

Music & Cheer



December 17th 2022, 8:00 PM

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship | Gainesville, FL

Gainesville Veterans for Peace Activities in 2022

by Mary Bahr

WELCOME TO VFP Gainesville's 36th Annual Winter Solstice Concert and to our second in-person concert since everyone began coming back together in 2021. We are still masking indoors to protect our elders, those who are immunocompromised, and ourselves as another wave of the virus is occurring as we celebrate. And there is much to celebrate, as we slowly build back from a viral epidemic and from an epidemic of lies and misdirection by some of our country's political leaders and their supporters.

On January 5th at our monthly meeting, VFP celebrated our successful in-person concert. Members present voted to distribute the proceeds to local and national causes. Recipients included the Alachua County Labor Coalition, the Civic Media Center, the Samuel Proctor Oral History Program, and Courage to Resist. When you attend our concert, you are helping VFP continue to support these organizations and more. Thank you!

VFP members also attended the January 6th Day of Remembrance and Action and the January 17th Martin Luther King March.

Finally, at the January meeting, VFP began planning for the 2022 Peace Poetry, Peace Scholarships and Memorial Mile. Emails to schools went out, and announcements were posted in February and March.

The Russian invasion of Ukraine in February sadly makes the VFP mission of world peace a more distant goal. After some discussion at the March meeting, VFP agreed that our position with regard to Ukraine is that we are anti-war. The picketers who continue to go out on Tuesdays from 4:30 to 5:30 at NW 43rd St. and 16th have differing views about what signs are appropriate, but VFP will stick with anti-war messages. Our anti-war pickets will continue after a holiday pause on Tuesday, January 17th. The public is invited to join us.

Here is the National Vets for peace stand on the war in Ukraine: "Just as Veterans For Peace (VFP) condemned US invasions of Iraq and Afghanistan, we strongly condemn Russia's invasion of Ukraine and grieve for all those who have lost their lives in this horrific war." We support the creative resistance of the Ukrainian people, the brave opposition of the Russian people, and the resistance of Russian soldiers, just as VFP has supported GI resistance to US wars.

Read the full VFP statement: Veterans For Peace Encourages Diplomacy Not War: www.veteransforpeace.org/take-action/diplomacy-not-war-peace-ukraine.

At our March meeting, Scott Camil reminded members that Veterans for Common Sense in Southwest Florida does consistently excellent work with a wide focus. Their president is a member of our chapter and Scott is a member of their group. Check out their website: *floridaveteransforcommonsense.org/*

In April deadlines for our Peace Poetry and Peace Scholarship Contests came due and we sat down to the difficult task of choosing winners from the flood of children's poems about peace and the environment, and the many applications for the Peace Scholarship. Volunteers hand-delivered the winners letters to local schools. This volunteer was sad and shocked to see how our local schools have become fortresses with gates and locked doors since she retired from teaching ten years ago. Another aspect of peace work that calls us all is keeping our children safe.

In March VFP donated \$420 to the UUFG Social Justice effort to register, educate and encourage voters with their Your Vote Matters campaign. The money went for banners, advertising, and handouts at multiple events throughout the spring and summer including farmers' markets, and Juneteenth and Pride Celebrations. It became a joint effort between the Unitarians and United Church of Christ members that everyone benefited from.

The April meeting also produced plans for a final Memorial Mile. Doug Bernal designed three 2X3 signs for the south side of NW 8th Ave. and three 3X4 signs for the north side. The signs had the number of American military deaths in Afghanistan and Iraq, and the number of wounded. They included a QR code, the VFP logo, and the website. We also planned for a Cost of War display on the fence near our information table.

On May 21st VFP returned to an indoor Peace Poetry Contest awards ceremony with an excellent turnout of student poetry readers, family, friends, teachers, School Board members, and supporters of Peace Poetry. Paul Ortiz presented four Peace Scholarships of 1000 dollars each to four students including three first-generation college students. Thanks to Sheila Payne and Jessica Newman for making the poetry contest happen, and to Melanie Hobson who did a wonderful job introducing the poets and describing their poems.

The ceremony had Peace Poetry readings interspersed with music, followed by an outdoor reception with homemade treats under a tent A magical time was had by all. This event is open to the public. All of you who attend the Solstice Concert and help fund it are especially invited. Watch our website at *VFPGainesville.org* for announcements of time and place.

A week later VFP held its final Memorial Day display. It is hard to say goodbye to this event which has drawn workers and attendees from all over the country. VFP members and supporters staffed an information table for the event.

We are ending the Memorial Mile as the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have ended, as we promised to do at the beginning of this project. On our end, our volunteers have aged and the weather in May has gotten hotter and wetter making our work to guard and maintain the tombstones much harder. We bid a sad farewell to the Memorial Mile but are thankful to see an end to the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq.

And so, the seasons turn and we end where we began at another Winter Solstice Concert. May we remember our fallen comrades in peace, Martin McKellar, and Bob McPeek as we turn from dark to light and old year to new. "And may it be a good one!"

Tonight's Program:

(May include, but not limited to)



PRE-SHOW WARM-UP

Cathy De Witt, Mark Billman

CHEROKEE PEACE CHANT

Georg Suzuki

DRUMS OF PEACE

John Chambers, Rob Rothschild, Paige Allison, Bill Hutchinson, Robert Clark, David Beede, Jared Boock

JOHN CHAMBERS

David Beede, Mark Billman

DAVID BEEDE

THE RUCKUS

Maggie Rucker, Janet Rucker, Cathy DeWitt

MICK MARINO

QUARTERMOON

Carylee Pennington, Japhy Pennington, Tom Nelly, Raven, John Smith

****Intermission****

OTHER VOICES

Michelle Ott, Dan Tampas, Fagan Arouh, Alan Hill

A CHOIR OF HEAVENLY SEMI-ANGELS

You Know Who You Are

Master of Ceremonies—Bob Treadwater | Signer for the Deaf —Diane Delage

Gainesville, FL | 2022



by Scott Camil

OVER THE LAST 35 YEARS, Veterans for Peace has recognized people whose service is integral to the work of VFP. This recognition is acknowledged with the presentation of the Peace Helmet Award. The award is a beautiful stained glass replica of the VFP symbol of the Dove of Peace on a military helmet. For the past 35 years, these stained-glass Peace Helmets have been created for us exclusively by McIntyre Stained Glass Studio. We are very grateful to Mary and Mike for their partnership with VFP. Mike and Mary have retired, we will miss this partnership and we wish them the best. We are happy to announce that Suzanne Bachus will be now be creating the stained glass Peace Helmets for us. *Welcome Suzanne!* We started giving this award out publicly at the Solstice in 2008.

2021 Peace Helmet Award Recipients:

- **Bob McPeek**—Bob had been entertaining us at the Solstice since the beginning (see articles about Bob).
- Harvey Ward—He is a great friend to Veterans For Peace. It was Harvey's idea to rename the portion of 8th Ave. that we use on Memorial Day Weekend Memorial Mile.
- Mike & Mary McIntyre—For 34 years Mike and Mary have created the stained glass Peace Helmets for us. They also sold half of the solstice tickets each year.
- **Shawna Doran** Shawna was responsible for setting up the tombstones on Memorial Day Weekend for Afghanistan & Iraq 2009 and continuing on until we were done.
- Sara Harrison & John Meeks—Sara & John have been setting up tombstones on Memorial Day Weekend for Iraq 2004 since the beginning and then helped others who were setting up.
- **Jarred Elrod**—Jarred is a good friend. He lives in Italy, he puts together the Solstice Program for us.

2020 Peace Helmet Award Recipients:

- Greg Mullaley—All around help, whatever I need
- **Pablo Ortiz**—Flies in from Washington State every year to help on Memorial Mile
- Lisa McGaughran—Photographs all of our events & volunteers for whatever we need

2019 Peace Helmet Award Recipients:

- Janet Davies—Memorial Mile—Afghanistan 2001—2007
- Jack Eisenfeld—All around help, whatever I need
- David & Judy Gold—Keep track of visited tombstones and place a flag on each one on Memorial Mile
- James Ingle—Brings IBEW 1205 every year to help on Memorial Mile

2018 Peace Helmet Award Recipients:

- John and Jane Bishop—Special needs
- Susan Hudgens—Great ideas, Memorial Mile & Solstice.
- Rob Rothschild—Solstice Music, setup and takedown

2017 Peace Helmet Award Recipients:

- Doug Bernal—VFP Vice President, he is an integral part of all of our projects
- **Ken Cornell**—Memorial Mile, Winter Solstice + anything else that I need help with
- **Roberta Gastmeyer**—Memorial Mile, Winter Solstice, Sierra Club and anything else that I need help with.

2016 Peace Helmet Award Recipient:

• Stefan Broadus—Memorial Mile 2016

2015 Peace Helmet Award Recipients:

- Deborah Hendrix—Our videographer
- Dianne Delage—Our Solstice signer

2014 Peace Helmet Award Recipients:

- Ruth Steiner—Memorial Mile
- Sidney Wade—Peace Poetry Contest

2013 Peace Helmet Award Recipients:

- Doris Nabuis—VFP
- Gloria Summers—VFP
- Paul Ortiz—Samuel Proctor Oral History Program Richard
- Hudgens—VFP
- Nic Vera—VFP

2012 Peace Helmet Award Recipients:

- Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Gainesville, Social Justice Council—Alice Primack
- David Pokorney—Website and Photography

2011 Peace Helmet Award Recipients:

- Jessica Newman—Peace Poetry Contest, Penrod Award
- Anne and Phil Haisley—Book Inc—Book Lover's Cafe
 Virtual Peace Helmet to the Occupy Movement everywhere

2010 Peace Helmet Award Recipients:

- Sheila Payne—Peace Poetry Contest, Penrod Award
- Charlie Scales—Hyde and Zyke

2009 Peace Helmet Award Recipients:

- Kirk Anthony—MFSO
- **Jacque Betz**—Code Pink
- Sue Faulk—VFP
- Craig Nikolaus—VFP
- Peter Theoktisto—Everyman Sound—Solstice
- Bob Tomashevsky—VFP

2008 Peace Helmet Award Recipients:

- Denny Bellesheim—VFP
- Dottie Burnham—VFP
- Louis Clark—Bio—Graphix
- Rob Hopkins—VFP
- Gil Marshall—VFP
- Ku Wang—VFP

Other Years:

- Mary Bahr—Web Master
- Norman Balabanian—VFP
- Pierce Butler—Databases
- Scott Camil—VFP
- John Chambers—VFP
- Joe Courter—Gainesville Iguana
- Jim Creaven—VFP
- John Fullerton—VFP
- Bill Gilbert—VFP

- John Hawkins—VFP
- Dave Henderson—VFP
- Stephen Hunter—VFP
- Bill Hutchinson—Solstice
- Marybeth Hyer—VFP
- Bobby Ing—VFP
- John Koch—VFP
- Julie Netzer—VFP
- Bill Salmon—VFP
- Sherry Steiner—VFP
- Bill Warrick—VFP
- Charles Willett—VFP

Peace Helmet Award Recipients over the last 35 years: (We did not have computer records in the beginning so we have done our best to remember all of the recipients. If you have received this award and are not listed, please let us know, we apologize.)

A Note on the Cover:

I have known Bob McPeek for over 40 years, he was my friend. Bob was one of the original musicians who started doing the Winter Solstice concerts to benefit Veterans For Peace.

Bob was honored with the VFP Helmet Award.

I visited Bob at Hospice. He thanked me for allowing the musicians to play at the solstice.

I told Bob that without him and his musician friends, who all donated their time, we would not have had the solstice concerts and Veterans For Peace would not have had the money to do our projects all of these years.

Bob wrote & performed music for our virtual Memorial Mile event on Memorial Day weekend

A Renaissance man.

Over his life Bob has written hundreds of songs.

A singer, musician, song writer, producer, a social scientist with a Ph.D. in social psychology, and all around good person. It would take more time than we have to speak of all of the things that Bob accomplished during his life.

His legacy is vast.

We will miss him dearly.

Our love and support go out to his wife Nancye.

Bob McPeek will live on through his music. www.bobmcpeekmusic.com

Presente! Bob McPeek

-Scott Camil



Friends, Bob McPeek's album "Mixing Metaphors" is available tonight at the Veteran's for Peace Table—we'll be celebrating Bob's life & legacy throughout this year's program.

Special Thanks to:

The Members & Supporters of Veterans for Peace

Rob Rothschild • Bill Hutchinson • Diane Delage • Ken Cornell • Peter Theoktisto
Deborah Hendrix • Linda Kemp • Pierce Butler • Nancye Henkle-McPeek • WGOT
WUBA • Roberta Gastmeyer • Chris Ott • Mary Bahr • Casey Donley • Gary Edinger
Paul Ortiz & Sheila Payne • Samuel Proctor Oral History Program • Sherry Steiner
Jarred Elrod • East End Eatery • Jane & John Bishop • Jessica Newman
Aesthetic Print & Design, Inc. • Dennis Shuman • Jerry Stein
Tuesday Afternoon Peace Picketers • Whistleblowers



©CBS NEWS



Eric Holder on gerrymandering: "Republicans have to cheat in order to win" elections



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2022 Alachua County Peace Poetry Contest

by Sheila Payne

THIS WAS VETERANS FOR PEACE twelfth year organizing and holding a Peace (and Justice) Poetry contest. All students K-12 living in Alachua County were invited to submit poems addressing what peace and social justice mean to them.

We received almost 200 poems this year, which was extraordinary because of disruptions caused by covid and distance learning the last few years. Teachers and students were just worn out! A team of community writers and poets judged the entries based on their message and creativity. We chose 26 students to read their poems at the Peace Poetry Public Reading. We did not and will no longer assign 1st-3rd and honorable mention placements. Too stressful and arbitrary with such lovely, heartfelt poems to distinguish placement. All the students were winners!





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The Peace Poetry Reading/Reception was held in May at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, where we also honored the VFP Scholarship winners. Poets were presented with a certificate of achievement, a gift card to a local bookstore, and copies of the bound poetry book. We were thrilled that so many of the poets and their families and teachers were able to participate, even some poets coming from a game dressed in their athletic gear. Once again, there were many poems about school safety with students writing about their fears about someone coming into their school to shoot it up. There were many sophisticated poems about war and a general anxiety about world events including U.S. politics, Ukraine, refugees, and human meanness and intolerance. And, as always there were poems about climate change and the beauty of the natural world.

