 352-377-0384

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

Voices for Common Ground focuses on issues, not political parties, and members are united by a shared commitment to civil rights (reproductive rights, anti-racism LGBTQ+ rights, voting rights). tinyurl.com/Iguana2153 | voicesforcommonground@proton.me.

WGOT-LP 100.1 FM, a community low-power radio station, operates as part of the Civic Media Center, with progressive talk like Democracy Now!, Thom Hartmann, Ralph Nader, and eclectic music from bluegrass to punk. 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. All genders welcome. uf.wise@gmail.com | Facebook.com/UFWiSE | wise.group.ufl.edu/about-wise

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

World Socialist Party of the United States welcomes all wanting to know about Marxian socialism & 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. wspus.org.



Rep. Cohen unveils 26 impeachment articles against Trump

by John Wojcik

Waging an unconstitutional war on Iran. Using the presidency for personal profit. Sending troops — ICE and the Border Patrol — to U.S. cities. And sowing doubt on democracy by constantly charging elections are rigged.

Those are just five of the 26 impeachment articles Rep. Steve Cohen, D-Tenn., has filed against Donald Trump, whose “continued presence in office is a danger to our democracy,” the lawmaker declares.

Another charge cites Trump’s defiance of federal court orders and specifically cites ICE’s deportation of Kilmar Abrego Garcia, a Smart-TD Union member ICE abducted and deported to the notorious CE-COT prison in El Salvador.

A resistant Trump finally had Garcia returned only after the Supreme Court ordered it. With the House out of session and lawmakers gone home to campaign, Cohen’s filing won’t be taken up before the Nov. 3 election. He could officially bring it up afterwards but admits he’s really laying the groundwork for impeaching Trump in the next Congress — when he won’t be there.

“Trump is clearly the most impeachable president our country has ever endured. His continued presence in office is a danger to our democracy. That the sycophantic Republican majority in Congress is derelict in its duty does not mean I must abandon my responsibilities,” said Cohen.

“I took an independent oath to support and defend the Constitution. That commitment compels me to introduce this resolution. When historians write about this period and our constituents ask who stood up to President Trump’s lawlessness, this is the answer.

“I sincerely believe that the 120th Congress will better live up to its duties as a co-equal branch of government and a check on the executive. I hope this resolution paves the way to accountability. We cannot tolerate this kind of lawlessness and corruption.”

Cohen currently represents the majority-Black district which includes Memphis, Tenn., but the heavily GOP-gerrymandered Tennessee legislature redistricted him into retirement by splitting the city into thirds and drowning its voters in a sea of white rural and MAGA Republicans.

Bringing up impeachment, though, depends on Democrats retaking U.S. House control in January. The party is split about impeaching Trump, and few if any candidates are making it an issue with a month to go before the November election.

House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries, D-N.Y., dismissed Cohen’s impeachment push and voted against or “present” on prior impeachment tries—on fewer charges — by Rep. Al Green, D-Texas. Green also fell victim to Republican redistricting this year.

By contrast, the top Democrat on the Judiciary panel, Rep. Jamie Raskin, D-Md., a constitutional law professor on leave, takes a “wait and see” attitude on impeachment.

Cohen’s other impeachable Trump offenses besides undermining democracy and “sowing doubt on elections” (Article 1), waging the unconstitutional Iran war (Article 2), profiting from the presidency (Article 26), the ICE sweeps (Article 4) and having ICE kidnap and deport Garcia (Article 8), include but are not limited to:

- Abuses of power through extrajudicial killings in Venezuelan waters, canceling federal grants to punish blue states,

“obstructing the lawful appointment of U.S. attorneys” by naming unqualified people whom judges had to oust, and demolishing the White House East Wing in favor of his multimillion-dollar ballroom.

- Abolishing the Education Department, prosecuting three political “enemies,” illegal impoundments of money Congress appropriated and creation of the \$1.776 billion fund to repay “victims” of what Trump called Biden judicial prosecution.
- Violating his oath of office by trying to end birthright citizenship, despite the U.S. Constitution’s 14th Amendment. The Supreme Court overturned that, but other analysts say Trump still seeks an end run around that ruling.
- Attacks on free speech — by barring law firms which serve Democratic clients from any business with the federal government and coercing universities to crack down on pro-Palestinian protests on campus.
- Attacks on the free press by barring Politico, MSNOW, and CNN from covering the White House because Trump didn’t like what they wrote and the questions their reporters asked, and by coercing ABC and CBS into paying him money or threatening their businesses, and
- “Abuse of power through self-aggrandizement through the renaming of public institutions, seizure of cultural and civic property, and personal appropriation of national currency.” That’s Article 25.

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