

# The Gainesville Iguana

*A progressive newsletter  
and events calendar*

**January/February, 2019**  
**Vol. 33, Issue 1/2**

# GET READY



*Despite Trump's destructive presidency, the Left made important strides this year — from electoral victories to strikes, union campaigns, movement organizing and popularizing left-wing policies.*

*This article originally appeared on Dec. 20, 2018 at [inthesetimes.com](http://inthesetimes.com).*

*by Marc Daalder*

In many ways, 2018 was a political garbage fire of a year. From the confirmation of conservative justice Brett Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court to the imposition of fascist border policies to President Trump's continued attacks on everything from workers' rights to the very planet itself, the year saw plenty of reasons for dismay.

The year saw more vile disregard for human dignity from the Trump administration, but it was also marked by fierce and effective resistance to every aspect of the Trump agenda.

But it wasn't all bad. There were a number of important victories over the course of 2018 that are worth celebrating and

*See VICTORIES, p. 2*

*Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, a socialist activist and former organizer for Bernie Sanders' presidential campaign, won a House seat on a leftist progressive platform. Photo by Andrew Harnik/AP Photo*

## Sunrise Movement & the Green New Deal

*by Marcela Mulholland*

Two days after the 2018 midterm elections I packed up into a car with some fellow climate activists and drove from Orlando to Washington, DC. My comrades and I had just spent the past several months working to help elect climate champions and were still recovering from Florida's dismal election results. (@RickScott)

We were going to DC to participate in a sit-in, organized by Sunrise Movement, at Nancy Pelosi's office. During the sit-in

I was arrested alongside 51 other young people for demanding that all Democratic leaders commit to a Green New Deal that would create thousands of good jobs for working class people and transform our economy away from fossil fuels over the next decade.

We did this because the recent UN climate report tells us we have just 12 years to address climate change. Hundreds joined our protest, millions followed us online, and we

*See SUNRISE, p. 20*

### INSIDE ...

<i>From the Publisher</i> .....	3
<i>CMC Events</i> .....	11
<i>Event Calendar</i> .....	12-13
<i>Oral History</i> .....	18-19
<i>Directory</i> .....	21-23
<i>Editors' Picks</i> .....	24

From **VICTORIES**, p. 1

remembering. Left-wing activism today shouldn't just be about opposition to the Trump administration, but must also focus on moving the country in a progressive direction and building a long-term movement capable of achieving lasting change.

In that spirit, here are 10 big wins the left achieved in the United States in 2018:

#### Progressive Primary Wave

As voters went to the polls for primaries between March and September, a number of progressive challengers won stunning upsets. Chief among these was Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, the then-28-year-old open democratic socialist who unseated powerful House Democrat Joe Crowley in New York's 14th congressional district.

Wisconsin ironworker Randy Bryce won his primary with the aim of tackling Paul Ryan in the general election. Although Ryan ultimately decided not to run for reelection and Bryce lost to the Republican's successor, the primary victory still put progressive Wisconsin politics back on the map.

Other noteworthy left primary wins were Ilhan Omar in Minnesota, Rashida Tlaib in Michigan Ayanna Pressley in Massachusetts, Stacey Abrams in Georgia and Andrew Gillum in Florida. Overall, the primary season showed that the Democratic Party's left flank is ascendant.

#### Medicare for All and a Green New Deal Gain Overwhelming Support

An August poll found that a full 70 percent of Americans, including 52 percent of Republicans, back Medicare for All — the highest level of public support ever recorded.

The single-payer plan, which was considered pie-in-the-sky by liberal commentators when pushed by Sen. Bernie Sanders during the 2016 presidential primaries, now has support from 124 House members and 16 senators, including most high-profile likely 2020 presidential contenders. Healthcare was also the top concern for voters in the 2018 midterms, making Medicare for All the obvious policy choice for Democrats who want to win on the issue of healthcare.

And it wasn't just universal healthcare. Another bold and transformative policy also gained enormous support this year: The Green New Deal. The plan, pushed by Ocasio-Cortez and others, would move the United States to 100 percent renewable energy through a transition away from

fossil fuels, infrastructure improvements, a massive public jobs programs and other major policy changes.

A poll from Data for Progress in September put support for a Green New Deal at 55 percent, but a more recent survey showed the proposal with 81 percent behind it, including strong bipartisan backing. And 35 members of Congress have now come out in support of the plan.

#### Taking Back the House

On November 6, Democrats took back the House of Representatives in stunning fashion, ending two long years of one-party rule in Washington. Democrats won by the largest margin in U.S. midterm history — smashing the 1974 "Watergate midterm" record by 100,000 votes. With a House majority, Democrats are poised to do more to keep the Trump administration in check while halting Trump's legislative endeavors. Progressives, meanwhile, can introduce their own legislation — from Medicare for All to free college and a Green New Deal — and push moderate Democrats left on healthcare, labor, foreign policy and more.

#### Youth Activism

Although it was provoked by the tragic school shooting in Parkland, Florida, the March for Our Lives kicked off a new wave of student activism. Gun control — at the core of this movement — is a worthwhile goal, but its impact reaches even beyond this single issue, as 2018 saw youth political involvement surge.

A record 31 percent of youth turned out to vote in the November midterms, Teen Vogue reports. The prior record for youth vote during a midterm election was just 21 percent in 1986. Young people are also attending more demonstrations and protests.

Nearly 20 percent of Americans say they have attended a protest since 2016 and there were more demonstrations in March (when the March for Our Lives took place), April and June than in any other month since Trump's inauguration. While these gains may not all be directly connected to the March for Our Lives, it's clear that the movement has inspired Americans of all ages and backgrounds to increase their political involvement.

#### Red-state Teachers' Strikes

While students walked out of their classrooms across the country to protest the scourge of gun violence, teachers were preparing their own disruption. A 13-day strike by West Virginia teachers, which

won a 5 percent pay increase, launched a cascade of actions around the nation.

Teachers walked off the job statewide in Oklahoma — where a 1990s-era ballot measure makes raising taxes prohibitively difficult, and where nearly 20 percent of schools are only open four days a week.

Another statewide teacher strike followed in Arizona in April. Colorado, Kentucky and North Carolina also saw strikes in numerous counties, and Los Angeles teachers ended the year with a march of 50,000 people ahead of a citywide strike set to begin Jan. 10. Look for the wave to keep spreading in 2019.

#### Graduate Student Union Organizing

A new labor front has opened in the field of higher education — the rights of graduate student workers. Student workers at private and public universities alike have championed the cause of graduate student unions in 2018. Grad students at Columbia University, Fordham University, Brandeis University, Loyola University Chicago, Georgetown University and Brown University have all seen major gains this year, from union recognition to contract negotiations to successful strike actions. These victories have come in the face of the Trump NLRB's attacks on grad workers' rights.

#### Stopping Keystone XL

One of the top left-wing victories of 2015, the halting of the Keystone XL Pipeline, saw a redux in 2018. After President Obama halted the pipeline in 2015 (and, later, the Dakota Access Pipeline), Trump signed executive orders starting the process back up again in 2017.

DAPL became operational later that year and already leaked five times in 2017, according to the Intercept. Meanwhile, Keystone XL has been mired in legal troubles — including, most consequentially, a federal court order in November of this year that blocked any further work on the pipeline until the Trump administration undertakes a serious review of its climate impact. The ruling came after years of carefully-coordinated activism from a coalition of environmental and indigenous rights groups.

#### Backlash to Yemen War

The October killing of journalist Jamal Khashoggi by Saudi Arabian agents in the kingdom's consulate in Istanbul was a tragedy that made headlines across the globe. And while the Trump administra-

See **VICTORIES**, p. 21

From the publisher ...

## People get ready

There is a weird irony that I begin writing this on the day Governor DeSantis is sworn in, as I wrote the last publisher's note when that race, and, as well, the races for Senate and Ag Commissioner, were still undecided and in recounts. Well thankfully Nikki Fried got in, but the fact of Rick Scott being Senator and that close, close loss by Andrew Gillum really hurts.

I listened to DeSantis's speech and sadly thought how different it could have been with a Gov. Gillum. Worst is the prospect of the huge change in the State Supreme Court where three liberal justices will be replaced by conservatives due to term limits. We here in Florida had better be ready to organize, because they will be coming after legal abortion, union organizing rights, immigrant rights, public schools, you name it.

Nationally the media fixation on Trump has the news media hopping from distraction to distraction while the issues of foreign policy, science, and civil rights become background.

Horrible decisions are being made which are setting back labor, education, the environment and healthcare. The scale of damage being done feels overwhelming, and the recovery will not be easy. In a recent essay in Truth Out (which is in our *Editors' Picks* on page 24) Arundhati Roy wrote, "People spend so much time mocking Trump or waiting for him to be impeached, and the danger with that kind of obsession with a single person is that you don't see the system that produced him."

I totally agree. Yes it is horrible that this strange man has ended up as President, but he is an outgrowth of a quite dysfunctional electoral system, where a combination of huge hidden money, a mass media with minimal commitment to caring about anything but ratings and profits, and an alienated electorate whose frustration and fears have them either not participating or falling into misleading silos of disinformation.

It is an unprecedented mess, we are sliding into an authoritarian oligarchy and it is a mistake to think it will be easy to turn around. And we damn sure won't do it with wimpy compromises; it needs to be faced, called out, and resisted. Thankfully the November election turned the House blue and some quite dynamic women and men came in, and with the change in leadership some seasoned and principled Representatives have moved into powerful committee chairs, so we are in a much better position to resist from Congress than we were before.

So how do we resist? One of the biggest things is resisting the idea things are so hopelessly messed up that there is nothing to do but watch it unfold before our eyes (or even avert our eyes completely and ignore it all). If you are taking time to read this I assume you are not in that category. So we just need to do what we can beyond the necessary work, sleep and family/friends.

Upgrade your news sources — there is so much beyond the mainstream media, especially on line: democracynow.org, commondreams.org, truthout.org, theintercept.com and portside.org are a few sources I use. Many top magazines like the New Yorker, Atlantic, and Harpers post excellent long form stories. I subscribe to the Gainesville Sun to both keep up with what they are reporting (and not reporting), and as well to support them, because if they go out of business who knows what would replace them. There's some good stuff on NPR amid the increasing fluff, too. And of course podcasts let you be you own programmer.

So fine, you are more aware — now what?