Veterans for Peace members believe that peace-making and hope for a peaceful world begin in our community, our homes, and schools. Though this contest holds no formal position on the current state of world affairs, we still want to honor the ideal of peace through the perspectives of young people. We believe that poetry is a prime and meaningful medium for creating a "culture of peace." Because of this, we believe the Peace Poetry contest provides a positive avenue for young people to share feelings and craft their words creatively.

You can find and download the 2022 Peace Poetry booklet at vfpgainesville.org and see photos of the poets reading their poems. You can also view a recording of the reading filmed by Deborah Hendrix of the Samuel Proctor Oral History Program. Thank you, Deborah! We would like to thank the leading community judge, Melanie Dobson. We also thank Alivia Regan Hunter, who has played guitar and sung her own compositions of peace for the last few years. Some poems from this year's contest are on pages 9, 19, 35, 47, and 54 of this program.

We are always looking for volunteers to help with the Poetry Contest. It takes months of outreach to publicize the contest to all the schools and community groups. If you would like to get involved, please email vfppeacepoetrycontest@gmail.com or call Sheila Payne at 831-334-0117.



LET'S MAKE A PROMISE

I promise to love you
You promise to love me
Because we all are family
Don't fight, don't hate,
Don't kill each other
Let's make a promise
To help our sister and
Help our brother

By Jaylah Hines

Grade 1, Caring and Sharing Learning School Peace Poetry Contest Winner, Grades 1-4

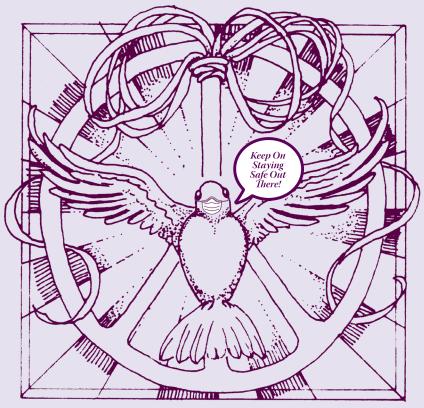






Season's Greetings from VFP Chapter





Linda Kemp Illustration

36th Annual VFP Winter Solstice

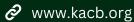
We need $\mathbb U$ to Keep Alachua County Bea Utiful!



Gainesville











keepalachuacountybeautiful

For high-schoolers considering not registering for the Selective *Service as is currently mandated:* call 1-800-379-2679 or go to www.centeronconscience.org.

Already in the service, but want to know your rights? Call the GI Hotline at 1-877-447-4487 or go to www.girightshotline.org.

Sister City Program of Gainesville, Inc.



World BEYOND War has launched a new online tool at worldbeyondwar.org/no-bases that allows the user to view a globe pock-marked with 867 U.S. military bases in countries other than the United States, and to zoom in for a satellite view of and detailed information on each base. The tool also allows filtering the map or list of bases by country, government type, opening date, number of personnel, or acres of land occupied.

Gainesville, FL | 2022

Scott's Reflections on 2022

by Scott Camil

AT THE BEGINNING of the year, on January 6th, 2022, our capital came under attack by an armed mob of Trump supporters. The goal of this seditious insurrection was to stop now–President Joe Biden from taking office, leaving Trump as President. This was a direct attack on the Peaceful Transfer of Power, a foundation of our Democracy.

The insurrectionists are referred to, among other things, as "Election Deniers" and they falsely claimed that the election had been stolen and Trump had really won. They offered no proof, no facts and no evidence to back up their claim. Their claim is referred to as "The Big Lie", a lie so big that no one would believe that it could be a lie.

More than 2000 of these rioters entered the capital, many of them looting and vandalizing. They attacked the police and the reporters. So far at least 948 rioters have been charged, over 450 have entered guilty pleas. https://www.justice.gov/usao-dc/capitol-breach-cases.



CELESTIAL WIND

Folk Harps & Carving John Chambers 352-481-5856 Gainesville, Florida This conspiracy was supported by GOP Reps. Marjorie Taylor Greene (Ga.), Paul Gosar (Ariz.), Lauren Boebert (Colo.), Mo Brooks (Ala.), Madison Cawthorn (N.C.), Andy Biggs (Ariz.), and Louie Gohmert (Texas). Mark Meadows, former President Trump's chief of staff, played a significant role in discussions regarding the protests.

Section 3 of the Fourteenth Amendment explicitly disqualifies any person from public office who, having previously taken an oath as a federal or state office holder, engaged in insurrection or rebellion. Why are these insurrectionists still in office?

Rep. Cori Bush (D-Mo.) has introduced a resolution calling for the House Ethics Committee to investigate whether "actions taken by Members of the 117th Congress seeking to overturn the 2020 Presidential election violated their oath of office." "My resolution to investigate and expel the Members of Congress who helped incite the deadly insurrection on our Capitol is just waiting for a vote," she wrote Monday. She said, "It's inexcusable to wait any longer".

At least nine people close to Donald Trump requested preemptive pardons following Jan. 6. They are: former White House Chief of Staff Mark Meadows, Rudy Giuliani, Rep. Andy Biggs of Arizona, Rep. Mo Brooks of Alabama, Rep. Matt Gaetz of Florida, Rep. Louie Gohmert of Texas, Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene of Georgia, Rep. Scott Perry of Pennsylvania and Lawyer John Eastman.

The fact that they asked for pardons proves that they knew they were breaking the law. According to Rolling Stone Magazine, it was Paul Gosar, Republican Representative from Arizona, who dangled the prospect of pardons for those involved in the planning.

This conspiracy was part of a 7-part plan to keep Trump in the White House and make the election results moot. https://www.cnn.com/2022/06/09/politics/jan-6-hearing-cheney-trump-overturn-election-plan/index.html.

There were many casualties attributed to this conspiracy. There were 5 deaths. 138 police officers were injured by this action. So much for the Republican tough-on-crime guys that allegedly support the police. Within 7 months of this brutal attack, 4 of the responding police officers committed suicide. This attack resulted in damages exceeding 2.7 Million dollars.

Justice Clarence Thomas's wife Ginni was one of the planners of this attempt to overturn the election, yet her husband has refused to recuse himself from hearing cases related to the insurrection.

cont. 🛶



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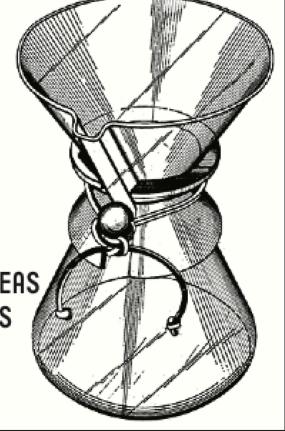


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The Supreme Court

The Supreme Court stopped the vote count in 2000, appointed George W. Bush President, declared that this would not be a precedent and got away with it. From that point on, the Court majority knew that they could do what they wanted and precedent be dammed.

The vote was 5 to 4, with Justices William Rehnquist, Antonin Scalia, Clarence Thomas, Sandra Day O'Connor and Anthony Kennedy voting with the majority to stop the recount and Justices John Stevens, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Stephen Breyer and David Souter voting to allow the recount to continue.

The fact that they declared that this decision would not be a precedent is proof that this was purely political as opposed to legal.

In 2010, the Court's ruling on Citizens United reversed campaign restrictions on funding of political campaigns and opened the door to "Dark Money". Unlimited and unaccountable money could now be spent on elections. This was another 5-4 vote, with Justice Kennedy writing that limiting independent money was a violation of the First Amendment's guarantee of free speech. Prior to this, the Court's position was that restricting political spending was important in preventing corruption.

Their decision in Citizens United said that corporations are people and of course we know they're not. They also declared that money is speech and we know that it's not. The



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"Section 3 of the 14th Amendment explicitly disqualifies any person from public office who, having previously taken an oath as a federal or state office holder, engaged in insurrection or rebellion. Why are these insurrectionists still in office?"

idea that rich people are allowed to have more speech than poor people is outrageous and purely political.

Further politicizing and polluting the Court was the under-handedness of former Senate Majority leader Mitch McConnell, who allowed Trump to appoint a member of the Supreme Court with days left in his term but did not allow Obama to appoint a Supreme Court Justice with months left in his term. This was flagrant and disgraceful.

The corruption of Clarence Thomas ruling on decisions related to Jan. 6th while his wife was one of the conspirators shows that these people have no shame, no integrity and are willfully corrupt.

Once the Supreme Court got away with appointing Bush President and saying it should not be precedent, that really gave them the authority to undermine the sanctity of precedent. It opened the door to partisan political decisions. With Citizens United, they really said "we work for the ruling class". They were no longer neutral. Donald Trump put 3 people on the Supreme Court: Neil Gorsuch, Brett Kavanaugh & Amy Coney Barrett.

Judge Neil Gorsuch has a history of ruling against people with disabilities, the "Individuals with Disabilities Education Act". https://www.nea.org/about-nea/media-center/press-releases/reports-reveal-gorsuch-repeatedly-ruled-against-students.

His nomination was opposed by The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, a coalition of more than 200 national organizations committed to promote and protect the civil and human rights of all persons in the United States, and an additional 116 other national organizations. https://civilrights.org/resource/civil-and-human-rights-organizations-oppose-confirmation-of-judge-gorsuch-to-supreme-court/.

There was a delay of 1 week on the vote to confirm Kavanaugh's nomination, to give the FBI a very limited

time to look into the allegation of sexual assault brought against Kavanaugh by Christine Blasey Ford. There were others who also accused Kavanaugh of sexual assault while in high school and another accusing him of exposing himself in college. "The prospect of Kavanaugh, along with another conservative Justice accused of sexual harassment (Justice Clarence Thomas), teaming up with the rest of the Court's conservatives to overturn Roe v. Wade looks like a powder keg." https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2018/9/24/17871892/brett-kavanaugh-trump-supreme-court-legitimacy.

Amy Coney Barrett refused to answer many questions, causing Senator Richard Blumenthal to say: "I'm deeply disappointed that you are unable or unwilling to state your legal positions,". https://www.ft.com/content/55f32151-ed44-4db2-85fc-627547f540b2.

As of this printing, 2 senior congressmembers Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse (D-R.I.) and Rep. Hank Johnson (D-Ga.), are demanding to know what Justice Roberts is going to do about Justice Samual Alito's leak in a 2014 case on abortion. They also said that if Roberts doesn't do anything, they will open an investigation. https://www.politico.com/news/2022/11/20/supreme-court-roberts-whitehouse-johnson-00069673. Trump's appointments to the Supreme Court have highly politicized this branch of government.

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Democracy

Growing up in the 50s & 60s, we were heavily indoctrinated about the evils of Communism. In high school, we had required US vs. Communism classes. We were taught that Communism did not allow free speech, free expression of ideas, or free elections. They even banned books. We were taught that they were repressive because their ideas could not withstand scrutiny. They did not allow free elections. They were the enemies of Freedom. Our system of elections was fair, it wasn't about winning or losing, it was about how you played the game.

After that indoctrination, I am blown away that my "free country" now uses the same tactics that I was taught were only used by dictatorships.

The rules of our free Democracy have been undermined by tactics to disempower the people's control of our government. We the People are supposed to be the highest authority in our Democracy. The government is made up of our employees. It is our duty to monitor and control our government. Isn't that what democracy is about?

Well, you can't tell that from the behavior of our government. Currently our Democracy is being undermined by a mass of voter suppression laws.

In at least 27 states, lawmakers have made it harder for people to vote. In 39 states, lawmakers have enacted at least 393 laws to restrict voters. Many of these laws target voters of color.

The white ruling class finds itself in the minority as the make-up of our citizens becomes more diverse. Their response is to change the rules as they attempt to hold onto power.

Our state of Florida is one of the major players in restricting voters. They use the false argument that these restrictions are necessary to prevent rampant voter fraud which does not really exist. This is an organized attack on fair elections. https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/research-reports/voting-laws-roundup-may-2022.

The redistricting done by the Governor and the Republican legislature has been challenged in Federal and State courts. It was used in the elections anyway.

Right here in Alachua County, we have seen these tactics. Political operatives paid Charles Goston, an African American, to enter the race between Keith Perry and Kayser Enneking. The results were that Keith Perry won by less votes than were siphoned off by Charles

cont. 👈



The River Phoenix Center for Peacebuilding is grateful for Vets for Peace and their constancy and dedication to growing peace in community, country and world.

16 36th Annual VFP Winter Solstice





BIDEN IS RESPONSIBLE FOR INFLATION!

INFLATION IS GLOBAL, AND THE U.S. ACTUALLY HAS A LOWER RATE THAN THE U.K., GERMANY, AND SPAIN. MEANWHILE, CORPORATIONS ARE RAISING COSTS WHILE RAKING IN RECORD PROFITS.

BUT DEMOCRATS PASSED THAT HUGE TAX AND SPEND BILL!

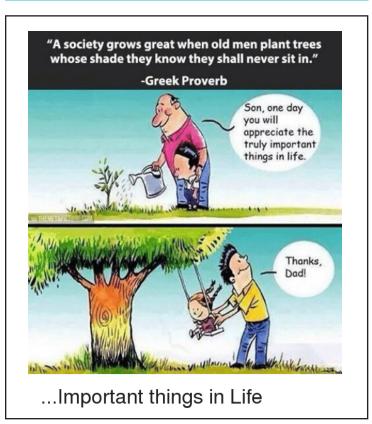


THE INFLATION REDUCTION ACT WAS FULLY PAID FOR BY MAKING THOSE GIANT CORPORATIONS AND WEALTHY TAX CHEATS PAY MORE OF THEIR FAIR SHARE. THE BILL LOWERS RX DRUG COSTS.



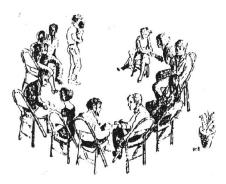
DEMOCRATS ARE SENDING 87,000 IRS AGENTS AFTER THE MIDDLE CLASS!

