

The Gainesville Iguana

*A progressive newsletter
and events calendar*

**November/December, 2018
Vol. 32, Issue 11/12**

North central FL results not good

By James Thompson

On Nov. 6, Florida, and specifically North Central Florida, lost some big elections to some very dangerous people. Statewide results are not finalized at this time.

Dr. Kayser Enneking’s courageous and costly run to oust corporate servant Keith Perry in Florida Senate District 8 (Alachua, Putnam, and North Marion counties) hurts the most. We needed this seat to begin undoing the ghastly gerrymandering Republicans enacted after the 2010 Florida census. This was the most expensive regional campaign, and strategists took notice.

Dark money PACs bashed the Florida Democratic Party’s blue-washed corporate funding of Dr. Enneking’s efforts through its Florida Democratic Leadership Campaign Committee (Perry takes his more expansive portfolio of corporate cash directly to his campaign coffers). Perry’s campaign iced the cake with a fierce barrage of deceptive flyers and media advertising against Enneking in the general election.

Other than Keith Perry’s demonically stellar name recognition and his unlikely reputation for “helping people” (almost every working class supporter I talk to mentions this), the dark money ads may have hurt the most. Aside from Dr. Enneking’s unassailable character,

reliable if moderate progressive messaging, and golden reputation as a physician, the party machine that ran her campaign is in fact funded by corporations that poison our people, our government, and our water: Big Tobacco, Big Sugar, liquor distributors, and health insurance companies, to name a few.

This matter of public record – one main focus of the dark money mailers – made it difficult to attack Keith Perry where he is most vulnerable across party lines, his absolute devotion to the money interests, which govern his every action.

Another tough hit was the close loss by military veteran and out-of-the-gate progressively platformed Jason Haeseler, to that other corporate servant in our regional legislative delegation, Chuck

Clemons (Florida House D21, Gilchrist, Dixie, and West Alachua counties).

Mr. Haeseler’s campaign got outspent almost five to one, but stuck with tireless fieldwork, progressive messaging, and open attacks on Clemons’s right wing policies and voting record. The lack of negative state party maneuvering in this race made it easy for Mr. Haeseler to ask for support from his strong primary opponent, the fierce organizer Amol Jethwani. An aside, Mr. Jethwani is much to thank for the injunction that kept our new university polling locations open across the state for Nov. 6.

Both Dr. Enneking’s and Mr. Haeseler’s races were very close, and the distribution of County votes typical. Each won huge

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Update from the Alachua County Labor Coalition

by Jesse Cosme, ACLC member

With almost 14,000 properties in Gainesville on the rental market in the last year, there is a serious need for action to protect the interests of renters.

In the last months the renters' rights campaign for the Alachua County Labor Coalition has been picking up steam to do just that. The campaign proposes a universal landlord licensing program that focuses on energy efficiency, safety compliance, mediation processes, disclosures, and a few anti-discrimination ordinances

that have gained ground elsewhere in the country and state and have been shown to improve the livelihoods of the renters in those communities.

The city and county have both made significant efforts to explore methods to expand affordable housing, and while our proposal is not a solution to all of the issues associated with affordable housing, it will ensure that tenants can rent safe homes with full knowledge of their rights and the utility expenses of home.

We see that as an essential element to any

complete affordable housing plan.

On November 8 our proposed process to implement universal landlord licensing was presented at the Gainesville City Commission during a packed meeting.

We thank our members and supporters who came. The outcome of that meeting being the City Commission's creation of a special committee to construct a pathway towards making this a reality.

We need your help to continue to push this issue forward and smoothly through committee.

We need renters' voices to be heard in these meetings to make sure their needs are being heard as loudly as they truly are.

If you are interested in participating in this campaign in any way, even sharing your stories of why these things are needed please contact the labor coalition office at info@laborcoalition.org or 352-375-2832. ☘

Two labor related holiday parties

The Labor Movement, the people who brought us the weekend and a host of other things, deserve love and recognition. Friends of labor should help them celebrate the holidays.

The first event is the annual **Central Labor Council Holiday Party** spaghetti dinner on Monday evening Dec. 10.

This year it will be at the Senior Center on NW 34th St. just south of 441 and across from the Walmart SuperCenter. It begins at 6:30, with a donation requested of canned foods for charity, and will host and honor union activists and members from Transit Workers and Electricians, grad students and UF faculty, and supporters from the north Central Florida area active unions.

The second event is the **Alachua County Labor Coalition Holiday Party** on Tuesday, Dec. 18.

It starts at 6 pm and will be held at Forage Hall in Working Food, 219 NW 10th Ave. All are welcome. Bring a potluck dish if you can. ACLC works on Living Wage, Renter's Rights, and Medicare for All, and helps out with other struggles going on in the community. There is a lively youthful feel to the ACLC as a new generation of labor activists have come on board. ☘



Editors' picks: News that didn't fit

☘ **Trump's NLRB just quietly ruled to make union pickets illegal** by Moshe Z. Marvit/Working In These Times
This ruling by Trump's labor board could mean far-reaching restrictions on one of labor's most potent weapons.
http://inthesetimes.com/working/entry/21530/trump_nlr_union_pickets_illegal_labor_joint_employer

☘ **Switzerland's experiment with addiction treatment** by Cédric Gouverneur/The Nation
Prescribed heroin cuts crime and saves lives.
<https://www.thenation.com/article/switzerland-addiction-prescribed-heroin/>

☘ **These 14 Democrats are at core of what Bernie Sanders calls the 'Most progressive freshman class' in modern US history** by Jake Johnson/Common Dreams
"The political establishment notwithstanding, the future belongs to progressives," said Sanders.
<https://www.alternet.org/these-14-democrats-are-core-what-bernie-sanders-calls-most-progressive-freshman-class-modern-us> ☘

From the publisher ...

Suppressing Democracy

As I write this, four days after Election Day, things are quite uncertain in the key Florida races. It will be almost a week from when I finish writing this to when you can read this. It is an odd feeling. This is a huge election for the direction of the State, and as well the balance in the Senate and the empowerment of the truly vile Rick Scott to a six-year term in DC. I leave any comment on the election outcome to the future...

What we DO know is that this election has shown us the many manifestations of voter suppression across the country, and the desperation of the right wing to cling to power in the face of oncoming demographic shifts in the country. Those in power from the Founding Fathers forward have always been wary of a true one person, one vote system. The rabble must be kept in check. I don't need to run down the history of the 20th century regarding gender, race, property, and nationality being kept from voting. Heck even voting on a Tuesday, a work day for most, is a form of voter suppression. But now all kinds of other means are in use. Some are totally blatant and outrageous, limiting the opportunities to vote through minimized or moved polling places, and an obvious intentional selective shortage of voting machines resulting in long lines. This is amplified by electronic voting machines, which, in addition to being vulnerable to hacking, slow the process of actually voting as opposed to the paper ballot optical scan machines where your time at the machine is minimal.



Joe Courter

In 2010 the Republicans pushed to gain control of state governments and thus the keys to redraw districts. This gerrymandering suppressed liberal voices, which resulted in state after state, though voting Democratic statewide, ending up with overwhelmingly Republican legislatures. This is not a new practice, but through technology it is done with cold-blooded precision. This is a HUGE reason the Gillum-DeSantis race mattered so much; 2020 and another census is right around the corner.

Yes, it is a very good thing we have early voting; from the looks of things the system could not handle it if everyone had but one 12-hour period to physically vote. It is overwhelmed in many places with just a 50 percent turnout. But then we also have the ability to vote by mail. Both are good tools for Get Out the Vote efforts, but vote by mail is quite labor-intensive for elections offices and, as we are now seeing before our eyes, prone to being uncounted by understaffed or incompetent offices.

Purging voter rolls, precise signature matching, and strict ID laws all are aspects of direct voter suppression. Less obvious, the fluffing out the ballot with a bunch of confusingly worded amendments as was done in Florida made people feel uncertain and hesitant, and slowed the time to fill out the ballot. Another subtle form of voter suppression is Dark Money, the flood of anonymous money unleashed by Citizens United. This plays a role in elections too; while not directly suppressing the vote, it influences the electorate with false attack ads. We saw it twice in the same race here in North Florida when hidden backers of Keith Perry first tried to hurt the Kayser Enneking campaign with negative multi-card mailings "promoting" her grassroots challenger Olysha MaGruder (who I am sure they'd have rather faced), and then funding the soullessly opportunistic Charles Goston as a No Party Affiliate, who was used as a tool to siphon away black voters. (A well spent \$120,000+, his 4 percent matched Perry's margin of victory.) Negative campaigning itself suppresses turnout; people get disgusted with the mudslinging.

All these impediments to voting were in effect in 2018 and look what we did. Yes many of us were heartbroken at the seeming Republican sweep of Florida (you in the future know the real outcome), but the next day showed us that nationally things went pretty good. The House has flipped Blue, a huge alteration in the DC power balance with Democrats now in committee chairs. Many, many more women were elected to the House as well. Democrats gained 7 governorships (maybe 8?), 8 scientists were elected, and LGBT and ethnic minorities made great gains. State houses around the country went Blue, too.

Not the least of it here in Florida was the tremendous organizing it took to re-enfranchise

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A major climate change lawsuit is on hold. Again.



Xiuhtezcatl Martinez, youth director for Earth Guardians, leads a rally in Boulder, Colo.

By Umair Irfan

This article was originally published by Vox. See more at <https://www.vox.com/2018/11/2/18029146/climate-change-lawsuit-children-scotus-supreme-court-juliana>.

Update, November 8: The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals granted part of the Trump administration's motion for a temporary stay of the *Juliana v. US* lawsuit. Trial preparations are still going ahead, but the plaintiffs have 15 days to file a response. Read more about the background of the case and the stakes below.

In a surprise decision late Friday, the Supreme Court cleared the way for *Juliana v. US*, a major lawsuit filed by young people against the US government for failing to limit the effects of climate change. It's not yet clear if the case will go to trial, but attorneys on both sides will meet on Thursday with Oregon District Court Judge Ann Aiken to decide if and when the trial will begin.

The case includes 21 plaintiffs between the ages of 11 and 22, who began testing the idea that a safe climate is a civil right when the suit was first filed in 2015. It

argues that the US government pursued policies that harmed the climate, thereby robbing the children of a "climate system capable of sustaining human life." As redress, they want the government to take action to fight climate change.

"The youth of our nation won an important decision today from the Supreme Court that shows even the most powerful government in the world must follow the rules and process of litigation in our democracy," the plaintiffs said in a statement. "We have asked the District Court for an immediate status conference to get *Juliana v. US* back on track for trial in the next week."

A lower court ruled earlier this year the case could go to trial, and that trial was expected to begin at the United States District Court in Oregon on Monday, October 29.

But then late last month, Supreme Court Chief Justice John Roberts issued a temporary stay of the case to consider a request from the Justice Department for a stay to halt the case. The Supreme Court's temporary stay sent the plaintiffs scrambling to put together a brief in time to keep the case moving forward on schedule.

On Friday, the court denied the government's request for a stay, though Justices Clarence Thomas and Neil Gorsuch would have granted the application, according to the court order. The Supreme Court also suggested that a federal appeals court should consider appeals on other grounds before the case heads to trial in district court.

The Justice Department this week filed even more motions to stop the trial and have the case dismissed. "The federal government, by engaging in filing all these motions and petitions, is very, very scared of the evidence we're going to put on at the trial," Philip Gregory, co-lead counsel for the plaintiffs, told *Vox*.

Several legal analysts told *Vox* that the Supreme Court's temporary stay of a case in a lower court was unusual, but the action signaled that the high court is very interested in the issues at play and that the justices expect the case could have significant ripple effects.

"It reflects the unfortunate politicization of climate change," said Michael Burger, executive director of the Sabin Center for Climate Change Law at Columbia University. "[It's] such a hotly political

issue that Justice Roberts feels empowered to reach down and interfere with the normal proceedings of the courts because of that."

