

## ALACHUA COUNTY "VOYAGE OF DISCOVERY" PRECINCT NEWS - NUMBER 17.

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"The best way to lead is by example. Show what is possible & what is good." In 1984, a civic activist / messenger was selected to the Alachua County Commission & took the "Oath of Office" to "protect the Public Interest". Within a week, a citizen alarm pointed to illegal liquids being regularly disposed at the county landfill. A "time out" was called by the Fla. Dept. of Environmental Protection. Consequently, all public landfills in Fla. were required to have impervious liners. Leachate is collected & properly treated. Water quality monitoring wells are installed. Next year, a citizen alarm of gasoline in the local aquifer resulted in another "time out" for Gainesville / Alachua County by FDEP. Consequently, all petroleum storage tanks in Fla. were required to be "double-walled". Leak detection technology & ground water monitoring wells are used. Long term pollution removal is attempted but pollution prevention is the prime goal. These & other events evidence the "Power of One". Courage better than hope. Yes.

Why does Lake Alice on the UF campus remain at the same elevation regardless of extreme weather events? Two, 24 inch diameter "drainage wells" were installed decades ago deep into the cavern geology (karst) characteristic of our region. What flows into Lake Alice & the thousands of other "drainage wells" throughout Fla? What will the affected communities do to correct & recover from this tragedy? Most of Fla. drinking water comes from underground aquifers that are overdrawn & chemically abused. Google: Green New Deal. "Good is as good does". Shovel ready? Let's go.

The Matheson History Center recorded "first hand" accounts of Alachua County Democracy Initiatives. Visit YouTube.com & enter Jim Notestein. The opening story reveals millions of years of cooperative behavior by creatures we admire. Bookmark Gainesville.com (Gainesville Sun). It can be one of our "Community Dashboards". Reach out, complement & invite the contributors & "activists" to serve in our next expansion of "Precinct Democracy". Explore, Discover, Share, Celebrate, Repeat. Yes. Our Precincts are the appropriate intersections of "Grass Roots Democracy". Active "Messengers" from our various "Voyages of Discovery" can create "Campfire" events to "talk about things worth talking about". This includes Precinct "Constituents" & those we pay to serve us. Our Precincts mature as Democratic "performers". They become "Farm Teams" of "training" for "advance placement" of transparent responsibility.

2020 is near. Municipal elections are closer. Dear Reader, if you are not a Precinct Representative, you can become one. Call the number below. Whatever civic good you seek, Precinct Reps. can enable your "mission". Most Pct. Reps. have awesome skills & experience. They are especially good people - rebuilding the strong foundations of Democracy in America. Courage is the destination of vision.

We can re-assemble the essential elements of American Democracy. Engage all the human ways of under-standing. Science & art can share the celebration of being. It is the architecture of relationships...a richness of reality...the beautiful path...

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