WEALTHY TAX CHEATS AVOID PAYING \$60 BILLION EVERY YEAR. THAT'S WHO THE IRS TAX ENFORCEMENT FUNDS WILL BE GOING AFTER. PLUS, ANSWERING PHONE CALLS AND PROCESSING TAX RETURNS.



Gainesville Quaker Meeting

You are welcome here.



where together we seek to live lives committed to peace and justice.

Meeting Info: 352-372-1070 www.gainesvillequakers.org 702 NW 38th St. Worship each Sunday @ 11 a.m.



Mayor-Elect Harvey Ward Supports the outstanding work of Vets for Peace





352-374-3636

Goston. Those votes came out of the African American community and would have gone to Enneking, the Democrat.

Most recently, 2 mailers were sent to African American voters in Alachua County, falsely claiming that two leaders of the African American community supported a current issue on the ballot to restructure the "At large" selection of County Commissioners to single member districts.

Under the "At large" system, all voters were able to vote for all County Commission seats. The single member districts won and now you can only vote for 1 County Commissioner, which undermines your right to vote for each County Commission seat.

Despite anti-voter laws, mis- and disinformation, election deniers, and poll worker shortages, the American people voted in record numbers.

Chris Hedges has said it best, "In their ideal America, our 'secular humanist' society based on science and reason will be destroyed. The Ten Commandments will form the basis of the legal system." His book, "American Fascists: The Christian Right and the War on America," was a warning that American fascism, wrapped in the flag and clutching the Christian cross, was organizing to extinguish our anemic democracy. This assault is very far advanced. The connecting

tissue among the disparate militia groups, QAnon conspiracy theorists, anti-abortion activists, right-wing patriot organizations, Second Amendment advocates, neo-Confederates and Trump supporters that stormed the capital on Jan. 6th is this frightening Christian Fascism." http://www.informationclearinghouse.info/57102.htm.

"Right here in Alachua County, we have seen these tactics. Political operatives paid Charles Goston, an African American, to enter the race between Keith Perry and Kayser Enneking."







2022 Peace Poetry

Politicians start the war
Why should they fight?
They give that role to the poor
Destruction fueled by greed
Young soldiers used as pawns
Return home old and ill
They watch as lives are lost
Just another man among the rows
Disposable heroes
When will it stop

By Quan Tran

Grade 8, Queen of Peace Catholic Academy Peace Poetry Contest Winner, Grades 7-8

The day the power of love overrules the love of power, the world will know peace.

- Mahatma Gandhi

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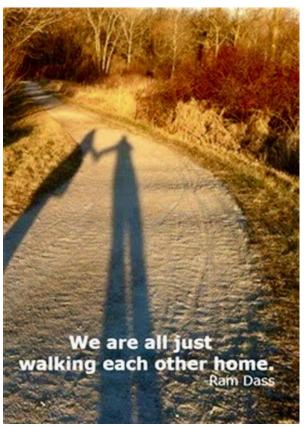
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Gainesville, FL | 2022 21

FINAL FRIENDS – HELPING US WALK EACH OTHER HOME



Final Friends is a Gainesville-based volunteer organization helping families and friends have a "home funeral" – a meaningful, virtually no-cost, DIY caring for and transporting of the deceased, and completion of the necessary paperwork between the time of death and burial. A home funeral bypasses the need for expensive, often impersonal, commercial funeral home services that may be a financial burden on the survivors. This hands-on loving act by the community promotes acceptance and healing, can be transformative for those present, and potentially for the deceased as well.

As many of us are getting up there in years we're starting to think about our final destination. We are truly fortunate to have Prairie Creek Conservation Cemetery here in the Gainesville area where one can be laid to rest in a beautiful natural area, nurturing rather than poisoning the land, as our

final loving act for our planet. I've made my reservation at PCCC, solidifying my intention to be buried there. But, we may not have considered how we get there.

A home funeral includes caring for the deceased, preparing a State of Florida death certificate, and any transportation of the deceased, such as to PCCC. This is all relatively simple to accomplish if one knows how to do it in compliance with the State of Florida statutes and regulations. This is where Final Friends can help. With our expertise, resources, guidance, and support, having a legal home funeral is extremely easy to arrange, especially with some advanced planning. No background or experience is required. Final Friends has been doing this for our community for over 10 years as a free service, and there is no charge from the State of Florida for having a home funeral, as well. And yes, it is still possible to have a safe home funeral during this pandemic.

For more information, please visit our website

www.finalfriends.org or call us at 352-374-4478.

Dennis Shuman for Final Friends

22 36th Annual VFP Winter Solstice





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The Samuel Proctor Oral History Program teaches students, independent scholars, and community organizations how to bring history to life. Our Veteran's History Project is a part of this commitment. Since 2000, volunteers and coordinators have been capturing the experiences of military veterans. With over 300 interviews in our collection, oral history interviews encompass a range of military conflicts, including veterans from World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, military operations in Central America, the Gulf War, the Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts, and more.

Would you like to add a voice to our collection? If you or someone you know is interested in donating an oral history to the Veterans History Project, please call SPOHP at (352) 392-7168 or email VHP Coordinator Ann Smith (<u>asmith360@aol.com</u>) for more information.



Was My Recovery Wrong?

by Jack Eisenfeld

A NUMBER OF US VETERANS, who are and have been treated by the VA for mental disorders in a program called MHICM (which stands for Mental Health Intensive Case Management), have been negatively impacted by a national policy change at the VA.

MHICM had provided us with particularly effective therapy groups, exceptionally skilled social workers and medical technicians, transportation and even food (a very long time ago). Treatment consisted of Horticultural Therapy group, which consisted of working with master gardeners at Wilmot Gardens greenhouse, and Art Therapy group, which was an art class taught by an art teacher followed by a Lunch and Learn Therapy group which featured guest speakers from the community and also individual visits from the social workers. Treatment now has been reduced to individual visits from remaining social workers and classes through PRRC (which stands for Psychosocial Rehabilitation and Recovery Center). To a number of us MHICM veterans, the therapy groups were an integral part of our treatment and their loss is a

Peaceful Holidays & Much Love
Mary Alford

significant one that continues to impact us. In additon, the exceptionally skilled social workers and medical technicians were driven away by the new management of MHICM (which they deny) and were not replaced. The absence of the social workers and medical technicians is sorely felt and they are dearly missed.

These losses caused us MHICM veterans to petition MHICM management. MHICM management denies the losses. They say the therapy groups continue but are now being conducted through PRRC. This is not so. PRRC has therapy groups but not like those we had experienced in the past at MHICM. MHICM management further states that the changes are because of a new national policy of the VA. They state that the old ways in which MHICM had operated were against the rules and even illegal! This causes me to wonder, "Since I recovered because of treatment I received that was against the rules and illegal, should I have recovered at all? Was my recovery wrong?"

I have since graduated from the MHICM program. My concern is for future MHICM veterans who will not benefit, or perhaps recover, because of the lack of the therapy groups that caused my recovery. I am unsure of how to proceed to try to change VA national policy to fix this problem. That is why I'm writing this article. I'm trying to inform as many people as I can about the problem and, in that way, perhaps inform someone who has the solution or leads me to it. If you, the reader, know or know someone who may know the solution to this problem, please contact me through the Gainesville Chapter 14 of Veterans for Peace.

Thank you. Signed, Jack Eisenfeld





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2022 Gainesville Veterans for Peace Scholarship Recipients

by Paul Ortiz

EACH YEAR, Gainesville Veterans for Peace awards three college/vocational scholarships to student applicants from Alachua County who demonstrate academic excellence as well as a commitment to social justice and nonviolent social change. Due to generous community support of our chapter this year, we were able to award four scholarships of \$1,500 each. Please consider donating to Gainesville Veterans for Peace to sustain our Peace Scholarship program!

This year's recipients of Gainesville VFP's Peace Scholarships were inspiring. Each student maintained outstanding GPA's while engaging in activism and voluntarism for an array of important causes. These were the recipients of the 2022 Gainesville Veterans for Peace Scholarship:

Miryam Elshaer

Miryam is a double major in Political Science and Women's Studies at the University of Florida. She is a member of Students for Justice in Palestine, Dream Defenders, and is President of Pride Student Union. Through her position on the anti-racist and trans liberation committee of National Women's Liberation, Miryam works to educate people about the importance of Queer and Trans intersections in social justice organizing. Her goal is to become a social movement lawyer. She writes, "I do not believe in using the law to solve issues in the traditional way that strips people of individual power. Rather, change is created by the resistance of the people."

Isabella Macias

Isabella is first-generation college student. She is currently a second-year astrophysics major at the University of Florida. She served as a student ambassador with the UnidosNow, a non-profit organization, on their voter education initiative. The goal of Isabella's work was to



encourage first-generation Latinx voters to participate in the 2020 general election and to spread the urgency of the need to vote. She worked especially with young women, predominantly Latinas, to help their peers and family members learn about how to most effectively participate in the political process. Isabella's goal is to pursue a career as an Astrophysicist at NASA and to encourage more women of color to pursue STEM-related careers.

Bryanna Michell

Bryanna is a graduate of F.W. Buchholz High School in Gainesville. She is also a graduate of the Dual Enrollment Program at Santa Fe College. Bryanna is double majoring in Women's Studies and Psychology at UF. She is an active member of the Wellness, Equity, Love, Liberation and Sexuality Healing and Research Collective where she is especially concerned with promoting liberation among African American and the LGBTQ+ community. Bryanna plans to deepen her research into medical and health disparities in working class communities. She is especially concerned with educating middle class people about the

cont. 🛶

Thank you,
Veterans for Peace,
for your consistent and
generous support
over the years
to so many of our
community organizations.
Your support
makes a difference.

Carol Gordon

issues that marginalized communities endure every day including food security, domestic violence, and economic justice. She plans to either attend a PhD program or law school in pursuit of a career dedicated to social justice.

Maria Monsserat de la Cruz Mora

Maria is a graduate of Newberry High School and is a Political Science major at the University of Florida. She a leader of CHISPAS at UF and has led workshops to help DACA and undocumented individuals in Alachua County who would like to pursue higher education. Maria is the co-founder of RepresentMe, a political action committee in Newberry, and she volunteers with the Alachua County Hispanic Democrats. "In my future career plans," Maria writes, "I would like to remain here in Alachua County, specifically my hometown of Newberry after I graduate from UF in 2023. I would like to give back to the Latinx community. From my personal experience, I am a first-hand witness to the many disparities within the Hispanic community in Alachua County."

Veterans for Peace 9th Annual College Scholarship Program for Alachua County Students: Deadline for Application, April 28, 2023

Gainesville Veterans for Peace Chapter 14 is excited to announce our 9th annual Peace Scholarship Program for the spring of 2023. We are awarding three college scholarships of \$1,500 each for high school seniors, college students or adults with a commitment to activities including: social justice and peace, coalition building, Black Lives Matter, conflict resolution and/or nonviolent social change. Veterans for Peace created these scholarships to give financial support to students in Alachua County, Florida who are planning careers in pursuit of a world of social justice and equality.

The majority of Veterans for Peace scholarships awarded thus far have gone to first-generation college students as well as to community college students. Students enrolled in vocational, apprenticeship and career training programs are eligible to apply.

Santa Fe College student Doug Bernal, a recipient of a 2016 Peace Scholarship, is an Iraq War veteran who explains the economic challenges facing student veterans: "Like many newly separated veterans, I struggled financially for quite some time after leaving the service. Unsure of where I wanted to go in life and lacking the confidence to pursue higher education, I found myself taking on more debt as time went on. When I finally decided to pursue school, it was difficult to purchase books and pay bills while waiting for my GI Bill benefits to come through. I didn't initially have the grades for financial aid, so the VFP scholarship was instrumental in getting me the books I so desperately needed and putting me on a path to a successful college

experience." Please help Gainesville Veterans for Peace spread the word about this scholarship program!

To be eligible to apply for the Peace Scholarship, the applicant must be: 1) a resident of Alachua County; 2) either a high school senior planning to enroll in full-time undergraduate study at an accredited two- or four-year college, university or vocational-technical school or apprenticeship program in the United States for the 2023-2024 academic year; or: 2) a student currently enrolled in one of these programs and in good standing; or an; 3) adult student enrolling in higher education who needs financial assistance.

Peace Scholarship applicants will also be asked to provide a brief personal statement and evidence of leadership and/or personal initiative in activities in an organization (including volunteer or paid work) relating to peace and social justice, conflict resolution and/or nonviolent social change. Applicants will also need to provide two letters of recommendation.

PEACE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION DEADLINE: The application (PDF file) must be downloaded from the Gainesville Veterans for Peace website, printed out, completed and postal mailed to:

Paul Ortiz C/O Veterans for Peace Scholarship Program 2115 NW 7th Lane, Gainesville, Florida 32603

The postmarked deadline for the scholarship application is April 28, 2023. Peace Scholarship recipients will be announced during the first week of May. For questions about the Peace Scholarship, contact Paul Ortiz at: **ortizprof@gmail.com** or **831-334-0131**. The full announcement and instructions for applying may be found on our web site, at **http://www.vfpgainesville.org**.

Thanks to Chris Ott
from Gainesville
Veterans for Peace
for the Lovely Mugs
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36th Annual VFP Winter Solstice

Thank you, Veterans for Peace. From Our Family to Yours. Blessed are the Peacemakers!

Ken, Angela, Chris, Taylor and Connor





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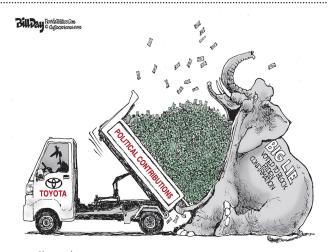
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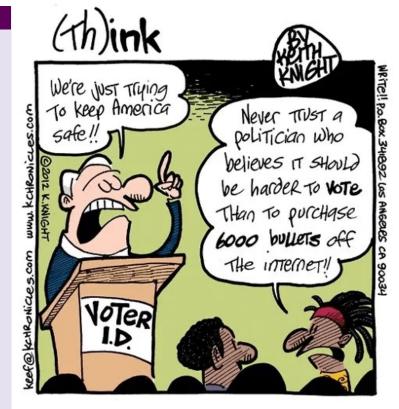
The Ship

They said that these would be the golden years But instead we sail through a river of tears With a mast made of sadness our boat is bound to sink We will be swallowed by waves in less than a blink Our decks made of grief for those who we've lost War might get You more land, but at what cost? Our anchor is war, because it makes the world stop Everything's still, except for the clock Our deck is earth, but it is polluted and broken We could have saved it, if only we had spoken Spoken out against war, polluting and hate But instead we fish for land, with guns as our bait People are homeless, while others fill banks Some no longer need to be forced to walk the plank Our ship is sinking, with only few willing to save it Its design is bad, with few willing to change it If you speak your opinion, you might not speak again An opinion is something you shouldn't have to fend Our sale is acceptance, the only way to progress if you want to move forward then it's for the best We are nearing the end, for the sea hurts my head We finally reached land! But wait, it is dead.