Now the federal government is arguing that there is no constitutional right to an environment free of climate change and that the children don't have standing to make such a claim. But both sides agree that the case is not a question of the science.

"This is not an environmental case, it's a civil rights case," wrote Our Children's Trust, the nonprofit that is backing the lawsuit, in a press release.

The US government, the defendant, has argued that the case has no basis in the law.

"In our view, the Oregon lawsuit is an unconstitutional attempt to use a single court to control the entire nation's energy and climate policy," said Acting Assistant Attorney General Jeffrey Wood, who is helping represent the US government in the suit, at a law conference in October. "It is a matter of separation of powers and preserving the opportunity in our system of government for those policies to be decided by the elected branches, not the courts."

But in its filings, the government cited the harms from costs of litigation as the reason it was seeking a stay, essentially arguing that it is a waste of time and money to litigate a claim that would likely be dismissed.

The plaintiffs responded in their brief last week that the cost and length of legal proceedings "are not a legitimate basis to stop a trial on the constitutional rights of children."

For climate change activists, the courtroom is one of the few remaining options for enacting policies to limit greenhouse gases, as the White House scarcely acknowledges climate change and Congress remains deadlocked. ☘

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Transgender Day of Remembrance will be held on Tuesday evening, Nov. 20, at the Bo Diddley Plaza in downtown Gainesville. Also known as TDOR, this event was started on Nov. 20, 1999, as a vigil to honor the memory of Rita Hester, a transgender woman of color who was killed in November of 1998.

The event serves to raise public awareness of hate crimes against transgender people, especially transgender women of color, and mourn and honor the lives of those who might otherwise be forgotten. This day also provides an opportunity for everyone to step forward and stand in vigil, memorializing those who have died by anti-transgender violence.

This event is present by Alachua Tranquility, Pride Community Center of North Central Florida, and UF LGBTQ+ Affairs.

See Facebook event for further details:
<https://www.facebook.com/events/946112322243292/> ☘



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Noam Chomsky: Members of migrant caravan fleeing from misery and horrors created by U.S.

Amy Goodman hosts *Democracy Now!*, a vital news hour of reporting and interviews that runs Monday through Friday. All shows are archived for video and audio replay. See more at www.democracynow.org. On Nov. 2, Amy interviewed Noam Chomsky. Here is an excerpt from that show.

AMY GOODMAN: As President Trump escalates his attacks and threats against the Central American migrant caravans making their way to the U.S.-Mexico border, the Trump administration unveiled new sanctions against Venezuela and Cuba Thursday. National security adviser John Bolton declared Venezuela, Cuba and Nicaragua to be part of a “troika of tyranny” and a “triangle of terror.” Bolton was speaking in Miami, Florida.

JOHN BOLTON: We will no longer appease dictators and despots near our shores. We will not reward firing squads, torturers and murderers. We will champion the independence and liberty of our neighbors. And this president and his entire administration will stand with the freedom fighters. The troika of tyranny in this hemisphere—Cuba, Venezuela and Nicaragua—has finally met its match.

AMY GOODMAN: As John Bolton spoke in Miami on Thursday, *Democracy Now!*'s Nermeen Shaikh and I spoke with the world-renowned professor, linguist and dissident Noam Chomsky. He joined us from Tucson, Arizona, where he now teaches at the University of Arizona. Noam Chomsky is also institute professor emeritus at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where he's taught for more than 50 years. His recent books include *Global Discontents: Conversations on the Rising Threats to Democracy, Who Rules the World?* and *Requiem for the American Dream: The 10 Principles of Concentration of Wealth & Power*.

I began by asking Professor Chomsky to respond to NSA, national security adviser, John Bolton's remarks on Latin America.

NOAM CHOMSKY: Well, that, of course, immediately brings to mind the “axis of evil” speech of George Bush back in 2002, which was the precursor, laying the groundwork, for the invasion of Iraq, the worst crime of this century, with horrendous consequences for Iraq, eliciting ethnic conflicts that are tearing the region apart—a major atrocity. John Bolton was

behind that. And his new troika—I doubt that the U.S. will dare to do something similar, but that's what it brings to mind.

It's kind of interesting to see this hysterical raving alongside of another astonishing propaganda campaign that Bolton and his colleagues are carrying out with regard to the caravan of poor and miserable people fleeing from severe oppression, violence, terror, extreme poverty from three countries: Honduras—mainly Honduras, secondarily Guatemala, thirdly El Salvador—not Nicaragua, incidentally—three countries that have been under harsh U.S. domination, way back, but particularly since the 1980s, when Reagan's terror wars devastated particularly El Salvador and Guatemala, secondarily Honduras. Nicaragua was attacked by Reagan, of course, but Nicaragua was the one country which had an army to defend the population. In the other countries, the army were the state terrorists, backed by the United States.

The most extreme source of migrants right now is Honduras. Why Honduras? Well, it was always bitterly oppressed. But in 2009, Honduras had a mildly reformist president, Mel Zelaya. The Honduran powerful, rich elite couldn't tolerate that. A military coup took place, expelled him from the country. It was harshly condemned all through the hemisphere, with one notable exception: the United States. The Obama administration refused to call it a military coup, because if they had, they would have been compelled by law to withdraw military funding from the military regime, which was imposing a regime of brutal terror. Honduras became the murder capital of the world. A fraudulent election took place under the military junta—again, harshly condemned all over the hemisphere, most of the world, but not by the United States. The Obama administration praised Honduras for carrying out an election, moving towards democracy and so on. Now people

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1.5 million citizens who had a felony conviction on their criminal record. It was a true grassroots people-to-people effort to get it on the ballot, and now it is all but a reality. So many people in our blue dot area got behind this campaign, and it is a huge win for democracy.

Let us hope this is a turning point, but don't think it won't be a fight. We need to work together, support each other's struggles, and see the common enemy of ignorance and blind allegiance to reactionary ideology. But for now, again from the recent past as I sit here now November 10, COUNT ALL THE VOTES. And then we organize and move forward. ☘

are fleeing from the misery and horrors for which we are responsible.

And you have this incredible charade taking place, which the world is looking at with utter astonishment: Poor, miserable people, families, mothers, children, fleeing from terror and repression, for which we are responsible, and in reaction, they're sending thousands of troops to the border. The troops being sent to the border outnumber the children who are fleeing. And with a remarkable PR campaign, they're frightening much of the country into believing that we're just on the verge of an invasion by, you know, Middle Eastern terrorists funded by George Soros, so on and so forth.

I mean, it's all kind of reminiscent of something that happened 30 years ago. You may recall, in 1985, Ronald Reagan strapped on his cowboy boots and called—got in front of television, called a national emergency, because the Nicaraguan army was two days' march from Harlingen, Texas, just about to overwhelm and destroy us. And it worked.

I mean, this spectacle is almost indescribable. Even apart from noticing where they're coming from, the countries that we have crucially been involved in destroying, it's—the ability to carry this off repeatedly is quite an amazing commentary on much of the popular culture.

But the troika, just like the “axis of evil,” are those who just don't obey U.S. orders. Colombia, for example, has the worst human rights record in the hemisphere for years, but they're not part of the troika of tyranny.

All of this rings very familiar bells. It's a long—it's been a long-standing element of the U.S. propaganda system on the—mostly on the far right, but not only, which goes way back and which is a kind of pathological feature of the dominant political culture that should be understood, analyzed and dismantled. ☘

Protest against anti-LGBTQ conference, Nov. 30-Dec. 1

by Melina Rayna



Ignite Life Center, a church at 404 NW 14th Ave., is on a large property that borders NW 6th St. Unfortunately, it is hosting a conference called Unbound on Friday, Nov. 30 and Saturday, Dec. 1 that has a strong anti-LGBTQ point of view. They have invited what they call “former members of the LGBTQ community” to speak. You know what that really means.

While the church is involved in many community activities such as acting as a polling station and an end of the line foster

care emergency drop off center, they heavily discourage the kids from any kind of non-cis-het activities.

A response is being planned. Friday night a “Community Embrace” will gather at the Rails to Trails Park at 128 NW 14th Ave. at 5 pm and take a short walk to the Ignite Church.

Then, on Saturday, marchers will gather at the Rail to Trail Park at 11 am and march up the Railtrail to NW 16th Ave., then left to NW 6th Street and down 6th Street to the Ignite Life Center. Once there and throughout the day, community groups and individuals will picket. Spanish-speaking allies are especially encouraged to participate, as Ignite Life Center is a mixed English/Spanish speaking congregation.

Community groups who would be able to commit 8-12 people for two-hour shifts, please email Melina@MelinaRayna.org. For other questions, please see the Facebook event at <https://www.facebook.com/events/293479768138373/> or call the Pride Community Center at 352-377-8915. Times are subject to change. ☘

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victories in Alachua County, while outlying county results were almost symmetrically flipped in Senate D8 and were outright catastrophic in House 21.

This has been a pattern for Democratic candidates in the past. Having spent as much time, money, party, and people power as we possibly could on multiple victorious progressive candidates and issue campaigns this cycle in Alachua County and Gainesville – Children Services Trust, 1/2 Cent School Facilities Tax, saving our public utility (GRU Referendum), Amendment 4 – the clear Wednesday morning quarterback solution is to distribute some of our valuable organizing and electioneering talent into neighboring counties as soon as possible.

We can't just wait for old white Dixiecrats to die, or try to flip racists in places where the Civil War never ended. We do have to seek out rural county citizens that share our values and know our struggle. The electoral dilemma is outside our bubble, not on our tiny "blue island."

The success of all our local referendums on public school funding (kids, parks, and conservation are frequently positive bipartisan referendum issues in our County), election reforms (no more stand alone Gainesville City elections), and our public utility governance (which stays with elected officials) are to be noted. They are joined by plainspoken public educator Marihelen Wheeler's trouncing of pro-development NPA Scott Costello and Libertarian Gregory Caudill. Her two opponents mustered only 35 percent of the vote.

Costello openly played the corporate land developers' card – as if zoning for McMansions on our wetlands is going to lift anyone out of poverty or hardship. But his resounding loss signals that

citizens across faction, party, and racial boundaries are ready to let a highly functioning County Commission continue its work with a leader who shares their values.

A once unlikely importance has become attached to environmentalist and citizen advocate Kaithleen Hernandez defeating Neo-Confederate Chris Rose for Soil and Water Conservation District 3. But all of us now realize that restoring our planet and crushing fascism is at the top of every checklist.

The School Board contest won by incumbent Chair Dr. Gunnar Paulson, a Democrat in this fictionally non-partisan race, is complicated enough to merit a separate article. I confess I do not have the courage to write it at this time, and many progressives feel the same way. The truth is, April Tisher might have won had she focused on her role as a majority vote on equity issues with sitting Board Member Dr. Leannetta McNeally and Member-Elect Tina Certain. Instead she displayed her Republican credentials to a fault.

Dr. Paulson and the Board majority were not too long ago a beam of reforming light to an outgoing conservative Board. They must now decide on their legacy as our community demands more rapid and radical redress on change on equity issues.

At the end of the day, it's a mixed bag for North Central Florida. But statewide we saw absolute catastrophe as half of our neighbors elected an openly fascist governor. And yet, our former slave state won a big second chance. That second chance is 1.5 million people strong – the number of formerly incarcerated Floridians, most of them working poor and people of color, who now have the right to vote because we passed Amendment 4. Sixty-four percent of voters approved it. One hundred percent of the people affected will tell you what it's like to lose everything and keep on struggling.

To that end let us share the wisdom of journalist Roland Martin, the 2018 Alachua County NAACP Freedom Fund Banquet keynote speaker. On Nov. 4, to a packed gymnasium at Mt. Carmel Baptist Church in Gainesville, he urged us to "Fight until Hell freezes over, then do battle on the ice." Those are not words of compromise or surrender. They are fighting words. We need to shout them over and over and over again until we get this right.

