This is not a drill
Action to stop the Sabal Trail pipeline has begun and needs your help
A reportback from the Springs Not Pipelines! Action Camp

Call to Action: Join us at sunrise on Saturday, Nov. 26, for direct action. Park at Guy Lemmons boat ramp, northwest of the 129 bridge over the Santa Fe River, near Branford. Bring a canoe or kayak.

by Panagioti Tsolkas
Eternal Springs Earth First!

Over the first week of November, we watched as the energy empire impaled the earth under the Santa Fe River to begin a horizontal direction drilling (HDD) operation for the Sabal Trail pipeline.

Sabal Trail is the name of the main leg in a series of over 700 miles of pipelines and compressor stations from central Alabama to southern Florida, which is being built by a consortium of energy interests lead by Spectra, as well as other familiar names such as Enbridge, of DAPL infamy, and Florida’s own FPL. The plan currently entails transport for fracked gas, though companies have indicated that the pipeline could also be refitted for oil transport in the future.

See PIPELINE, p. 18

Trumpocalypse:
The catastrophic destruction or damage of civilization following the election of Donald Trump as president of the United States of America

by Julius Lester

Following is a portion of a Facebook post Julius Lester, a former member of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, wrote upon the election of Donald Trump for president.

For those who chose Trump by voting for a third party candidate or by not voting at all, for those who believed that Hillary Clinton’s transgressions were tantamount to evil and thought the election was a choice between two evils, with Hillary being the lesser one, you are about to learn what evil really is.

With the Republican Party in control of the presidency, the Senate, the House of Representatives, and soon, the Supreme Court, they now have the power to do whatever they want. They’ve been trying to get rid of Planned Parenthood. It’s gone. Obamacare. Gone. Roe v. Wade. Gone. Gay marriage. Gone. The Environmental Protection Agency? Gone. The Paris Accords? Gone. Any

The catastrophic destruction or damage of civilization following the election of Donald Trump as president of the United States of America

Over the first week of November, we watched as the energy empire impaled the earth under the Santa Fe River to begin a horizontal direction drilling (HDD) operation for the Sabal Trail pipeline.

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See PIPELINE, p. 18
Blue dot report

Looking at the state map of voting results for the president, we in Alachua County are a blue island surrounded by red.

All the candidates and issues the Iguana wanted to win did so in Alachua County. The problem was we were attacked by a bunch of red state territory which over-whelmed our best intentions. Thank you gerrymandering; the drawing of voting districts lets the party in charge at the decade election in 2010 pick their voters and dilute a progressive place like Alachua County. Thank you to all our Democrats who put themselves on the line. The only things our picks won statewide were the amendments, one of these “wins” being the defeat of the bogus solar amendment, and the other most notable Yes to Medical Marijuana.

What sets this great county apart is the ap-proval of One Mill for Schools and Wild Spaces Public Places. We value educa-tion, parks and the environment enough that we passed two taxes on ourselves, and by substantial margins.

There were also four opportunities for write in candidates, and all but one were successful. The major one was a woman and among them was Chloe Goldbach, who is an out transgendered woman boldly and by substantial margins. City elections up next in March.

Iguana love

This is the last of Vol. 30 of the Iguana. In January we begin Vol. 31.

In mid October we attempted to celebrate a 30 years of publishing and got pretty well rained out.

If you appreciate the commitment and effort it take to keep doing this, kindly consider making a donation or subscription, checks payable to Iguana.

It takes money to print the paper, no one gets paid. It is a labor of love. Your checks would throw some love back at us. Thank you.

Joe Courter
Living wage for city and county still important

Below is the transcript of an address by Christopher Kennard to the Gainesville Mayors and City Commissioners on July 21 regarding the Living Wage Campaign. Good Evening, Mayor and City Commissioners.

It has been exactly thirty years, and one month since I first addressed this public body regarding the wages paid to city public employees...

The time span made me reflect this morning upon what it is that I would like to say – something that would add to the dialogue, rather than repeating points already made regarding the pay we do provide to our public servants... public employees working with Alachua County.

So first, Mayor... City Commissioners, I would like to thank you for the steps you have already taken to address the... the burden of poorly paid workers must labor under... day in and day out...

When I spoke to this body of city commissioners thirty-three years ago, as an elected Union Leader of the Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1579, it was to demand that the City of Gainesville stop the economic disparity and blatant discriminatory workplace conditions, based upon sex and racial discrimination and pay that I found RTS employees had long suffered under the County of Alachua, and then at the hands of several City of Gainesville administrators at the Regional Transit System.

Half of the City Commissioners wished to address the situation. The other half did not care, in essence saying that they did not have money in the city budget to make the difference and bridge the discriminatory gap in pay.

All of a sudden, the City had an "excess" of transit funds, which before had always been stolen by city and RTS administrators over these years, apparently going to a slush fund created for politicians running for office in North Central Florida.

Do we really want the lowest paid workers to be folks who care for the most vulnerable members of our society, our old people and children? Do we want the bus driver who is driving us to make so little they have to work 2 jobs and are sleep deprived while driving a huge vehicle? Why is this crucial work not valued with living wages?

Central Labor Council hosts annual holiday spaghetti dinner

The North Central Florida Central Labor Council will have their annual holiday spaghetti dinner on Monday, Dec. 12 at 6:30 pm at the Alachua County Senior Center at 5701 NW 34th St. in Gainesville.

All are invited to break bread with the CLC and listen to updates about working family issues in the North Central Florida area.

By Sheila Payne, ACLC

Thanks to all who came out to participate in the Fight for 15 Living Wage Rally press conference. Alachua County Labor Coalition (ACLC) members County Com. Ken Cornell, Harvey Ward, Mariellen Wheeler and Jeremiah Tattersall all spoke. The Fight for 15 workers spoke passionately about what it was like to work for the Florida minimum wage of $8.05/hr. One brother talked about working at McDonald's and not have enough to eat himself and he had a heart attack from the stress, with no health insurance and no sick leave. A nursing home worker and child care worker spoke about working 2 low wage jobs and not having any time to spend with their own children.