By Miko Shitama

Grade 5, Jordan Glen School Peace Poetry Winner, Grades 5–6







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- ALICE WALKER.



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Robert William McPeek

by the Gainesville Sun



ROBERT WILLIAM MCPEEK—masterful musician and mentor to Gainesville's musicalcommunity—left our planet and moved on to the greater light of the universe on October 15, 2022. He was a clever and evocative songwriter and an accomplished guitarist and lyricist — as well as a recording engineer, music producer, playwright, and social psychologist. It's difficult to overstate McPeek's contribution to Gainesville's cultural scene. Learn more about his musical legacy at: https://www.bobmcpeekmusic.com/.

On October 16, his longtime musical collaborators and friends staged a tribute concert at and friends staged a tribute concert at Heartwood Soundstage (archived at: https://youtu.be/hgzbyblzx_k).

Born to Marie (Biller) McPeek of Chicago and Robert Wayne McPeek of Willow Lake, South Dakota, in October 1951, McPeek was educated in Waukegan, Illinois and Augsburg, Germany public schools. A conscientious student, he enrolled in Loyola University at 16, earning a PhD in social psychology at Ohio State University at 24, on full scholarship.

Family travels in Europe while his father was stationed in Germany (1962-1964) gave him a great respect for cultural differences and a keen sense of European history.

Back in the USA as a young teenager in 1964, he was inspired by the British Invasion band sound, and also by the guitar skills of a friend's father. McPeek threw himself into learning to play guitar and was in multiple local bands throughout his middle and high school years. By studying album covers and new releases, he developed an extensive knowledge base about contemporary music, production techniques, and instrumentation of all styles, from the common to the obscure.

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"Solidarity Forever"





"The only thing I do know is that we have to be kind. Please, be kind. Especially when we don't know what's going on."

- WAYMOND WANG (IN EVERYTHING EVERYWHERE ALL AT ONCE)

In early 1977, he co-founded the iconic Hyde and Zeke Record Store in Gainesville, Florida. He also co-founded Mirror Image Recording Studio later that same year. After multiple iterations over the decades, and with three skilled partners, this business was transformed into the acoustically perfected music listening room that now bears McPeek's name at Heartwood Soundstage, and that has garnered national acclaim.

A quote from McPeek reflects his devotion to music: "... every one of us who lives and breathes music... finds inspiration in a magical song to get through the day..."

During interludes in his musical pursuits, McPeek held sequential positions as international director for Sabine Professional Audio, marketing director for Mindsolve Technologies, and research director at the Center for Applications of Psychological Type.

He is survived by his wife, Nancye Henkle- McPeek; sister, Helen Carll Croarkin; sisters-in- law Holly Stewart (William) and Katherine Bigger (Donald); nephews Mike (Kim), John (Christine), Gerald (Angie), Mark Croarkin; David (Maria), Richard (Elizabeth), Benjamin, Patrick, and Joshua (Sara) Armstrong; nieces Elizabeth Saliwonczyk, Meagan (Oliver) Browett, and Simone Stewart; and seven greatnephews and six great-nieces. He was preceded in death by his parents, brother-in-law Walter Croarkin, niece Mary Croarkin, nephew Steve Croarkin, and greatniece Kaitlin Michelle Croarkin.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in his memory to:

- https://www.alachuaconservationtrust.org
- https://www.sustainablecambodia.org
- https://www.theatreofmemory.org
- http://www.vfpgainesville.org

Posted online on October 29, 2022 Published in Gainesville Sun





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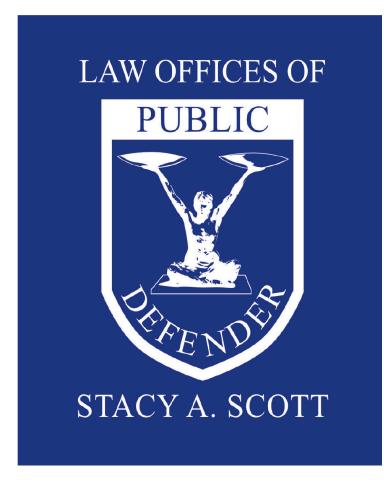


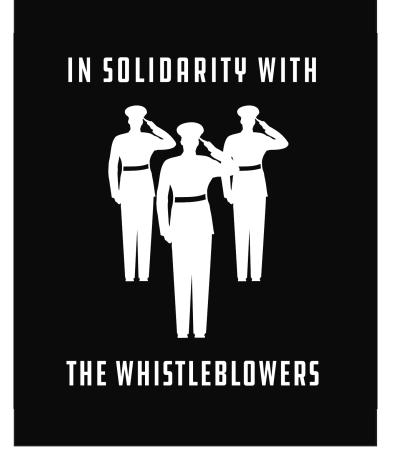




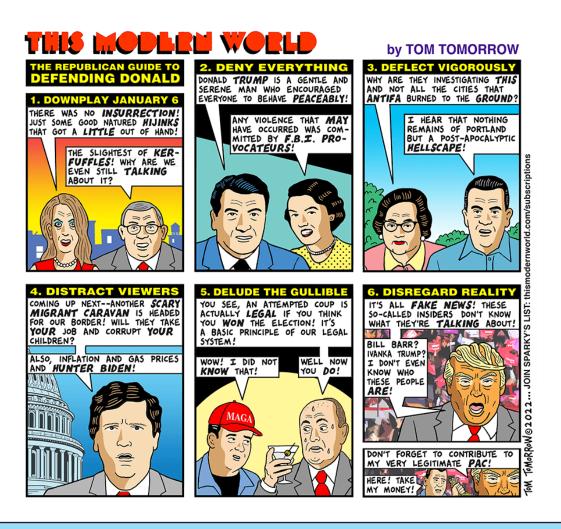


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TIME TO Retire The GPD K-9 UNIT

by Sheila Payne and Bobby Mermer, PhD, Alachua County Labor Coalition



THE GAINESVILLE COMMUNITY has waited months after the mauling of resident Terrell Bradley to hear what GPD and Gainesville City Commission will do with the troubled GPD canine unit. Scheduled meetings for September and October were abruptly canceled. In the interim, a highly stylized video produced by GPD excusing away any inconsistencies between initial arrest report and final amended report was released. 'Procedures' were followed. The video included character assassination of Mr. Bradley. Any terribly unfortunate incident that happens to someone the police have in their sights is always the suspect's fault.

Everything that happened after initial contact with Bradley was rotten fruit of what Bradley's family and community still feels was a racially profiled arrest. No one who has seen the video thinks Mr. Bradley was repeatedly reaching under the seat of his car, nor is there bodycam footage that substantiates that Bradley elbowed the officer. Big fanfare when Ranger, a dog known by his handler Cpl. Meurer and other officers as eager to indiscriminately bite anyone, including his handler, was suspended. Ranger has now been reinstated after "further training." You cannot retrain that level of aggression where it took 2 officers and a breaker bar to get the dog to release, after he had taken

out Mr. Bradley's eye and caused extensive nerve damage to his arm. Police dogs should be under voice control, as GPD expects suspects to be.

GPD's canine manual says: canine use is authorized to track for any felony which involves the use or threat of physical force... K-9 officers should only be used when necessary and "will utilize all reasonable means to affect apprehension without incurring a bite." The initial stop was a traffic stop and then "the smell of marijuana." GPD is proud that only 11% of canine use results in a bite. If officers shot someone 11% of time they are called out, those officers would not be on the force.

Two officers were suspended because of taking photos of Mr. Bradley's injuries and passing them around. All five officers who passed around the photos, rather than enter them into evidence as required, lied, and did not have the gumption to admit to GPD during the investigation that they had passed around, then erased the photos from their phone. As stated by one, "the group believed that if they submitted the photo, it would be 'incriminating." Yet, they expect a Black man, who told the police when asked why he ran, "that he was afraid of getting killed", to comply with orders that seemed unreasonable.

As one officer said when Bradley is screaming about the dog ripping his eye out. "Well, shouldn't have run from the police." Bradley: I ain't doing s_ wrong. People getting killed by polices, what the f---you mean I shouldn't be running.?"

When you read text exchanges between 2 officers, including Officer Milman, the officer who initially stopped Bradley, it becomes clear that some GPD officers think it is fun to terrorize Black men and women on "the East side." Milman describes Bradley's condition as " the nastiest thing ever his eye was split open and just hanging outside

"Police dogs should be under voice control, as GPD expects suspects to be."

of his face." Shott (other officer): I saw the pictures, BRAVO. Milman: Maybe if these stories get around criminals will stop running from me. ..That would take the fun out of this job. Now that you're back, I'm going out east. Another Milman text: Im [sic] driving out east right now, Im [sic] still down to have some fun tonight." And "on a scale of 1 to foot pursuit how bad do you want to chase someone today lol." Milman was the subject of 3 IA investigations this year.

As with the dog Ranger, no amount of 'retraining' can rid a person of deep racism and subsequent racial profiling. Gainesville has a long history of police targeting of Black people, including egging them from the back of a truck, just for fun. Which is how Milman and Shott explained their texting banter.

From the history of dogs being used by bounty hunters to capture and maul escaped enslaved persons to the stark photos of dogs being turned on and attacking Black Civil Rights protestors in the 1960's to now, when an officer releases his uncontrollable K-9 partner on a suspect, these scenes are all egregiously the same and cannot be tolerated. The symbolism of using dogs as a weapon of terror against Black people should be reason alone to eliminate the GPD K-9 unit.

Other cities and states have indefinitely suspended the use of K-9 programs after similar incidents of police dogs biting suspects who are on the ground.



"OURS IS THE STRUGGLE
OF A LIFETIME, OR MAYBE
EVEN MANY LIFETIMES, AND
EACH ONE OF US IN EVERY
GENERATION MUST DO OUR
PART. AND IF WE BELIEVE IN
THE CHANGE WE SEEK, THEN
IT IS EASY TO COMMIT TO
DOING ALL WE CAN, BECAUSE
THE RESPONSIBILITY IS
OURS ALONE TO BUILD A
BETTER SOCIETY AND A MORE
PEACEFUL WORLD."

- John Lewis



Gainesville, FL | 2022

Tonight's songs may include, but are not limited to...

AFTER THE GOLDRUSH

Neil Young

Well, I dreamed I saw the knights in armor coming

Sayin' something about a queen

There were peasants singin' and drummers drumming

And the archer split the tree

There was a fanfare blowin' to the sun

That was floating on the breeze

Look at mother nature on the run in the 21st century

Look at mother nature on the run in the 21st century

I was lyin' in a burned-out basement

With a full moon in my eyes

I was hopin' for replacement

When the sun burst through the sky

There was a band playin' in my head

And I felt like getting high

I was thinkin' about what a friend had said

I was hopin' it was a lie

Thinkin' about what a friend had said

I was hopin' it was a lie

Well, I dreamed I saw the silver spaceships lying

In the yellow haze of the sun

There were children crying and colors flying

All around the chosen ones

All in a dream, all in a dream

The loading had begun

Flyin' mother nature's silver seed

To a new home in the sun

Flyin' mother nature's silver seed

To a new home

HERE COMES THE SUN

George Harrison

Here comes the sun, here comes the sun

And I say it's all right

Little darlin' it's been a long cold lonely winter

Little darlin' it feels like years since it's been here

Here comes the sun, here comes the sun

And I say it's all right

Little darlin' the smiles returning to their faces

Little darlin' it seems like years since it's been here

Here comes the sun, here comes the sun

And I say it's all right

Sun, sun, here it comes

Little darlin' I feel the ice is slowly meltin'

Little darlin' it seems like years since it's been clear

Here comes the sun, here comes the sun

And I say it's all right

Here comes the sun, here comes the sun

It's all right, it's all right

IMAGINE

John Lennon

Imagine there's no heaven

It's easy if you try

No hell below us

Above us only sky

Imagine all the people living for today

Imagine there's no countries

It isn't hard to do

Nothing to kill or die for

And no religion too

Imagine all the people living life in peace

Chorus:

You may say I'm a dreamer

But I'm not the only one

I hope someday you'll join us

And the world will be as one

Imagine no possessions

I wonder if you can

No need for greed or hunger

A brotherhood of man

Imagine all the people sharing all the world

Chorus

LEAN ON ME

Bill Withers

Hmm... hmm-hmm-hmm

Sometimes in our live

We all have pain

We all have sorrow

But if we are wise

We know that there's always tomorrow

Lean on me

When you're not strong

And I'll be your friend I'll help you carry on... For it won't be long

Till I'm gonna need somebody to lean on

Please swallow your pride

If I have things you need to borrow

For no one can fill

Those of your needs that you won't let show

You just call on me brother when you need a hand

We all need somebody to lean on

I just might have a problem that you'll understand

We all need somebody to lean on

Lean on me

When you're not strong

And I'll be your friend

I'll help you carry on...