Blue island electioneering and big money campaigns clearly are not solutions. We need the movement organizing that drives the readership of this journal to continue to do its two-pronged work of being issue-focused and election savvy.

Hell has frozen over. Now we battle on the ice.

James Thompson is the Vice Chair of the Alachua County Democratic Party and wishes to be explicit that his opinions and analysis are his own. They do not in any way represent official Party positions.

[The media can be] the greatest force for peace on the earth [for] it is how we come to understand each other.

-Amy Goodman

Emily Browne, activist, NOW president, RIP

Obituary from the Gainesville Sun

In addition to Emily Browne, the past couple weeks saw the passing of two other crusaders for justice in our town, environmentalist Dwight Adams and Civil Rights activist Mildred Hill-Lubin. We acknowledge their contribution to our community and offer condolences to their friends and families.



Emily Marden Browne, age 76, after battling Parkinson's disease for years, died peacefully on Oct. 12, 2018, in Gainesville, Florida. Emily was born in Glendale, NJ, and moved with her family to Florida in the late 1950s. She earned her bachelor's degree in mathematics (because UF wouldn't let her major in engineering!) from the University of Florida.

After a brief stint teaching, she discovered her professional niche, computer programming. She described it as solving puzzles and getting paid for it. She was a pioneer in the field, and made a great career in it, but her real passion was to right wrongs.

She began her work in the struggle for civil rights in the '60s. She was part of the March on Washington in 1963, and expanded her fight for justice to encompass women's rights and gay/lesbian rights soon after. Her guiding principle had been that until all human rights are protected, none of us are free.

Emily was a believer in political action as a means of effecting systemic and therefore cultural, change. Over the past decades, she had done it all: picketing, petitions, precinct walking, legislation writing, candidate support. She even ran for public office in a political gambit.

For many years, Emily was President of the Gainesville NOW (National Organization for Women) and was a co-founder of the Judy Levy chapter of NOW, a precinct coordinator for the Alachua County Democratic Executive Committee, and a lifetime member of the NAACP, and countless other organizations.

Emily was instrumental in protecting women's health clinics from protesters; she was involved in gaining the inclusion of sexual orientation protections into Gainesville's anti-discrimination ordinance; and she served on various advisory boards, including the Gainesville Commission on the Status of Women. In 2002 she was awarded the Santa Fe College Woman of Distinction and in 2010 the Friend of Susan B. Anthony award. She was a crusader for justice.

Emily was an avid gardener, loved playing cards, games, and jigsaw puzzles, and even won crossword puzzle tournaments. She was an accomplished painter, specializing in natural landscapes in oil.

She is survived by her brother Jonathan Marden, her two successful daughters, Kimberly Browne and Allison McNeely, and was thrilled to love three wonderful grandchildren: Trevor

Yocum, Camden McNeely, and Cassidy McNeely. She was so enamored of her great-grandson, Jackson Yocum, that she lit up the room when holding him. She also cherished her extended family: Brad McNeely, Stephanie Yocum, Donna and Richard Rayburn, Kyle Krumwiede, Linda Bassham, Dottie Faibisy, and many, many friends.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Planned Parenthood, and GO VOTE! (Note: This ran in the Sun before the election.)

<p>Actors' Warehouse</p> <p>North Central Florida's Award Winning & Internationally Recognized Community Theatre</p> <p>619 NE 1st Street Gainesville, FL</p> <p>www.actorswarehouse.org</p> <p>actorswarehouse.fl@gmail.com</p> <p><small>Actors' Warehouse entertains, inspires and fosters critical thinking through the performing arts while bringing diversity programming, social justice and public health to the forefront.</small></p>	<p>Actors' Warehouse</p> <p>Tales of Good Fortune From Around the World</p> <p>As Told by Aaron Shepard</p> <p>Directed by Steven Hillinger</p> <p>December 7 - 16, 2018</p> <p>619 NE 1st St. Gainesville, FL</p> <p>For ticket prices and advance purchase information visit www.actorswarehouse.org</p>
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Sunday Assembly Gainesville is a secular, radically inclusive community that meets to hear great talks, sing together and celebrate the wonder of the one life we know we have.

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

CIED Building of Santa Fe College

530 W. University Avenue

Downtown Gainesville, FL

Established 2016 - Accredited 2017

🌐 sagainesville.weebly.com 📺 @SundayAssemblyGainesville

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WGOT seeks help to resume streaming worldwide

By Fred Sowder, WGOT Station Manager

It's been a banner year for your community radio station.

2018 has seen the creation of our studio within the Civic Media Center; a blowout 10th anniversary celebration featuring Radon, Whiskey & Co. and others at The Atlantic; and the lecture by Democracy Now!'s Amy Goodman in Gainesville in association with the CMC's 25th anniversary celebration.

We've also had continued partnerships with The Fest, Daily Green, Sweetwater Organic Coffee Company, and other great sponsors.

But we're not stopping there.

Our next mission is to begin streaming again worldwide to overcome reception problems from having only a 100-watt signal originating from the area of Santa Fe College. The biggest obstacles to that right now are funds needed to cover over a 100 percent increase in our annual performance rights fees, as well as the implementation of reporting technology since we'll need to submit our entire playlist of songs along with the number of people streaming at any given time on a quarterly basis.

Fundraising is the relatively easy part of this and we're requesting your assistance. Our GoFundMe page (goo.gl/Rtwii1) still continues to fundraise for this important project, and it's just over \$2,000 away from reaching its goal.

Perhaps more importantly, you can become a sustaining member of WGOT's mission by becoming a patron here: goo.gl/ZBjYxc. Becoming a monthly sustainer will get you bonus episodes of many of your favorite WGOT programs as well as other cool swag TBA. And since WGOT is a part of the Civic Media Center, your donations are fully tax deductible.

We're also in the process of applying for a local grant to assist us in this endeavor and anyone with grant writing experience would also be a large asset. Those with technical expertise willing to volunteer their services to accomplish the latter goal would also provide an invaluable contribution.

In addition, WGOT seeks to increase its live programming originating from the Civic Media Center.

Doug Clifford and I recently had a successful live hour of local midterm

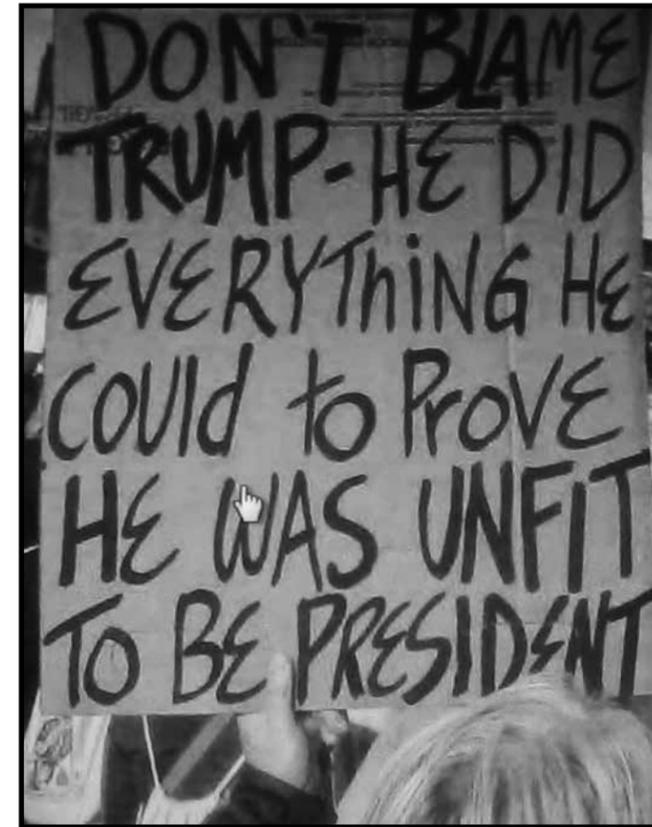
election coverage in between the Democracy Now!/The Intercept national election night rundown.

We've had several orientation and training sessions and look forward to having more of those in the new year. We encourage all of our attendees to continue using the studio, especially to practice and hone your delivery and production skills. That's why it's there. Increasing the number of locally-based programs on our schedule is really important to us.

We also have open board and scheduling volunteer positions to fill if you're interested in being a part of WGOT's day-to-day operations.

Thank you for helping in whatever capacity you can to help your station grow. Stay tuned to 100.1 FM and like us on Facebook for upcoming details about WGOT's 11th anniversary show coming to The Atlantic in January!

If you missed it, Amy Goodman's speech at the Civic Media Center's 25th Anniversary celebration can be found here: goo.gl/S78wGD. ☘



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

Civic Media Center Events

Every Sun	Zine Meeting at 12pm
Every Thu	Volunteer Meeting at 5:30pm Poetry Jam at 8pm Meditation at 9am
Every Sat	
Fri Nov 16	Connect the Dots Live Music 7pm Open Jam and Art Show 10pm
Sat Nov 17	Yoga 10am Free Store 2-5pm
Mon Nov 19	Movie Monday: "Brooklyn Castle" 7pm
Tue Nov 20	Queer Movie Night and Vegan Potluck 6pm
Thu Nov 22	Closed for Thanksgiving
Fri Nov 23	Anti-Thanksgiving Food Not Bombs Benefit Show 9pm
Sat Nov 24	Sustaining Wellness Workshop 12pm
Mon Nov 26	Movie Monday hosted by Students for Justice for Palestine 7pm
Tue Nov 27	Letters to Prisoners 6-8pm #GivingTuesday
Thu Nov 29	Connect the Dots Live Music 10:30pm
Fri Nov 30	Women's Self-Defense Jiu Jitsu Class 6pm Silent Disco and Art Fest 9pm
Sat Dec 1	Yoga 10am
Mon Dec 3	Movie Monday 7pm
Wed Dec 5	Communication Skills Workshop 6-8pm
Fri Dec 7	ARTWALK 7-10pm Open Jam and Art Show 10pm-2am
Sat Dec 8	Sustaining Wellness Workshop 12pm
Mon Dec 10	Movie Monday 7pm
Tue Dec 11	Incarcerated Workers Organizing Committee 6-8pm
Wed Dec 12	PUNK Oral History Project 6pm
Fri Dec 14	Connect the Dots Live Music 9pm
Sat Dec 15	Yoga 10am FREE Store 2-5pm Connect the Dots Live Music Show 10pm
Mon Dec 17	Movie Monday 7pm
Dec 22-Jan 4	CMC CLOSED for holiday break
Fri Jan 4	Connect the Dots Live Show
Mon Jan 7	Movie Monday 7pm
Tue Jan 8	Incarcerated Workers Organizing Committee 6-8pm
Fri Jan 10	Connect the Dots Live Music 10:30pm
Mon Jan 14	Movie Monday 7pm
Wed Jan 16	Connect the Dots Live Music 9pm

INDIE AND OLDER ROCK, ELECTRONIC, PUNK, AMERICANA, JAZZ, etc. MORNINGS 9-11, AFTERNOONS 2-4, EVENINGS AFTER 6

THOM HARTMANN
7 AM

DEMOCRACY NOW!
AMY GOODMAN
8 AM, 1 PM

MÚSICA EN ESPAÑOL
VICTOR PEREZ
11AM-1PM

JAZZVILLE
ROBBIE STEVENS
FRI 6-8 PM
SAT 8-10 AM
SUN 8-NOON



FULL SCHEDULE AT WGOT.ORG
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To get weekly announcement email, contact coordinators@civicmediacenter.org and request to be added to the list.

Please support the CMC however you can: volunteering, memberships, donations, ideas, attendance at our events. Grassroots support keeps us going.



Novembre-
Diciembre

The Gainesville Iguana

November-
December

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

Sunday Domingo

Monday Lunes

Tuesday Martes

Wednesday Miercoles

Thursday Jueves

Friday Viernes

Saturday Sabado



Radio Notes: Find schedules for WUFT and WGOT, our local non-corporate stations, at www.wuft.org and wgot.org respectively. WGOT is now a full-time over-the-air broadcast at 100.1 FM. More info on local independent radio on pg 10.

