

**ALACHUA COUNTY "VOYAGE OF DISCOVERY" PRECINCT NEWS - NUMBER 4.**

**JANUARY 2018**

**Alachua County is Florida's "First County" 4 more than alphabetical reasons.**

**Do you recall "The Little Red Hen"? She asked her neighbors to engage & collaborate as she progressed from discovery of a special "seed" of democracy; its cultivation; harvest; processing; & sharing of the allegorical "bread" of democracy. This teaching story of ancient wisdom tradition helps avoid cultural amnesia of our civic paths.**

**America project founders were inspired by the Iroquois Confederacy. Its consensual process to resolve conflict & achieve high value goals was practiced for millennia by councils of the "first Americans". The Chautauqua Movement were national scale / community level civic seminars where citizens gathered to "talk about things worth talking about". In 1994, Alachua County sponsored "Visions 20/20". Citizens self-selected to look back & then imagine forward for the common good. Were you there? Next?**

**In 1998, Alachua County produced a 28 page "Citizen's Information Booklet" (a guide to services provided by the county). Can you find a copy? May I suggest we develop a current "Guide" as a token of our capacity to lead in the maturing of our Precinct / County civic evolution. Would you lead a "Citizen Academy" in your Precinct? Who's on first? Call me dear reader.**

**In 2017, Gainesville was the first Florida city to join the "Welcoming" program. Contact Carrie Bush @ 393-8791. Alachua was the second Florida county to join. Contact Gina Peebles @ 538-8265. You can be a "Greeter" by choice. Good idea. No charge. Big dividend. Recent Gallop poll found Naples #1 for civic satisfaction in Florida. Gainesville was #45. The largest room in the world is "room for improvement". All aboard!**

**Let's talk about the specific metrics of:**

- + Filling all Precinct vacancies ASAP (a farm league for public servants)**
- + Demonstrating significant voter turnout for local elections (mail ballot)**
- + "Outing" our Democratic selves & our networks to larger community**
- + Engage with progressive counties to become "Friends of Democracy"**

**"The Paynes Prairie Home Companion" Jim Notestein 372-2107 Pct 57**