For it won't be long

Till I'm gonna need somebody to lean on

You just call on me brother when you need a hand

We all need somebody to lean on

I just might have a problem that you'll understand

We all need somebody to lean on

If there is a load you have to bear

That you can't carry

I'm right up the road

I'll share your load

If you just call me

Call me

If you need a friend

NEVER ENDING LOVE

Delaney Bramlett

I've got a never ending love for you

From now on, that's all I want to do

From the first time we met

I knew I'd have a never ending love for you

2nd verse, same as the first

After all this time of being alone

We can love on another

Feel for each other from now on

Feels so good I can hardly stand it

I've got a never ending love for you

From now on, that's all I want to do

From the first time we met, I knew

I'd sing my never ending song of love to you

Uh...4th verse, same as the 3rd

After all this time of being alone

We can love on another

Feel for each other from now on

Feels so good I can hardly stand it

I've got a never ending love for you

From now on, that's all I want to do

From the first time we met

I knew I'd have a never ending love for you

SANTA CLAUSTROPHOBIA

Bob McPeek

There's a million of little Santa spies

Gonna tell the man if you been naughty or you been nice

What's he up to when he's watchin' over ya

I'm suffering from Santa Claustrophobia

(O-ho-ho No! Claustrophobia! O-ho-ho no!

Claustrophobia)

He's obsessive, makin' lists all night (Makin' lists)

He's compulsive, gonna check them twice (Santa's pissed)

Don't let that jolly bizness Pull the wool right over ya

I'm suffering from Santa, I'm suffering from Santa,

I'm suffering from Santa Claustrophobia

What goes through that fat man's head

That makes him dress like that (All RED!)

And hang with dwarves in a cold dark place

Spying on the human race

Till once a year each December

He's off on a milk and cookie bender

Is he passive aggressive or manic depressive

Or maybe his blood sugar level's excessive

I don't know! (Claustrophobia

O-ho-ho No! Claustrophobia!)

Well he's b-b-bad to the bone

But sometimes bad is good (Bad is good!)

But that Santa Cat he ain't down for that

Cause he's not from the neighborhood

(Not from the hood)

So let me tell you fat boy don't let me be misunderstood

Cause I'm suffering from Santa, I'm suffering from Santa

I'm suffering from Santa Claustrophobia!

WAR IS OVER

John and Yoko

A very Merry Christmas

And a Happy New Year

Let's hope it's a good one

Without any fear.

War is over if you want it...

War is over now.

one more to go! ->

WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS NOW IS LOVE

David/Bacharach

What the world needs now.

Is love, sweet love,

It's the only thing that there's just too little of.

What the world needs now,

Is love, sweet love,

No, not just for some but for everyone.

Lord, we don't need another mountain,

There are mountains and hillsides enough to climb,

There are oceans and rivers enough to cross,

Enough to last 'til the end of time.

What the world needs now,

Is love, sweet love,

It's the only thing that there's just too little of.

What the world needs now,

Is love, sweet love,

No, not just for some but for everyone.

Lord, we don't need another meadow,

There are cornfields and wheatfields enough to grow,

There are sunbeams and moonbeams enough to shine,

Oh listen Lord, if you want to know...oh...

What the world needs now.

Is love, sweet love,

It's the only thing that there's just too little of.

What the world needs now,

Is love, sweet love,

No, not just for some oh but just for every, every, everyone.

What the world needs now,

Is love, sweet love.

What the world needs now,

Is love, sweet love.







The cat who was completely obsessed with my bump when I was pregnant is quite uninterested in the baby now that she's out. It's a weird way to find out that my cat is a Republican.



M.L.K. WAS A DREAMER

M.L.K. was a Dreamer

Dreamed dreams to change the world's demeanor

To accomplish his goal without usage of violence

To help the world become a bit cleaner

He preached his dream nation-wide

Both Colored and Not on his side

M.L.K. was a Dreamer

Who started as a Preacher

Who preached about Equality

Preached for things to change

Realize that he is a bit different than your average

dreamer

M.L.K. started as a Preacher

Who became a Dreamer

Who became a Doer

He did things to accomplish his Dreams

Marched, Preached, Did

M.L.K. was a Dreamer

Who had more courage

He had half the world against him

Half the world with him

It truly didn't matter

He would Preach for Human Rights anyways

For colored and Not to drink from the

same fountain

For Little Black Boys and Black Girls to hold hands

with Little White Boys and White Girls

It takes a dream to want to change the world

It takes courage to change it

By Rekhi Kinsey

Grade 7, Howard Bishop Middle School Peace Poetry Contest Winner, Grades 7–8







Gainesville, FL | 2022 47



GARDENS FOR PEACE

by Mary Bahr

In Memory of Martin McKellar The theme of International Day of Peace 2022 is End Racism. Build Peace.

VETS FOR PEACE HAS BEEN CELEBRATING

International Day of Peace since 2013 with ceremonies held around Gainesville commemorating the September 21st event established by the United Nations in 1981. This international observance is celebrated in many ways. In Gainesville, we have planted peace poles in several places and held ceremonies around them. More recently VFP had been involved with observances at the Peace Garden at the Harn Museum. This Zen rock garden was developed and maintained by Martin McKellar, a Gainesville resident. Martin organized Zen Gardens throughout the US to develop a unique ceremony in which peace patterns are raked into the gravel of the gardens. VFP members Sherry Steiner, Scott Camil, and Mary Bahr have participated in these ceremonies.

On August 9th, 1945, at the end of World War II, an atomic bomb was dropped by American bombers on Nagasaki, Japan, killing an estimated 80,000 people. It was the second bomb dropped on Japan. The bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki are the only nuclear bombs ever used as weapons of war. Nagasaki Memorial Day commemorates the bombing victims, promotes peace, and raises awareness of the importance of avoiding more wars and the destructive potential of nuclear weapons.

In 2018 UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres attended the Nagasaki Ceremony and described the survivors of the atomic bombings, known in Japanese as the hibakusha, who helped organize the Memorial, as "leaders for peace and disarmament".

Martin McKellar, a lover of Japanese culture, met hibakusha Toshiko Tanaka, an 80-year-old artist who survived Hiroshima. Martin commissioned her to design the peace patterns used in Japanese gardens to mark the International Day of Peace. Initially, in 2020, five gardens across the US including the Harn Museum's Peace Garden raked Tanaka's peace patterns into their Japanese gardens. This year, twenty-four public gardens and 11 private gardens used Tanaka's patterns as part of International Day of Peace ceremonies across the US, and in Canada and Spain. In February of 2022, Martin McKellar passed away. Those of us who had

the privilege to work with Martin miss him and honor him for his contribution to World Peace. Martin would love to know that in 2022 his ceremony and Toshiko Tanaka's peace patterns are spreading across the US and out into the world where peace is much needed.



Martin McKellar, leads a demonstration for VFP Ch. 14 Members Scott Camil and Mary Bahr



Rest in Peace, Martin

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Happy Holidays & thank you to Veterans for Peace

Sheriff Clovis Watson, Jr.

On the occasion of the 2022 Solstice, with thanks to Veterans For Peace for all that you do for our community and world. All of us are better for what you do. Let no one ever forget what you have done individually in the past and what you do collectively now.





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Wait and See

War is not an ancient thing

It is something we still must see

From the safety of our homes

All we can do is wait and see

Watch as people flee

Flee from their countries

Flee from all they call home

Flee to safety in a place they don't know

Yet all we think to do is wait and see

Not all we can do is wait and see

We can band together, find peace in the anger

Open our eyes to see those who are in need

Open our homes to those who have nowhere else

Open our hearts to truly see

A refugee is not that different from you or me

All people deserve peace, love, and care

No matter what is happening elsewhere.

War is not an ancient thing

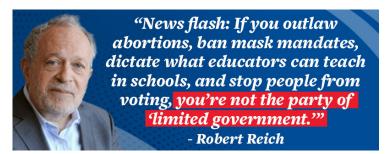
But in the future with the help of you and me

It can hopefully be

Something nobody ever has to see

By Carley Loeffler, Grade 8

Queen of Peace Catholic Academy
Peace Poetry Contest Winner, Grades 7–8





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The Red Wave that Didn't Materialize

by Doug Bernal

2022 WILL GO DOWN as one of the more interesting election cycles in quite some time. Locally, we had expected results contrasted by drastic changes. Nationally, we've had one party exceed expectations based on decades of elections.

In the race for Gainesville mayor, a crowded field of nine candidates fought to take Mayor Lauren Poe's position. The diverse slate initially included a disbarred attorney, a man who had only registered to vote for the first time in his life a few days prior to qualifying, an African-American youth coach and mentor wanting to address gun violence and GRU rates, a former mayor-commissioner, a trans-queer activist, perpetual candidate Donald Shepherd, the fired GRU manager, and two current city commissioners.

The race was culled to two candidates, Ed Bielarski and Harvey Ward. Bielarski had support from some major players. Former sheriff Sadie Darnell, the accomplished Ilene Silverman and her husband, former commissioner Harvey Budd, all helped numerous others to bring Ed Bielarski to the runoff, but the tens of thousands of dollars to try and get the former manager of GRU into office ended up being a fruitless endeavor. Ward handily defeated the self-proclaimed "Purple" Bielarski, earning over 57% of the vote. And with that win comes the knowledge that those who backed Bielarski won't see their investments in his campaign, both personal and monetary, pay off.

Other city races were not without their own ups and downs. Casey Willits, the sole candidate running who supported the recent changes to city zoning and single-family neighborhoods, defeated Dejeon Cain. And Ed Book, who made headlines in the Gainesville Sun when he knowingly exposed multiple African-American elders and leaders to COVID after knowingly testing positive for the virus, won a tight race with long-time activist and IBEW leader James Ingle

All three Democratic candidates for the Alachua County Commission handily won their races, with the most voters supporting Mary Alford in the county's final at-large races. Current incumbents Ken Cornell and Marihelen Wheeler each earned a few hundred less votes than Alford from the same pool of voters, but each candidate ended up with over 57% in their respective races.

While Wild Spaces Public Places passed and will help our community with everything from parks to roads,

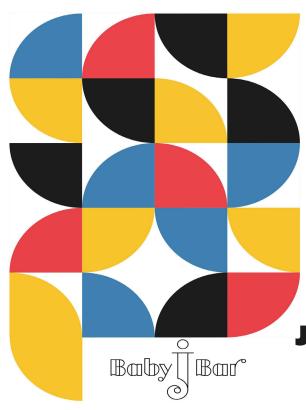
"Regardless of the final control of Congress, this has been an arguably historic result for Democrats."

Single-Member Districts for the County Commission also passed after seeing hundreds of thousands of dollars injected into the election by dark-money PACs run by Stafford Jones. While this will certainly make primary elections far more competitive, the influence of an overwhelmingly Democratic Gainesville will likely make this change far less than the overwhelming Republican takeover some supporters were hoping for.

And as of the writing of this article, we face an oddity with Congress. What traditionally would have been a massive reversal of power has instead turned into a tight race for the House and an extremely tight race for the Senate. A Republican-controlled House will be one with a very thin margin, and it remains to be seen what, if any, sort of cohesiveness the Republicans can obtain when the more extreme members of the GOP in the Freedom Caucus are factored in. We could very well see a Republican-controlled House tanked by its own party.

The Senate race remains far more competitive, and it is likely as of the writing of this article that Georgia voters could once again decide control of the Senate, with incumbent Democratic senator Warnock fighting Republican Herschel Walker in the December 6th runoff. Hopefully the ballots are counted by the time this article is published.

Regardless of the final control of Congress, this has been an arguably historic result for Democrats. Whether that is because of a distaste for Trumpism or a good ground-game from the Democratic Party and their candidates is debatable, but the projected red wave so often seen when a Democrat is in the White House has turned into a red trickle.



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Progress on the City's 2018 Net-Zero Resolution

by Roberta Gastmeyer

FOUR YEARS AGO, thanks to the efforts of a large and diverse coalition of local organizations, Gainesville's City Commission unanimously passed a resolution committing the city to be powered by 100 percent renewable electricity with net zero greenhouse gas emissions community-wide by 2045.

Climate activists applauded this as a big step for our community. But we were also aware that it was just a first step, that the hard work of creating a plan to actually implement this goal was just beginning. Things started out pretty good.

The Utility Advisory Board (UAB) got to work on a comprehensive Energy Policy which would create a set of guiding principles for moving us toward the goal; GRU started getting bids for a 50MW solar power purchase agreement, enough to power about 10,000 local homes; a Citizen Climate Advisory Committee (CCAC) was established to advise both the City and County commissions on climate policy. Then things stalled.

The completed Energy Policy was shelved by previous GRU management; the solar array was sidelined by citizen protests of environmental injustice; the CCAC struggled to get themselves organized and lacked clear guidance from the City and County on their mission. It seemed like we were going in circles and not making any progress. Climate activists were getting restless. But then, things started happening again.

Late last year, the city completed a greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory for both city operations and the community at large. These inventories establish baselines that we need to measure our progress in emission reductions and give us info on how quickly we are moving toward the goal of zero emissions and in which sectors.

In January this year, the City Commission cleared GRU of a major obstacle to progress by firing the General Manager. His replacement, Tony Cunningham, is a breath of fresh air – respectful, open and honest in his communications with commissioners, the UAB and residents; willing to consider other points of view; serious about climate change

as a concern. In early 2023, the public will be invited to participate in the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) process. The IRP is used to determine how best to meet future electrical needs and is regularly reviewed and updated. This is our opportunity to express climate concerns and our desire for GRU to take them into account.

The Commission also agreed to create a new Climate Officer position—a high-level staff person answering to the City Manager and able to coordinate climate actions across

cont. 🔷



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Thank you so much for your most generous support of VFP during these uncertain times.

Gainesville Veterans for Peace

departments. This person will be key to achieving our net-zero GHG goal as they will provide the comprehensive overview and consistent leadership that we have been lacking to date. The job has been posted and we hope to meet our new Climate Officer early next year.

Another key element is the creation of a Climate Action Dashboard—a clear and comprehensive online tool that can be used by public to understand where we are, where we are going and what progress is being made to reduce emissions and promote energy justice. A proposal is making its way through the city structure now and we will continue to monitor and advocate for this important tool.

And finally, while the city has purchased a few electric fleet vehicles including four (soon to be eight!) electric buses, they have not created an overarching EV policy to date. But this might be about to change. GRU staff recently reported that they will be working with city fleet managers to research questions/concerns around the expected transition to EVs, both public fleets and private vehicles. They hope to have some "guidelines" to share in the Spring 2023. It is not clear how the public will be involved in this discussion yet but GRU has said that public engagement will be part of the process at some point.

"It seemed like we were going in circles and not making any progress.
Climate activists were getting restless. But then, things started happening again."

