

Prepared for the City Commission, November 20-December 3, 2014

City Manager

- ✓ The **Thanksgiving Day holiday will be observed Thursday, Nov. 27-Friday, Nov. 28.** All city offices will be closed. Curbside collection of solid waste, recycling, yard trash and bulk items normally collected Thursday will be collected Friday. RTS will have no fixed route service or ADA service Thursday, Nov. 28. Bus service will be available on Black Friday, Nov. 29; however, RTS will run its Sunday schedule which is marked by a "U" on the route schedule pages.
- ✓ The **groundbreaking for the expanded Butler Plaza is Friday, Nov. 21 at 9:30 a.m.**
- ✓ **The Alachua County legislative delegation will be at the Alachua County library (downtown branch – 401 E. University Ave.) Wednesday, Dec. 3 from 2-6 p.m.** To accommodate overflow parking, additional parking will be available at the Alachua County School Board Kirby Center, 620 E University Ave. For additional information or to be placed on the agenda, please contact Michelle Sherfield from State Representative Clovis Watson, Jr.'s office at 352-264-4001 or michelle.sherfield@myfloridahouse.gov.

Capital Projects

- ✓ Construction of **phase two of the Main Street streetscape** project is scheduled to start in mid-December and be complete around April 2015. The scope of the project includes brick paver installation between South First and Second Avenues on Main Street, installation of public art, low-impact development stormwater treatment landscaping areas, street trees, benches and bike racks. For more information, please visit the [project website](#) or contact [Stefan Broadus](#) at 393-8406.

Communications Office

Communications Office contact: Bob Woods – 352-393-8627

- ✓ **Communications Office staff is busy working on the 2014 Citizen's Report**, an annual report which will be released at the State of the City Address in January.
- ✓ **Gainesville 101: the Fall 2014 Citizens' Academy** concluded Nov. 19. Graduates will be recognized in front of the City Commission during the evening portion of the Thursday, Nov. 20 City Commission meeting.
- ✓ The Communications Office is pleased to host **local fifth graders Tuesday, Dec. 2 to celebrate City Government Week.** This special field trip is offered to fifth grade Citizens of the Month for Alachua County public schools. Approximately 25 students and a parent or chaperone tour various city facilities, including City Hall, a recreation center, a fire station and more. The day ends with recording the students for a government channel public service announcement and meeting with Mayor Ed Braddy. This year's City Government Day marks the ninth year that the school board has joined together with the city to offer this unique educational opportunity.
- ✓ **The State of the City Address will be held at GPD's Hall of Heroes Wednesday, Jan. 28** and will begin at 12 noon. Please save the date!
- ✓ The Communications Office is **offering website training for staff responsible for updating and maintaining their departmental Web pages.** Mark your calendars now for one of four sessions:

Wednesday, Dec. 10 and Thursday, Dec. 11 (9 a.m.-12 p.m. or 1:30-4:30 p.m. each day). Please note, each session is limited to 13 attendees. If you have any questions, please contact Laura Rawson at rawsonle@cityofgainesville.org.

Gainesville Fire Rescue

GFR Administration and Operations contact: Chief Gene Prince – 352-334-5078

- ✓ The **Gainesville Fire Rescue Strategic Plan and Standards of Cover** may be viewed on the GFR page of the city's website at www.gfr.org.
- ✓ **Deputy Chief Jeff Lane has been appointed as the interim Fire Chief, effective Nov. 24, 2014.**

GFR Risk Reduction Bureau contact: Asst. Chief JoAnne Rice – 352-393-8377

- ✓ The **Center for Autism will bring several students to Safety City for show and tell** Saturday, Nov. 22.
- ✓ **Project Get Alarmed helps those who cannot afford smoke detectors.** Applications are [available online](#) or by calling Risk Reduction Specialist Krista Ott at 393-8461.
- ✓ **Requests for car seat safety checks and installation** should be directed to GFR's Risk Reduction Specialist Krista Ott at 393-8461.
- ✓ GFR continues to host **crowd manager training** to enhance community safety. For information on **Safe Assembly Training classes**, please call 334-5065.