Jacksonville's public station WJCT at 89.9 has varied news programming as well during the day - check their schedule. In addition, there's music ranging from acoustic to electronic, jazz and blues, in an eclectic and pleasant mix in the evenings and night.

LISTEN TO AND SUPPORT COMMUNITY RADIO!

For more events, event details, and irregularly updated calendar entries, see www.gainesvilleiguana.org/calendar.

18 Sunday Assembly: Human Rights & Eleanor Roosevelt - SFC Downtown (530 W. Univ. Ave), 11 am, 3rd Suns: see pg 9 & sagainesville.weebly.com.
Zines meeting every Sunday, Civic Media Center, noon.
J'Accuse - classic anti-war film of 1919, Harn Museum (3259 Hull Rd), noon, free.
Into the Woods final performance at Acrosstown Rep, 2 pm.
"Hey Neighbor Carnival" - music, games, more, led by UF Diabetes Institute et al: Magnolia Parke (4989 NW 40th Pl), 3 pm.
LEONID METEOR SHOWERS

25 "Adventures in Black History" youth program at A. Quinn Jones Ctr, 3-5 pm.

2 Operation Catnip feral feline spay/neuter clinic, 8 am; make reservations at 352-380-0940.

Glam Craft Show, 1st Magnitude (1220 SE Veitch St), 10 am-5 pm.
"Photojournalism As Conscience" talk, Harn Mus, 3 pm.

9 Sundays at AQ Jones - talks on local history, politics, culture, at AQ Jones Museum (1013 NW 13th Ave), 2nd Suns, 3 pm: rsvp 352-334-2010.
Winter Gift Fair, Working Food Community Ctr, 2-6 pm.

16 Sunday Assembly, "Separation of Church & State" w/ Ira Fischler - see 11/18.
Rwanda Sustainable Families benefit potluck: Barn at Flamingo Hammock (2619 SE 20th Pl), 4-7 pm.

Gary Gordon & Friends in concert, Thomas Ctr, 7 pm.
23 1947: Truman pardons 1,523 WWII draft evaders.

30 1946: Ho Chi Minh wins Vietnam election.

19 Witness for Immigrant Justice and Sanctuary. Quaker-led event at NW 23rd Ave & 43rd St, 5-6 pm every Monday.
Grow Gvl 3rd Mon meeting, Working Food Comm. Ctr (219 NW 10th Ave), 6 pm.
Brooklyn Castle, CMe 7 pm.

Weekly Candle-holding Witness for the undocumented, BD Downtown Plaza, every Monday, 7:30-8 pm.
1797: Isabella "Sojourner Truth" Baumfree born.

26 Democratic Socialists of America, dntn libr, 6:45 pm.
Documentary hosted by Students for Justice for Palestine, CMC, 7 pm.

IGUANA Deadline for Jan-Feb issue is Jan 9th; write gainesvilleiguana@cox.net or call 352-378-5655 with events, updates, advertisements & info.

3 CMC Movie Night tba, 7 pm.
Gvl Citizens for Active Transportation meets at CIED (530 E. Univ Ave), 1st & 3rd Mondays, 7 pm.

10 Central Labor Council Holiday Spaghetti Dinner, Sr Ctr (all ages) (5701 NW 34th Blvd), 6:30 pm; see pg 2.
Women's March meets 2nd Mondays, United Church of Gainesville, 6:30 pm.
CMC documentary tba, 7 pm.

HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

17 CMC documentary tba, 7 pm.
Grow Gvl meeting - see 11/19.
Meatless Monday Market, Working Food (219 NW 10th Ave), 4 pm.

24 1814: Treaty of Ghent ends War of 1812.

31 Gvl Downtown Countdown, Bo Diddley Plaza, 9:30 pm.

7 CMC documentary tba, 7 pm.

13 Alachua County Commission meets, 2nd & 4th Tues, 9 am & 5 pm, County Admin Bldg; citizens comment, 9:30 am & 5:30 pm..
Veterans Support Group, UF HealthStreet (2401 Archer Rd), 11 am-noon, Tuesdays, free.

Anti-war signholding, 4:30-5:30 pm: 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, Archer Rd & SW 34th St; 2nd & 4th Tuesdays, University Ave & W 13th St.
Incarcerated Workers Organizing Committee meeting, CMC, 6 pm.

20 School Board meets 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 620 E. Univ Ave, 6 pm: see sbac.edu.
Queer Movie Night & Vegan Potluck, CMC, 6 pm.

Transgender Day of Remembrance, Bo Diddley Plaza, 7-9 pm; see pg 5.
PFLAG meets, 3rd Tuesdays, United Church, 7 pm.

27 "Ending Violence Against Women" panel, UF Ustler Hall, 3 pm, free.
"Strange Careers: 50 Years of Southern Women's History" 3-day conference opens at UF Dauer Hall, 4 pm.

Alachua County Labor Coalition meets, Emmanuel Mennonite Church (1236 NW 18th Ave), 6 pm.
IWOC Letters to Prisoners, CMC, 6 pm.

4 School Board - see 11/20.
Gvl Citizens Against Death Penalty meets, Mennonite Meeting House (1236 NW 18th Ave), 1st Tuesdays, 6 pm.
Gvl Playwrights' Showcase opens, Acrosstown Rep, ? pm: thru 12/9; see pg 11.

11 County Commish - see 11/13.
IWOC meets - see 11/13.

18 ACLC Holiday Potluck Party - Working Food (219 NW 10th Ave), 6 pm; p 18
IWOC meets, CMC, 6 pm.

25 SATURNALIA XMAS

Jan 1, 2019

8 IWOC meets - see 11/13.

9 Coyotes & Pet Safety talk, Prairie Creek Lodge, 6 pm.

10 Connect the Dots Live Music Show, CMC.

14 Free confidential walk-in HIV testing at Alachua County Health Dept, 224 SE 24th St, 9 am-3 pm, M-F; & at Pride Ctr, 3131 NW 13th St, 4-6 pm on 1st & 3rd Thurs; info: 334-7961.
Downtown Farmers' Market every Wed, Bo Diddley Plaza (111 E. University Ave), 4-7 pm;
Edible Plant Project, 2nd Weds.
Urban Paradise documentary pre-screening, CMC, 6:30 pm.

Dismantling Racism meets 2nd & 4th Weds at Emmanuel Mennonite Church (1236 NW 18th Ave): plays, author talks, etc: 7 pm.

21 Celebration of Lincoln High School exhibit, A. Quinn Jones Ctr (1013 NW 7th Ave), Sun-Thurs, noon-5 pm (see 12/7).
There will doubtless be events scheduled that aren't on this calendar at press time: check various websites and listings, and support events in our wonderfully active community.

28 Work Camp Movie Night (roadside movie showing), NE 55th Blvd, 7 pm.

5 "Now, You Talk" communication workshop, CMC, 6 pm.
Drawn to the Deep book signing, Fla Springs Inst (23695 W US Hwy 27, High Springs), 6:30 pm.

Vets for Peace meet: call 352-375-2563 for location, 7 pm.
New Hardback Café scheduled opening (920 NW 2nd St), 9 pm.
1955: Montgomery bus boycott begins.

12 The Gulf: Making of an American Sea author Jack Davis reads & signs: Prairie Creek Lodge (7204 SE Cty Rd 234), 6 pm.
PUNK Oral History Project, CMC, 6 pm.

19 The Currys at the Thomas Ctr (306 NE 6th Ave), 7 pm.

26 BOXING DAY KWANZAA BEGINS

27 1571: Johannes Kepler born.
1822: Louis Pasteur born.

3 1803: US buys Louisiana. 1998: Bill Clinton impeached

20 1803: US buys Louisiana. 1998: Bill Clinton impeached

21 1940: Frank Zappa born.
WINTER SOLSTICE

28 1869: Knights of Labor hold 1st meeting.

15 CMC Volunteers meet every Thursday, 5:30 pm.
Restoration of Civil Rights workshop, Tower Rd library (3020 SW 75th St), 5:30 pm, free.
Humanists topic: Future of Humanity - UUFG (4225 NW 34th St), 6:30 pm.

Hipp Jazz Series continues: shows Mon & Thurs through 11/19, 7 pm, \$5: see thehipp.org.
Open Poetry every Thursday at CMC, 9 pm.

1887: Georgia T. O'Keeffe born.

22 If you appreciate this calendar, please consider supporting the Ig with a donation &/or subscription: PO Box 14712, Gainesville FL 32604.
1963: Aldous Huxley, C.S. Lewis, & John F. Kennedy die.
THANKSGIVING

29 Gvl City Commission meets on so-called affordable housing plan, 6 pm - see pg 18.
Freddy & Francine at Heartwood Soundstage (619 S Main St), 8 pm.

Connect the Dots live music, CMC, 10:30 pm.
Whether here or anywhere: please support live music!
1832: Louisa May Alcott born.
1918: Madeleine L'Engle born.

6 Reel Rock 13 climbing clips screening at Prairie Creek Lodge (7204 SE Cty Rd 234), 6 pm, \$10.
Sierra Club meets: LifeSouth (4039 Newberry Rd), 7 pm.

The Conch storytelling ("No Thanks", true story, 5 minutes, no notes) at Lightnin' Salvage, 7 pm.
1947: Everglades National Park established.

13 Seth Walker at Heartwood Soundstage, 8 pm.
Stonewall Democrats, 901 NW 8th Ave, 2nd Thursdays, 5:30 pm.

GEMINID METEOR SHOWERS

20 1803: US buys Louisiana. 1998: Bill Clinton impeached

21 1940: Frank Zappa born.
WINTER SOLSTICE

28 1869: Knights of Labor hold 1st meeting.

4 Connect the Dots Live Music Show, CMC.
QUADRANTID METEOR SHOWERS

11 A Doll's House, Part 2 opens at Hipp (25 SE 2nd Pl), 8? pm.

16 "Butterfly Spots & Rattlesnake Tales" talk by Sean B. Carroll, UF McKnight Brain Institute, noon, free.
Connect the Dots music, CMC, 7 pm.
All of Us Are Now book release, High Dive (210 SW 2nd Ave), 8 pm-1 am.

OJAS: Open Jam & Art Show, CMC, 10 pm-2 zm.

23 Food Not Bombs Benefit Show, Civic Media Ctr, 8 pm.
Every Christmas Story Ever Told opens at Hipp (25 SE 2nd Pl), 8 pm.
FULL MOON

30 Wilmot Gardens Plant Sale, UF Wilmot Grdns (1427 Gale Lemerand Dr), 11 am-5 pm; also 12/1.
"Trashformations" opens, Fla Mus of Natural History (3215 Hull Rd), 6 pm.

March for LGBTQIA Community against homo-/trans-phobia starts at NW Rails-to-Trails Park (128 NW 14th Ave), 6 pm; see pg 7.

Free Downtown Blues Concert, Bo Diddley Plaza, 7-11 pm.
Women's Self-Defense Jiu Jitsu, CMC, 6 pm.

Gay Movie Night last Fridays, Pride Ctr (3131 NW 13th St), 7:30 pm.
Seussical Jr, Phillips Ctr, 7:30 pm, \$17 (R12 for 12 & under).

Silent Disco & Art Fest, CMC, 9 pm.
Shitty Beatles: White Album, Wooly.

7 1st Friday Social, Working Food Ctr (219 NW 10th Ave), 5-7 pm.
Downtown Artwalk, 7-10 pm - see pg 17 and artwalk.gainesville.com.

Tales of Good Fortune opens at Actors' Waterhouse (619 NE 1st St), 7:30 pm; \$15/10; see pg 9.
Sam Pacetti & Gabe Valla, Heartwood Soundstage, 8 pm.

Lincoln High exhibit reception, AQ Jones Ctr (1013 NW 7th Ave), 9 pm.
Open Jam & Art Show, CMC, 10 pm.