So, while progress on the City's 2018 resolution has not been fast or dramatic, thanks to many community members, dedicated staff and courageous elected officials, progress has been made. And we expect more good things to come in 2023.





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Gainesville, FL | 2022 61

Bob McPeek dies at 70, started Mirror Image and Heartwood studios, Hyde & Zeke Records

by Ron Cunningham

"I've been searching for the melody since I began to sing—It's hiding in the corner of a dream— And if I try to solve its mystery and find its secret spring—It slips away somewhere behind the scene"

— "The Perfect Chord" by Bob McPeek

FOR BOB MCPEEK, it was always about plunging headfirst into that "secret spring." His relentless pursuit of music's "mystery" led McPeek from playing club gigs in Ohio to decamping for Gainesville and starting a record store, Hyde & Zeke, that become a favorite hangout for musicians and audiophiles alike.

McPeek went on to found Mirror Image and then Heartwood recording studios. A central figure in Gainesville's music scene for more than 40 years, he worked with some of the area's finest talents: Sister Hazel, Bo Diddley, Less than Jake, River Phoenix and others.



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Singer/songwriter and producer Bob McPeek founded Mirror Image Recording Studio and was a founding partner of Heartwood Soundstage. SUBMITTED PHOTO

A record store entrepreneur, psychologist, sound engineer, songwriter, poet, musician and — above all else — perfectionist, McPeek died Saturday following an extended illness. He was just four days short of his 71st birthday. "I take great comfort in the good fortune that I have the love and respect of more people that I might have dreamed possible," McPeek wrote in his penultimate Facebook post. "And that late in life I had the opportunity to make music that has brought me and others satisfaction."

cont.

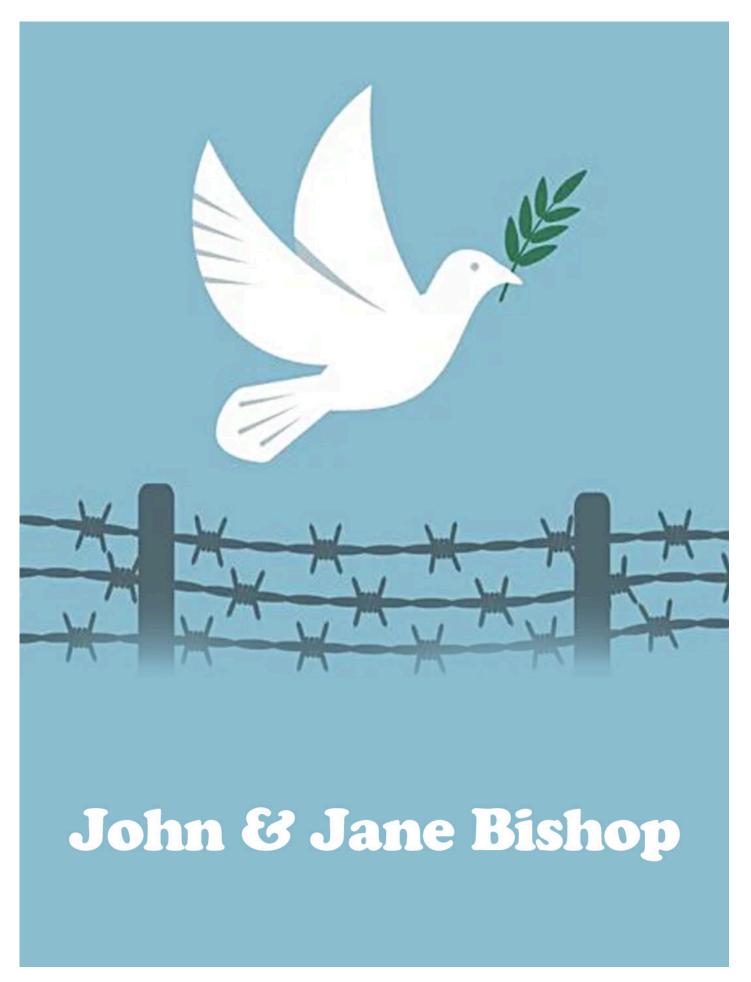


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To his followers, he added that "you can do nothing more meaningful to me than to take time to listen to and connect to the songs I've written. I hope they outlive me." His work can be accessed online at *www.bobmcpeekmusic.com*.

David Ottenberg and Bob McPeek play at the Mirror Image 40th Anniversary Celebration in Gainesville in 2017. SUZANNA MARS/GAINESVILLE MAGAZINE

McPeek helped audiences appreciate the music McPeek played on the club circuit in Columbus, Ohio, in the 1970s, before moving to Gainesville and starting Hyde & Zeke Records. "The sign on our door said 'No shirt, no shoes,

no problem.' Our motto was 'Real people in a plastic business," recalled his partner, Ric Kaestner, who performed with McPeek in Columbus and then talked him into moving to "this cool college town" called Gainesville.

Even as he was running Hyde & Zeke, McPeek started Mirror Image recording studio, initially in his garage. When it came time to take it to the next level, McPeek and his partners founded Heartwood Soundstage in his old Mirror Image studio on South Main Street.

McPeek insisted on designing an indoor concert space to exacting acoustical standards. "People usually only get to hear live music in local bars or concert halls that have terrible acoustics," he said in a 2018 Sun interview. "We wanted to build a venue where you can really appreciate the music." Bob McPeek was Gainesville's music

man—an accomplished guitarist, prolific songwriter, and friend and mentor to countless artists and performers. His death left a void in the city's close-knit music community.

cont. 👈



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Bob McPeek sings an original comedy song at "We've Had It With Hurricanes," a comedy song benefit for Harvey and Irma relief at Heartwood Soundstage

SUZANNA MARS/GAINESVILLE MAGAZINE

On Sunday, friends and fellow musicians gathered at Heartwood Soundstage for a celebration of McPeek's life and music. Hoch Shitama, a longtime friend and business partner, announced that the indoor hall designed to such

Best wishes for a peaceful 2023!



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meticulous standards would henceforth be known as the "Bob McPeek listening room." "I always tell people that the Heartwood environment is like Austin City Limits, only in a more intimate and acoustically perfect environment," said Richard Allen, a close friend to McPeek since 1977, when they both ran record stores. "The woodwork is gorgeous and the acoustics are perfect. Bob insisted on it."

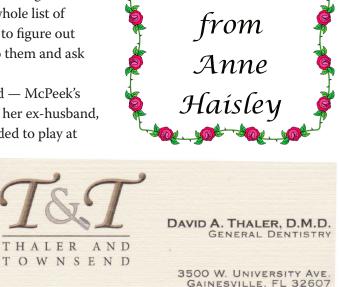
In his final days, McPeek made his farewells to a steady stream of friends and loved ones. When he was feeling up to it, McPeek would take up his guitar and play some of his favorite tunes. "We chose not to have children, so his songs were our children," said Nancye Henkel, his wife of 38 years. "Bob had a whole list of unfinished songs, and for the past month or two he had been trying to figure out which friend each song would fit best with. And then he'd teach it to them and ask them to finish it."

One day, Gainesville musicians Cathy DeWitt and Rob Rothschild — McPeek's longtime friends — came calling. DeWitt played a song that she and her ex-husband, Mike Boulware, had written in McPeek's honor ... a song they intended to play at

the Heartwood celebration of McPeek's life. "I started playing and got in one verse, when he said 'Stop! Stop!" DeWitt recalled. "I thought he didn't like it and I started to say I was sorry. But then he said 'Press record! We gotta get that' on tape."

McPeek's obsession with playing and recording music to his exact standards had long been a source of running jokes with his friends. "They used to kid him about it," said his wife. "He would spend five minutes in front of the audience tuning his guitar after he had already tuned it backstage."

cont.



Love and

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Fagan Arouh, Bob McPeek and Dan Tampas perform at Heartwood Soundstage for "Bob McPeek and Friends" in 2018 in Gainesville SUZANNA MARS/GAINESVILLE MAGAZINE

Boulware, who began recording at Mirror Image when it opened, said, "I came to realize Bob heard the song I was doing in a completely different way than I did. He heard the whole song. He often knew more than the artist did about

.....

what we were actually trying to accomplish. He allowed us to make great music."

Gary Gordon was managing Hyde and Zeke when he launched his successful Gainesville City Commission candidacy. Subsequently, after he lost his reelection bid, Gordon credits McPeek for prodding him to get back to his musical roots.

cont. 👈



Thanks, Veterans for Peace Rob & Lou Hyatt

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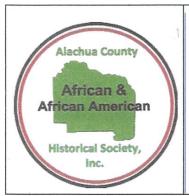
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"LOSERISM IS WHEN OPPRESSED PEOPLE SIT AROUND AND THINK UP REASONS WHY THEY CAN'T DO SOMETHING. WELL JUST DO IT. THINKING UP REASONS WHY YOU CAN'T IS THE ESTABLISHMENT'S JOB."

- Flo Kennedy

People of character do the right thing not because they think it will change the world, but because they refuse to be changed by the world. —Michael Josephson

Warmest regards from my family to yours in this holiday season and coming new year. We have much work to do and I am looking forward to facing our challenges together.

Marihelen Wheeler

70 36th Annual VFP Winter Solstice

"I lost both the election and my marriage. I don't think I'd ever been that low and I wasn't sure what I was going to do next," Gordon recalled. "Bob said, 'You've got all these songs, why don't we record a cassette?' If we hadn't done that I don't know if I would have continued to write songs."

Gordon would later leave for Los Angeles to pursue a music career before, eventually, returning to Gainesville.

Scott Camil remembers McPeek for his performances at the annual Veterans For Peace Winter Solstice concerts. And for the song "The Ways of War" that McPeek composed and sang along "with a stellar cast of local musicians," for a documentary about Camil's Memorial Mile events on Eighth Avenue. "I visited Bob in hospice and he thanked me for allowing (him) to play at the" Solstice concerts, Camil said. "I told him that without him and his musician friends, who all donated their time, we would not have had the Solstice concerts and we would not have had the money to do our projects all of these years. "Bob is really a Renaissance man." Camil said.



Bob McPeek wrote a song based on one of his father's World War II poems, "Sunset on the Prairie," after a book of his dad's poetry was found in the rafters of his home years after his father's passing. McPeek is shown at his residence in Gainesville in 2013.

ERICA BROUGH, THE GAINESVILLE SUN

Although best known for his music, McPeek, who majored in psychology at Loyola and Ohio State universities, has had a varied career. Among other positions he was marketing director at Mindsolve Technologies, research director at the Center for Applications of Psychological Type, and international director for Sabine Professional Audio. "He is just so creative that he can look at a set of data in his science world and tell you not only what has happened, but what's gonna happen," said Rob Rothschild. "And he's also one of the most amazing musicians I know. His catalogue of original music is astounding. His poetry is moving and

sophisticated. And his mastery of language is amazing." Although in increasingly poor health, McPeek managed to record and release one final CD just this past March. "Mixing Metaphors," was recorded in collaboration with several performers that McPeek had worked with over the years.. "He tried to organize our lives so he could finish his songs, which manifested in getting his CD released last spring," said his wife, Nancye. "He called it 'Mixing Metaphors' because he loved those double meaning, the sheer cleverness of cleverly putting words together."

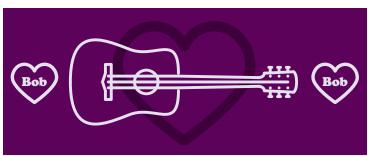
"Mixing Metaphors," McPeek wrote, was "the culmination of my 50 years of professional work as a musician, recording studio engineer, producer, and songwriter.

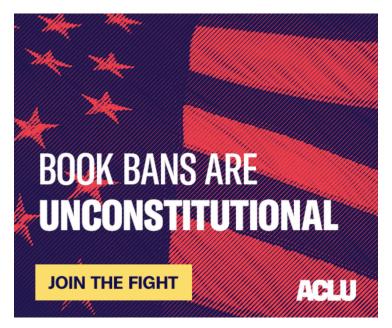
"A life's worth of experience, more recently two bouts with cancer, gave me a lot to write about," he continued. "And the isolation of the pandemic gave me a luxurious amount of time to refine and polish. More than anything, I wanted to create an immersive listening experience."

DeWitt, one of the musicians who collaborated on the CD, calls the album "a treasure chest of original songs. "It was his magnum opus," she said, "He has a lot of great players with him. He has honed the songs to a fine polish."

One cut on the CD, titled "On the Other Side," has "taken on a different meaning," DeWitt mused. "It was originally abut the pandemic, but now it sounds like his farewell" to all of his friends.

cont. -







Bob McPeek, songwriter and creator of the "On the Other Side" project, performs in a scene from the video. SUBMITTED PHOTO

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"Looking for a ray of hope in a desperate situation But I'll be waiting with both arms open wide We'll be stronger, grateful we survived When our mettle has been tested and our tolerances tried I'll see you on the other side."

— "On the Other Side," by Bob McPeek

Original article source, used with permission | Ron Cunningham | Special to The Sun https://gainesville.com/story/news/local/2022/10/17/bob-mcpeek-dies-founded-mirror-image-heartwood-hyde-zeke-gainesville/10522816002/



Alachua County Commissioner Anna Prizzia wishes you a peaceful holiday season!

WAR within the PEACE movement

by Pierce Butler

THE RUSSO-UKRAINIAN WAR HAS SPLIT THE US PEACE MOVEMENT DOWN TO ITS ROOTS.

As the world reels through a chain of climate-related disasters and the US also confronts an increasingly fascistic insurgency movement, Vladimir Putin's invasion of his nation's smaller neighbor could hardly have come at a worse time. When we need all hands to save ourselves and our planet, we tear each other apart (just verbally and organizationally, so far) over how we (mis-?)handled the interregnum between phases of the Cold War - which, both sides at least agree, has resumed full-force in 2022.

Even our famously divided politicians have maintained more cohesion than peace activists (at least as I write this a month before you read it (for print deadline reasons)). As one faction cracks jokes and blows smoke over the assault on the House Speaker's husband, both major parties still maintain a nominal support for Ukrainian democracy - while peace activists accuse each other of criminal naπνetň at best.