Do we really want the lowest paid workers to be folks who care for the most vulnerable members of our society, our old people and children? Do we want the bus driver who is driving us to make so little they have to work 2 jobs and are sleep deprived while driving a huge vehicle? Why is this crucial work not valued with living wages?

Alternative Folk-pop phenom Pierce Pettis returns to the ART just in time for the holidays!

Join us Sunday, December 4, 2016 at 7:00 pm
Tickets at acrosstown.org

A Cultural Experience 20th Annual Holiday Open House
December 10, 2016 10:00 to 5:00 pm

A Portion of all sales benefits ACLC

The Who’s Tommy: Feb 17 - Mar 5
Theatre for the thinking person
since 1980

Aerosostown Repartory Theatre
619 South Main St
Gainesville, FL 32601
www.acrosstown.org
Open enrollment period begins Nov. 1 for 2017 federal health insurance marketplace coverage

by Ronnie Lovler, SRAHEC

Open enrollment for the Health Insurance Marketplace began Nov. 1. Individuals and families in North Central Florida enrolling in coverage for the first time or continuing their existing health coverage for 2017 may review their health insurance options with the assistance of a Navigator.


“Those of us working as navigators see it as a privilege,” said senior navigator Ronnie Lovler, who serves all Spanish speakers in SRAHEC’s coverage area. “It makes us especially happy when we are able to connect someone with health insurance who has never had it before.”

During open enrollment, consumers may create a Marketplace account, review available health insurance coverage, and see if they qualify for help paying for costs. Consumers who currently have Marketplace coverage should review their applications to make sure they are up-to-date and to report any life changes.

Consumers who enroll in insurance coverage by Dec. 15, and make their first payment, will have coverage beginning Jan. 1. 2017. Open enrollment ends Jan. 31 and consumers who sign up by this date will have coverage beginning March 1.

Under terms of the Affordable Care Act, health insurance is mandatory for anyone who can afford it. Those who choose not to get it will face a tax penalty.

You can find out your navigator’s schedule or make an appointment by calling 386-292-2947 or emailing rlovler@srahec.org.

SRAHEC is a public health nonprofit located in Alachua that seeks to promote and provide quality health connections for the community it serves.

Open Enrollment ends January 31, 2017

Contact 352-299-0380 or navigator@srahec.org to get help in these North Central Florida Counties:

Alachua, Bradford, Citrus, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Hernando, Lafayette, Levy, Marion, Putnam, Sumter, Suwannee, Union

Gainesville Tells: Local vets perform their stories on stage

by Mandy McDade

Reprinted by permission from the UF College of the Arts e-newsletter “In the Loop.”

“It’s time to speak. It’s time to listen.”

That’s the motto of the Telling Project, a performing arts non-profit that gives veterans and their families a platform to speak about their experiences in the military. The Telling Project is a national initiative that has put over 180 soldiers and their families on stage, giving audiences the opportunity to listen to their stories in a unique and engaging format.

Thanks to grants from the Florida Humanities Council, and the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Telling Project is coming to Gainesville. Telling: Gainesville is a performance directed by Jeffrey Pufahl of UF’s Center for Arts in Medicine, featuring four veterans - who served in the Marine Corps, the Navy and the Army, respectively - and one woman who was married to an Air Force pilot for twenty years.

Pufahl was first drawn to the Telling Project because of his belief in the power of theatre to build strong and healthy communities. The project, at its core, is about building understanding, and creating a bridge between veterans and the larger community.

These issues are not often spoken about, especially considering that less than 1 percent of the population has served in the military over the last eleven years. Those who have often find that re-acclimating to their normal lives after deployment is harder than they anticipated - and the Telling Project hopes to communicate this to the public, and create more empathy and understanding for an underrepresented population.

The performance explores the various reasons why these men enlisted, and follows them through basic training, their first deployment, and, of course, their experiences upon arriving home. It was challenging to find veterans willing to openly discuss this material, especially in such a public and performative way.

“It’s not an easy experience to get in front of people and tell these stories,” Pufahl said. “It’s heavy material, and it isn’t all pretty.”

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“It’s not an easy experience to get in front of people and tell these stories,” Pufahl said. “It’s heavy material, and it isn’t all pretty.”

It took a small village to get the cast together. But Pufahl posted ads in the Alachua County libraries, community centers, and other venues.

“Telling: Gainesville is an example of “verbatim theatre,” which focuses on a more journalistic, documentary-style of storytelling. Pufahl, who already had a love for the verbatim form, felt it an especially appropriate way to tell these stories.

“There’s an instant connection we, as an audience, have with verbatim theatre, because it is testimony and we identify with that level of truth,” Pufahl said. “The empathy is very strong, because it’s someone’s actual experience that is being shown to us.”

Pufahl also hired local musician Michael Claytor for the performance, which will feature iconic songs that these men were listening to at around the time they enlisted.

The goal of this, according to Pufahl, is to put the events of the narrative in perspective and situate them in a time and place.

Telling: Gainesville premiered at the Actors’ Warehouse on Nov. 10. Upcoming shows are on Nov. 17-19 at 8 pm. The shows are free and open to the public.

For more information about the show, please visit: http://www.flaahs.org/programs/veterans/telling-gainesville/
Gainesville Homegrown: Businesses + Entrepreneurship celebrates, inspires Gainesville Entrepreneurs Month

A grassroots effort, “Gainesville Homegrown: Businesses + Entrepreneurship” has formed to celebrate and inspire locally-created and owned business and entrepreneurial efforts in Gainesville.