14 Holiday Mingle, Prairie Creek Lodge, 6:30-9:30 pm.
Connect the Dots music, CMC, 9 pm.

2004: Muntadhar al-Zaidi throws shoes at George W. Bush.

21 1940: Frank Zappa born.
WINTER SOLSTICE

28 1869: Knights of Labor hold 1st meeting.

17 Community Meditation, CMC, 9-10 am every Saturday.
Yoga class, CMC, 10 am every Sat.
UF Football vs Idaho, time tba.

Free Store at CMC, 2-5 pm.
Food Not Bombs now feeds everyone every Saturday, City Hall, 3 pm.
Fantastic Mr Fox screening, Deport Park (874 SE 4th St), 5:30 pm, free.

Gary Gordon book signing, 3rd House Books (113 N Main St), 7 pm.
Morningbell, Heartwood, 8 pm.

24 Interfaith Group meets, Em. Mennonite Church (1236 NW 18th Ave), 2nd & 4th Sats, 10 am.
Craft Fair, UF O'Dome, 10 am-5 pm (also 11/25).

Sustaining Wellness workshop, CMC, noon.
A Christmas Carol opens, Hipp, 2 pm.
Pearl & the Oysters, Wooly, 8 pm.

Dec 1 Downtown Arts Festival opens, between City Hall & the Hipp; 10 am-5 pm, also 12/2..

Indivisible Gvl meets 1st Sats, dntn library (401 E Univ Ave), 10 am..
March for LGBTQIA Community, NW Rails-to-Trails Park (128 NW 14th Ave), 11 am - see 11/30 & "Alachua TranQuility Community" on Facebook, & pg 7.

Holiday Tree Lighting, Thomas Ctr (306 NE 6th Ave), 6-8 pm.

WORLD AIDS DAY

8 Varela Ceramics Open House, Micanopy, 10 am-5 pm; pg 15.
River Phoenix Ctr for Peacebuilding FUNdraising Gala, Gvl Woman's Club (2809 W Univ Ave), 6:30-10:30 pm.

Pearl & The Oysters, Heartwood Soundstage (619 S Main St), 8 pm.

15 Veterans for Peace Winter Solstice Concert, UUFG (4225 NW 34th St), 7 pm - see pg 24.
Free Store at CMC, 2-5 pm.

22 1905: Kenneth Rexroth born.
FULL MOON

29 1890: US Army kills ~300 Oglala Sioux at Wounded Knee.

5 Indivisible Gvl - see 12/1.
Camellia Show, Kanapaha Botanical Gardens, 1-5 pm; Sun, 9.am-5 pm; \$8/\$4 for ages 5-13.

12 1932: Hattie Caraway (D-AR) 1st woman elected to US Senate.

A day in the life of a poll worker:

Mid-term election November 6, 2018

by Connie Caldwell

We arrive at the big front doors of our precinct, the Museum of Natural History on campus before 6 am. It's dark. We're a team of seven. There's much to prepare and we must be ready for voters by 7.

I help with whatever I can: with Kathryn, the "ballot lady," setting up cardboard voting booths on the long tables and distributing pens in the voting booths; with Paul, plugging in and powering up the EVIDs (Electronic Voter Identification).

"The other" Mike places the necessary signs outside and around the room. Carina sets up her ballot scanners. Ashley, the assistant clerk, helps everyone. At 6:40 I ask Mike, the clerk, what else I can do.

There's nothing right now, so I take this opportunity to eat some of the breakfast I had brought with me. I'm back by 6:50. I take my seat at my EVID and quickly review, again, the steps in my manual for checking in a voter.

Now it's 7. Yes, there's a line of young people waiting!

We begin. After the first few voters I'm finding it easy and fun. I enjoy greeting each one, and so many of them are first-time voters.

Quite often I have to send someone to the Clerk's table for a change of address or other issue. Some have to be directed to another polling place.

The fact that the Phillips Center next door is also a polling place is causing some confusion. It's not obvious, when approaching from outside, that there are two different polling locations. People show up at one place when they should be at the other, and sometimes they've already stood in line for a long time.

Later, I think maybe it would have helped to have someone check their voter registration cards when they approach the lines. Maybe I will suggest that for next time.

We keep our line moving. Occasionally there's a break and I can stand up and walk around for a minute or two.

I choose the 11 am lunch half-hour. Jeff brings in sandwiches (lucky me) and we eat quickly in the small break room. I'm super-hungry and shaky but I can only eat

half a sandwich. They're big. Then I'm back at my station.

One young woman who comes to check in asks how I am. That's when I realize I've already been doing this for six hours. And there are six more to go.

But I can do this. I must do this. At times during the afternoon I feel a bit woozy, sometimes shivery. It's cold in the room but I think my shivers are not just from the cold. A couple of times I ask the voter in front of me to wait a few seconds while I get a sip of water.

In the thick of it I need a bathroom break. Ashley, the assistant clerk, takes over for me. I go to the break room, too, and get another bite or two of my sandwich, feeling guilty while I'm at it, but we can't have food in the room with us.

Somewhat refreshed, I'm back at my EVID. The young people keep coming. I thank them for voting when I think of it, especially the ones whose birth date is 1999 or 2000. I know they're voting for the first time. I love seeing their fresh young faces. It's very encouraging. I hope they will continue to vote in the future, even if their candidates don't win this time. I hope this means a generation of involved citizens coming up!

During the afternoon and evening it's constant, no breaks at all. I'm on automatic pilot by now. Then suddenly it's 7 pm. We did it!

By 7:10 we've checked in every voter. Only one young woman comes after we've closed. She tells us that she just got off work. It's hard, turning her away but we have no choice. Later I wonder how many people in the long line that still snakes around the Phillips Center should have been in our line, and won't be allowed to vote.

Now we have to wait for all the people who are still here to finish marking their long ballots before we can begin packing up and going through the process of shutting down. One young man says he has mistakenly marked two ovals on an item. He chooses to cast his ballot anyway, knowing that particular item won't count.

Another young man has a similar issue.

He chooses to re-do his entire ballot. We continue to wait.

There are two poll watchers who have been with us all day, sitting together unobtrusively in a corner and occasionally walking around the room. One of them takes pity on us and brings us food. She places a small plate of snacks on the shelf behind each of us.

All day I had been telling myself, "Well, it's supposed to be healthy to fast occasionally." Now that we're done checking in voters I have time to enjoy the food the poll watcher has brought. I eat every morsel.

As soon as the last voter has finished, we begin shutting down everything and packing up. All our numbers are easily reconciled. We've done well. We feel like a team. By 8:45 we can go home.

My plan had been to join Jeff at the after-party at Cypress and Grove Brewery. I call Jeff. He says it's loud and crazy there.

Well, at this point all I want is home and a beer. I head home. After feeding the cat, I settle in my rocking chair with my beer and the newspaper puzzles. It takes my brain a while to come home and settle down. As I sit there I keep looking up to greet the next person in line!

Yes, it was a long, grueling day. Would I do it again?

At mid-afternoon I would have said no. But by the end of the evening there was a feeling of camaraderie with my fellow workers, and a sense of elation, realizing what we had accomplished.

I think my elation is about all the young voters who came to us, and that we were just one of at least four precincts on campus. I'm grateful that I was stationed at this particular precinct. And yes, I just might do it again. 🐾

If you don't like who's in there,

Vote 'em out

That's what Election Day is all about

The biggest gun we've got'

Is called "the ballot box"

- Willie Nelson

From RECAP p. 24

Hyatt hotel heir Jay Pritzker, will overtake President Donald Trump as the richest elected official in the country.

A NOVEMBER TO REMEMBER?

Teachers who took part in this spring's strike wave vowed for months to "Remember in November" and punish politicians who opposed their efforts. In Oklahoma, Arizona, and West Virginia, teachers and their unions hoped to turn their state houses less red, with the hopes of winning more funding for education (and in West Virginia, a permanent fix to the state's public employees health insurance system).

Arizona teachers suffered a setback over the summer when the state's supreme court knocked their "Invest in Ed" initiative off the ballot. Nevertheless, teachers said their strike made education the top issue in the state's election. Republican politicians who had opposed the strike scrambled to portray themselves—deceitfully—as supporters of public education.

The state's voters ultimately rejected a ballot initiative to expand school vouchers, and the statehouse will be less red, if not split, when all the votes are counted. But Arizonans weren't able to topple key Republican lawmakers, including Governor Doug Ducey.

In Oklahoma, after the strike ended in April, 100 teachers decided to run for office, and 65 of those made it through the primaries. On Tuesday, six K-12 teachers were elected to the state legislature. The legislature's education caucus, which includes current or former teachers, administrators, and support staff, grew from nine to 25—although many of those, including teachers, are Republicans. Oklahoma also re-elected a Republican governor who had opposed raises for teachers.

North Carolina voters broke the Republican supermajority of their statehouse that for six years pushed through devastating cuts to public education and attacks on workers rights and public services, and sparked the Moral Mondays movement in 2013.

Kentucky teachers had also hoped that a wave would bring educators into the statehouse. Ultimately 14 out of 51 educators (including administrators) won races in the statehouse but Kentuckians only made a small dent in the Republican majority (two seats).

Colorado teachers, after joining the spring wave of walkouts, had gathered signatures to for a ballot measure to raise taxes on the rich and deliver \$1.6 billion for public schools. Voters rejected it 55 to 45.

Unions will have to keep organizing to pressure hostile lawmakers to put more money into public education. Will it take another strike wave? Teachers in these states haven't

announced future plans, but with increased member engagement, a lot is possible. "I want to get back to building power," Arizona teacher Rebecca Garelli said.

NURSE RATIOS, RENT CONTROL LOST

Workers and unions have often succeeded on issue fights at the polls. 2018 saw some victories, including votes to increase the minimum wage in Arkansas and Missouri.

But there were also notable losses. A Massachusetts safe staffing initiative was crushed by a well-funded hospital-backed "no" campaign.

California voters rejected a ballot initiative that would have restored municipalities' ability to enact rent control; Wall Street infused millions into the opposition campaign, including \$12 million from private equity firm Blackstone, which has heavy investments in rental properties. Ironically, Blackstone's money came from investment funds

financed by contributions from the state's unionized public employees' pensions, reported Capital and Main.

Rent control was a key issue for rank-and-file Teamster and Richmond City Council member Jovanka Beckles, who had union and community support in her run for a state legislature spot in Richmond and Berkeley.

Beckles is a longtime activist in the Richmond Progressive Alliance, which has managed to break Chevron's political domination of that oil-refinery town. But she lost the legislative race to the well-funded candidate of the Democratic establishment, who had the backing of charter school supporters and out-of-state donors.

And ironworker Randy Bryce of Wisconsin, also known as "Iron Stache," hoped to reclaim Paul Ryan's seat in Congress with a pro-worker, pro-union message—but he lost to Ryan's Republican successor. 🐾

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News from the Civic Media Center

by Joe Courter

October was breathtaking for the Civic Media Center. A lot of preparation led up to the very successful 25th anniversary celebration on Friday evening, Oct. 19, when the CMC hosted Democracy Now!'s host Amy Goodman for a double-header event; first a meet and greet benefiting the CMC's low power FM station WGOT with the fine people from Afternoon Restaurant hosting, and then right across the parking lot at Working Food a full house of over 200 people got to hear a great talk from one of the leading journalists of our time.

For those who missed the talk, it is available for streaming at [goo.gl/S78wGD](https://www.facebook.com/lvltotheroom/videos/690905477951209/), and a partial video can be seen at <https://www.facebook.com/lvltotheroom/videos/690905477951209/>.