Talk to friends about what's going on. Join an organization. (See our directory on pages 21-23 for a listing of organizations.) Support events put on by these organizations. Donate to them if you have the means, but not the time to go to events and meetings. Most importantly, get ready, ready for whatever may be coming down the pike. It may be hard times where we need to just be there to support one another. And actually, there are plenty of people needing help right now, this minute, where your participation and resources could be well used. ✨



Joe Courter

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

Individuals: \$15  
(or more if you can)  
Low/No income: What you can  
Groups: \$20

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

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The Iguana has been published monthly or bimonthly by volunteers for over 30 years. Circulation for this issue is 4,500.

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Cover drawing of iguana by Daryl Harrison.

Printed on recycled paper.

# How Florida can legalize cannabis in 2020



FloridaFreedomGroup.org

by Chris Kennard

Floridians For Freedom (FFF) is a statewide non-partisan volunteer group of committed citizens intent upon legalizing cannabis in Florida.

We can collect one million petitions we need by January of 2020, to turn in to the State of Florida to verify, and thereby create, approve and enact our own legal-cannabis law.

Fully legalizing personal use cannabis and hemp crop cultivation and economic opportunities has broad support, here and around the country. This move helps to heal America by ending an open sore infecting our nation for over 100 years, beginning with racial and regional prejudices against Mexican-American and Black citizens.

Between 62 percent and 65 percent of all Florida voters (per a national Gallup poll from February of 2018) would vote to pass the right of adults to cannabis in the state and national election next year. We have just enough time and the easy means of Florida voters signing one petition, handing copies to two other voters to do the same ... “sign one, pass two along” in a daisy chain of petitions from all 67 Florida counties.

Enacting the right of adults over the age of twenty-one to possess, use and grow cannabis in Florida must become a Florida State constitutional amendment to protect citizens from our own politicians who continue to try to stop us.

We learned our lesson with our 2016 Medical Marijuana Amendment. Over 71 percent of the voters approved it in 2016, but this did not stop then-Governor Rick Scott from trying to cut it into pieces and deny it.

There are three major steps to take:

1. Write a petition that meets applicable state standards and regulations
2. Activate a statewide volunteer campaign for the collection of state voter signed petitions as is necessary for “citizen’s initiative” during an election, by providing one million [766,200, with enough margin to cover for some getting rejected] signed petitions to the state no later than nine months prior to election day (Feb. 1, 2020)
3. Rally enough voters, at least 60 percent to prevail in November.

Petitions must be signed by 766,200 voters from at least 14 of Florida’s 27 congressional districts. See <https://dos.elections.myflorida.com/initiatives> (search for and click on “Right of adults to cannabis”) to check how many ballots have been signed in your county. Go to FloridaFreedomGroup.com to print out a petition to read, and if you agree, to sign and pass two more along to two other registered Florida voters to sign as well.

Ask them to do the same ... We CAN legalize cannabis in Florida, next year!

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FloridaFreedomGroup.com

See Alachua [or other Florida county] Floridians for Freedom on Facebook for more information. 🐾

# Clinton crony says Bernie supporters must be silenced for 2020 primaries

by Caitlin Johnstone

This article was originally published on Medium.com on Jan. 3. See more at <https://medium.com/@caityjohnstone/clinton-crony-says-bernie-supporters-must-be-silenced-for-2020-primaries>.

Well, like it or not the dust has barely settled from the November midterms and the 2020 presidential race is already underway. Campaigns are being launched, names are being floated, “Gosh look what an ordinary person I am!” videos are being live streamed from politicians’ kitchens, and we are already seeing many of the same toxic patterns from 2016 resurfacing from many of the same toxic people.

NBC News has published an op-ed by Republican political strategist-turned Clinton advisor and Dem strategist David Brock titled “Bernie Sanders’ fans can’t be allowed to poison another Democratic primary with personal attacks — Bashing Beto O’Rourke (and every other Democrat) doesn’t help liberals’ cause in 2020. It only helps Trump.” The article explicitly blames Hillary Clinton’s loss to Donald Trump on supporters of Bernie Sanders who criticized her during the primary, and makes it clear that such criticisms must be forcefully and aggressively fought against this time around.

“I’m hardly the only political observer who blames Hillary Clinton’s general election defeat to Donald Trump in part on personal attacks on Clinton first made by Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., and his backers,” Brock’s article begins. “Those attacks from her left laid the groundwork for copycat attacks lobbed by Donald Trump — and, in the process, helped hand the Supreme Court to the right-wing for a generation.”

Citing no evidence, Brock goes on to accuse journalists and social media users of staging a “coordinated effort” to “attack” Beto O’Rourke and other presidential hopefuls, as though coordination would be necessary for criticisms and questions to emerge about the voting records and campaign donations of public officials seeking the highest political office on the planet. The implication, of course, is that no criticisms of any kind should be leveled at Democratic presidential primary contestants, leaving narrative-shaping authority solely in the hands of the plutocratic media and beltway manipulators like David Brock.

See **BERNIE**, p. 10

# Jackeline Caal – say her name



Jackeline Caal, 7, was arrested by Customs and Border Patrol agents on Dec. 6, along with her father, Nery Caal. The next morning, she started having seizures. She reportedly had not eaten or consumed water for several days. MSNBC reported that Customs agents put off getting her medical treatment for an hour and a half. She died from a combination of dehydration and septic shock. (Source: Heavy.com)

by Harvey Ward, via Facebook

I have a seven-year-old daughter. She’s a joker and a cuddler and a curious student. She’s independent but she wants to sit close to me when she hears thunder. Most days she lets me hold her hand when we walk to school.

This morning I read a story about a seven-year-old from Guatemala. Her dad decided things were so bad where they lived that walking a thousand dangerous miles to a better place, to a city on a hill, was the only option they had.

I know he didn’t make that deci-

sion on a whim, because I know how dads think about their seven-year-old daughters.

They made it all the way to the US. And then she died because the end of the trip was more than her seven-year-old body could bear.

I’ll bet she was a joker and a cuddler and a curious student. I’ll bet she was independent, but wanted to sit close to her dad when she heard thunder. I hope that in her last days and weeks on this earth she held her dad’s hand a lot.

I hope when things got bad she just went to sleep and that she woke up somewhere without angry dogs and men with guns and barbed wire. Somewhere welcoming.

I hope if things are ever so bad for my family that we have to do something so drastic that we won’t be met with angry dogs and men with guns and barbed wire. I hope we’re welcomed.

My friend, we have a problem. It’s not a Trump problem or an Obama problem. It’s a you and me problem. I don’t have an answer to it but I know it starts with decency and grace. With an open heart and an open hand. If for no other reason than because tomorrow it could be any one of us on the wrong side of that barbed wire.

I held my seven-year-old daughter’s hand tighter this morning. Now I’m going to wipe my eyes and go see how I can be part of the solution.

Update: Rolling Stone reports that her name was Jackeline Caal. I plan to say it. A lot.

**Related story: Washington trained Guatemala’s mass murderers - and the border patrol played a role** by Greg Grandin and Elizabeth Oglesby from The Nation, Jan. 3, 2019.

Now two Guatemalan children have died under Border Patrol custody. But the agency’s role in Latin American oppression has a long history.

<https://www.thenation.com/article/border-patrol-refugees-guatemala-cia-war-crimes/> 🐾

The Veterans for Peace Gainesville Chapter 14, Samuel Proctor Oral History Program, and the Matheson History Museum present

## Lessons on the Cost of War

March 1-3, 2019

### Schedule of Events:

#### Friday

11 a.m. - 7 p.m. — Chicago Veterans for Peace My Lai Memorial Exhibit opens at the Matheson History Museum

7 p.m.— Screening of film *Winter Soldier*; Q&A with Scott Camil afterwards

#### Saturday

11 a.m. - 4 p.m. — Exhibit open

2 p.m. — Panel discussion on the My Lai massacre moderated by Dr. Paul Ortiz, director of the Samuel Proctor Oral History Program

#### Sunday

11 a.m. - 4 p.m. — Exhibit open

2 p.m. — Panel discussion--The Cost of War.



The exhibit and programs will all take place at:  
Matheson History Museum  
513 East University Avenue  
Gainesville, FL 32601

Admission: FREE

<http://mylaimemorial.org>  
[www.vfpgainesville.org](http://www.vfpgainesville.org)

MY LAI MEMORIAL EXHIBIT  
CHICAGO VETERANS FOR PEACE



# Alachua County launches Second Solar Cooperative

by League of Women Voters

The League of Women Voters – Gainesville/Alachua County is excited to announce our second solar cooperative. Alachua County residents and business owners are forming the cooperative to save money and make going solar easier, while building a network of solar supporters.

Alachua County residents interested in joining the co-op can sign up as a member at the Cooperative web page: [www.solarunitedneighbors.org/alachua](http://www.solarunitedneighbors.org/alachua). The solar co-op is free to join and joining is not a commitment to purchase panels. Once the group is large enough, Solar United Neighbors will help the co-op solicit competitive bids from area solar installers.

The Cooperative will be hosting our third information session on Jan. 24 at 7p.m. in the Millhopper Branch Library at 3145 NW 43rd Street, Meeting Room A in Gainesville. Our first two sessions, on Nov. 28 and Dec. 12 were well received and have generated a lot of enthusiasm for the Cooperative.

The Cooperative is a partnership that includes The League of Women Voters of Alachua County, The Sustainable Design Group, Unitarian Universalist Church of Gainesville, Living Arts Meta Program, Sierra Club Suwannee – St. Johns Group, Hands On Gainesville, Ygrene and Solar United Neighbors.

Co-op participants will select a single company to complete all of the installations. They will then have the option to purchase panels individually based on the installer's group rate. By going solar as a group and choosing a single installer, participants can save on the costs of going solar and have the support of fellow group participants and solar experts at Solar United Neighbors.

Solar United Neighbors (SUN) supports solar co-ops across the country. These co-ops are a part of the organization's mission to create a new energy system with rooftop solar as the cornerstone. Solar United Neighbors holds events and education programs to help people become informed solar consumers, maximize the value of their solar investment and advocate for fair solar policies. Those interested in supporting the organizations' work and becoming a member can do so at the SUN website.