GFR Support Services Bureau contact: Capt. Joseph Hillhouse – 352-393-8459

- ✓ Gainesville Fire Rescue continues to provide **CPR and related course offerings to the community through its Operation C.A.R.E** or Citizens Aiding in Response to Emergencies. The program is being provided on a fee basis by the City Of Gainesville to increase the number of persons who can perform CPR, first aid and other skills during an emergency until help can arrive. For more information, please visit gfr.org/community_training.

Public Works

Public Works contact: Chantel Thomas – 352-334-5070

- ✓ The **Bicycle/Pedestrian Program will provide safety presentations, demonstrations, collaborations and resource information for the following meeting groups** and events:
 - Alachua County Community Traffic Safety Team (CTST) meeting at GTEC Thursday, Nov. 20 at 10 a.m.
 - Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Board (BPAB) meeting at Alachua County Administration Building, 2nd Floor, Thursday, Nov. 20 at 7 p.m.
 - Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization (MTPO) meeting at Alachua County Administration Building, Jack Durrance Auditorium, 2nd Floor Monday, Dec. 1 at 5 p.m.

For more information, volunteering or scheduling a bicycle/pedestrian event, please contact Bicycle/Pedestrian Program Coordinator Dekova Batey at 352-334-5070 or bikeped@cityofgainesville.org. Visit the bike/ped website at www.cityofgainesville.org/bikeped.

- ✓ Curbside collection normally **picked up on Thursday, will have a one day delay Thanksgiving week**, and will be picked up Friday. Monday through Wednesday collection during Thanksgiving week will be picked up on its regularly scheduled day.
- ✓ **On Thursday, Nov. 20, RTS administrative staff will move into the Corrine Brown Transit Facility.** The new physical address will be 34 SE 13th Road; however, the mailing address and inter-office boxes will not change. Operations and Maintenance staff will move toward the end of the year during RTS's historical reduced service weeks.
- ✓ **RTS will have reduced service will be between Nov. 24–26.** Routes running during reduced service are marked with an "R" in the online and printed versions of the RTS schedule. There will be no UF campus service, and Later Gator service will be suspended. Paratransit will not be affected.
- ✓ **All bus and paratransit service will be suspended Thanksgiving Day – Thursday, Nov. 27. Black Friday bus service will run** on the Sunday schedule as provided online and print editions of the schedule. **Routes running are marked with a "U."**

Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs

Recreation and Aquatics contact: Jeff Moffitt – 352-393-8732

- ✓ **Need a place for your kids to go on teacher work days or school holidays?** [Out-of-School Days](#) is a convenient option for busy parents. Let's work together to give your child a foundation for success! During camp, kids enjoy games, activities and crafts that encourage achievement, a sense of community, good health and strong character! The **remaining dates for 2014–15 are:**
 - Monday, Nov. 24–Wednesday, Nov. 26, 2014 (teacher workdays)
 - Friday, Jan. 16, 2015 (teacher workday)
 - Monday, Feb. 16, 2015 (President's Day)
 - Friday, April 13, 2015 (teacher workday)
 - Friday, June 5, 2015 (teacher workday)