The collective will focus its attention on business development and meaningful job growth in greater East Gainesville, the area between the western shore of Newnan’s Lake and West 1st Street. The team members have decades of combined expertise in local community design and policy-making, the arts, design, and entrepreneurship, with a special commitment to tapping the potential of the local African-American community. They plan to support other locally-driven efforts, and host events and classes in and for Gainesville’s East Side.

The collective plans a series of events:

• October was Gainesville Entrepreneurs Month (GEM), branded by the Gainesville Area Innovation Network (GAIN). Gainesville Homegrown: Businesses + Entrepreneurship has launched a Facebook page dedicated to sharing these “GEM Stories” of local successes throughout the month. Launched on Oct. 1, the page is at https://www.facebook.com/GainesvilleHomegrown-Businesses-Entrepreneurship-580287802089449/ GEM Stories will be drawn from retail, manufacturing, service, food, the arts, and the environment. More information about GAIN can be found at http://gainet.org.

• An event will be held Dec. 7 from 5:30 -7:30 pm at GTEC (Gainesville Technology and Entrepreneurship Center) to celebrate Gainesville’s successful entrepreneurs, and to inspire a new generation of entrepreneurs. Speakers will be drawn from the GEM Stories project, and networking and mentoring opportunities will be featured. GTEC is located at 2153 SE Hawthorne Road.

• Teaching and learning business skills and entrepreneurship are an important outcome of these initial efforts. The Gainesville Homegrown: Businesses + Entrepreneurship team will support a class to be hosted through the University of Florida’s Center for Innovation and Economic Development. See http://www.scoed.ufl.edu/cied/ for details.

The Gainesville Homegrown: Businesses + Entrepreneurship team is Bill Dorman, Santa Fe College; Nkwanda Jah, Cultural Arts Coalition; Haley Moody, Florida Community Design Center; Bill Rossi, University of Florida Professor of Entrepreneurship Emeritus; Kim Tanner, University of Virginia Professor of Architecture Emerita; and Randy Wells, Florida Community Design Center. The team looks forward to expanding, and welcomes participation from the entire Gainesville community.

For further information, contact Nkwanda Jah, Executive Director, Cultural Arts Coalition at 352-219-5793 or nubah52@gmail.com, or Randy Wells, Executive Director, Florida Community Design Center, 352-335-7110 or randy@fcdc.org.

Dear DNC:

Please read. Please listen this time.

Cheaters never prosper. We, the entire nation, are suffering because of your corruption and lying deeds. The nation spoke and told you that they were tired of the “establishment.” You didn’t listen.

Starting with Debbie Wasserman-Schultz and EVERY single one of the DNC staff who was involved and responsible for abusing their position in order to bias and influence the outcomes of the Democratic primaries and the choosing of the Democratic nominee. You influenced the media and prevented the equal flow of finances and blocked the other candidate from things. You had decided long ago that Hillary Clinton would be the nominee and everyone else be damned. You humiliated the entire Democratic Party in front of the entire nation.

You did not listen to the people. You did not listen to the grassroot American people – Democrats, Republicans, Greens, Libertarians, No Party Affiliation’s etc. … You ignored everything that was important to them. You had choreographed this plan but never took into account what ‘we the people’ were telling you. You put forth a candidate that carried baggage. You used “super-delegates” in the party to guarantee the outcome that YOU had already determined. At the convention you didn’t listen or take counsel except for what Bernie forced into the platform. You treated the Bernie delegates like they were aliens and from another party. You were mean and cruel. You put on a “show” and tried to hide the fact that the DNC had RIGGED THE SYSTEM. It started with that.

You thought that “the first woman” would win. You didn’t listen. You spent time focusing on the negatives of Trump instead of what Hillary had to offer and why people should vote for her in spite of her negatives. Neither the DNC nor the campaign could do anything to excite and motivate people to get out and vote alone to a rally. You never tapped into the excitement that Bernie had found because he listened.

How do we go forward? How do we trust the DNC again?

The DNC needs to look in the mirror and take responsibility for being CROOKED. Integrity is what you do when people are not looking – you just don’t do it! Do you know who leaked or hacked on this level? That is a National Security issue. The issue for the DNC is that YOU KNEW YOU lied about showing bias and influencing the outcome. You didn’t listen to the excitement from within the party and the platform that Bernie Sanders – who exudes integrity – was talking all along about the anger. Bernie was the “outsider” and “anti-establishment” candidate that voters were looking for. You lost your chance. And now you have created a mess.

You are responsible for anything that is repealed or overturned. You are responsible for the loss of rights for minorities. LGBTQ and people of color. You are responsible if the ACA is repealed and gutted. You are responsible if Social Security or Medicare is privatized. You are responsible if the 1 percent continue to gain extraordinary tax breaks. You are responsible if there is not a meaningful living wage. You are responsible if we end up out of NATO. You are responsible for the accelerated destruction of the planet with fossil fuels, fracked gas and coal. You are responsible if the criminal justice system doesn’t get reformed. You are responsible if the prisons continue to operate with impunity. You are responsible for the future of the Supreme Court. You are responsible. Own it.

You owe every Democrat a deep and sincere apology. Do not look outside for blame. The other side tried to thwart Trump but they failed. Their voters were energized because they knew he got it … But you made sure that energy and enthusiasm was squelched. The Jill Stein issue. The issue for the DNC is that YOU KNEW YOU leaked or hacked on this level. That is a National Security issue. The other side tried to thwart Trump but they failed. Their voters were energized because they knew he got it … But you made sure that energy and enthusiasm was squelched. The Jill Stein vote was negligible. Don’t blame those voters.

Clean House. You need to get people at the DNC who are NOT biased and looking out for their own agenda. People who are not politicians who are strategizing or influencing the outcomes of the primaries. People who have integrity. Let your voters choose the nominee. Learn to listen.