Now is the time to act. 2019 is the last year that solar installations will qualify for a 30 percent federal income tax credit. This credit will be slowly reduced over the following years. Installing solar now saves your pocket book by letting the sun pay your electrical bills and saves our environment by reducing our reliance on non-renewable fossil fuels. Join us today by going to our web

site: [www.solarunitedneighbors.org/alachua\\_and\\_together\\_we\\_can\\_lead\\_as\\_the\\_shining\\_example\\_of\\_the\\_sunshine\\_state](http://www.solarunitedneighbors.org/alachua_and_together_we_can_lead_as_the_shining_example_of_the_sunshine_state).

For more information, contact Wes Wheeler at [wes@wheelerandtraviss.com](mailto:wes@wheelerandtraviss.com).

## A message to Gov Ron DeSantis

by Candi Churchill

written Inauguration Day, Jan 8, 2019

I am a product of Florida's Public School System, from Kindergarten to a Masters degree. I loved my teachers from Cooper City Elementary School, Pioneer Middle School and Cooper City High School. I would not be who I am without the faculty, staff and graduate assistants at the University of Florida.

I am a parent of a 4th grader at Glen Springs Elementary School and an aunt to an 11th grader at Buchholz High School and a freshman at Santa Fe College.

My nephew did not graduate high school because he left public school and went to a private school that gave up on him and verbally abused and mocked him for his learning challenges. This school was touted as "better" than "regular" schools, but it is a lie. He got his GED from an adult education program at a public school a couple years after high school and is now eager to be a pharmacist because public educators value every student, and helped him see his potential.

I want to know how Governor Ron DeSantis plans to fund Florida's future for these three boys and all of our children. How does he plan to fill the 4,000+ teacher shortage? What about the fact that Florida teachers are paid 20 percent below the national average? How does he plan to lower class size for our students? How does he plan to make sure every student has the resources they need to succeed? How does Ron DeSantis plan to invest in affordable trade school or college for every young student or returning student?

Higher education has been gutted by 20 years of budget cuts and putting more and more of the cost on students and piling on their debt.

Ron DeSantis was marginally elected by less than 5 percent. There were twenty pro-public education referendums in Florida and all twenty passed by higher margins. Floridians want investments in our public schools, not to turn public education into corporate profits for the few.

Today Ron DeSantis is being sworn in and he's announcing a policy that will divert money from public schools to vouchers and charters. He's doing this at the expense of the people who need our schools to be funded. I want him to answer the questions above, rather than take money away from our schools.

# City elections coming up in March

by Joe Courter

We will have more next issue for sure, but be aware there will be a City of Gainesville election on March 19.

This will be for District 4, currently held by Adrian Hayes-Santos, who at press time is unopposed, and for the office of Mayor, currently held by Lauren Poe, who has already drawn two opponents.

They are Jenn Powell, a progressive grassroots candidate who in prior years was a bigtime Bernie Sanders supporter and also recently ran against Helen Warren, and a total newcomer and self-described conservative Jennifer Reid.

The candidate filing deadline will be at the end of January, so others may jump in, and the picture will be clearer when we next print at the end of February.

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## Changeville

When: Feb. 7-8

Changeville is a two-day social change festival to be held on Feb. 7-8, in partnership with the UF College of Journalism and Communications annual frank conference in downtown Gainesville. It brings together students, professionals and local and national artists from a variety of platforms, united by a passion for social change. The festival includes music, comedy, award-winning films, tech, poetry and discussion panels/workshops.

The diverse line-up of music and comedy artists includes: Japanese Breakfast, Big Freedia, AJJ, Ted Leo, Laura Stevenson, Locos For Juana, Lizz Winstead, Zahra Noorbakhsh, Joyelle Johnson, Jaye McBride, Flipturn, Savants Of Soul, Guts, Gutless, Hugo Sanchez, Sooja, Quadrabop, DJ Mellow Blendz, Zeta and VOWLS.

The festival will take place at a variety of venues including Bo Diddley Plaza, The Hippodrome, High Dive, The Wooly, The Atlantic, Civic Media Center, Volta, Swamp City, The Midnight, The Bull and Big Top.

Events feature music stages, a comedy stage, films, discussion panels, food trucks and plaza fair, Greenroom - a VR/Tech/Startup event, Tiny Desk Karaoke, Poetry, as well as a number of local businesses, non-profits and vendors. It's truly a community event.

Through a charity partnership with Plus 1, \$1 from each ticket sale will be donated to two charity organizations: local organization Gainesville Girls Rock Camp and national organization CEEAS (Center for Educational Excellence in Alternative Settings). Changeville will also collect canned goods and donations for Peaceful Paths and Grace Marketplace.

Festival passes are available at [changeville.us/tickets](http://changeville.us/tickets).



## 10th Cinema Verde International Environmental Film & Arts Festival

**When:** Gainesville, Feb. 14-17  
**Where:** See [www.cinemaverde.org/2019](http://www.cinemaverde.org/2019)

This year Cinema Verde will offer more than 40 films on a variety of subjects, ranging in length from 3 minutes to 88 minutes. The films will be shown from Feb. 14-17.

Cinema Verde's mission is to provide environmental education to the public through film, arts, workshops, events, tours and any other forum or media; to increase public awareness of environmental practices that enhance public health and improve quality of life in urban, suburban and rural settings.

To see a list of films for the 2019 festival, along with locations and times, visit <http://www.cinemaverde.org/2019/>.



Tues-Saturday: 11am-8pm  
 Sun: 11am-6pm  
 Mon: Closed

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[www.thirdhousebooks.com](http://www.thirdhousebooks.com)

## ARTWALK *gainesville*

GET ENGAGED....or just have an affair with art on the **LAST FRIDAY** OF THE MONTH in downtown **Gainesville's Art District.**  
**GALLERY TOUR BEGINS AT 7 PM**  
[www.artwalkgainesville.com](http://www.artwalkgainesville.com)

## Remembering George H.W. Bush

The post below came to our attention through Gary Gordon, who saw it on his friend Bob Harris's Facebook page. If you doubt a word of what follows, use the Google.

by Bob Harris

In the 1970s, CIA chief George H.W. Bush defended the CIA even when it was found to have assassinated leaders, supported dictatorships, and overthrown governments. In the 1980s, Bush abandoned his alleged "principles" and (a) flipped to pro-life and (b) adopted the trickle-down economics that still harm generations, just to be Reagan's VP and get closer to power.

Running for president, he made Willie Horton a racist household name, then escalated the racist drug war and put right-wing ideologue Clarence Thomas into Thurgood Marshall's SCOTUS seat, using tokenized black skin the way Fox News and the GOP have ever since.

Bush covered up Iran-Contra crimes and pardoned the criminals. He ordered an invasion of Panama that killed thousands of civilians, their deaths completely invisible in the US press. Shortly after that, his 1991 Iraq war was based on lies just as preposterous as the ones behind the 2003 invasion his son later staged. As POTUS, Bush Sr. was then responsible for the bombing of civilian shelters, widespread intentional destruction of civilian infrastructure, and the famed "Highway of Death."

More than 130K died in the war and aftermath, including 30K+ children, setting up a US-led embargo that killed more than 500K more for purely geopolitical reasons. (These lives are meaningless in the West, per Democrat Madeleine Albright's notorious statement that their deaths were "worth it.")

In retirement, he became a well-known serial groper who used his power to amuse himself with unwilling young women's bodies.

Today, the ENTIRE U.S. political spectrum now regards this man as a statesman, a class act, a patriot, a good family man.

He gets a hero's burial.

This tells you massive amounts about the American ruling class, across the political spectrum. This tells you a lot about what Americans are willing to accept, wash away, and then call noble. Bush's status in death also tells you where America is headed. It is not a place of accountability, responsibility, democracy, human rights, or hope.

This obliteration of American history, the mass ignorance and unwillingness to understand what the US and its leaders have done for generations, is precisely how America wound up with Bush Jr. and then Trump.

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## Upcoming Hipp Cinema Events

### FACING THE DRAGON

Jan. 19 - Feb 3 at various times. See ad to the right for specific dates and times.

**Q & A with the filmmaker following showings:** Saturday, Jan. 19 at 8:30pm and Sunday, Jan. 20 at 6 pm.

**Synopsis:** Afghan-American filmmaker Sedika Mojadidi joins two awe-inspiring women on the front lines: Nilofar, a successful doctor-turned-member of parliament, driven in her mission to secure peace and well-being for women; and Shakila, a top investigative journalist committed to exposing the truth about what is happening in her troubled country. Under increasing threats of violence, these two women are soon forced to choose between their sense of duty and love for Afghanistan, and the safety of their families. (80 min.)

### HUMAN VOL. 1

Thursday, Jan. 17 at 6pm and Friday, Jan. 18 at 8:30pm

**Synopsis:** 'HUMAN' is a collection of stories about and images of our world, offering an immersion to the core of what it means to be human. Through these stories full of love and happiness, as well as hatred and violence, 'HUMAN' brings us face to face with the other, making us reflect on our lives. From stories of everyday experiences to accounts of the most unbelievable lives, these poignant encounters share a rare sincerity and underline who we are – our darker side, but also what is most noble in us, and what is universal. Our Earth is shown at its most sublime through never-before-seen aerial images accompanied by soaring music, resulting in an ode to the beauty of the world, providing a moment to draw breath and for introspection. 'HUMAN' is a politically engaged work which allows us to embrace the human condition and to reflect on the meaning of our existence. (83 min.)

'HUMAN' is segmented into a three part series, we will be previewing the first volume, and playing all three volumes in full at a later date.

### CAPTURING THE FLAG

Thursday Jan. 24 - Sunday Feb. 3

**Synopsis:** This documentary follows volunteers in Cumberland County, North Carolina during the 2016 presidential election. They have come to seek out and prevent voter suppression, but soon realize that the issue reaches far broader than one county in the southeast. This film tackles the ever-present problems with our voting systems, and how we can move forward to assure truly democratic elections in the future. (76 mins.)

### BLACK FILMS MATTER:

**Rosewood:** Friday, Feb 1 at 7:30pm. Kendall Fakksonly Kelly performing and leading discussion after the film.

**Woodpeckers:** Saturday, Feb. 9 at 7:30pm

**Come Back, Africa:** Thursday, Feb. 28 at 7:30pm

**Classic and Cocktails:** Saturday, Feb. 23 at 7:30pm

**The Spook Who Sat by the Door:** Thursday, Feb. 28 at 7:30pm

For more information, visit [thehipp.org/cinema](http://thehipp.org/cinema) or call the box office at 352-375-4477.