Camps are located at Albert "Ray" Massey Recreation Center, 1001 NW 34th St., and Eastside Community Center, 2841 E. University Ave. Hours of operation are 7 a.m.-6 p.m., and the camp is offered for children in first through eighth grades. Cost per day is \$5.50 for city residents and \$8.40 for non-city residents. Proof of residency, such as a GRU bill or voter ID card, is required at the time of registration.
- ✓ The **Foundations After-School Program aims to foster ethical values and teach academic and life skills for youth.** The **program is offered through June 4, 2015.** Participants will be involved in structured activities, such as tutoring, homework help, arts/crafts, recreation and sporting activities. All children are welcome, but pre-registration is required. Space is limited and is available on a first come, first serve basis. Please note, transportation is not provided for this program. The program is for kids in first-eighth grade with convenient locations at four recreation and community centers (Albert "Ray" Massey Recreation, Eastside Community, Clarence R. Kelly Community and Porters Community Centers). For full details, visit our [After-School Programs](#) page or call 352-334-5067.
- ✓ [Aqua-Fit Water Aerobics](#) classes are of low- to medium-intensity and feature aerobic cardio and core training, while focusing on flexibility and total body toning. The classes take place in both shallow and deep water, and are taught by certified instructors. Classes are available at the Northeast Pool Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays (Oct.-Nov.) from 11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. This is perfect for city employees who can stop by on their lunch break or after work for a great workout (which can count toward your Pro-Club exercise points)! This program is offered throughout the year, so employees can join in at any time! The class fee is \$2.55 a class or \$20.40 for eight classes.

- ✓ Through fitness, fair play and sportsmanship, the [Youth Coed Basketball](#) program teaches youth, ages 5-14, how character counts on and off the court. There are no try outs, and each participant gets to play. Practice starts Monday, Dec. 1 at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Multipurpose Center, which is located at 1028 NE 14th St., from 6-8 p.m. Games begin in January, and run through March 2015, taking place in Alachua County and the surrounding areas. **New This Year:** On Saturday, Dec. 6, there is a free throw contest from 5-7 p.m. at the MLK Center. Show off your skills for great prizes. There is a \$10 discount for those registering before Dec. 1. Registration closes Dec. 15.
- ✓ **Fall operating hours for municipal pools are as follows:**
 - Northeast Pool
M-F: 11:30 a.m.-7 p.m., Open Swim/Lap Swim
SA: 12-5 p.m., Open Swim/Lap Swim
SU: Closed
 - Westside Pool (closed for the season)
 - Mickle Pool (closed for the season)
- ✓ **The Northeast Pool's holiday hours are as follows:**
 - Wednesday, Nov. 26: 12-5 p.m.
 - Thursday, Nov. 27: Closed
 - Friday, Nov. 28: 12-5 p.m.
 - Wednesday, Dec. 24: 11 a.m.-4 p.m.
 - Thursday, Dec. 25-Friday, Dec. 26: Closed

Environmental Education contact: Sally Wazny – 352-334-3326

- ✓ **Environmental education programs resume at Morningside Nature Center** (3540 E. University Ave.!) The free, educational and fun-filled programs at Morningside Nature Center start in September and continue through May! For more information, please call 352-334-3326.
 - C'mon home to the Living History Farm and experience a time when the rooster's crow and the rising sun, not an alarm clock, welcomed a new day! During **Living History Days**, interpreters portray day-to-day life on an 1870 Florida farm. Living History Days take place the first Saturday of the month from 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. The farm is open to the public from 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday all year long. The remaining Living History Days dates are Dec. 6, Jan. 3, Feb. 7, March 7, April 4 and May 2. Step back in time, enjoy nature, and experience Florida as it was!
 - Morningside Nature Center has a farm, ee—i—ee—i—oh! On this farm, youngsters (with an adult) can meet and greet farm animals by helping staff with afternoon feeding on the Living History Farm. This program is free but the animals love donations of carrots, squash, apples, sweet potatoes, and melons (please give these items to a staff member and not directly to the animals). With a sheep here—and a cow there—learning about heritage breeds is fun! The **Barnyard Buddies Program** takes place Wednesdays at 3 p.m. at the Living History Farm.
 - At the **Frogs and Friends Friday** program, children (with an adult) can join a Morningside Nature Center animal caretaker for an exciting and educational program featuring live amphibians and reptiles. Join the fun, get the facts! This free program begins at 2 p.m. in the Education Building. The remaining Frogs and Friends Friday dates are Dec. 5, Jan. 2, Feb. 6, March 6, April 3 and May 1.
- ✓ The [Annual Cane Boil and FiddleFest](#) will be held at Morningside Nature Center Saturday, **Nov. 29** from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. The Longleaf Pine Youth Fiddle Contest will be held from 10 a.m. to noon and will be followed by traditional music by talented local musicians. Held every year the Saturday after Thanksgiving, this event combines traditions of giving thanks and fall harvest with live