At least 20 CMC volunteers were there to help out from set up to break down. Jacob Adams provided a flawless sound system. Area restaurants Leonardo's 706, East End Eatery, Gyro Plus, Sweetwater Branch Inn, and again Afternoon, provided food. After her over-an-hour talk, Amy stayed to sign books and talked with everyone who stayed around – a very genuine, warm person. And then at the conclusion of the event, Coordinators Kaithleen Hernandez and Emily Arnold, Fred Sowder from WGOT and others invited Amy to come down to the CMC itself to take a look at what it was she'd come to support, and from what I heard she was very impressed. As much as we were with her.

That done, then came the next week and four nights of music in a

Amy Goodman of Democracy Now! speaks at the CMC's 25th anniversary celebration on Oct. 19. Democracy Now! is one of the leading U.S.-based independent daily news broadcasts in the world and is broadcast on NPR, PBS, Pacifica and a variety of college and community radio stations including WGOT in Gainesville. Photos courtesy of Connor Hayes and Ian Maikisch/lvltotheroom.com

row, starting Thursday with "Queer the Fest," a CMC-produced music show featuring LGBTQ artists as sort of an antidote to the much too white, much too straight Fest, which was all over Gainesville Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, including the CMC as a venue for each of those nights. Adding to the tempo on the block, the CMC courtyard hosted a Saturday afternoon of lively ska bands organized by Vinnie from Less Than Jake, who are also residents on the block with their merchandise headquarters Paper and Plastic. Lots of fun (and work) and a lot of refreshments provided, all benefiting the CMC.

I said ska in the prior paragraph as a reference to music, but SKA has taken on a new meaning for the Civic Media Center. In this case it is a place, the Stetson Kennedy Annex. In the space vacated by Sequential Artists Workshop to the rear of the CMC, this multi-level area will now be a place for a needed expansion for the CMC. It has already proved to be an asset for hosting two events at the same time, and presently a staging area for sorting out a major book donation from the beloved Jack Price (over 40 boxes of books), who moved to a VA care facility from his home due to declining health. It was a \$400 increase in rent but a major opportunity to enhance the CMC's operations and a fitting optimistic way to begin its 25th year of operations.

As was emphasized at the anniversary program, the CMC is looking to build a monthly donor support system, a regular donation of a small amount of money from a lot of people to help underwrite the rather staggering expense of maintaining a place like the CMC. The anniversary was a big success, and we will be putting some of that into needed infrastructure such as new chairs, and better lighting and sound equipment, as music shows are proving a good fundraising tool (plus, hey, music is part of media). The CMC is a 501(c)3 non-profit, and your help is greatly appreciated! 🐾

After an election of historic firsts, the real work begins

Amidst the backdrop of white nationalist violence linked to the presidency of Donald Trump, the 2018 midterm elections are ushering in a slate of elected officials representing the country's diversity more than ever before

by Amy Goodman, Denis Moynihan/Common Dreams

"Words cannot express my gratitude to every organizer, every small-dollar donor, every working parent and dreamer who helped make this movement happen," Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez said to the ecstatic crowd that packed the election night party celebrating her victorious run for Congress.

"That's exactly what this is, not a campaign or an Election Day, but a movement, a larger movement for social, economic and racial justice in the United States of America."

Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, or "AOC" to her core supporters, is the youngest woman ever elected to Congress. This Bronx-born, 29-year-old millennial of Puerto Rican descent is a proud member of the Democratic Socialists of America. She marks a critical inflection point in American electoral politics. Amidst the backdrop of white nationalist violence linked to the presidency of Donald Trump, the 2018 midterm elections are ushering in a slate of elected officials representing the country's diversity more than ever before.

While Republicans increased their majority in the U.S. Senate, the Democrats took control of the House of Representatives. Many races remain too close to call, including the intensely fought and closely watched race for governor of Georgia between Stacey Abrams, who would become the first African-American woman governor in the country, and Brian Kemp, who refused to recuse himself as Georgia's Republican secretary of state, overseeing the very election in which he is a candidate.

Kemp, who is being sued for a racist campaign of voter suppression, is slightly ahead in the vote tally, but thousands of ballots have yet to be counted, and Abrams is refusing to concede.

This was an election of firsts. Nationally, a historic number of women ran for office. This is the first time that more than 100 women will serve in Congress. Connecticut schoolteacher Jahana Hayes and Boston City Councilor Ayanna Pressley became the first African-American women to represent their states in Congress. Sylvia Garcia and Veronica Escobar became the first two Latinas elected to Congress from Texas.

Early on Election Day in Escobar's district in El Paso, the U.S. Border Patrol initiated an unannounced "crowd control" exercise, only to cancel it after public outcry over the apparent attempt to intimidate Latinx voters.

Deb Haaland of New Mexico and Sharice Davids of Kansas became the first Native American women elected to Congress.

Davids also is a lesbian, as well as a former professional kickboxer.

Rashida Tlaib and Ilhan Omar are the first two Muslim women ever elected to Congress. Tlaib, a Detroit activist who is filling John Conyers' seat, will be the first Palestinian-American congresswoman. She says she'll be taking her bullhorn to Washington.

She told her supporters, "I will uplift you in so many ways, not only through service, but fighting back against every single oppressive, racist structure that needs to be dismantled, because you deserve better."

Minnesota legislator Ilhan Omar is the first Somali-American ever elected to Congress. In her victory speech, she said, "I stand here before you tonight, as your congresswoman-elect, with many firsts behind my name: the first woman of color to represent our state in Congress. The first woman to wear a hijab ... [and] the first refugee ever elected to Congress."

These are just a few of the agents of change who emerged victorious in the 2018 midterms. Many of them support progressive policies like "Medicare-for-all," a federal \$15 minimum wage, debt-free college and comprehensive immigration reform, and are deeply concerned about climate change.

Yes, the bottom shook the top, but whether our country's dangerous shift toward authoritarianism gets shaken off its foundation is still to be seen. President Donald Trump represents a wall, both literally and figuratively. The 2018 midterm elections turned that wall into a door. Whether that door is kicked open or slammed shut depends not only on elected officials, but on the people who put them there. These elections are not an end in themselves. Times like these are when movements can have the greatest effect.

More than 110 million people voted, far more than in past midterm elections. Yet still half of eligible voters stayed home or were excluded by the increasingly widespread voter suppression tactics being deployed across the country. The movements behind this historic electoral result for women and for diversity must also work to increase engagement, enfranchisement and electoral participation.

One of the biggest success stories this week was the passage of Florida's Amendment 4, restoring the right to vote to 1.4 million Floridians with prior felony convictions. It's one of the biggest acts of voter enfranchisement since women got the right to vote in 1920. It should be replicated around the country.

Now, as these many newly elected officials assume their duties after hard-fought campaigns, the real work begins. 🐾

Checks and balances – Gainesville’s Department of Doing

‘Gainesville, Citizen Centered, People Empowered’ or ‘Gainesville, Citizen Censored, Developer Empowered’?

by Lee Malis and Gainesville Neighbors United

I came home from vacation one day to find a backhoe ripping out trees, knocking down my fence and then going after a giant Live Oak tree in my backyard. My shock and confusion at the time would be hard to describe. I had just come from attending a great wedding with lots of old friends. I was feeling happy and content. That was August 16 and that was the last time I felt that way.

The past three months seem to have been nonstop invasion, attacks, slander, and legal fighting.

My name is Lee Malis, and I left Gainesville back in the 80s and returned home after being away for almost 30 years. I photographed social upheavals all over the Americas and Europe for 20 years and raised my family in Prague, Czech Republic. I had covered Pinochet in Chile, the massacres of the Mayan Indians in Guatemala, the wars in Bosnia and Croatia, the coups of Russia, the fall of the Berlin Wall and reunification of Germany. I had been a photojournalist for Time, Newsweek, US News and World Report, and many more magazines.

When I quit photojournalism, I bought an old hurricane-damaged sailboat, fixed it up and then sailed in my 40’ ketch for 10 years between Maine and the Caribbean working as a captain, fixing boats, teaching high school, and I even published a small monthly newspaper for a while in St. Augustine.

When I came home to Gainesville five years ago, my son had never lived in the United States and I had always told my children that Gainesville is the center of the universe.

I bought an abandoned old house and my son and I lived in the house. He attended Santa Fe Community College and I worked on renovating the house. I created a nice garden and am getting involved in Gainesville life again.

My son graduated and moved back to Prague for film school. I was happy with a quiet life, repairing the house, renting out the rooms downstairs with Airbnb, and making a garden and fixing broken things. I fixed old lawnmowers, furniture, broken bicycles. I enjoyed a simple existence.

Then, along came the Reef Apartments, a new “luxury apartment community” development next door to my house in the 5th Avenue neighborhood.

After the initial backhoe attempt to tear out my tree, I got city employees to come to my house and see with their own eyes that there had been a mistake.

Gainesville’s city planning department, recently renamed the “Dept. of Doing,” had given the Reef Apartments a permit to tear down a tree that was standing in my backyard. The Live Oak tree is also actually approximately five feet in diameter, not less than three feet as their survey showed, a difference of \$20,000 in the mitigation fee. That is more than my annual income.

Instead of denying the permit, the Dept. of Doing just told Britton Jones, the Reef Apartments developer, to redo the survey and he could keep his permit to cut down the tree in my backyard. I did not like that.

The city employees did not seem to care what I liked. They strongly suggested he not cut down the tree, but since he had a permit, that was up to him.

But how could a developer have a permit to cut down a tree in my yard? Over the next days, I wrote to the city commissioners, all of whom I had voted for and for many of whom I’d helped campaign. Not one wrote back.

Then the land moving equipment came, digging out near the big Live Oak’s roots. Though I called the Dept. of Doing again to try and stop that, the city staff didn’t answer my calls. I called the police, and I called all the commissioners again. Luckily, commissioner Gigi Simmons was a couple of blocks away and came to visit while Sergeant Wilkins of GPD got the land-moving crew to agree to stay away from the roots for the day. The next day the city staff came out and said that they would ask Mr. Jones to keep his crew away from the roots until the new survey was finished.

Mr. Britton Jones had held a neighborhood meeting back in March, as required for the Reef Apartments development application. The invitation to the meeting had a map showing that the Reef Apartments were over a mile away from the actual location. I sent that map to the city commissioners and the developer had to hold another meeting and notice it properly. They then did not invite me or any other person living adjacent to the property. I complained again, this time to the Dept. of Doing and they promptly did ... nothing.

The Dept. of Doing continued to do nothing but said that they would look into it. So I assumed there would be another meeting. Nothing was done and not only did they not have another meeting they gave them their permit and no one from the neighborhood had any say in the event. Due process for the adjacent neighbors was ignored. A pattern was forming.

Back to September now. When the new survey came out, it was obvious it was wrong again! They did not correct the tree size. The size of the tree is crucial to the fee paid for the permit to cut it down. Surveys are not supposed to be alternative facts. Nobody seemed to care. Jones agreed to not tear down the tree saying it would be too expensive. But he did tear out my fence, tore out other trees, sued me with a SLAPP suit. For those who don’t know what a SLAPP suit is:

“A strategic lawsuit against public participation (SLAPP) is a lawsuit that is intended to censor, intimidate, and silence critics by burdening them with the cost of a legal defense until they abandon their criticism or opposition. Such lawsuits have been made illegal in many jurisdictions on the grounds that they impede freedom of speech... The plaintiff’s goals are accomplished if the defendant succumbs to fear, intimidation, mounting legal costs, or simple exhaustion and abandons the criticism...” (From Wikipedia.)

So now I’ve spent almost half of my yearly income on legal costs. I started a Go Fund me site with the help of Meg Neiderhofer. Incredibly we raised about \$3,600 and after fees it came to about \$3,300. I spent that money saving the tree. I feel bad asking people to help pay for my battle and so haven’t asked. The total I’ve spent so far is about \$6,000.

Every week it’s something. I rarely sleep anymore, my blood pressure spikes sometimes 50 points in one day, when they tear my fence down, for instance. I could keep fighting legally, but what’s the point? It would cost everything I’ve got and more.



Without a lawyer to agree to take it on contingency or pro bono, it’s not worth it. I’m exhausted now. Civil law is for the wealthy.