## FACING THE DRAGON

A documentary by Sedika Mojadidi

## CINEMA SHOWTIMES

Saturday, Jan. 19 - 8:30 p.m.

Sunday, Jan. 20 - 6 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 24 - 6 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 25 - 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 26 - 6 p.m.

Sunday, Jan. 27 - 1 p.m. & 6 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 1 - 6 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 2 - 6 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 3 - 3 p.m.

## Q&A WITH SEDIKA MOJADIDI

Join us for a Q&A with Sedika Mojadidi after the documentary viewing at the Hipp Cinema Saturday and Sunday.

AT THE HIPPI CINEMA

For more information, visit [thehipp.org/cinema](http://thehipp.org/cinema) or call the Box Office at 352.375.4477

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From BERNIE, p. 5

Brock concludes his screed as follows:

In 2016, I ran a pro-Hillary SuperPAC which attempted to defend the candidate against false attacks, many of which came from or originated to her left. Though they were hardly in charge of our messaging, it was made very clear to us by our allies at her campaign headquarters that any efforts on our part to push back against the left-wing anti-Clinton brigades were unwellcome assistance; they feared alienating Sanders' voters.

That head-in-the-sand posture was ultimately self-defeating.

Today, Democrats are rightly laser-focused on picking a winner in 2020, and the stakes are just too high to let bad faith actors—whose real aim is to smear Democrats as no different than Republicans—stage inter-party schisms. If Sanders decides to run again this time, he should focus on policy and eschew character attacks on Democrats—and admonish his supporters to do the same. Otherwise, they put the core values we all share at risk, yet again.

It is unclear what "character attacks" Brock is claiming Sanders made; the entirety of criticisms leveled by Sanders and the overwhelming majority of his supporters were directed at the policy decisions Clinton made in her political career and the shady places she took money from. What is clear is that the pro-Hillary SuperPAC he is referring to was the infamous "Correct the Record" troll operation, which employed literal skills to deceitfully pose as grassroots Hillary supporters online whose job was to attack anyone who criticized her. This despicable tactic was incalculably disruptive to online political discourse in 2016, and Brock clearly wants to implement a far more aggressive version of his operation in the 2020 primaries.

"Let's be clear about what's going on here: this is a deliberate Dem Party effort to try to intimidate journalists and advocacy groups into not reporting on voting records and campaign donations," tweeted progressive investigative journalist David Sirota in response to Brock's article, adding, "Wanna know why I rejected working for this guy? That's why." Sirota had agreed to work with Brock on a new outlet billed as "The left's answer to Breitbart" in early 2017, but later backed out of the project. Brock's liberal Breitbart never materialized.

If you want a quality illustration of what a manipulative sociopath David Brock is, contrast his obnoxious, dishonest accusatory screed with his open letter to Sanders at the beginning of 2017 titled "Dear Senator Sanders: I'm with You in the Fight Ahead". Brock apologized for his harsh attacks on Sanders, gushed about the way Bernie "electrified millions" with his campaign and pledged to work with him to harness that energy against Trump. Brock wanted something from Sanders (control of his base in this case), so he smothered him in flattery; now people

See BERNIE, p. 17



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# Truth and reconciliation in Alachua County

by Robert Karl Hutchinson, Alachua County Commission from Nov. 21, 2018

Three days after 56 Alachua County citizens returned from a pilgrimage to Montgomery, the Alachua County Commission unanimously adopted a motion that started a truth and reconciliation process for county government.

We are going to determine how much of County operations were financed from the taxes on enslaved people, and how the County used prisoner leasing to re-enslave freedmen.

We are going to better understand how our policies enforced racial segregation, and how our disenfranchisement cost generations of African Americans the ability to accumulate wealth.

We are going to make accessible a robust website for researchers, historians, and the public that includes thousands of original documents showing the enormity of local government involvement in the everyday workings of racial discrimination and violence.

Our activities will also include a conference, prominent speakers, numerous public meetings and events, one or more community book reads, monuments and memorials, and other activities to help us understand our real history, which is dramatically different than we were (and are) taught.

The Board of County Commissioners will not be telling the School Board or the University of Florida how they should examine and repair racial disparities in education, but we hope citizens insist they do. The BoCC will not be telling Law Enforcement Officials, Prosecutors, or Judges that they need to reconcile their agency's historical role in enforcing the racial hierarchy with the need today for justice, but we hope citizens will insist on this self examination. And we won't be telling the Gainesville Sun, or Realtors, or Churches, or Fraternal Organizations that they should account for their roles in our racial history, but we hope they do also.

We have done some of this work already, but we have much more to do before we can claim to be a community where justice has replaced discrimination. We hope you will join the effort.



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  
Every Sat Meditation at 9am

All dance classes will be held in Stetson Kennedy Annex (SKA)

- Mon Jan 14 Sierra Club Clean Energy Campaign at 7pm
- Tue Jan 15 Children's West African Dance Class at 5:30pm  
Adult West African Dance Class at 6:30pm
- Wed Jan 16 Communication Skills Workshop from 6-8pm  
Connect the Dots live show; doors at 8pm
- Thu Jan 17 Children's West African Dance Class at 5:30pm
- Fri Jan 18 Open Jam from 8pm-2am
- Sat Jan 19 Yoga at 10am, Free Store from 2-5pm
- Sun Jan 20 Volunteer retreat at the CMC at 11am
- Tue Jan 22 Children's West African Dance Class at 5:30pm  
Adult West African Dance Class at 6:30pm  
IWOC letter writing meeting 6-8pm
- Thu Jan 24 Children's West African Dance Class at 5:30pm
- Fri Jan 25 ArtWalk 7-10pm
- Sat Jan 26 Environmental Group Discussion 12-2pm  
Trance Dance Benefit 8-12am
- Mon Jan 28 "Copwatchers" for Movie Monday at 7pm  
Connect the Dots live show; doors at 8pm
- Tue Jan 29 Art Protest at 7pm  
Children's West African Dance Class at 5:30pm  
Adult West African Dance Class at 6:30pm
- Wed Jan 30 Cell 411 Workshop at 6pm
- Thu Jan 31 Children's West African Dance Class at 5:30pm
- Fri Feb 1 Connect the Dots live show; doors at 9pm
- Sat Feb 2 Yoga at 10am  
Free Movement class 12-2pm  
Connect the Dots live show; doors at 9pm
- Mon Feb 4 Movie Monday TBA 7pm
- Wed Feb 6 Communication Skills Workshop from 6-8pm
- Thu Feb 7 Children's West African Dance Class at 5:30pm
- Fri Feb 8 Changeville time TBA
- Sat Feb 9 Sustaining Wellness Workshop 12-2pm  
Connect the Dots live show; doors at 9pm
- Sun Feb 10 Connect the Dots live show; doors at 8pm
- Tue Feb 12 Children's West African Dance Class at 5:30pm  
Adult West African Dance Class at 6:30pm  
IWOC 6-8pm
- Thu Feb 14 Children's West African Dance Class at 5:30pm
- Fri Feb 15 Silent Disco at 10pm
- Sat Feb 16 Yoga at 10am, Free Store from 2-5pm
- Tue Feb 19 Children's West African Dance Class at 5:30pm  
Adult West African Dance Class at 6:30pm
- Wed Feb 20 Communication Skills Workshop from 6-8pm
- Thu Feb 21 Children's West African Dance Class at 5:30pm
- Fri Feb 22 Connect the Dots live show; doors at 9pm
- Sat Feb 23 Meet n' Greet w/SONG by Trans Machine; potluck at 12pm  
Connect the Dots live show; doors at 9pm
- Mon Feb 25 SoFar Sounds Gainesville surprise artist time TBA
- Tues Feb 26 Children's West African Dance Class at 5:30pm  
Adult West African Dance Class at 6:30pm  
WOC 6-8pm
- Wed Feb 27 Awareness for Puerto Rico at 7:30pm
- Thur Feb 28 Children's West African Dance Class at 5:30pm

Please support the CMC however you can: volunteering, memberships, donations, ideas, attendance at our events. Grassroots support keeps us going. To get weekly announcement email, contact <coordinators@civicmediacenter.org> and request to be added to the list.

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8 AM, 1 PM

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VICTOR PEREZ  
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JAZZVILLE  
ROBBIE STEVENS  
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SAT 8-10 AM  
SUN 8-NOON



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Wednesday  
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Thursday  
Jueves

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

**20 Sunday Assembly:** "Transgender 101" - SFC Downtown (530 W. Univ. Ave), 11 am, 3rd Suns: see pg 15 & sagainesville.weebly.com.

**CMC Volunteer Retreat.** Civic Media Ctr (433 S Main St), 11 am  
**Zines** meeting every Sunday, Civic Media Center, noon.

**Facing the Dragon** screening & director talk, Hipp, 6 pm (also 1/19, 8:30 pm); see pg 9.

**Black Feminist Decolonial Thought** talk, UF Ustler Hall, 7 pm.



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

**A Doll's House Part 2** final performance at Hipp, 2 pm.

**10 "With Pride: Uplifting Black Artists"** exhibit & performances, Harn Mus, 1:30 pm.

**James Baldwin** talk, Harn Museum (3201 Hull Rd), 3 pm.

**Connect the Dots** show w/ Lobo Marino & others, CMC, 8 pm.

**17 Sunday Assembly,** "Astro-nomy Saves the World" - see 1/20 & pg 15.

**Sundays at AQ Jones** - talks on local history, politics, culture, at AQ Jones Museum (1013 NW 13th Ave), 3rd Suns, 3 pm: rsvp 352-334-2010.

**Acoustic Eidolon,** Prairie Creek Lodge (7204 SE Cty Rd 234), 7:30 pm, \$20.

**24 "And Justice For All"** dialog on civil rights, Harn Museum, 3 pm.

**Artspeaks: Youth Poetry/Spoken Word,** Thomas Ctr, 4 pm.

**21 MLK Events:** Awards, MLK Garden (city hall), 11 am; Program, Bo Diddlely Plaza, noon; March, BD Plaza->MLK Ctr, 1 pm; Gospel music, MLK Ctr, 2 pm.