Sincerely,

Jane McNulty

Civic Media Center Events

Every Thu. 5:30 pm
Every Thu. Weekly Poetry Jam, 8 pm

Closed for Thanksgiving (Decolonization) Holiday Thursday, Nov. 24 - Sunday Nov. 27.

Civic Media Center Events

Every Thu. Weekly Volunteer Meeting, 5:30 pm
Every Thu. Weekly Poetry Jam, 8 pm

343 S. Main St.
Gainesville
373-0010

www.GainesvilleiGuana.org

November/December 2016, IguaNa page 9
Feminist bookstore offers social justice books, indie bestsellers, gathering space

The holiday season is fast approaching and Wild Iris is ready to help you get all the gifts you need! As Florida's only feminist bookstore our inventory is full of feminist, activist, social justice books, and more.

We carry a great selection of alternative kids books highlighting marginalized voices and stories and teaching our little ones about activism and solidarity. We also carry unique and fun gifts, journals, buttons, greeting cards, candles and more. Let us help you find gifts for all the people on your list!

By shopping at Wild Iris - you'll not only be supporting local business but you'll be helping feminist gathering space in Gainesville continue. Now more than ever, we need to support spaces where people can organize and come together to create and fight for change in our nation. Wild Iris is one of those spaces.

We can order in any title - new or used - and if you pick up your order in-store - shipping is always free. You can also order online through our website, where store pick-up and orders over $25 come with free shipping as well. Check out wildirisbooks.com for more details.

And last but not least - if you plan to be a part of the Mayor's Book Club in January and you order your book through Wild Iris Books - you'll get 10 percent off the purchase price. Mayor Poe has selected "Stamped from the Beginning: The Definitive History of Racist Ideas in America" by Briram X. Kendi as the next selection for the Mayor's Book Club. The public is invited to read and participate in discussion about racial themes raised in the book. The only rule is that people enter the discussion with an open mind, and discuss the book with civility and positivity.

Ibram X. Kendi is an assistant professor of African-American history at the University of Florida who focuses on racist and antiracist movements and ideas.

"My definition of a racist idea is a simple one: it is any concept that regards one racial group as inferior or superior to another racial group in any way," writes Kendi.

The book gives a timeline of racist ideas, from as early as the 15th century in Europe to the present time and the discussions and events that are occurring on the streets of America.


Mayor’s Book Club to read about history of racist ideas

Gainesville Mayor Lauren Poe announced "Stamped from the Beginning: The Definitive History of Racist Ideas in America" by Briram X. Kendi as the next selection for the Mayor’s Book Club. The public is invited to read and participate in discussion about racial themes raised in the book.

Protest at Coleman Federal Prison: National Prison Strike to end toxic prison slavery

In Memory of Zot Lynn Szauger, presente, a passionate member of BWIV and ALCI, who was coming home to help lead prison protests. Alachua County Labor Coalition (CLC) members joined with Gainesville International Workers of the World (IWW) members on Sept. 10 to protest living and working conditions at the Coleman Federal Prison in Wildwood, Florida.

The IWW Union’s Incarcerated Workers Committee is a prisoner-led union that went on a hunger and work strike nationwide to protest “industrialized, slavery-based system of mass incarceration and toxic prison factory work conditions.”

Mass incarceration in the United States is a $500 billion enterprise that uses prison labor as the center of corporate profit. Approximately 20,000 prisoners in 30 prisons joined the protest. The 2.3 million human beings, most of them poor people of color, who are locked in cages across the country, provide billions in salaries and other revenues for depressed rural towns with large prisons.

They provide billions more in profits to phone card companies, money transfer companies, food service companies, merchandise vendors, construction companies, laundry services, uniform companies, prison equipment vendors and the manufacturers of pepper spray, body armor, and the many other medieval instruments used for the physical restraint of prisoners.

They also make billions for corporations — Whole Foods, Verizon, Starbucks, McDonald’s, Sprint, Victoria’s Secret, American Airlines, J.C. Penney, Sears, Wal-Mart, Kmart, Eddie Bauer, Wendy’s, Procter & Gamble, Johnson & Johnson, Fruit of the Looms, Motorola, Caterpillar and dozens of others — that collectively exploit 1 million prison laborers.

Humans living, sleeping, dying on the streets is NOT normal

by Jon DeCarmine
Operations Director for GRACE

Imagine showing up at the emergency room. You’re having a heart attack. You need immediate attention. There’s two other people in there, one with a broken leg and one with a cut on their finger. You’re told that, since they arrived before you, the doctors and nurses will treat them first, and you’ll have to wait until they are called.

Once you’re seen, the doctors recognize you from the last time you had a heart attack. They had told you to change your lifestyle to include more exercise and a better diet. Since you didn’t follow their advice, they tell you that they’re not going to treat you until you lose 10 pounds and stop smoking.

This sounds ridiculous, right? That’s no way to deal with people in crisis, is it?

The ideas behind that approach – first come, first served, and the idea that only people who follow a specific set of guidelines are eligible for help – have set the tone for homeless services for the past 40 years. There wasn’t a lot of research that showed that it worked, and at best, we had agencies – with some notable exceptions – providing quick-fix, feel-good solutions that ultimately managed, rather than ended, people’s homelessness.

In the past, shelters were funded if they operated under a “housing readiness” model aimed at “fixing” people’s problems – lack of income, substance abuse, mental illness – and after people tell us what they need, and – regardless of whatever else

The exhibition is made possible by the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Harn 25th Anniversary Fund, the Florida Division of Cultural Affairs, the University of Florida Office of Research, the Joan Early Publication Endowment, and the Joanne L. and Edward R. Block Charitable Trust, with additional support from the Harn Curator of Photography Endowment.

For more information, see www.harn.ufl.edu/aftermath.

Aftermath: The Fallout of War – America and the Middle East
A Harn Museum of Art exhibit through December 31

This sounds ridiculous, right? That’s no way to deal with people in crisis, is it?