fiddle, banjo and string band music, an influence on American entertainment for more than 150 years. Bring your out-of-town guests, local relatives, friends, and family out to Morningside's beautiful Living History Farm to experience the making and bottling of sugar cane syrup, biscuits hot from the wood cookstove, live roots music, and living history interpreters and demonstrators bringing to life a day in the country in 1870. Make this event part of your Thanksgiving weekend tradition! A special feature of this year's Cane Boil & FiddleFest is free workshops for those interested! Event admission is \$3 for those 13 and older, \$1 for children ages 3-12 and free for children under three.

Cultural Affairs contact: Russell Etling – 352-393-8532

- ✓ The Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Department has reached its goal! Through an extensive public awareness campaign, the community at-large, artists, creative individuals and organizations providing arts and cultural activities, the **352Arts survey received more than 2,700 responses**. The 352ArtsRoadmap will be a set of priorities that will help chart the future of arts and culture in Gainesville and Alachua County over the next five to 10 years. This cultural master plan will build on the extensive arts and cultural activities already available to our residents and visitors; better promote our community as a cultural destination and bolster the arts' role as an economic engine for the region. As the designated Local Arts Agency of Alachua County, the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Department is leading this initiative with the support of: the Florida Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs and Florida Arts Council; VisitGainesville; the Gainesville-Alachua County Cultural Affairs Board; the University of Florida's Center for Building Better Communities; the creative community and a group of dedicated arts stakeholders, community leaders and educators.
- ✓ On **Saturday, Dec. 6**, the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Department hosts its **annual Holiday Tree Lighting Celebration at the Historic Thomas Center**. The free program will run from **6-8 p.m.** and will feature caroling by the Singers of the Reformation and the Gainesville Harmony Show Chorus, as well as holiday music on the hammered dulcimer and autoharp by Jim and Joyce Lillquist of the Gypsy Guerrilla Band. Attendees will also have the opportunity to tour the Historic Duckpond Neighborhood by horse-drawn carriage. Carriage rides are \$6 for adults and \$2 for children. The heart of the celebration is the holiday decorations on the giant tree and around the building, which are annually provided by the Thomas Center Associates. Santa will be on hand to visit with children. Light refreshments will be served.
- ✓ **Jewel Box Concerts at the Thomas Center:** The Jewel Box Concerts at the Thomas Center are provided by the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Department in cooperation with Shakerag Culture Center, Inc. and are sponsored in part by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture. This intimate monthly concert series features national and international touring artists in the Historic Thomas Center's Spanish Court. Admission is charged at the door. Visit www.gvlculturalaffairs.org for more information. The upcoming Jewel Box Concerts are:
 - **Sunday, Nov. 23:** Chuchito Valdes (Cuban piano, jazz)
- ✓ The **Hoggetowne Medieval Faire is hosting a Student Art and Essay Contest**. The contest is open to students from kindergarten through high school. Fifty-six students will receive awards for their creativity. All participants and teachers will receive certificates of accomplishment. Winners in the first, second and third place categories within each grade level will receive two complimentary tickets to the faire, a commemorative T-shirt and recognition in a special awards ceremony presided over by the King and Queen of Hoggetowne Saturday, Jan. 24. Three grand-prize winners will also receive \$25 gift certificates, to be spent at the medieval faire. The work of all winners will be displayed at the Alachua County Library Headquarters during the month of January, and all the entries will be displayed during the faire. The deadline for all entries is Monday, Dec. 1. Entries may be dropped off

at the Thomas Center at 302 NE Sixth Ave, Room 211. For more information contact Faire Coordinator Linda Piper at 352-393-8536 or visit www.gvlculturalaffairs.org.