**Witness for Immigrant Justice and Sanctuary,** NW 23rd Ave & 43rd St, 5-6 pm every Monday.

**Grow Gvl** 3rd Mon meeting, Working Food Ctr (219 NW 10th Ave), 6 pm.

**Jazz Night,** Hipp, 7 pm thru January.

**Weekly Candle-holding Witness** for the undocumented, BD Downtown Plaza, every Monday, 7:30-8 pm.

**MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY FULL MOON**

**28 "Age of Robots"** talk, Cade Museum (811 S Main St), 6 pm, \$10 (students \$5).

**Copwatchers,** CMC, 7 pm.

**Connect the Dots** music, CMC, 8 pm.

**4 New Voter workshop,** Sup. of Elections office (515 N. Main St), 6 pm, free & open to public.

**CMC Movie Night** tba, 7 pm.

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

**11 Interfaith Alliance for Immigrant Justice** meets 2nd Mondays, Emmanuel Mennonite Church (1236 NW 18th Ave), 6 pm.

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

**CMC documentary** tba, 7 pm.

**18 Grow Gvl** meeting - see 1/21.

**Meatless Monday Market,** Working Food (219 NW 10th Ave), 4 pm.  
**PRESIDENTS' DAY**

**25 LWV Gvl Comm Candidate Forum,** LifeSouth (4039 W. Newberry Rd), 6 pm.

**SoFar Sounds** Gvl surprise artist, CMC; time tba.

**15 School Board** meets 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 620 E. Univ Ave, 6 pm: see sbac.edu.

**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.

**Children's West African Dance Class,** CMC, 5:30 pm; & **Adult West African Dance Class,** CMC, 6:30 pm; also on 1/17, 22, 24, 29, 31 & 2/7, 12, 14, 19, 21, 26, 28 (kids) and 1/22, 29 & 2/12, 20, 26 (adults).

**22 Alachua County Commission** meets, 2nd & 4th Tues, 9 am & 5 pm, County Admin Bldg; citizens comment, 9:30 am & 5:30 pm.

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

**Healthy Aging** Town Hall, UF Healthstreet (2401 SW Archer Rd), 6 pm, free w/ advance registration at eventbrite.com.

**MLK, Afro/Latinx Legacy,** UF Reitz Union, 7:10-8:40 pm, 22nd-24th.

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

**Art Protest,** CMC, 7 pm.

**UN Ass'n Annual Dinner,** The Kebab House (604 NW 13th St), 7 pm, \$22 (byo alcohol); rsvp girardinaw@cox.net.

**5 School Board** - see 1/15.

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

**12 County Commish** - see 1/22.

**IWOC** meets - see 11/13.

**19 Voter Reg. Deadline** for Gvl City elections; pg 15.

**Art & Ideology** talk by Liam Gillick, UF Little Hall 109, 6 pm, free.

**PFLAG** meets 3rd Tuesdays, United Church of Gvl (1624 NW 5th Ave), 7 pm.  
**FULL MOON**

**26 IWOC,** CMC, 6 pm.

**16 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 Diddlely Plaza (111 E. University Ave), 4-7 pm; **Edible Plant Project,** 2nd Weds.

**Humanists** topic: Religious Liberty, UUFG (4225 NW 34th St), 6:30 pm.

**Connect the Dots** live music show, CMC, 8 pm.

**1919: Prohibition** ratified.  
**1991: GHW Bush** starts Iraq war.  
**RELIGIOUS FREEDOM DAY**

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

**"Birds of Paradise"** - Nat'l Geographic photographers' multimedia show, Phillips Ctr (3201 Hull Rd), 7:30, \$25 (students \$10)

*If you appreciate this calendar, please consider supporting the Ig with a donation &/or subscription: PO Box 14712, Gainesville FL 32604.*

**30 SFC Volunteer Fair,** S-Breezeway ((3000 NW 83rd St), 10 am-2 pm.

**Cell 411** workshop, CMC, 6 pm.

**Keep up with the CMC** at [civiciamcenter.org](http://civiciamcenter.org) for events created after this calendar was printed, and into the future.

**1882: Franklin D. Roosevelt** born.

**6 Vets for Peace** meet: call 352-375-2563 for location, 7 pm.

**13 Race & Politics** authors' talks, UF Pugh Hall, 6 pm.

**Dismantling Racism:** see 1/23.

**Peyton Bros,** Heartwood, 8 pm.

**20 Communication** workshop, CMC, 6 pm.

**NOWstalgia,** Satchel's, 6-9 pm.

**Humanists:** see 1/16.

**IGUANA Deadline** for March issue is February 20th; write [gainesvilleiguana@cox.net](mailto:gainesvilleiguana@cox.net) or call 352-378-5655 with events, updates, advertisements & info.

**27 Awareness for Puerto Rico,** CMC, 7:30 pm.

**Dismantling Racism:** see 1/23.

**17 CMC Volunteers** meet every Thursday, 5:30 pm.

**"History of Capitalism: Anti-monopoly"** panel at UF Pugh Hall, 6 pm.

**History of Racial Inequity,** pastors' round table, Mt Carmel (2505 NE 8th Ave), 6:30 pm.

**Open Poetry** every Thursday at CMC, 9 pm.

*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.*

**24 "Tree of Life"** talk, Harn Museum (3201 Hull Rd), 6 pm, free.

**Solar Co-op,** Millhopper Library (3145 NW 43rd St), 7 pm: pg 6.

**41: Caligula assassinated.**

**31 GI Jews,** film & talk on Jewish US troops in WWII, Hipp (25 SE 2nd Pl), 4:30 pm, free.

**Nico Case** in Jacksonville.

**7 Kings of the Springs** hosted by Frog Drinks, 1st Mag (1220 SE Veitch St), 6 pm.

**Changeville Music & Arts Festival,** BD Downtown Plaza, 6-11 pm; see pg 7 for more.

**An African American History of Alachua County** author Lizzie P.R.B. Jenkins talk, Matheson Museum, 6 pm, free; see pg 14.

**Sierra Club** meets: LifeSouth (4039 Newberry Rd), 7 pm.

**The Conch** storytelling (true story, 5 minutes, no notes) at Lightnin' Salvage, 7 pm.

**14 Cinema Verde Environ. Film Festival** opens - see pg 8, [www.cinemaverde.org](http://www.cinemaverde.org).

**Stonewall Dems,** Pride Ctr (3131 NW 13th St), 2nd Thurs, 5:30 pm.

**Wax Wings** at Satchel's, 6 pm.

**"Love, Africa"** - art, games, more at Harn Museum, 6-9 pm, free.  
**VALENTINE'S DAY**

**21 Europeans in African Art** talk, Harn Museum, 6 pm.

**28 Impact** conference opens, UF Reitz Union Chamber Room, 5 pm, free & open to public.

**Come Back, Africa,** Hipp Cinema (Black Films Matter series), 7:30 pm, \$9; see pg 9.

**18 Maestra,** UF Ustler Hall, 7 pm.

**The Kennedys & Ordinary Elephant** at Prairie Creek Lodge (7204 SE Cty Rd 234), 7:30 pm, \$20.

**Brazilfest 2019,** Heartwood Soundstage (619 S. Main St), 7 pm.

**Spamalot,** Phillips Ctr (3201 Hull Rd), 7:30 pm.

**OJAS: Open Jam & Art Show,** CMC (433 S Main St), 8 pm-2 am.

*Whether here or anywhere: please support live music!*

**1962: US first sprays herbicides on Vietnam.**

**25 Gvl Artwalk,** 7 pm - see pg 8.

**Joe Crookston,** Heartwood Soundstage (619 S. Main St), 8 pm.

**Scott Biran, Thin Skins, and Nichols Family Band:** Loosey's, 9 pm.

**Feb 1 1st Friday Social,** Working Food Comm. Ctr (219 NW 10th Ave), 5-7 pm.

**Story Summit,** Heartwood, 7 pm.

**Tom Neilson house concert,** 16267 237th Drive, Live Oak, 7 pm, \$10-20.

**The Colored Door at the Train Depot** opens at Actors' Warehouse (619 NE 1st St), 7 pm; runs through 2/17; pg 6.

**In Splendid Error** opens at Acrosstown Repertory Theatre (619 S Main St), 8 pm; runs through 2/17.

**Rosewood,** Hipp Cinema (Black Films Matter series), 7:30 pm, \$9; see pg 9.

**Connect the Dots** show, CMC, 9 pm.

**8 "Zero Waste at Home",** Library Partnership (912 NE 16th Ave), 6 pm.

**SciArt Showcase** exhibit opening, SFC Art Gallery (8000 NW 83rd St), 7 pm.

**Heather Pierson Acoustic Trio,** Prairie Creek Lodge (7204 SE Cty Rd 234), 7:30 pm, \$20.

**Don David & Friends,** Heartwood Soundstage (619 S Main St), 7 pm.

**Changeville** continues: Liz Winstead at High Dive & AJJ at Wooly - see pg 7.

**15 Ghost-Note & Electric Kif,** Heartwood Soundstage, 8 pm.

**Silent Disco,** CMC, 10 pm.

**1564: Galileo Galilei** born.  
**1954: Matt "Simpsons" Groening** born.

**22 Gvl Artwalk,** 7 pm - see pg 8.

**Connect the Dots** live music show, CMC, 9 pm (also 2/23, 9 pm).

**1732: George Washington** born.  
**1819: US buys Florida** from Spain.

**19 Community Meditation,** CMC, 9-10 am every Saturday.

**Yoga class** 1st/3rd Sats, CMC, 10 am.

**Women's March Tallahassee** - Railroad Sq. Art Dist (602 McDonnell Dr), 1-4 pm; see pg 21 for more.

**Free Store** at CMC, 2-5 pm.

**"Stand Your Ground" Law forum,** MLK Ctr (1028 NE 14th St), 2 pm.

**"7 Things I've Learned"** - Ira Glass; Phillips Ctr, 7:30 pm, \$10-75.

**26 Hoggetowne Medieval Faire** opens, Alachua Cty Fairgrounds (3100 NE 39th Ave), 10 am, \$18; also 1/27, 2/1-3 - see hoggetownefaire.org.