The exhibition includes ninety photographs, two videos and an educational graphic, two videos and an educational graphic, together the work of twelve international photographers and artists offering a closer look at armed conflict through environmental dangers, and veterans and voices, of people and environments caught in war’s wake, from Iraq, Afghanistan, Syria, Lebanon, Libya, Palestine, Israel and America.

Together the images in Aftermath urge a reflection on loss, offer a comparison of the past in relation to the present, and encourage visitors to ask what the future may hold.


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In the past, shelters were funded if they operated under a “housing readiness” model aimed at “fixing” people’s problems – lack of income, substance abuse, mental illness – and after they had pieced their lives back together, we got them into housing. The new model turns all of that upside down. It’s so much easier to help someone deal with their problems when they have going on in their lives – they should be able to get the help they need, when they need it, and in a way that solves their immediate housing crisis. We hope you’ll join us – check us out at gracemarketplace.org for more information.

Prairie Creek Conservation Cemetery
A totally natural (green) cemetery for humans and pets...accepting both remains and cremated remains...on 70 acres of conservation land that protects plants, wildlife, and clear air and water.

www.conservationburialinc.org
Tours available: 352-317-7307

FREE Shipping on Orders Picked Up in Store & Online
Orders Over $25 New & Used
Florida’s Only Feminist Bookstore!
wildirisbooks.com - 375-7477
Tom Hayden (1939-2016) on Vietnam War: We must challenge the Pentagon on the battlefield of memory

Below is the transcript from the Oct. 25 episode of Democracy Now! remembering legendary antiwar activist Tom Hayden. See more at www.democracynow.org.

AMY GOODMAN: Legendary antiwar activist Tom Hayden died Sunday in Santa Monica, California, after a lengthy illness. He was 76 years old. Tom Hayden spent decades shaping movements against war and for social justice. In the early '60s, he was the principal author of the Port Huron Statement, the founding document of Students for a Democratic Society. The statement advocated participatory democracy and helped launch the student movement of the '60s. Tom Hayden was also a Freedom Rider in the Deep South and helped create a national poor people's campaign for jobs and empowerment. He also organized in Newark, New Jersey; among his books, Rebellion in Newark: Official Violence and Ghetto Response.

In 1968, Tom Hayden became one of the so-called Chicago 8, a group of protesting university students who were convicted for their role in the August 1968 demonstration in Chicago. It was a pivotal crossing of state lines to start a riot after he helped organize protests against the Vietnam War outside the Democratic National Convention. In 1982, Hayden entered electoral politics, first winning a seat in the California State Assembly, later in the California Senate.

We turn now to a speech Tom Hayden gave last year at a conference in Washington, D.C., titled "Vietnam: The Lost War." The speech was part of "Counting the Cost: America's War on Vietnam," a five-week series commemorating the 50th anniversary of the first protest against the war.

TOM HAYDEN: I want to start off by saying how many of you love very much and know for such a long time, and I only hope that there's enough time and occasions here for us to get to know each other again, because we have really been through a lifetime. Today, we'll have plenty of time for discussion, for panels, for observations. And at 4:00, we'll gather to march down 14th Street.

By that time, I want to just say a word about that. I know that Ron Delfini is going to speak to this. But why was that—why was that chosen? It's not because it's Ron Delfini's 50th anniversary of the first protest against the war. It's been 50 years since Selma, 50 years since the first SDS march. So, it was a time that changed our lives, nearing the end of Reconstruction. It was a time when the murder of Dr. King and Bobby Kennedy. Then came the budget cuts, the end of the war on poverty. Then came the Watergate repression.

And we became a generation of might-have-beens. Like Sisyphus, our rock lay at the bottom of the hill.

We gather here to remember the power of the people, the power of one point, the power of the peace movement, and to challenge the Pentagon now on the battlefield of memory. We have to resist their military occupation of our minds and the minds of future generations.

Memory—memory is very much rock climbing, the recovery of memory. Each niche towards the summit is grappled with by bleeding inch and has to be carefully carved with tools that are precise in order to take the next step. Falling back is always possible.

But as Dr. King himself said on his last night, there is someone in humans that makes us aspire to climb mountains, to reach that majesty, if only for a moment. We are mountain climbers.

President Obama has reminded us to remember, he said, Selma, Seneca Falls and Stonewall. But not Saigon, not Chicago, not Vietnam. We have to ask ourselves collectively why that omission exists, and realize that only we can restore a place in the proper history of those times. We suspect that there is a reason, that it has to do with the programming from before the Vietnam War, when America's national security forces in our country for whom stand for denial, not just climate denial, but genetic denial, Vietnam denial.

There are forces that stand for ethnic cleansing, but not just ethnic cleansing, but an ideology of the overwhelming force that is what has happened. It serves their purpose because they have no interest in recognizing a legacy in which they sent thousands to their deaths and, almost before the blood had dried, were moving up the national security ladder and showing up for television interviews to advertise what they called the next catastrophe.

There was a generation of career politicians who were afraid of association with the peace movement, who were afraid of coming from left as seen, so that what was inside the track was the track of war.

Our national forgetting is basically pathological. Our systems—politics, media, culture—are totally out of balance today because of our collective refusal to admit that the Vietnam War was wrong and a legacy? We can't.

In the absence—in the absence of an established voice for peace in all the institutions, the conservatives will fill the floor. It is told each year and in all of our schools and curriculum. So that's the purpose.

This is a way of saying that the struggle for memory and for history is living. It's not Lonesome. It does not end. Even today, people are debating and reawakening the history of abolition of slavery, the role of slave resistance, the role of the Underground Railroad, the role of the abolitionists, the role of the abolitionist direct action movement, the role of the radical Republican politicians, the role of international politics in what came about, that the ability to participate—how it was the assassination of President Lincoln, the ending of the possibilities of Reconstruction, which were not taken up again until 1960, and the coming of Jim Crow.

