

ALACHUA COUNTY "VOYAGE OF DISCOVERY" PRECINCT NEWS - NUMBER 18

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"In a world full of problems – you can be part of the solution. Work smarter." We are the custodians of the "public interest". Hawthorne now has a weekly newspaper – by subscription - edited & produced by Becky Tailor – (352) 681-7730. If you subscribe, Jim Notestein will give you a plant from his botanical garden. (details: (352) 372-2107).

Gainesville Commissioner, Gail Johnson, recently engaged staff & citizens to address "Food Access" in our region. Last month, 200 persons met for 3 hours @ Library Headquarters. The report of this essential process will be available soon. Over 6K "locavores" are networking on Facebook via "growgainesville". I don't have personal digital tools. Someone call me with a "live feedback" (food for thought). I gave a flyer to all at the above meeting: "Welcome to the Cornucopia of Alachua County". Help put this "on line". Call (352) 372-2107. "Alachua County can grow a greater variety of food for a longer calendar than any American county". Our highlights are very bright. Our county spends over 1&1/2 Billion \$ on food each year (comes mostly from out of state). Money spent on local food would be spent over & over in the local economy. Land used for "long game" food systems can be restored, repurposed, & protected by ordinance, "Comprehensive Plans", deed restrictions, Best Practices, "Civic Etiquette", tradition, & Educational Curriculum. All of the above. Who's on first? Learn by doing. Celebrate.

Can climate "Rock the Vote"? Citizens' Climate Lobby supports the "Energy Innovation & Carbon Dividend Act". (Google) Extreme weather from "climate upsets" (driven by combustion technology, habitat disruption, etc.) Gainesville.com (Gvl. Sun) – John Ward "Green New Deal Would Aid in Energy Transition". 3-10-19 or Issues F-6. All folk below current topography of 230 feet above "mean sea level" will become "climate refugees". Won't be pretty & we're not prepared or engaged – yet. Don't be a "not yeti".

I called 1-877-336-7200 (at the bottom of the "official democratic party survey I got by mail). The "agent" made note of my questions & suggestions to pass along. I asked if they could get word to the Fla. Democratic HQ that for weeks I'd left my name & # to the recorded question "Would you like to volunteer?" What's up? My old buds R gone. Who are our Regional Outreach Coordinators? Call me if you know. Thanks.

Recently, our Library Reference Dept. said Gainesville is the only Fla. city with "Single Member Districts". True or not, there are THREE City Commissioners that I can not vote in/out. This is not democracy. When did Gainesville voters approve this bug? Alachua County Commissioners must live in a geographic district. All registered voters can vote for all district candidates. That is "what democracy looks like". Most city jobs require a Certificate of Competency or professional registration. When our local media & many other "elements" put their "thumb on the scale" what should we discuss & do?

Is our future curve "bending toward justice". When your path is a curve – eyes open, steady hand, organize, be positive, speak up, celebrate, share, and repeat.

"Paynes Prairie Home Companions" Jim Notestein (352) 372-2107 Pct. 57