**Interfaith Dialog** 2nd & 4th Saturdays, Em. Mennonite Church, 10 am.

**Flatwoods Fire & Nature Festival,** Austin Cary Memorial Forest (10625 Waldo Rd), 10 am-3 pm.

**Enviro. Discussion,** CMC, noon.

**Longest Table** potluck, discussion & movie, Depot Park, 4-6 pm.

**Sultans of String,** PC Lodge, 7:30 pm.

**Trance Dance Benefit,** CMC, 8-12 pm.

**2 Yoga class,** CMC, 10 am.

**Indivisible Gvl** meets: Fred Cone Park (2841 E. Univ Ave), 10 am.

**Free Movement class,** CMC, noon.

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

**Connect the Dots** show, CMC, 9 pm.

**WGOT 11th B'day** celebration, Atlantic, 9 pm.

**GROUNDHOG DAY HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY**

**9 Interfaith Dialog** - see 1/26.

**Wellness** workshop, CMC, noon.

**Cypress Gardens** author talk, Matheson Mus (513 E Univ Ave), 4 pm, free.

**Rocktower Reggae Fest,** 1st Magnitude Brewing, 4 pm, \$20 (\$15 adv).

**Connect the Dots** show, CMC, 9 pm.

**16 Yoga class,** CMC, 10 am.

**VegFest,** Depot Pk, 10 am-5 pm.

**Queer Prom,** The Wooly, 9:30 pm.

**Pints & Predators,** 1st Mag, 12-5 pm.

**Free Store** at CMC, 2-5 pm.

# An African American history of Alachua County with author/historian Lizzie P.R.B. Jenkins

**When:** Thursday, February 7, 6pm  
**Where:** Matheson History Museum  
**Admission:** Free, pre-registration required.



We are honored to welcome author and historian Lizzie P.R.B. Jenkins on Thursday, Feb. 7, to share about the storied history of African Americans in Alachua County.

Alachua County's African American ancestry contributed significantly to the area's history. Once enslaved pioneers Richard and Juliann Sams settled in Archer as early as 1839. They were former slaves of James M. Parchman, who journeyed through the wilderness from Parchman, Mississippi. They and others shaped the county's history through inventions, education, and a work ethic based on spirituality.

Jenkin's book, Alachua County, Florida (Black America Series), shows people working together from the early 1800s rural farm life, when racial violence was routine, until African Americans broke the chains of injustice and started organizing and controlling civic affairs.

Jenkins is the Emeritus Founder and

President of The Real Rosewood Foundation, Inc. She grew up on a farm in Archer, attended Archer Negro High School and graduated from Lincoln High School in 1957. She earned a BS Degree from Florida Memorial University in St. Augustine and a MS degree from Nova University in Ft. Lauderdale. She taught in the Alachua County school system for thirty-three years.

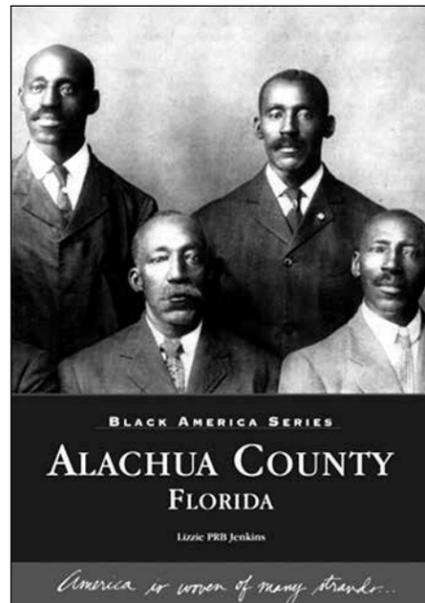
After retirement she chose to study her family history and the history of Rosewood, a town where a tragedy completely altered its future, including that of her aunt, Mahulda Gussie Brown Carrier, a Rosewood school teacher. She has authored books on local history and written two songs telling the story of Rosewood. Jenkins was also featured in the Ted Koppel documentary The Last Lynching (2008).

She has received many awards for her work, including Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Hall of Fame, Lincoln High School Hall of Fame, and NAACP Pioneer. Jenkins is a member of Archer's St. Joseph Missionary Baptist Church and married to John M. Jenkins, Sr. They have six children.

A book signing will follow her presentation.

Due to the overwhelming response for this program, all attendees must pre-register via Eventbrite.com ([https://](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/an-african-american-history-of-alachua-county-tickets-54427499115)

[www.eventbrite.com/e/an-african-american-history-of-alachua-county-tickets-54427499115](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/an-african-american-history-of-alachua-county-tickets-54427499115)).



Lizzie P.R.B. Jenkins book, "Alachua County, Florida" shows people working together from the early 1800s rural farm life, when racial violence was routine, until African Americans broke the chains of injustice and started organizing and controlling civic affairs. Jenkins is also the author of "A Tribute to Archer." ✨

## Petition for expansion of Medicaid in Florida

After the success of Amendment 4 giving ex-felons the right to vote, it is time to remedy another Florida injustice, the inability of low income Floridians to obtain health insurance coverage. At present no adult without dependent children can obtain Medicaid insurance coverage. Those with dependent children can get it if their income is less than 33 percent of the Federal Poverty Level, amounting to \$6857 for a family of three. About 400,000 people are in this coverage gap.

Not only is this unjust, it is irrational because the federal government would pay for 90 percent of the cost of expansion. Now Florida taxpayers are subsidizing Medicaid expansion in other states.

A petition for a constitutional amendment to provide Medicaid coverage to adults with incomes less than 138 percent of the Federal Poverty level has been prepared by a statewide group which includes Planned Parenthood, SEIU, Florida Voices for Health and the Fairness Project (which helped four states' successful Medicaid Expansion petitions in the last election). Locally, the Alachua County Labor Coalition and National Women's Liberation are involved.

Volunteers are needed to circulate the petition as we are trying to collect 5,000 signatures in our Congressional District by the end of February. Please email ACLC ([info@laborcoalition.org](mailto:info@laborcoalition.org)) or visit [www.bit.ly/medesignup](http://www.bit.ly/medesignup). ✨

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# Registering to vote? Florida Rights Restoration Coalition is here to help

Starting January 8, 1.4 million Floridians with completed sentences will be able to register to vote, the single-biggest enfranchisement of voting rights since passage of the 26th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

If you or a loved one are planning to register, make sure to connect with the Florida Rights Restoration Coalition (FRRC) on Facebook and at <https://floridarrc.com/>. They successfully passed Amendment 4 to automatically restore the rights of 1.4 million returning citizens. They are led by directly impacted people, and will stand up for your rights.

### Problems Registering:

If you or someone you know faces problems registering to vote or has questions call 1-877-MYVOTE-0 (1-877-698-6830) for direct assistance, or let the ACLU of Florida know. A helpful one-page document for eligible voters is available from FRRC.

To check whether or not the terms of a sentence have been completed (including probation, parole and financial obligations) you may check with these organizations for more information:

- Florida Department of Law Enforcement
- Florida Commission on Offender Review
- Florida Clerks of County Courts
- Florida Department of Corrections

### Ways to Register:

*In person:* at your local Supervisor of Elections Office

*Online:* at the Florida Online Voter Registration System (<https://registertovoteflorida.gov/>)

*Print and Mail the form:* The statewide voter registration application form is available for download (English PDF/ Español PDF), or available at any county Supervisor of Elections, local library, or any entity authorized by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to issue fishing, hunting, or trapping permits.

Call 1-877-MYVOTE-0 (1-877-698-6380) with any questions. ✨

### Are You Searching for a Spiritual Community?

For a community dedicated to peace, equality, social justice, and care of the earth?

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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.

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# Department of Doing fails to support neighborhoods

by Janice Garry

Something just ain't right.

I don't pretend to know everything, but I know when something just ain't right. What's going on in our city, specifically in the Department of Doing (silly name, I know, but that's what it's called), just ain't right.

## A city that listened.

Four years ago I was involved in the city-wide revision of the Comprehensive Plan and Land Development Code. Were you there? Do you remember how great it was to participate with the city?

I live in vintage Oakview Neighborhood. I and all my neighbors received notices in our mailboxes about upcoming community workshops. All the other neighborhood citizens received notices. We received emails with detailed information about meeting times with links or attachments of pertinent documents. We were welcomed to well-organized workshops in large venues that could accommodate the hundreds of us who cared about our neighborhoods and showed up.

Ralph Hilliard, Planning Manager, gave excellent, detailed presentations about proposed zoning changes to our neighborhoods. Andrew Persons, who is still a Senior Planner for the city, was there. After the presentations, citizens were given the opportunity to line up at the mic to ask questions. Dozens of us stood before city staff to ask questions and express concerns about proposed changes to our neighborhoods. And the city listened. Proposed changes to our neighborhoods were dropped. While the new Land Development Code was changed to en-

courage higher city density, our neighborhoods were left intact. I bragged to fellow citizens, to friends and family near and far how great our city was. And how our city staff listened. In 2017, the Comprehensive Plan was completed and enacted.

Is the city listening now?

## GNV Rise

Last year GNV RISE was a sharp contrast. It just so happened that a couple of watchful citizens attended a meeting at which significant zoning changes allowing higher density and businesses in our neighborhoods were proposed. City staff in the Department of Doing had been meeting for months with developers to come up with the plan. Citizens were not informed or invited.

In August 2018 these watchful citizens notified a handful of people and from that a movement was speedily born. At the September, October and November City Commission hearings, when the proposal was to be transmitted to the state, more citizens showed up. We spoke out and protested such a significant zoning change without our involvement. Gail Johnson proposed and commissioners voted for a delay until workshops could be held in November.

The workshops were not organized to educate citizens as a whole. They were tables with piecemeal information. They were unhelpful. We continued to mobilize. By the city commission meeting on November 29, some 170 citizens showed up and for five hours citizens spoke, nearly unanimously, in opposition to GNV RISE. Commissioners unanimously voted against it. It took a monumental effort to get the city to listen. We refused to be ignored.

Is the city listening now?

## The Reef Apartment Project

Lee Malis lives on NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue. Usually a quiet kinda guy, he's been shouting for months to the Department of Doing, commissioners and city staff about the intrusion of a developer. The Reef Project was approved by the Department of Doing (notice the theme here?). Never mind that the project had significant violations from the Land Development Code that was just enacted in 2017. Never mind that Thomas Hawkins, former commissioner and attorney specializing in land use wrote a detailed email that reached all seven commissioners, outlining the problems. Never mind that neighbors to the property were not included in required meetings. Never mind that the developer had moved forward with the development, had damaged property that has a shared claim by Mr. Malis and that the developer filed law suits against Mr. Malis. The Department of Doing approved a flawed design. The neighborhood will suffer the consequences. We are still shouting.

Is the city listening now?