Each generation has to wrestle with the history of what came before, and ask: Whose interest does that history serve? How does it advance a legacy of social movements? How does it deny that history?

But we do know that we are here for the very first time as such a broad gathering of the movement against the Vietnam War. It's been 50 years since Selma, 50 years since the first SDS march. So, it was a time that changed our lives, nearing the end of Reconstruction. It was a time when the murder of Dr. King and Bobby Kennedy. Then came the budget cuts, the end of the war on poverty. Then came the Watergate repression. And we became a generation of might-have-beens. Like Sisyphus, our rock lay at the bottom of the hill.

We must challenge the Pentagon on the battlefield of memory. If we don't, their military occupation of our minds and the minds of future generations will advance their legacy.
This energy is aimed at both fueling the further sprawl across Florida and exporting fossil fuels to markets abroad.

There is a bounty of reasons to oppose this project, from the regional threats our waterways and wild lands to the global impacts of climate change. For a few examples, the project is slated to impact 4,370 acres of forests, 1,958 wetland systems and 699 water bodies; it will emit greenhouse gas and toxic pollutants through its compressor stations, not to mention the impacts from power plants that will burn the fuel for electricity and the Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) terminals that will process and store the fuel.

Add to that the utter disregard for low-income/minority "environmental justice communities" — the Environmental Impacts Statement (EIS) acknowledged that 83.7 percent of the Project would cross or be within one mile of environmental justice populations, including 135 environmental justice communities. That is to say nothing of ongoing eminent domain proceedings and the potential impacts of leaks and combustion.

The time for contemplating and speculating on these impacts has passed. It's time to ask ourselves: what am I willing to do to stop this pipeline?

The damage has already begun, and in response to a series of environmental lawsuits seeking to halt the project, the companies only seem to be working faster. Crews have been reported on site late at night and on Sundays in many of the active construction spots along the route.

There's no doubt that people are angry all across Florida. When public hearings happened for the EIS in 2013, hundreds of landowners and environmentalists turned out to speak against it, almost all the way across the route, with Suwannee and North-Central Florida being among the most outraged.

Unfortunately, Spectra didn't have to go back and notify these people that the route, with counties in North/Central Florida being among the most outraged.

Nonetheless, resistance is brewing. Last month, under the leadership of American Indian Movement activists who had been at Standing Rock, the Sacred Water Camp (SWC) kicked off outside Live Oak.

They began monitoring and disrupting construction activities along the Suwanee River. Soon after the swc, news surfaced from local residents along the Santa Fe River that HDD work was set to start. In response, Earth First! activists from the Gainesville area called for an action camp Nov. 4 thru 7.

The Facebook event for the camp spread like wildfire, with almost 5,000 people getting invited over the two weeks of planning. Only a fraction of them showed up, indicating that we need to make the leap from social media to social movement on this issue.

Don't get me wrong, we showed that 40 water warriors can accomplish a hell of a lot over a weekend. For example, we blocked trucks on multiple occasions over the 3 days, slowing work down for three straight hours on one occasion; we followed water trucks supplying the drill site and exposed a scandal of water being pulled out at the cement factory to the numerous attempts at water bottling plants. This time, the fight also has a global context, just as Standing Rock is standing up to Enbridge on the Missouri River over local land rights, they are also speaking out about water pollution and climate change that impact millions of people and countless other species. The solidarity is very real here.

The weekend we spent tracking and blocking trucks needed for the drilling operation showed us that the construction is very vulnerable. They need to supply the drill with hundreds of thousands of gallons of water throughout the work day. They also need to constantly haul the contaminated spoils of drilling off-site.

Delays in these moments can cause major setbacks, slowing their schedule and costing them money. But it can only happen if we are out there, taking risks to fight for what you love.

If you can arrange your personal schedule to include a weekend, or to spend a night in jail, we can bring drilling to a halt. In doing so, we can overwhelm the Gilchrist County jails and court systems by demanding jury trials and defending our rights to stand up for our threatened water supply.

In a moment where the national political climate presents an overwhelming feeling of defeat, actions like this can provide a way to "push back", to engage the system on our own terms. And they can help issues like this make their way into the national spotlight, and attract the level of attention and pressure needed to defeat them entirely.

Not everyone who shows up needs to risk arrest, but it increases the effectiveness of those who do take a risk, everyone needs to show up to call the actions in the coming weeks.

If you are a student, find a way to make this part of your studies.

If you have a conflict with work, take a sick day.

If you have children, bring them out to see the importance of standing up for the future.

And if you care for elderly family members, bring them out to see that the world is changing in their lifetimes.

Panagioti is a long-time organizer with the Earth First! movement, and a former editor of the Earth First! Journal. He is currently based on a small farm in Alachua County. Eternal Springs Earth First! is an ad hoc group organized to resist the Sabal Trail in North/Central Florida.
For sixteen years, EJI (Equal Justice Initiative) begged the state to reexamine the case of Anthony Ray Hinton. It was, in my opinion, two factors. The fact that the prosecutors were racist and the fact of politics. When I was arrested, this prosecutor was running for reelection. And what better way to get reelected when you can say, Oh my God, the most dangerous criminal and we actually ever walked the streets of Birmingham on death row.

Finally, Mr. Stevenson filed to the [U.S.] Supreme Court, they agreed that I was entitled to a new trial. That my lawyer was ineffective. It is how that I got out. How the state couldn’t deny the gun. That’s how they couldn’t deny the gun. They couldn’t get a match thirty years ago. Those bullet cases did not change. We asked the state expert, come check this gun, we want to make that match. But the state was not willing.