This article can't say anything relevant to the situation on the ground in Ukraine or the post-election political scene in the US. (Though it bears noting that both major parties have wavered, most notably in a letter to Pres. Biden from members of the Progressive Caucus in the US House of Representatives (retracted within 24 hours with a confusing welter of excuses) and statements such as "Under Republicans, not another penny will go to Ukraine." by Republican Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene (who apparently never retracts anything).)

A few observations seem safe, however. This war has already cost US taxpayers hundreds of billions of dollars, mostly going to the giants of the military-industrial complex — who will also benefit from more international weapons sales, particularly as events show American missiles and artillery working while Russian equipment fails. Likewise, many former-Soviet nations have begun edging away from their onetime ally, driven by Moscow's display of weakness and boasts of ambitions to regain control of its neighbors. If Putin intended to weaken the western alliance, his plan has clearly backfired: not only have once-neutral countries such as Finland and Sweden joined NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization), European efforts to escape dependence on Russian oil and gas have accelerated rapidly.

Meanwhile, factions in the US peace movement have mostly spun themselves into a circular firing squad. We hear lots of name-calling, but no clear labels have emerged: for now, this piece will use "pro-Zelensky/Ukraine" and "pro-Putin/Russia" to describe the respective blocs, though clearly the divisions go far beyond just those individual politicians and lands. (Many activists in the former group call those

in the latter group "tankies," following the European putdown of those who supported the USSR when it sent tanks and troops to suppress defiance in Hungary in 1956 and Czechoslovakia in 1968, but that comparison doesn't fit our current crisis very well.)

Each faction makes some good points, but each carefully avoids addressing the other's strengths. The pro-Putin people quote western Cold War leaders who warned that bringing former Soviet satellite countries into NATO would inflame Russian paranoia - but don't tell us that the governments and people of those countries approved joining the western alliance precisely because they feared Russian imperialism would revive and try to repeat its conquests. Pro-Zelensky partisans accuse Russia of abusing captured Ukrainians, but gloss over the International Red Cross's complaints that Kyiv allows IRC inspectors to visit only a small fraction of Russian POWs.

The disagreements go back for decades, including the atrocities of World Wars I and II, but that's still just a fraction of Ukraine's history. Short version: Rich farmland at the center of Eurasia, Ukraine has endured invasions literally for millennia, re-emerging and reviving each time. The tsars of Moscow sent their armies south, literally for centuries, with the specific goal of conquering Crimea and its nevericed-up seaports (a mission finally accomplished by Empress Catherine II "the Great" and her prime minister Grigory Potemkin by 1787; yes, lots of banners were hung.) The 20th century abused Ukraine most harshly, primarily at the orders of Lenin and Stalin, with Hitler (and other Axis dictators) doing their worst while they had the chance. Ukraine was invaded, butchered, looted, occupied, starved, and purged by several neighbors, particularly Russia. Different Ukrainians took every available side, and the postwar social paralysis ordered by the USSR did not heal the ensuing social scars. Simple passage of time and the challenges of building a (partly) democratic nation over the busy last third of a century have raised more urgent priorities. (The long version takes up many books; if so inclined, start with those by Timothy Snyder, or watch his highly-rated YouTube channel.)

Did US agencies steer the 2013-14 "Euromaidan" protests which overthrew the Viktor Yanukovych presidency in 2014? Yes. Did Russian agents influence the already-corrupt Yanukovych to abandon the pro-European tilt on which he was elected to align Ukraine instead with Russia? Undoubtedly. Did pro-Nazi "Azov Battalion" activists drive anti-Maidan leftists into an Odesa labor hall and set that building afire, killing at least 42, and then collectively join the Ukrainian equivalent of the US National Guard? Certainly. Did the Ukrainian government re-educate the

Azovs into a more moderate political stance, as it claimed? Hard to tell - but generally moot after nearly all of them died or were taken prisoner defending the city of Mariupol against the devastating Russian siege from February to May of this year.

Did the US keep its (our) hands clean since the USSR broke up? No. (We don't need to recite the litany of US crimes tonight, do we? Thanks...) Did NATO keep its hands clean? Relatively, with notable lapses into shooting wars in the former Yugoslavia, Libya, and Afghanistan, and individual members launching bloody adventures in Africa and elsewhere.

Along the way, NATO expanded its membership to include several ex-Soviet republics, some directly bordering on Russia. Moscow complained, and many US leaders (including then-Senator Joe Biden) acknowledged this would increase tensions - but each such deal required the joining nations to modernize and coordinate its military infrastructure with the others, adding up to billions of dollars of contracts with US corporations (mostly paid out of the US treasury), and those incentives outweighed all the warnings.

Fast-forward to 2014: Following the Euromaidan "revolution," Russia invaded and annexed Crimea, and organized, armed, and subordinated "independence" groups in Ukraine's primary industrial area of Donbas. An ineffectual US-European sanctions order followed, along with "agreements" signed in Minsk disregarded by all involved. (Pro-Putinists frequently cite Minsk, but somehow rarely or never mention the Budapest Memorandum of 1994, in which the United States, United Kingdom, and, yes, Russia, pledged to "respect the independence and sovereignty and existing borders of Ukraine" and to "refrain from the threat or use of force" against same (as part of a deal in which Ukraine gave up the large arsenal of nuclear weapons it inherited from the USSR.)) In July of 2014, a Russian-made missile destroyed a Malaysia Airlines jet over the Donetsk Oblast in Donbas, killing 298 passengers and crew (still the world's record civilian airliner shoot-down). After that, most of the West mostly forgot about Ukraine. Hunter Biden got a part-time job with a Ukrainian energy

"The disagreements go back for decades, including the atrocities of World Wars I and II, but that's still just a fraction of Ukraine's history."

company, about which the Republicans will remind us for the next two years; a shady wheeler-dealer named Paul Manafort continued his lobbying and campaign-consulting for pro-Russia politicians and oligarchs in Kyiv, even as he became chair of Donald J. Trump's presidential campaign and passed along sensitive political information to one such oligarch widely regarded as a Kremlin agent; Trump himself tried to extort political dirty tricks from Ukraine's newly elected president by withholding military aid allocated by Congress, earning his first impeachment; and miscellaneous other skulduggery occurred, some of which we're finding out drips and drops about now. Oh, and over 14,000 people died in the Donbas conflict.

Eight years and one day after the Euromaidan protests concluded, Putin's tanks rolled across the Ukrainian border — violating international law and several other agreements, launching the bloodiest conflict in Europe in 77 years, greatly damaging two nations, and, incidentally, dividing the US peace movement.

Ukraine has suffered the worst of it: its eastern half turned into battlefields, over 100,000 killed and wounded (by US military estimates), more than five million of its citizens now refugees across Europe, hundreds of thousands more (including many children) abducted to unknown fates

cont.

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in the vast Russian hinterlands, multiple cities completely destroyed (mostly notably the port of Mariupol, once the most pro-Russian metropolis in the country, with a reported 91% Russian-speakers).

Russia itself has mostly lost by its criminal "special military operation:" at least as many killed and wounded as in its victim nation, its military failures exposing corruption, weakness, criminality, and incompetence at every level, its allies cutting themselves loose as fast as they dare, its drafteligible men fleeing (~700,000 already "gone to Canada", as we used to say) while its skilled workers, artists, and entrepreneurs abandon its now-heavily-sanctioned and shrinking economy and increasingly-oppressive political machinery.

And in the US, we squabble. Pro-Ukrainian activists glorify HIMARS artillery and the deaths of unwilling and untrained conscripts even as they downplay atomic Armageddon as only a bluff. Pro-Russian groups call for ceasefires in terms parroting those of Putin's puppets, mostly proposing, in effect, that Ukraine (again) cede land for negotiations with a regime already proven deeply untrustworthy. If not for mention of the same names and places, it would seem they're debating two totally separate struggles, over there somewhere on the other side of the world.

But "two-sidesism", as our corporate media have already proved over and over, doesn't work very well to describe the real world we live in. A list of who takes which side would double the wordage of this already-too-long article; let's just say most of the professional peace people demand a ceasefire asap, while many of the grassroots activists want Russian troops to completely exit Ukrainian territory. The grueling hellscape of warfare must seem much the same to the fighters and civilians on either side of the combat lines, yet the moral and political differences between aggressors and defenders, dictatorship and democracy, do not disappear. Vladimir Putin continually makes his advocates' work even more difficult, with strings of lies, atrocities (let's skip that list too, all right?), bombing civilian infrastructure, threats, bogus annexations, and genocidal claims that Ukraine should not even exist as a nation, and some of them resort to absurdities (no, the colors of the Ukrainian flag do not represent Aryan blond hair and blue eyes). Volodomyr Zelensky has succeeded in the public-relations war (at least in the West) with (mostly) truth-telling, not attacking civilians, and endless demonstrations that his people truly support their nation and its government and troops. Only one side of this argument includes spokespeople for progressive, mainstream, or traditional Ukrainian organizations; the other has swung in only eight months from dubious assertions of "de-Nazification" to deranged claims of "de-Satanization" (to be fair, I haven't seen American pro-Putinistas resort to that one yet, but I haven't reviewed Republican/Q-anon sites lately either).

Now blood runs in the battlefields again, and again trains roll eastward with unwilling, frightened human cargo. Europe is once more at war, that merciless white-on-white

violence for which historians and sociologists lament no one can find a cure. World War II analogies abound: the appeasement of Munich, the Blitz of London, the staggering sacrifices of Soviet soldiers and citizens, the horrors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

However, most of us date our political stances from the US war on Vietnam, and we can see comparisons there as well. Washington now finds itself playing the role of Moscow then, shipping an endless stream of weaponry and money - but few if any troops - to a distant land mounting a seemingly hopeless but

somehow successful resistance to takeover by an unrelenting and ever-more resented superpower misled by powermad, greeddriven imperialist ideologues. Who, in the relativelyunified peace movement of those days, denied that the Vietnamese had a right to defend their homeland, or other nations a right to support them?







To Katya, aged seven, in a bomb shelter in Kyiv

All around you missiles Are falling. Churches You once knew won't Be there any more. The streets you walked Will be changed by Blood and shelling And bombs. It seems The world's gone mad. As the Earth shakes, Not because of the rage

Of the gods, but that One man wants to Win back a lost empire, You will think that Your world is being Shattered for ever. It is. But out of the destruction, Out of all this thunder, Something new will Come. Whatever happens Your land will know The courage of its soul, Its people; and history

cont.







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Will be rewritten not With the force of an autocrat But by the steadfast hope And desire to be true To the beauty of your earth And all you have Suffered. Katya in your Bomb shelter, we're with you. We're there in the shadows We're there in the silence Between the explosions ...

Those who destroy your land Destroy themselves. Always remember what Your land fights for, The right to its future, Without any force from Outside. Katya, we are Done with people forcing Us into their own dream. We are done with being Told who we can or can't Be. A time comes when *You stand and say* My future's mine to dream My land is mine to till My life is mine to imagine You will not break my truth You will not distort my Dream. You will not Destroy my future, who Ever you are. You may Pulverise our churches, Our roads, theatres, and our Hospitals, with hundreds Hiding in them, but you'll Never touch the Fountain of our dreams, Or the deep world From which we will create Every day a radiant Land. From this bomb Shelter we'll dream anew. Your shelling is our resurrection Your missiles are missives Of our regeneration. All that you ruin Are all those things Which must go so That we will for ever *Be free to be what we* Truly are. For even *If you win, the victory* Is ours. For you've Tempered our souls And revealed to us our True selves which we Might never have

Found without your Wish to crush us.

Katya, in your bomb shelter, it's A fearful thing When people act From the great emptiness Of a loss of empire. An empire is a vast ego, A gigantic delusion, and It makes people think That they own the Souls of others, that they Control the destiny Of nations, and that they Are somehow the masters Of the Earth. The loss Of such a delusion Can make people insane. Sometimes when a leader Is unhinged by this loss They are prepared To destroy the world so They can return To their lost dream Of vast terrains in which Once they were gods.

It's not good for humans To entertain the delusion Of being gods. So Katya It is not your fault that Someone wants back What they should not Have taken. It's not our Fault that we dream Of freedom, that we want To be ourselves, Live our lives, make Our own mistakes, And determine our own Destiny. No one can Rip that away from us. The age of empire is over. The age of freedom is Here. They may dominate Us still with their might and Their nuclear bombs, But they will not Determine who we shall Be, or where our Fire and our dreams Will take us. I am with You there in the bomb shelter. I am a bomb shelter child too. This will end. It will pass. So drink the sweet Waters of the Earth. Sing songs to one

Another in this time Of darkness. The Monster's worst roar Is often just before It falls. There are no real Monsters in life, Just people who're Deluded, or mad, or Lost in ideas that stray *Too far from the* Wise road of the human.

Fires are howling In the streets that the Centuries built. *There are tenements,* Bomb-sliced in half, In which you can See the innards Of apartments. Your roots are entangled With the souls of those Who seek to murder you.

I hear that their soldiers Weep as they drop Bombs on their distant relations. See, they're driving

Their knives into their own Hearts. Such a great Civilisation, home to Such madnesses. They learned nothing From Lev Tolstoy, Katya. They learned nothing. Napoleon tried to do The same thing. He Won too. But what A loss that was. They burned their famed City so that what he Won was ashes. He sat there in the throne

Of ash, and eternal winter Descended on his head. That was the commencement Of his end. They learned Nothing from War and Peace. Nor from Hitler. A people determined To be free can Not be compelled To be unfree again.

Even if you kill them. Do you know why, Katya? Well it's because We are made of a stuff Not of this Earth

And when we find Masha Foya, The Guardian Our truth a new beauty (UK Newspaper)

And force is added to The universe.

The missiles are falling. Children perish in bombed Out churches. An evil Is being planted in our Times and the whole World can see it. But missiles create lions From lambs, and bombs Awaken tigers. They Never learn, the deluded ones. They'll kill hundreds Of thousands, but From those defeats An army of dragons Will be born. They Have changed the world, But not in the way they Thought. Katya, you Who live in the slip Stream of empires, Wake up fast. Grow Deep, strong and brave. Join the greater river Of human destiny. You can't fight injustice And then be unjust to others. Every day you survive Brings your liberation Closer. Spirits Of the dead will you on.