## The Pleasant Street Condo Project

Also on NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, an apartment complex has been approved by, you guessed it, the Department of Doing. The approval was made despite RC (residential conservation) zoning that only allows single family homes and duplexes. Objections were raised and, on December 17, a hearing took place with a magistrate at which citizens appealed the approval of the project. Even though things aren't settled, the Department of Doing permitted the developer to remove every single tree and plant on

the property. It is now a desolate mass of dirt and tree stumps.

Is the city listening now?

## The destruction of St. Michael's church

Perhaps most heartbreaking was the barbaric destruction of St. Michael's church on NW 23<sup>rd</sup> Ave. and NW 43<sup>rd</sup> St.

The building was designed by Nils M. Schweizer, a student of Frank Lloyd Wright, who is considered America's greatest 20<sup>th</sup> century architect. The Historic Preservation Board of Gainesville voted unanimously to nominate the building as a local landmark and a public hearing was to take place. The Department of Doing allowed a delay of the hearing.

Before further arrangements could be made, the Department of Doing issued a permit to destroy the building. The day after Christmas, bulldozers took it down. Twelve hundred citizens had signed a petition asking to preserve the building. It could have been reused. The city was not listening.

## What's changed?

In late 2016, the Planning Department was eliminated and the Department of Doing was created. It was advertised as being a new citizen-centered place. The motto "Citizen Centered People Empowered" was born. In my experience, nothing could be further from the truth. The above examples speak to that.

A group of citizens has formed to share a voice that will be heard. Our aim is to preserve the character of Gainesville and our vintage neighborhoods. We truly want to be Citizen Centered People Empowered, not just the leverage of a slogan. The management of our city needs a culture change.

To connect with us, look for us on Facebook Gainesville Neighbors <https://www.facebook.com/gnvneighbors/>.

## Hey, Readers!

The Gainesville Iguana has opened a PayPal account, and we're now accepting donations through our website at [www.gainesvilleiguana.org](http://www.gainesvilleiguana.org).

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

We thank you very much!

From BERNIE, p. 10

are criticizing Beto "Like Obama, only white" O'Rourke, and all of a sudden Sanders is back to being a red commie menace whose "character attacks" are to blame for Hillary Clinton's loss. Brock has no relationship with truth beyond his ability to twist it to get things he wants.

Hillary Clinton is to blame for Hillary Clinton's loss, actually, as well as the strategists like David Brock who were behind her spectacular failure to defeat a historically unpopular reality TV star Republican. Establishment Democrats are trying to sell the narrative that "You

progressives disobeyed us in 2016 and what happened was your fault; you will obey us this time," while progressives are saying "No, you ignored us in 2016 and what happened was your fault; you will listen to us this time." The early 2020 presidential race is repeating the same battle of official narrative manufactured by corporate elites versus the organic zeitgeist—the way ordinary people are feeling inside as a result of the conditions their government has put them in. I'm not sure how much coverage I'll be giving to the US presidential election this time around, but it will be interesting to see how this dynamic plays out. 🐉



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# History and the people who make it: Mildred A. Hill-Lubin, pt. 1

Mildred Hill-Lubin [H], recently deceased UF literature professor, was interviewed by James Myers [M] in June, 2009.

This is the 51st in a series of transcript excerpts from the UF Samuel Proctor Oral History Program collection. Notes in [square brackets] by SPOHP; interpolations in {curly brackets} by Iguana.

Transcript edited by Pierce Butler.

**H:** I was born in an area known as Uchee Hill; now it's Seale, Alabama.

**M:** What year?

H: 1933. My father's name was Luther Anderson, and my mother was Mary B. Johnson-Anderson. My grandmother was very much a part of my family, and her name was Lizzi Johnson Lewis.

I don't remember my grandfather. I heard about him. He was the first Black man in that area to own an automobile. He could not buy it in Alabama. He had to go to Detroit to buy the car. They did farming. They had a great deal of timber, and—these are the rumors from my family—during Prohibition, they also made white liquor for the Kennedy family.

Down in the country, we lived in the family home. My uncle and his wife lived on one side, and my mother and father lived on the other. I remember vividly that there was a storm, a very big storm, that came through—I think it was the same storm that maybe Zora Neale Hurston talks about in her novel, "Their Eyes Were Watching God." I was home with my mother, and we were getting ready to come into town. I was sitting on a trunk looking at the window, and I said, "Momma, it's getting so white outside!" And she said, "Oh my goodness! It's storming! Save us Lord, save us!" From then on, I was really, really frightened of storms.

Our house burned down. We understand it had to with family politics, but anyway, when we came back from town, the house, everything had burned down to the ground, had to be when I was around three years old. Shortly after that, we moved into an area called Girard—a part of Phoenix City, the area where most Black people lived. The Whites live up further in, and they called that Phoenix City.

We moved into my grandmother's house on my maternal side. I had a sister who was born at that time. There were three girls. My mother also learned how to sew, so she could take clothes and take them

apart and dress them. At that time, we had moved back to Phoenix City. My mother was having babies a lot, and she was sick a great deal. So, I was always worried about her.

Things were rationed, you couldn't get soap powder, you couldn't get stockings, you had stamps to get sugar.

When I started school in Girard, I already knew how to read. I learned how by {riding} the bus. You know how they have information on the bus, and advertisements, things like that? I could read so well that



the teacher would stand me up in a chair and let me read to the class. Now, that didn't make very good friends for me, because everybody thought I was a smarty-smarty. [Laughter]

My father worked on numerous jobs. The earliest job I remember his working on was on the railroad. Later on, my father started working at the Golden[s'] Foundry, which was doing steelwork and iron. He worked there, but he started selling vegetables. We were not farming, but he would go at the farmers market, and buy vegetables to sell. He began by pushing a cart, and he would go hollering, "Vegetable man! Vegetable man!" He moved from that to a fruit stand. Later, he moved to a tent store, then he opened a brick store.

We were in Alabama when the war was going on. But most of your purchasing had to be done across the river, in Columbus. Then my mother decided, that we were going to move, because we were living in, like, shotgun house. They were building public housing projects in Columbus, so my mother went over and applied for us to move into the Warren William apartments.

We moved there on V-J Day from Girard, Alabama—to Columbus, Georgia. We didn't have a radio or anything. We were going through town and everybody was shouting and hollering, "We've won the war," and blah blah blah! I tell people we thought we were moving on up then, because see, we wouldn't have to take

a bath in a tin tub as we did in Alabama. We'd have an indoor toilet, running water, and all those things. I left to go to college from the projects.

**M:** You went to your bachelor's at Paine College in Augusta, Georgia, correct?

**H:** I did go to Paine College, and I enjoyed that. I still have very close ties with Paine. I should mention that before going to high school over in Columbus, I went to Mother Mary Mission, which was a Catholic school, a place Sisters of Mercy started. They recognized that Phoenix City, Alabama was a poor area.

I should mention that our school in Girard was burned down, and we think it was burned down by the Ku Klux Klan. For a while, we went to school in churches. Later, the nuns came to town, and they went from door to door asking the parents to let us go. Many of the White people said, "No, don't let the children go to Catholic school!" But my mother did let us go. I went there until tenth grade. Even after we moved to Columbus, I went for one year, on the bus back to Mother Mary Mission. When we moved to Columbus, I went to Spencer High School. Just two weeks ago, I went back for my sixtieth high school reunion.

Education was always important for African Americans. We were taught they could take everything from you, but they can't take what's in your mind. So, you want to get as much education as you possibly can. They didn't have to tell me that; I always enjoyed learning and reading.

Unfortunately, my father didn't ever learn to read and write well. He did learn how to write his name. He could count money better than anybody! He could read his Sunday school lesson and the Bible some. But he didn't ever learn how to really read and write. My mother, did go to eighth grade. I went to Paine College for two years.

In the summer of [19]50, I had done my freshman year. I met a young man named Walter Hill. He was a soldier at Ft. Benning, and I was working at the USO. And he came in, and somehow became enamored with me, and I certainly was enamored with him. So we got married after my sophomore year, with the promise that I would go back to school. That was my husband's agreement—unfortunately, he didn't want to keep that agreement. He did let me go back the fall of [19]51, and at Christmastime I went home to try

to persuade him to let me continue, but he said no. So I stayed. We were living in Columbus, and his home was in Charlotte {NC}. So, he persuaded me to go with him back to his hometown.

I should say something about my getting into Paine College. You remember that I told you that my teachers didn't think I was going to college because we were so poor? But I always had this desire to go to college. I knew that you made an application and so on, but I didn't know that you had to get any information back to say you had been accepted. So I went to college without being accepted! [Laughter]

At that time, everybody took entrance exams. And I made the highest score of the freshman class. So, they weren't going to send me home after that. They worked with me. I did get a scholarship, and that really helped. And they gave me a job working in the library.

But that marriage didn't work out. I did move with him to Charlotte, and discovered that he was just extremely jealous. But I was still determined to go to school.

To our regrets and my happiness, I suppose, when I got ready to go back to college, I

was pregnant. That meant I didn't get to go back. I took me about eight more years. I left in [19]52, and went back in [19]60. I had two sons by that time. But I still was ready to go back, and I looked for scholarships.

I think we separated by that time. Then I found Atlanta University taught an off-campus course in Columbus. I wrote to Paine College to ask, was I eligible to get an NEA grant? They said yes. I went back to college and my parents kept my two sons. That was the beginning of my continuing education. This was [19]60—the beginning of the Civil Rights Movement. I did not participate in the sit-ins, but I participated in the planning.

When I almost finished Paine College, I was just about ranking the same as the young lady who would have been the valedictorian, so they gave us co-valedictorian. As a result of that, I was given a small fellowship to go to graduate school. A teacher there, a deaconess in a Methodist church, Dr. Ruth Bartholomew, thought that I should come back to Paine and teach. They couldn't hire me unless I had a master's degree. So, she asked my parents if they would keep my children

while I went to get my master's at Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio.

That little fellowship would not have done it, but Dr. Bartholomew loaned me money as well as gave me some money. That's how I did get my master's.

I taught at Paine College until [19]72, when I began to get ready to go to University of Illinois. From [19]60 to [19]72, that's the height of the Civil Rights Movement. I was very much involved.

To be continued in the March Iguana.

Search for "Hill-Lubin" at <http://oral.history.ufl.edu> "Quick Links" for the recording of this interview and another, on African literature, in 2014.