AH: Your being taken away from your community, what effect did it have on your family?
AH: For thirty years, I didn’t see my family. I am the baby of ten. Five boys and five girls. I grew up thinking that it was a close-knit family. They supported me during the trial. But once I was convicted, I didn’t see any of my family.

As years went by, I think they just gave up. So I stopped calling them and focused on my situation that I was going through. My mother had lost a son. When she passed [in 2002], it was like my whole world stopped. I’m told to this day that my mom passed from a broken heart. When I got the news, I now have reason to live. But I knew she wouldn’t want me to give up. That’s where my faith kicked in. I prayed. I prayed to God to save my life. I read Mark 11:24: whatever you desire when you pray, believe in them, and you shall have them. I didn’t ask God for one thing. I let the truth come out. I never believed God would let me die for something I didn’t do. I came through, I guess, on my own time, but when I see him, I am going to get on him for letting me stay up there. So I don’t see my conviction, conviction, conviction.

DG: What was like when you discovered that the Equal Justice Initiative was going to represent you?
AH: It was like a breath of fresh air. I wrote Mr. Stevenson a letter from death row. When he agreed to take my case, and we agreed to hire ballistic experts, I begged him not to hire anyone from New York, California, Detroit, Chicago, nothing. I know how racist people in the north are.

As months went by, I heard that they had thrown me away. I am just thankful for what he did for me. Because society doesn’t care, they didn’t see. But I already know the answer. When I tell you I value life, I value it because I see people. I see people on death row. I see people in the street. I don’t want to keep them. I don’t want to keep them in prison. I don’t want to see them in any way. I see that people have enough love to save people. I see that people have enough love to save people.

AH: One of the most happy moments, I was able to give a thank you dinner to all the workers here in EJI. I have more to smile for than perhaps all you all, and hopefully, none of you have been in jail.

When I tell you I value life, I value it now more than ever, because I witnessed first hand what it’s like. I had enough love. I had enough empathy [experience] of smelling their flesh still burning the next morning. I witnessed twelve men hang themselves, because they couldn’t take the pressure. I witnessed ten men slashing their own wrists. I seen have died all around me. So to be able to come out with a decent mind, a good attitude, and a zest for life itself, I think I am ahead of the game already.

JH: What have been some of the happy moments that you’ve had being here?
AH: One of the most happy moments, I was able to give a thank you dinner to all the workers here in EJI. I have more to smile for than perhaps all you all, and hopefully, none of you have been in jail.

When I tell you I value life, I value it now more than ever, because I witnessed first hand what it’s like. I had enough love. I had enough empathy [experience] of smelling their flesh still burning the next morning. I witnessed twelve men hang themselves, because they couldn’t take the pressure. I witnessed ten men slashing their own wrists. I seen have died all around me. So to be able to come out with a decent mind, a good attitude, and a zest for life itself, I think I am ahead of the game already.

JH: Is there a story you tell about how you would make jokes with the prison guards?
AH: I asked the guard one day, you guys living here, how do you come show us how you got that match?

When you lose, in the sense that I lost, and you should have never been there, even to this day, I cry. I cry. I have been in the worst of it. [Anthony Hinton cries]

They didn’t just put me in prison. They put my mother in prison. I had a mother that loved me unconditionally. And I felt that I let her down. I was not responsible for being on death row. But in her old age, I should have been the one that carried her a glass of water. I should have been there by her side like she was for me all the years.

President Obama has imprisoned for more than four decades after an unfair legal process and the death row for thirty years, two years without reparation. He will never know how much I love him for what he did for me. Because society had written me off. I am alive. So I have that somebody thought enough to take my case. It took us a while, but we won.

JH: You are still here, and we are out here today. What do you think is going to be the most important thing to do?
AH: We are going to be brothers and sister until we die, we just hug and go on with it. I forgive those friends of mine that didn’t come. Since I have been out, everybody come up to me got an excuse. For thirty years, I fought alone. I slept in the fetas position for thirty years. I could never stretch my legs out, because the bed was not long enough. I walked sometime one month. Sometime not at all, because they didn’t have the guards there. My mom didn’t raise me to be a quitter. And I was blessed to come across an attorney like that [points to EJI attorney]. He will never know how much I love him for what he did for me. Because society had written me off. I am alive. So I have that somebody thought enough to take my case. It took us a while, but we won.

JH: Is there a story you tell about how you would make jokes with the prison guards?
AH: I asked the guard one day, you guys living here, how do you come show us how you got that match?
Gainesville, Florida

www.GainesvilleIguana.org

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Homansists on Campus UF organization provides a community safe space for humanists, agnostics, and atheists. Their goals include promoting values of humanism, democracy, and critical thinking, advocating tolerance of all who participate in community service and bring a fun, dynamic group to the university. Preferred core values: humane, humanist, altruistic, agnostic, nontheist, nontheistic, progressive, and humanist. Email: people@ufom.org

Ocupa Gainesville is about engaging local people in grassroots, participatory democracy, diversity and dialogue; we stand in solidarity with the Occupy Wall Street Movement and the rest of the people of the world! To make public space a fundamental part of our lives and the way the world. For more info on Ocupa Gainesville check why the world.

Our San Fe River and Ichetucknee Alliance are two of a number of grassroots environmentalist groups formed to protect our waters and springs. See: http://www.sanfe grassroots movement.

Industrial Workers of the World (IWW) Gainesville General Membership Branch Union can get you and your co-workers involved in work or employment strikes. Meets 1st Sunday of the month at 7 p.m. at OMC. Contact: givellacowat@live.com

Kindred Sisters Lesbian/feminist magazine. PO Box 14017, Gainesville, 32604. Contact: info@kindred/sisters@gmail.com

League of Women Voters of Alachua County Non-partisan organization that works to identify problems requiring a collective solution. Founded in 1928, the League of Women Voters of Alachua County, PO Box 14017, Gainesville, 32604, 347-560-4695, www.lwvuf.org, info@lwvuf.org, email: lwvuf@yahoo.com. See national office: www.lwv.org.