- ✓ **Thomas Center Galleries:** *The HEART OF A CULTURE The Santos of Xavier Colon* continues in the Main Gallery through Saturday, Jan. 3. This exhibition features the centuries-old Hispanic tradition of depicting "Santos" continues as this young master presents his renditions of the Madonna. *Gainesville Fine Arts Association Winter showcase* is on display in the Thomas Center Galleries' Mezzanine Gallery Friday, Nov. 21 and continues through Saturday, Jan. 3. The opening reception is Friday, Dec. 6 from 6-8 p.m. and is free and open to the public.

Housing & Community Development

Housing & Community Development contact: Jackie Richardson – 352-334-5026

- ✓ The division is requesting comments on the **City of Gainesville Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) Programs Consolidated Annual Performance & Evaluation Report (CAPER)** for the period of October 1, 2013 through September 30, 2014. The CAPER will be submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) on or before Dec. 31, 2014. This report outlines program progress and provides an accounting of all activities undertaken by the city and sub recipient agencies funded through the CDBG and HOME Programs. Written comments may be directed to the City of Gainesville - Housing & Community Development (HCD) Division, Attn: PY 2013-14 CAPER, P.O. Box 490, MS 22; Gainesville, FL 32627. The City of Gainesville will incorporate received comments into the final CAPER prior to submission to HUD. A paper copy of the CAPER will also be available for review at the City of Gainesville HCD Division, 306 NE Sixth Ave., room 245, , between 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday through Thursday (except holidays). After Dec. 31, 2014, copies of the final report will be available for public review at the HCD Division and at the Alachua County Main Library, 401 E. University Ave. during regular library hours. For more information, please contact Deneace Joshua, HCD/block grant supervisor at 352-393-8864.
- ✓ The **Citizens Advisory Committee for Community Development (CACCD) meetings for November and December 2014 have been cancelled.**

Economic Development & Innovation

Economic Development & Innovation contact: Erik Bredfeldt – 352-393-8614

- ✓ On Thursday, Nov. 20, the Economic Development & Innovation Director will **attend the monthly Gainesville Alachua County Regional Airport Authority (GACRAA) meeting**, as well as the Chamber of Commerce Advanced Manufacturing Council meeting.
- ✓ On Thursday, Nov. 20, the **City Commission is scheduled to review a proposed land development code text amendment that would facilitate future expansion of an existing airport business.**
- ✓ On Monday, Dec. 1, the Economic Development & Innovation Director will attend a meeting to **discuss an electronic business development application that will permit online zoning and business development searches** for interested entities.
- ✓ On Tuesday, Dec. 2, the Economic Development & Innovation Director will attend a routine meeting of the vehicle for hire ordinance modification team **assigned the task of proposing modifications to the existing vehicle for hire ordinance** that would promote a simplified and transparent platform for existing vehicles for hire and transportation networking companies.

- ✓ On Wednesday, Dec. 3, the Economic Development & Innovation Director **will attend the Gainesville Area Innovation Network (GAIN) luncheon**, an organization that is sponsored by the Economic Development and Innovation Department to increase awareness and facilitation of innovation economy entities in the community.

Gainesville Police Department

Gainesville Police Department contact: Officer Ben Tobias – 352-393-7525

- ✓ The [Gainesville Police Department Community Calendar](#) provides information on crime watch meetings and other community meetings, such as the Black-on-Black Task Force. Please view the calendar for meeting dates and locations.
- ✓ The **Police Advisory Committee meets Thursday, Nov. 27 at 6 p.m. at the GPD headquarters.** Come out and speak with the PAC about current issues in Gainesville. Chief Jones will also be in attendance.
- ✓ **Chief Jones is walking the Village Crossing neighborhood Tuesday, Dec. 2.** If you would like to join him, please meet at the clubhouse (501 SE 18th St.) at 6 p.m.

The next report will cover December 4-17, 2014. Items for submission to the report are due to the Communications Office no later than Thursday, November 27. For more information, please contact [Laura Rawson](#) at extension 8740.