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

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**From SUNRISE, p. 1**

even inspired Congresswoman-elect Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez to join us and put forward a Resolution to create a House Select Committee on a Green New Deal.

In the months since this sit-in, 45 other members of Congress officially pledged support for Ocasio's proposal, hundreds of people across the country visited congressional offices as part of the Green New Deal Day of Action and over a thousand young people descended upon DC again to push for a Green New Deal.

Despite this thrilling and unstoppable momentum, Nancy Pelosi unfortunately chose to advance a watered down, largely useless Select Committee on the Climate Crisis. This committee does not have a mandate to create a plan for a Green New Deal, it does not have subpoena power, and it allows members who take fossil fuel money to sit on it.

Through her actions Pelosi has shown us once again that calling climate change a crisis and actually treating it like one are two very different things.

But, Pelosi and Corporate Democrats cannot stop us. Sunrise is spending much of the first half of 2019 taking the Green New Deal beyond the DC beltway and to the American people by launching a 15-city, star-studded GND tour. This tour will include some of the new faces of the Democratic Party, movement leaders and more to tell people about the Green New Deal and give them the tools and resources to pressure their policymakers to get behind it.

We are also working to force a race to the tops around climate ambition for the 2020 Presidential elections. As Ocasio-Cortez said the other day -- if you're not backing a GND, are you even running for President?



*Marcela Mulholland was arrested alongside 51 young people at Nancy Pelosi's office for demanding Democratic leadership back a Green New Deal, a platform that demands a transformation of our economy and society over the next 12 years to save human civilization as we know it.*

The Green New Deal won't be won in backdoor deals in Congress. It won't be won on Twitter. It'll be won because millions of Americans relentlessly demanded the real solutions to the greatest crisis of our lifetimes. We're building that movement every day over the next two years. Will you join us?

<https://www.sunrisemovement.org/marcelaok@ufl.edu>

**From VICTORIES, p. 1**

tion offered a nonchalant response to the murder, the U.S. president's refusal to take meaningful action provoked a bipartisan backlash against U.S. policy towards Saudi Arabia. This helped lead to a historic Senate rebuke of the Saudi-led and U.S.-funded war in Yemen, which has claimed thousands of lives and led the country to the brink of catastrophic famine. Although the House didn't follow suit, a new Democrat-led House could well do so in 2019.

**Draining Trump's Swamp**

Being a member of the Trump administration has never come with much job security, and in 2018, even more corrupt officials were forced out of the White House by popular pressure. EPA head Scott Pruitt was made to resign in July after his bizarre scandals threatened to sink the administration's vindictive environmental agenda. Likewise, the ousters of oil mogul-turned-Secretary of State Rex Tillerson in March and Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke in December are worth celebrating.

While the November firing of Attorney General Jeff Sessions threatened the integrity of the investigation into Trump's Russian connections, it also meant there would be one less racist in the Department of Justice. Activists worked tirelessly this year to repeatedly draw attention to the corruption of major Trump officials, and their work paid off.

**Radicalizing Silicon Valley**

The many abuses of Silicon Valley companies — from the mishandling of private data by Facebook to anti-unionization drives and harsh conditions in Tesla factories — made headlines in 2018. Underneath the front pages, however, is a different story: that employees are fighting back.

This year saw a new form of labor movement come to the fore in the tech industry, as Google employees wrote an open letter, not in protest of work conditions, but to demand that their company not cooperate with either Chinese censorship or the Pentagon.

Likewise, Microsoft employees agitated against the corporation's contract with ICE and Amazon workers called on Jeff Bezos to stop supplying facial recognition technology to law enforcement. Big tech has enormous potential — and with that potential comes a responsibility that many Silicon Valley workers appear eager to uphold.

All in all, 2018 was a mixed bag. The year saw more vile disregard for human dignity from the Trump administration, but it was also marked by fierce and effective resistance to every aspect of the Trump agenda. Let's take that fighting spirit into 2019 to secure even more victories for marginalized people, workers and the environment.

*Marc Daalder is a journalist based in Detroit, Michigan and Wellington, NZ who writes on politics, public housing, and international relations.*

**Women's March**

*by Pam Smith*

On Jan. 19, women from all over will join together in Washington DC and march to show our opposition to the racist, homophobic, classist regime ruling there. Gainesville Women's Marchers are going by car, bus, plane and train. There will be sister marchers from every state.

On the local level, we are joining the statewide march in Orlando that starts at 10am at Eola Park — a combined march of people celebrating Martin Luther King day and the Women's March.

At the original Women's March in DC in 2017, we saw thousands of signs in yards celebrating the words of Martin Luther King as we marched from the bus depot to the downtown area. It brought tears to my eyes that day and confirmed that we were on the right track.

In Gainesville, we will join with the MLK march on Monday, Jan. 21. That starts with a Speak Truth to Power rally for Martin Luther King at Bo Diddley Plaza at noon. The march to the MLK Center starts at 1pm, and we will be a contingency in it. Look for our banner and wear a Women's March (or any women's power) T-Shirt and march with us!



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**Electra@HelpatHome.Care**  
**352-284-9810**

**Iguana Directory**

Call 352-378-5655 or email [gainesvilleiguana@cox.net](mailto: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](http://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](http://gainesvillegreens.webs.com), [alachuagreen@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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 [bstandy@aclufl.org](mailto:bstandy@aclufl.org)

**Amnesty International** UF campus chapter of worldwide human rights movement; [www.facebook.com/ufamnesty](http://www.facebook.com/ufamnesty) or [UFAmnesty@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:centralfldsa@gmail.com), [www.fb.com/centralfldsa](http://www.fb.com/centralfldsa)

**Citizens Climate Lobby** builds awareness and lobbies for sensible climate policies, [btancig@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://www.civicmediacenter.org), 433 S Main St., Gainesville, 32601

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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@fam.m.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 ufhumanistsoncampus@gmail.com, alternative: j.bontems@ufl.edu, phone- 561-374-3537

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare** Local advocates work to promote/ preserve these threatened programs for senior citizens. We have literature, speakers, T-shirts. Email: Our.Circle.Of.Care@gmail.com. See

national Web site to join: http://www.ncpssm.org/

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Students for Justice in Palestine**, a cultural and

political organization, sjpuflorida@gmail.com

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Women's March Gainesville** meets on the second Monday of each month: for location and agenda information, please see are on the second Monday of each month, see www.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 ↗

## Editors' picks: News that didn't fit

✂ **Read Bernie Sanders's speech on democratic socialism in the United States** by Andrew Prokop in Vox  
*Senator Bernie Sanders speech from 2015 about the history and importance of democratic socialism and that it means "we must create an economy that works for all."*  
<https://www.vox.com/2015/11/19/9762028/bernie-sanders-democratic-socialism>

✂ **It's time for America to reckon with the staggering death toll of the post-9/11 wars** by Murtaza Hussain in The Intercept  
*Brown University researchers estimate the total death toll from the U.S. wars in Iraq, Afghanistan and Pakistan are, conservatively, at least 480,000, and that's not counting the number of indirect deaths resulting from disease, displacement and the loss of critical infrastructure.*  
[https://theintercept.com/2018/11/19/civilian-casualties-us-war-on-terror/?utm\\_source=The+Intercept+Newsletter&utm\\_campaign=1be40679c9-EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN\\_2018\\_11\\_24&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_e00a5122d3-1be40679c9-132100517&fbclid=IwAR0CF2-VCmSRxay6Uepdv8VsIFNxxwGUZddrBMU8tjGjmsPGr3REsrgkw8j4](https://theintercept.com/2018/11/19/civilian-casualties-us-war-on-terror/?utm_source=The+Intercept+Newsletter&utm_campaign=1be40679c9-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2018_11_24&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_e00a5122d3-1be40679c9-132100517&fbclid=IwAR0CF2-VCmSRxay6Uepdv8VsIFNxxwGUZddrBMU8tjGjmsPGr3REsrgkw8j4)

✂ **Indivisible Gainesville**  
*Indivisible Gainesville is starting a new, ongoing weekly newsletter that gives members a general idea of what is going on with our government at the local, state and federal level as well as some resources you can use to engage with your representatives at all levels.*  
<https://indivisiblegenv.org/>

✂ **Arundhati Roy on Fiction in the Face of Rising Fascism** by Laura Flanders in Truthout  
*Arundhati Roy's new novel, *The Ministry of Utmost Happiness*, delves into the themes of capitalism, nationalism, solidarity and resistance against the backdrop of anti-Muslim violence and landmark changes for queer people in India.*  
<https://truthout.org/video/arundhati-roy-on-fiction-in-the-face-of-rising-fascism/>

✂ **Donald Trump: Racist liar, or just a liar who happens to be a racist?** by Chauncey DeVega in Salon  
*Trump's obvious lies and grotesque immorality speak only to the siege mentality of an audience haunted by fear.*  
<https://www.salon.com/2019/01/10/donald-trump-racist-liar-or-just-a-liar-who-happens-to-be-a-racist/>

## Jimmy Carter: *The U.S. is an 'oligarchy with unlimited political bribery'*

by Jon Schwarz

*This piece originally appeared in the Intercept in July 2015. Its age only underscores its truth. See more at <https://theintercept.com/2015/07/30/jimmy-carter-u-s-oligarchy-unlimited-political-bribery>.*

Former president Jimmy Carter said Tuesday on the nationally syndicated radio show the Thom Hartmann Program that the United States is now an "oligarchy" in which "unlimited political bribery" has created "a complete subversion of our political system as a payoff to major contributors."

Both Democrats and Republicans, Carter said, "look upon this unlimited money as a great benefit to themselves."

Carter was responding to a question from Hartmann about recent Supreme Court decisions on campaign financing like Citizens United.

*Transcript:*

**HARTMANN:** Our Supreme Court has now said, "unlimited money in politics." It seems like a violation of principles of democracy ... Your thoughts on that?

**CARTER:** It violates the essence of what made America a great country in its political system. Now it's just an oligarchy, with unlimited political bribery being the essence of getting the nominations for president or to elect the president. And the same thing applies to governors and U.S. senators and congress members.

So now we've just seen a complete subversion of our political system as a payoff to major contributors, who want and expect and sometimes get favors for themselves after the election's over ...

The incumbents, Democrats and Republicans, look upon this unlimited money as a great benefit to themselves. Somebody's who's already in Congress has a lot more to sell to an avid contributor than somebody who's just a challenger. ✂

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