Gainesville Interfaith Alliance for Immigrant Justice (IAIJ) organizes faith communities to work towards systemic change. Meets 2nd Mondays at 5 p.m. at the Memorial Meeting House, 1236 NW 1st Ave. Contact: info@iaijgainesville.org

Gainesville Jews celebrate the second Wednesday each month at 7 p.m. at the Meetinghouse, 1236 NW 1st Ave. Contact: info@iaijgainesville.org

Gainesville Over 50 is a monthly meeting, with potluck by volunteers to join its advocates who protect elders’ rights in nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and in their own homes. Volunteers are needed to contact information. 352-378-1690, www.conserveflorida.org

Gainesville NOW is the local chapter of the National Organization for Women. Meets 1st Monday of the month at 5:30 p.m. at The Meeting House, 1236 NW 1st Ave. Contact: info@gainesvillenow.org

Gainesville Zen Center & Hostel: A Zen Buddhist temple and guesthouse for meditation and personal growth. Located at 404 SE 2nd St. 352-336-3613, wrobyron.com


Gainesville Fine Food Not Bombs Local chapter of Code Pink: Women for Peace. Meets the 2nd Saturday of the month at 11 am at The Meetinghouse, 1236 NW 1st Ave. Contact: givellacowat@live.com

Gainesville Women’s Coalition: A non-profit organization that provides low-cost, high-quality family planning services to people with and without health insurance. The Coalition also provides health education and services in Bradford and Union Counties. The Clinic fulfills its mission with the help of a broad-based core of volunteers, dedicated community health professionals, pharmacists and counselors. Located at 2330 N. University Rd 235 Brooker, Florida 32622 352-485-1133

Democratic Party of Alachua County Meetings held the second Wednesday each month at 7 p.m. in the auditorium of the Gainesville Police Headquarters on NW 6th St & 8th Ave. Office is 352-224-8888. 205 NW 6th St., Suite A1, Gainesville, 32603 352-373-1730, alachua.democrats@gmail.com

Gainesville Dream Defenders The Gainesville Dream Defenders has been leading national organizers to a new found generation of young leaders who strategically confront institutions that perpetuate oppression through building collective power, by changing the consciousness of people who operate with the genuine desire for “justice and equality for all.” We are building the world we wish to live in. 352-224-1670, www.gddfl.org

Edible Plant Project Local 100% volunteer-run project to cultivate a free community kitchen garden in Gainesville, www.sustain.org/p18866

Gainesville Socialists is a weekly reading and discussion group. Meetings are open to all who want to read and discuss socialist books, literature, and discuss socialism, or are curious. Meetings are usually held on the second Saturday at 5 p.m. at givellacowat@live.com

Gainesville Center for Peacebuilding Gainesville Center for Peacebuilding works to build the nonviolence capacity of local and national organizations and communities. www.gannet.org

Hartford of Hope Foundation A mobile soup kitchen going to homeless shelters; delivers about 400 meals per week; operated by Harvest of Hope Foundation, harvestofhope.net, email: kellerhope@cox.net

Gainesville Area AIDS Project provides services to homeless, householders, and those living in HCV/AIDS care programs or interested in public health and provide quality environmentalism at its events since 1986. 352-338-0766, www.mdwilschool.org

Gainesville Fine Food Not Bombs Local chapter of Code Pink: Women for Peace. Meets the 2nd Saturday of the month at 11 am at The Meetinghouse, 1236 NW 1st Ave. Contact: givellacowat@live.com


Gainesville Jewish Women’s Circle Gainesville Jewish Women’s Circle is a local chapter of the Jewish Women’s Circle of the Americas, a worldwide organization with 6,000 members in 27 countries. Gainesville Jewish Women’s Circle represents Jewish women who are interested in learning more about Judaism and its values, in pursuing a spiritual path, and in participating in a way that is meaningful for them. Gainesville Jewish Women’s Circle’s mission is to enhance the lives of all women by building a network of committed and caring Jewish women who are committed to the values of Judaism and the American Jewish community. Gainesville Jewish Women’s Circle holds monthly meetings, usually the first Monday of the month (except holidays) from 5:30-7:30 Millpond Branch Library, Alachua County Public Library. All meetings open to the public. For information or to join, call Rona 352-377-0980, ronathompson425@gmail.com
Politics is the Solution by Megan Erickson, Katherine Hill, Matt Karp, Connor Kilpatrick, & Bhaskar Sunkara, Jacobin Magazine
We can’t move to Canada or hide under the bed. This is a moment to embrace democratic politics, not repudiate them.

Still Here, Still Alive

Campus Workers Unmask Scheme to Privatize All Tennessee Property by Melanie Barron, Jeffrey Lichtenstein, Alternet
Governor Bill Haslam concocted the biggest privatization scheme you’ve never heard of.
http://www.alternet.org/labor/privitazing-all-tennessee-property

Here is how we will boycott injustice and police brutality in America by Shaun King, New York Daily News, Sept. 30
A 9-step basic framework on how the Injustice Boycott will work.
http://www.nydailynews.com

Maine Just Voted for a Better Way to Vote by Henry Grabar, Slate
And if we’d had it nationwide, it might have won Hillary Clinton the presidency.

Trump’s victory over Clinton was sealed 40 years ago by Jordan Chariton, The Young Turks
A “cowardly and corrupt” Democratic Party is to blame.
http://www.cnbc.com/2016/11/10/trumps-victory-over-clinton-was-sealed-40-years-ago-commentary.html

Listen, liberal white guy by Anna Peterson, Huffington Post
No, it wasn’t liberals who elected Trump. And no, it’s not always the woman’s fault.
http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/5824f63ee4b057e23e313f4a?timestamp=1478817410215