But it’s not all bad news. Commissioner Adrian Hayes-Santos asked the City Auditor to investigate what’s going on. There is an official independent investigation of the Dept. of Doing by the City Auditor. And the state Board of Surveyors and Mappers has started two official investigations into the engineering firm Jay Brown Professional Group and their surveyor.

It’s been an education on how Gainesville government works. It seems the new Orwellian “Department of Doing,” and the city’s newspeak logo, “Gainesville, Citizen Centered, People Empowered” was created to help developers get their jobs done. I’ve seen no desire to protect the citizen’s rights. It should be “Gainesville, Citizen Censored, Developer Empowered.”

The city planning department – the “Dept. of Doing” – is trying to pass an amendment to the recently updated City Comprehensive plan. They’re calling this new plan “GNV R.I.S.E.” Some of the Newspeak is just amazing. My favorite is the term “Affordable Housing”! They are saying this is an Affordable Housing plan. And who can be against helping less affluent people have affordable housing? Not me. I grew up on the streets and was a ward of the courts from the time I was 13 years old. They are finally going to help my people! Hallelujah!

But no. The City of Gainesville and the Department of Doing have a different definition of affordable housing.

Mayor Lauren Poe says “affordable” means 30 percent of income. But he didn’t say anything about how much income. So they can build luxury apartments that are affordable for middle-income people but not for the lower-income people. He says the city has a housing crisis and needs the Department of Doing’s latest rezoning plan for that reason. But the plan is touted to help lower income people. A sham.

But last year Poe said, “Gainesville has an overabundance of affordable housing.” Which is it? And how does favoring developers over neighborhoods help? And how will all this new housing serve the 4,000 people currently on the Housing Authority’s waiting list? There are loopholes big enough for a blue whale to swim through. I would bet not one of the 4,000 will be able to afford this “affordable housing.”

My neighborhood, Fifth Avenue, one of the most diverse neighborhoods in Gainesville, has real affordable housing available. Well it did. Developers have been buying up property, tearing down houses, and building high-rent dorms that look like

houses. Last year’s change to the zoning speeded that up. The three-story apartments going up next to my house are all “luxury” apartments. Now the Department of Doing plans to change the zoning again to allow even more rentals at higher density, without telling property owners. Fifth Avenue is being zoned out of existence.

And the Department of Doing is trying to impose citywide changes in the name of “affordable housing.”

That means developers can come into any neighborhood, bypass zoning regulations, and build nine expensive rentals in exchange for one that’s “affordable.”

The city commissioners are the Department of Doing’s biggest supporters in this. The Department of Doing came up with this plan after months of talking with “stakeholders” including developers who would profit from it. Not with the public, no notice to property owners, a few sham “workshops,” and now, after people protested, four sham “affordable housing open houses.”

Unless people start standing up for our neighborhoods and the way the city is being run, we are in real trouble.

Wendy Thomas is the director of the Department of Doing. Before she came to work for the City of Gainesville, she was the planning director in Bozeman, Montana. Her department floated an incentivized “affordable” housing plan there as the Department of Doing is trying to enact here in Gainesville via GNV R.I.S.E.

But that plan didn’t work there. According to an article in the Bozeman Daily Chronicle A community group called “Save Bozeman” filed suit against the city, accusing city commissioners of modifying development regulations to “benefit developers without neighborhood input,” saying commissioners rushed through a 2015 design guideline change to promote high-density development.

Our city isn’t making it easy to find out what’s going on in the Department of Doing. Maybe you heard something about what they’re calling an “affordable housing plan”? Maybe you read a Gainesville Sun article or editorial about it?

What you probably didn’t hear is what it really is – citywide zoning changes. This time the changes affect all neighborhoods.

But were any neighborhoods or property owners notified? No.

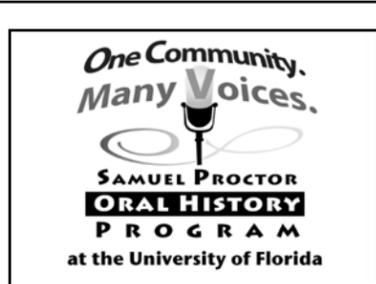
The Department of Doing has tried from the start to call the comprehensive plan amendment an “affordable housing plan” to hide what they’re really doing until it’s too late. Well, too late is coming up fast – Nov. 29. Commissioners will vote on the changes then. So far they just keep saying the changes are a tool in their toolbox or an experiment they can undo if it doesn’t work.

Doesn’t happen that way.

Once the city gives permission like this to developers, there’s no going back. Their lawyers show up and threaten to sue.

To find out more about what’s really going on, check out the Facebook page “Gnv Neighbors” and some of the conversations going on in Nextdoor.com.

Speak up, call and email commissioners, come to the city commission meeting at 6 p.m. Nov. 29 at city hall. Don’t let the Department of Doing run over you and your neighborhood like they have mine. 🐢



Our regular feature: **“History and the people who make it”** will return in the next issue of the *Iguana*

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Proposed phosphate mining update: Gearing up for legal battles ahead

by Carole Mosley

A lot has happened since the last update.

HPSII, LLC has been busy with document requests from everyone they can think of. They’ve already gone after the North Florida Planning Council, Alachua County, and Union County and won a Judgment against Union, which is being contested.

More recently, HPS’s Records Request to Union included Citizens Against Phosphate Mining (CAPM), Our Santa Fe River (OSFR), and Carol Mosley (me). And after I got a new Resolution of Opposition from the little town of Brooker, where the mining is nearest, HPS requested all communications they had with me. I hope it’s not an attempt at intimidation.

There is still a lawsuit pending against Union to overturn the Moratorium. Meanwhile, Union has taken the opportunity during the Moratorium to update their Land Development Regs. (LDRs) and Comp. Plan to meet more recent standards. In light of that, HPS sent a new claim, this time for relief of \$298,750,000 (that’s right, two hundred ninety eight million plus dollars) under the Harris Act.

And then there’s Bradford County, which did not enact a Moratorium and has been in limbo while they await the report from the consultants hired to help them make a decision. That report was due the end

of September, but HPS keeps changing the versions, so now the hearing will be set for 90 days from whenever the consultant’s report is released.

There was a PBS story taken from the documentary done by Alan Toth. It’s worth a look:

<https://www.pbs.org/newshour/show/battle-over-phosphate-mining-roils-small-fla-town>

Alachua County has expressed concerns from the beginning. The mining project straddles the New River, which runs into the Santa Fe River, designated one of Florida’s “Outstanding Rivers.” The Alachua County Commission offered assistance to both Union and Bradford counties. Bradford has declined their help, for the most part, assuming Alachua is biased against the mining. But Union has worked with Alachua County and the Regional Planning Council on updating plans that give greater protection to the public. All the while fighting Goliath’s legal bombardments.

Local groups are working hard to uncover the ever-changing details and bring them to the surface for public scrutiny. They’re gearing up for the legal battles ahead. If you want to help with that, you can donate to BAB at PO Box 103, Graham, FL 32042 or visit www.bridgesacrossborders.org.

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

Readers: If there is inaccurate information here, please let us know. If you are connected to an organization listed here, please check and update so others can be accurately informed.

Alachua Conservation Trust, Inc. Protecting North Central Florida’s natural, scenic, historic & recreational resources for over 25 years. ACT is the 2013 national Land Trust Excellence award recipient. 352-373-1078. AlachuaConservationTrust.org

Alachua County Green Party Part of a worldwide movement built out of four interrelated social pillars that support its politics: the peace, civil rights, environmental and labor movements. gainesvillegreens.webs.com, alachuagreen@gmail.com, 352-871-1995

Alachua County Labor Coalition meets monthly and organizes to support local labor and advance the national campaigns for

Medicare for All and a living wage. Contact: <http://laborcoalition.org/>, info@laborcoalition.org, 352-375-2832, PO Box 12051, 502 NW 16th Ave., 2B, Gainesville, 32601

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

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

Amnesty International UF campus chapter of worldwide human rights movement; www.facebook.com/ufamnesty or UFAmnesty@gmail.com.

Avian Research and Conservation Institute (ARCI) is a non-profit research organization working to stimulate conservation action to save threatened species of birds in the southeastern U.S., www.arcinst.org

Central Florida Democratic Socialists of America A local chapter of Democratic Socialists of America focusing on local social and political activism issues to better our community. General meetings are on the 4th Monday of every month at the Downtown Library in Gainesville in Meeting Room A. centralfldsa@gmail.com, www.fb.com/centralfldsa

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

Civic Media Center Alternative reading room and library of the non-corporate press, and a resource and space for organizing. 352-373-0010, www.civicmediacenter.org, 433 S Main St., Gainesville, 32601

Continued on next page

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The Coalition for Racial Justice gnv4all@gmail.com

The Coalition of Hispanics Integrating Spanish Speakers through Advocacy and Service (CHISPAS) Student-run group at UF. chispasuf@gmail.com

Code Pink: Women for Peace Women-led grassroots peace and social justice movement utilizing creative protest, non-violent direct action and community involvement. CodePink4Peace.org, jacquebetz@gmail.com

The Community Weatherization Coalition is a grassroots community coalition whose mission is to improve home weatherization and energy efficiency for low-income households through education, volunteer work projects and community-building. The CWC welcomes new volunteers to get involved in a variety of ways, from performing audits to PR/Graphics and more. Contact: 352-450-4965 or cwc@communityweatherization.net

Conservation Burial, Inc. promotes natural burial practices in cemeteries that conserve land and reunite people with the environment. 352-372-1095, act.davidp@gmail.com

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

Democratic Party of Alachua County Meetings 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 at 901 NW 8th Ave., 352-373-1730, alachuadems.org

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

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

Edible Plant Project Local 100% volunteer-run collective to create a revolution through edible and food-producing plants. http://edibleplantproject.org/contact-us

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

Final Friends helps families learn how to accomplish legal home funeral care as an alternative to employing a commercial funeral home. We are an independent group of volunteers who provide free education, guidance and support to anyone who prefers to care for their own deceased loved ones prior to burial or cremation. www.finalfriends.org, final.friends.org@gmail.com, 352-374-4478

The Fine Print Quarterly magazine founded

in 2008 with political, social and arts coverage, thefineprintmag.org

Florida School of Traditional Midwifery A clearinghouse for information, activities and educational programs. 352-338-0766 www.midwiferyschool.org

Florida Defenders of the Environment works to protect freshwater resources, conserve public lands, and provide quality environmental education since 1969. 352-475-1119, Fladefenders.org

Gainesville Area AIDS Project provides toiletries, household cleaners, hot meals, frozen food at no cost to people living with HIV/AIDS. www.gaaponline.org, info@gaaponline.org, 352-373-4227, Open Tuesdays 10-1 and last Friday of month 5-7.

Gainesville Citizens for Alternatives to Death Penalty works to abolish the death penalty. Join vigils when Florida has an execution. Meets 6pm first Tuesday every month at Mennonite Meeting House, 1236 NW 18th Ave, 352-378-1690, www.fadp.org.

Gainesville Interfaith Alliance for Immigrant Justice (IAIJ) organizes faith communities to work together for immigrant justice. Meets 2nd Mondays at 6 pm at the Mennonite Meeting House, 1236 NW 18th Ave. Gainesvilleiaij@gmail.com, www.gainesvilleiaij.blogspot.com, 352-377-6577

Gainesville NOW www.gainesvillenow.org. info@gainesvilleNOW.org NOW meeting info contact Lisa at 352-450-1912

Gainesville Peer Respite A non-profit, non-clinical mental health community providing sanctuary and support to those experiencing emotional distress. Peer Support Warmline is available 6pm-6am; we offer wellness activities, support groups and brief overnight respite stays. Call the Warmline Support: 352-559-4559, gainesvillerespite.org

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

Graduate Assistants United Union represents UF grad assistants by fighting for improved working conditions, community involvement and academic freedom. 352-575-0366, officers@ufgau.org, www.ufgau.org

Grow Radio Non-profit provides opportunities for community members to create and manage engaging, educational, locally-generated programming to promote musical/visual arts and humanities for enrichment of the community. www.growradio.org. PO Box 13891, Gainesville, 32604, 352-219-0145 (v), 352-872-5085 (studio hotline)

Humanist Society of Gainesville meets at 7 pm on the 3rd Wednesday of most months at Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 4225 NW 34th St to discuss and promote secular, humanist, atheist & agnostic social influences-www.gainesvillehumanists.org or facebook.com/humanistsocietyofgainesville; gainesvillehumanists@gmail.com.