The church will be rebuilt The streets will be made new There will be festivals in the square. You will taste grapes from

Greece,

Apples from the Hesperides And sweet oranges from Africa. And one day your laughter Will defeat the vacuum missiles

And the bombs will fade Into the depths of your

freedom. A soft wind from the Bosphorus

Will weave your hair And the sun-kissed snow Will temper the grim memories

Of this bomb shelter where you grow.

Ben Okri; illustration by

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"Our own species sits high atop the Endangered Species list, and homo sapiens could become "no mo" sapiens just like that. And ... as I have said before, the first step in addressing climate change is political climate change where we cultivate warmer hearts and cooler heads, so that the clouds of obfuscation are lifted, and sunshine can cast light on the endarkened corridors of power.

Because that is where the problem lies, and I do mean "lies."

- SWAMI BEYONDANANDA





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Peace for Children

by Janet Davies

THE WORDS WE USE HAVE AN ENORMOUS IMPACT ON CHILDREN. Governor DeSantis uses the term "culture wars" to discuss how we teach children, and the way we discuss ideas. He wants us to exterminate ideas like LGBTQ children from our discussions, eliminating our embrace and understanding of so many children.

We use this rhetoric to "defend" our concepts of building bridges, developing relationships, and create safe spaces for children. We hear about ways the Surgeon General denies health for children, denying and creating blockades for them to remain healthy. We read about the "battles" in school boards who want to provide and promote health for children but instead are removed from office, demonized and criticized for providing a healthful safe place for children. Is this a language of peace? Is this the language for building understanding and relationships or is it a battleground of ideas, based on incomplete science and denial of the best practices for children and their families? Economic words also deny a peaceful place for children, creating "battlegrounds" for angry parents, setting up a place for a war of words and practices.

Even the term of "social services" is turned against children, making it a place of battlegrounds, a term of war instead of peace. Where is the peace dividend, if there ever was one? Why do we need to battle for the investment in our own children, but yet are forced to pit one funding idea against another? Why must we enter the playing field, again a place of competition, to give our children what we have worked for and they deserve? All of our rhetoric is designed by our government to be one of war and battle. Not words of building the society we want or need, not one of providing for the greater good, not one of a peaceful transition.

Even the peaceful transition of power in our government has been a bone of contention, an exercise in violence and battle. We are now engaged in a national discussion and awareness of how we have to battle for democracy, so where are the children in this? How are we prepared to offer a country of peace to the "future of our country"?

Offering children a culture of peace can start from the moment they are born if we behold an image of the child as a strong being, one full of capabilities and possibilities, if we begin from a place where we see children as already being a citizen, enriched with rights from their first breath, rather than an empty slate upon which we can impart our expectations, viewpoints and ideas. If we see children rich with their own viewpoints, their own culture, and with their own vocabulary of ideas and potentials, then and only then can be begin to build a culture of peace for our children. Schools have become a "battleground" in which we put our children, a setting where adults, pundits and politicians impose their curriculums, their assessments and their desires to fix the errors of the past and expose children to concepts that, more often than not, are developmentally inappropriate. Tax dollars are used to create more and more assessments that are used against children and the adults in the school settings, finding fault, establishing blame and punishing children for the skills adults have decided they should have developed at a particular time. Fewer and fewer dollars are used to support children and the settings we put them in, while more and more money is used to determine perceived failures, inadequacies and "rubrics" set up by adults, imposed upon our nation's children.

Another place we commit violence against the culture of the child is by taking away opportunities to play. Recess is taken away in schools so children can "fix their inadequacies" of literacy and mathematics. Time to play in the classroom in early childhood settings is seen as time wasted when we could be imposing academic work, robbing them of the time to build relationships, be creative, construct meaning among their peers and develop social skills necessary to live in a culture of peace.

If we want to create a culture of peace, where children can thrive, be happy and fulfilled, we must begin where they are, with who they are and with what they have a right to, instead of imposing our needs, our egos and our agendas. We must use language that supports a culture of peace, rather than the war weary words of battlegrounds, fights and culture wars. Children's culture should offer words of support, creativity, possibilities and potentials.

We must stop monetizing children's culture as a funding crisis, or an investment in their future, expecting a return on our dollars, but rather a place of the rights of children to have access to great schools, delicious food, clean water, comfortable housing and a society that values them and their culture. This can provide a place for peace to grow in the hearts and minds of children, where our language and actions support and nurture the lives of children, and where they are not required to fight or battle others citizens just for their right to be children. This is a way to promote peace among our youngest citizens, thereby providing a place where the adults in their lives can also feel the culture of peace, by respecting the culture of the child, and creating peace in the hearts and lives of everyone.

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"Let us be those creative dissenters who will call our beloved nation to a higher destiny, to a new plateau of compassion, to a more noble expression of humaneness." —Martin Luther King Jr.

Bill Gilbert, member: Alachua County Labor Coalition and Veterans For Peace. Resident of Orange Creek Basin, Ocklawaha River Watershed, Alachua County, Fl. Posted: 6 November 2021

Protest Pickets for Peace Tuesdays from 4:30 to 5:30 PM at NW 43rd St and 16th Blvd starting up again January 17th.

Join Us!

(Make your own sign or use ours)





Support Your Local VFP Chapter

OR ELSE...
(we kid)



United Nations Association- Gainesville Chapter

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Veterans: Thank you for your service for Peace.

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Attorney at Law

305 N.E. 1st Street, Gainesville, FL 32601 (352) 338-4440 FAX (352) 337-0696

GSEdinger@aol.com

VFP Financial Report 2022

GAINESVILLE VETERANS FOR PEACE (VFP) believes that part of our responsibility is to support and mentor other groups who share our goals. In that capacity, we make donations of time, materials and funding to other Peace and Justice organizations.

The Winter Solstice Celebration is the primary event from which we derive our operating funds. Last year, we raised \$13,565 from the Solstice and over the year, we have donated \$9130 of that money to groups we support.

Because of the pandemic, we have had less interaction with the public this year and that has impacted what we have been able to do.

We include this financial report each year so that we have full transparency with you, the people whose support makes our work possible. We Thank You.

Our donation list for 2022:

- \$750 to the Alachua County Labor Coalition to help their efforts to get fair housing, and Freedom of Speech at UF— https://laborcoalition.org/
- \$750 to the Civic Media Center, an alternative library and space for progressive speakers, groups and events— www.civicmediacenter.org
- \$750 to The Gainesville Iguana, Gainesville's progressive calendar and newsletter *www.gainesvilleiguana.org*
- \$1,000 to the Samuel Proctor Oral History Program— oral.history.ufl.edu
- \$500 to Courage to Resist—couragetoresist.org
- \$500 to About Face—couragetoresist.org
- \$500 to Project Renew—https://landmines.org.vn/
- \$50 to the UNA—https://una-usagainesvillefl.org/
- \$500 to the Florida Coalition for Peace and Justice (FCPJ)— *florida4peace.org*
- \$200 to Rose Garden Angels—www.RoseGardenAngels.org
- \$350 to Veterans Health Institute (Save Our VA)
 -https://www.veteransforpeace.org/take-action/stopprivatization-veterans-health-administration?eType
 =EmailBlastContent&eId=8825d721-4a6f-4b06-a5c387b22cb94a1a
- \$300 to DSA Conference—jacksonvilledsa@gmail.com
- \$200 to Deer Hart lodge—https://www.dearhart.org
- \$2,460 to VFP National—www.veteransforpeace.org
- \$400 to Unitarian Universalist Social Justice Council
- \$420 to Unitarian Universalist voter Registration Event

Total Donations = \$9,630

VFP Projects

- Winter Solstice Concert—\$1609.39
- Memorial Mile Permit—\$67.
- Peace Poetry Contest—\$1,308 (see article, pg. 08)
- The Peace Scholarship Award—\$6,000 (see article pg. 31)
- Roger Waters—\$1183.74

Total cost of VFP Projects = \$10,168.13

Other:

- PO Box—\$182
- Pay Pal fee—\$40.51
- Accountant—\$150
- Other Costs: Total—\$372.51

Total spent for 2022 = \$20,170.64

Income:

- Solstice 2021—\$13,565
- Donations—\$3,545

Total income for 2022 = \$17,110

 $Current \, Balance = -\$3060.64$

(this was covered by money we had in our account from before)



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Vets for Peace in Action | 2021/2022



PEACE

Meg & Hutch

VFP Statement of Purpose:

We, having dutifully served our nation, do hereby affirm our greater responsibility to serve the cause of world peace. To this end we will work with others:

- 1) Toward increasing public awareness of the costs of war;
- 2) To restrain our government from intervening overtly or covertly in the internal affairs of other nations;
- 3) To end the arms race and to reduce and eventually eliminate nuclear weapons; and
- 4) To abolish war as an instrument of international policy.

To achieve these goals, members of VFP pledge to use non-violent means to maintain an organization that is both democratic and open with the understanding that all members are trusted to act in the best interests of the group for the larger purpose of world peace.



EMILY FRANCK HOON PhD

Licensed Clinical Psychologist

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Support the people who support Veterans for Peace!

We've lost several sponsors in the last few years—not because they've given up on working for peace, but as a result of our kleptocratic war economy that preys on all of the 99%. So, please buy local whenever possible, and remember the good people and organizations who help out with the life-and-death issues that matter to us all. Wear your VFP t-shirt, button, or cap while doing business with:

button, or cap write aoing business with:					
Page	Pro-Peace Patrons	Page	Pro-Peace Patrons	Page	Pro-Peace Patrons
62	352 Print Shop	34	The Flanagan Companies	84	The Psychedelic Frogge
29	3D Imaging Group	53	Floating Lotus Spa	59	Dennis Shuman
18	Aesthetic Print & Design	08	Florida Coalition for Peace	26	Pure Energy Solar
58	Afternoon / Baby J's		& Justice	82	Renaissance Jewelers
69	Alachua County African & African	23	Florida Environment Defenders	16	River Phoenix Center
	American Historical Society, Inc	58	Florida Springs Institute	<i>30</i>	Bill Salmon, Esq.
34	Alachua County Democratic Party	49	Florida Marijuana Doctors	<i>15</i>	Satchel's Pizza
24	Alachua County Labor Coalition	47	Floridians for Alternatives to	18	Save Our VA—Stop Privatization
14	Allergy, Asthma & Immunology		the Death Penalty	<i>75</i>	Save Our VA—Stop Privatization
	Consultants	37	The Gainesville Iguana	53	Stephen Schachter, AP
69	Amanda Alexander & Jarred Elrod	17	Gainesville Society of Friends	40	Stacy A. Scott
28	Mary Alford	19	The Gestalt Center	80	STF Investigations, LLC
<i>7</i> 2	Paige Allison	82	William Gilbert	29	Southeast Sharpening Service
<i>15</i>	Angel Gardens	53	Gary Goeser	11	Sister Cities GNV
64	ARTthread Foundation	31	Carol Gordon	<i>77</i>	Star Center Theater
61	Atlas Screen Printing	67	Anne Haisley	<i>54</i>	Sullivan Heating and Air
54	N. Albert Bacharach, Jr. Law Office	70	High Springs Emporium	53	Sunflower Health Foods
14	Batie's Tree Service	85	Emily Franck Hoon, Ph.D.	<i>06</i>	Suzanne's Stained Glass Creations
66	Bead All About It	85	The Hutchinson-Niederhofer	67	Thaler & Thompson Dentistry
41	Mark Billman		Family	0 7	Theatre of Memory
63	John and Jane Bishop	68	The Hyatt Family	52	Three Rivers Legal Services
20	The Bosshardt Family	17	Jess Irby	38	United Faculty of Florida
23	The Budd/Silverman Family	36	Jonesville Tennis Center	82	UN Association USA
65	The Byerly Family	13	Jordan Glen School	62	Shanti Vani
<i>77</i>	Caring & Sharing Learning Center	11	Keep Alachua County Beautiful	<i>72</i>	The Vine Bakery
<i>47</i>	Carlee's Chiropractic	09	Linda Kemp	13	Volta Coffee
82	CCAWT	55	The Kramer Family	17	Harvey Ward
12	Celestial Wind	69	Warren Lane	31	Ward's Supermarket
<i>7</i> 9	Central Labor Council of N. Florida	09	League of Women Voters	51	Clovis Watson
<i>0</i> 8	Tina Certain		Sandy Malone	39	Welcoming Gainesville
51	William Cervone	53	Matheson History Museum	69	WGOT 100.1 FM
12	Chalmers Team, Thomas Group	67	Leanetta McNealy, Ph.D.	<i>70</i>	Marihelen Wheeler
<i>50</i>	Chestnut Funeral Home	36	Midwives Cooperative	84	Marcy Wilson, AP
37	Civic Media Center	60	New Technology	<i>70</i>	Working Food Community Center
33	The Cornell Family	32	Chris Ott	<i>06</i>	WUBA 88.1 FM
25	Cruz Davis Dental	87	The Poe Family	83	Xerographic Copy Center
43	Cypress & Grove Brewery	66	John Power		
21	Deer Hart Lodge	23	Prairie Creek Conservation		HOW IS
56	Donnelly + Gross		Cemetery		THE WAR
39	East End Eatery/Elegant Events	59	Pride Community Center of	/1	FCONOLUM TO THE PROPERTY OF TH
83	Gary S. Edinger, Esq.		North Central Florida	/*	ECONOMY WORKING
				1	EAD WALLEY

73..... Anna Prizzia

27...... The Samuel Proctor Oral History Program



54..... Emmanuel Mennonite House

22..... Final Friends



Chapter 14

Veterans from all services and all nations (including those on active duty or in training programs) and veterans' family members are invited to join Veterans for Peace.

To learn more, call Scott Camil at 352-375-2563, visit www.vfpgainesville.org, email gvlvfp@earthlink.net, write to PO Box 142562, Gainesville, FL 32614, or come to our regular meetings (7 PM, on the first Wednesday of almost every month —whenever the coronavirus situation permits) at Scott & Sherry's house —call 352-375-2563 for directions.

Happy Holidays

Veterans for Peace from the Poe Family





Celebrating Pride Faithfully

You are welcome here!

Find us @ uufg org Sundays @11 am

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Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Gainesville