Humanists on Campus UF organization provides

a community for freethinking, secular humanists. Goals include promoting values of humanism, discussing issues humanists face internationally. We strive to participate in community service and bring a fun, dynamic group to the university! Preferred contact info: email uhumanistsoncampus@gmail.com. alternative: j.bontems@ufl.edu, phone- 561-374-3537

Indivisible Gainesville* is one of 5800 local chapters of the national Indivisible movement, working to peacefully and systematically resist the Trump agenda. We are a group of local volunteers fighting against agendas of division, inequality, financial influence in government, and policies that neglect to benefit all American citizens equally. indivisiblegnv.org, projectmanagement@indivisiblegnv.org

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

Industrial Workers of the World (IWW) Gainesville General Membership Branch Union for all workers, regardless of industry, trade, job, or employment status. Meets 1st Sunday of the month at 6 pm at CMC. Contact: gainesvilleiww@gmail.com

League of Women Voters of Alachua County Nonpartisan grassroots political group of women and men which has fought since 1920 to improve our systems of government and impact public policies (fairness in districting, voting and elections, e.g.) through citizen education and advocacy. http://www.lwvalachua.org/, info@lwv-alachua.org<mailto:info@lwv-alachua.org>

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

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

MindFreedom North Florida Human rights group for psychiatric survivors and mental health consumers. 352-328-2511

Move to Amend, Gainesville is an organization dedicated to amending the US Constitution to establish that money is not speech, and that only human beings have constitutional rights. Contact Alachua County Green Party for info.

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Support, education and advocacy for families and loved ones of persons with mental illness/brain disorders. 374-5600. ext. 8322; www.namigainesville.org

National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare Local advocates work to promote/preserve these threatened programs for senior citizens. We have literature, speakers, T-shirts.

Email: Our.Circle.Of.Care@gmail.com. See national Web site to join: http://www.ncpssm.org/

National Lawyers Guild Lawyers, law students, legal workers and jailhouse lawyers using the law to advance social justice, support progressive social movements. nlggainesville@gmail.com or www.nlg.org

National Women's Liberation is a feminist group for women who want to fight back against male supremacy and win more freedom for women. Inequalities between women and men are political problems requiring a collective solution. Founded 1968. Join us: www.womensliberation.org, P.O. Box 14017, Gainesville, 32604, 352-575-0495, nwl@womensliberation.org

NCF AWIS - an advocacy organization championing the interest of women in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) across all disciplines and employment sectors. Meetings are usually the first Monday of the month (except holidays) from 5:30 -7:30pm, Millhopper Branch, Alachua County Public Library. All meetings open to public. ncfawis@gmail.com or www.ncfawis.org

Occupy Gainesville is about engaging local people in grassroots, participatory democracy, diversity and dialogue; we stand in solidarity with the Occupy Wall Street Movement and the rest of the people peacefully occupying public space across this county and the world. www.occupygainesville.org and https://www.facebook.com/occupygainesville

Our Revolution North-Central Florida, inspired by Bernie Sanders, bringing progressive voices into the Democratic party. contact@ourrevncfl.com

Our Santa Fe River and Ichetucknee Alliance are two of a number of grassroots environmentalist groups campaigning to protect and restore the rivers and springs. See: http://www.oursantaferiver.org/ and http://www.ichetuckneealliance.org/

PFLAG (Parents and Families of Lesbians and Gays) meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Fellowship Hall of the United Church of Gainesville (1624 NW 5th Ave.) at 7 pm with a programmed portion and informal meeting with opportunity to talk and peruse their resource library. pflaggainesville.org. Confidential Helpline 352-340-3770 or email info@pflaggainesville.org

Planned Parenthood Clinic Full-service health center for reproductive and sexual health care needs. Offering pregnancy testing and options counseling for \$10 from 10am-noon and 2-5pm. Located at 914 NW 13th St. 352-377-0881

Pride Community Center of North Central Florida Resources for the LGBT+ community, open M-F, 3-7, Sat. noon-4. Located at 3131 NW 13th St., Suite 62. 352-377-8915, www.GainesvillePride.org

Protect Gainesville Citizens Group whose mission is to provide Gainesville residents with accurate and comprehensible information about the Cabot/Koppers Superfund site. 352-354-2432, www.protectgainesville.org

Putnam County Florida Democratic Party,

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

Quaker Meetinghouse Quakers have a 350-year tradition of working peacefully for social justice. Silent, unprogrammed worship Sundays at 11, followed by potluck. Visitors welcome. 702 NW 38th St. Facebook/GainesvilleQuakers for events or request Meetinghouse space at www.GainesvilleQuakers.org

Repurpose Project, a nonprofit junk shop and community center, diverts useful resources from the landfill, redirects these items to the public for art and education, inspires creativity, and helps us all rethink what we throw away. Let's all help protect the planet and buy used. Open to the public. Tues-Sat: 10am-7pm, Sun noon-5. www.repurposeproject.org

River Phoenix Center for Peacebuilding provides innovative ways to resolve conflict and provides services like mediation, communication skill building and restorative justice. www.centerforpeacebuilding.org. 2603 NW 13th St. #333, 352-234-6595

Rural Women's Health Project is a local health education organization developing materials promoting health justice for migrant and rural women. Robin or Fran 352-372-1095

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

Say Yes to Second Chances Florida is a coalition of nonpartisan civic and faith organizations who are working for Florida's Voting Restoration Amendment to allow people who've paid their debt to society to earn back their right to vote. https://www.floridiansforairdemocracy.com/

Sierra Club meets the first Thursday of every month at 7:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Gainesville, 4225 NW 34th St. 352-528-3751, www.ssjsierra.org

Sister City Program of Gainesville links Gainesville with sister cities in Russia, Israel and Palestine, Iraq, and Haiti. Meetings are the first Tuesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. at the Mennonite Meeting House, 1236 NW 18th Ave. (across from Gainesville HS). http://www.gnvsistercities.org

Stand By Our Plan informs the public on critical differences between the Comprehensive Plan and Plum Creek's proposal, which we do not support. Alachua County's Comprehensive Plan is the best blueprint for future growth in the county's unincorporated areas; it protects valuable wetlands, standbyourplan@gmail.com; http://standbyourplan.org/

Student/Farmworker Alliance A network of youth organizing with farmworkers to eliminate sweatshop conditions and modern-day slavery in the fields. On Facebook, search "Gainesville Student/Farmworker Alliance"

Students for Justice in Palestine, a cultural and political organization, sjuflorida@gmail.com

Sunday Assembly, a secular congregation which celebrates life, meets the third Sunday of each month at 11 am at 530 W. University Ave. (Santa Fe College campus building in downtown Gainesville). There is a talk, music, sing-alongs, discussion, refreshments and fellowship. See http://SAGainesville.weebly.com/

UF College Democrats (UFCD) meets Tuesdays at 6:30 in Little Hall 121. 407-580-4543, Facebook.com/UFcollegedems

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

United Faculty of Florida, UF chapter Run by and for faculty, the University of Florida Chapter of United Faculty of Florida (UFF-UF) represents over 1600 faculty and professionals at UF. UFF's origins lie in efforts by faculty to protect academic freedom, defend civil liberties, and end racial discrimination at UF. www.UFF-UF.org, 352-519-4130.

United Nations Association, Gainesville Florida Chapter Purpose is to heighten citizen awareness and knowledge of global problems and the UN efforts to deal with those issues. www.afn.org/~una-usa/

United Way Information and Referral Human-staffed computer database for resources and organizations in Alachua County. 352-332-4636 or simply 211

Veterans for Peace Anti-war organization that raises awareness of the detriments of militarism and war as well as seeking peaceful and effective alternatives. Meets first Wednesday of every month at 7 pm. 352-375-2563, http://vfp Gainesville.org/

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

Women's March Gainesville meets on the second Monday of each month: for location and agenda information, please see are on the second Monday of each month, see www.hearourvoice-gnv.org; m.facebook.com/wmflgnv/www.facebook.com/groups/wmflgnv/; Instagram.com/womensmarchgnv/; Twitter.com/WMFL_Gnv/ and/or email wmw@hearourvoicegnv.org. Together we can do anything... Join Us! We Need You. Let's build this peaceful movement together!

World Socialist Party of the United States (WSP-US) welcomes anyone wanting to know more about Marxian socialism and our efforts to transform the dog-eat-dog-Devil take the hindmost world-created by capitalism into a democratically arranged world society of equality at boston@wspus.org. Upon request the Party will provide membership applications, http://wspus.org.

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

32nd Annual Winter Solstice Celebration

Saturday, December 15th, 8:00 P.M.*

**Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
4225 NW 34th Street**

Featuring Music By:

Cherokee Peace Chant

Drums of Peace

Samara • Gary Gordon

Quartermoon • Other Voices

The Errelics

**A Choir of Heavenly Semi-Angels
and more**

with readings from our Peace Poetry Contest

Special thanks to our Master of Ceremonies, musician & veteran

Bill Hutchinson

Special thanks to Peter Theoktisto of Everyman Sound

\$15-30 Suggested donation to benefit

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FOR PEACE**



Donations of clothing,
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food for Helping Hands
Clinic will be
appreciated

Tickets available at

**McIntyre Stained Glass Studio & Art Gallery
Thornebrook Village, 2441 NW 43rd St. Suite 11A
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**Doors open at 6:30 PM. Ticket only guarantees admission until 8:00 PM.*

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National Election Roundup

This article was originally published by Labor Notes on November 9. See more at labornotes.org.

How did states with high-profile union fights fare in the 2018 midterms? The elections were a mixed bag.

Wisconsin union members (and yours truly!) got to vote out the state's number one union-buster: Scott Walker. He survived a 2012 recall and a 2014 re-election, but the third time was the charm. The governor who rose to the national stage by kneecapping unions was narrowly ousted in a high-turnout election.

"There's going to be a lot to rebuild," said Milwaukee Teachers Education Association President Amy Mizialko, whose union campaigned heavily for Walker's opponent, Governor-Elect Tony Evers. "Lots of things were ripped away from workers and students."

Evers has vowed to increase funding for public schools by \$1.4 billion and to end the voucher program that funnels public money into private schools.

Walker's notorious Act 10 all but banned collective bargaining for public sector workers, banned dues deduction, and forced unions to recertify every year. Under his lead, the state went "right to work" in both the public and private sectors, and union membership plummeted 40 percent.

Meanwhile Walker diverted taxpayer funds to voucher and charter schools and to electronics manufacturing giant Foxconn, notorious for the awful conditions under which workers produce iPhones at its factory in Shenzhen, China. Foxconn agreed to set up a factory in Wisconsin after receiving the largest tax giveaway in U.S. history.

Two other Midwestern states, Michigan and Illinois, also ousted anti-union Republican governors.

Michigan has seen the last of Governor Rick Snyder, who signed that state's right-to-work law in 2012 and established dictatorial control over many Michigan cities and school districts through the "emergency manager" system, throwing out union contracts and corrupting Flint's water supply along the way. Snyder was term-limited out, but will be replaced by Democrat Gretchen Whitmer. The state retained its Republican-dominated state legislature, though.

In Illinois, unions were pleased to be rid of Governor Bruce Rauner, a named plaintiff in the Supreme Court's Janus decision and a foe of teachers and public sector pensions. The new Democratic governor, billionaire

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