



February 1, 2011

A Report on the Activities of Alachua County Government

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Alachua County 2010 Annual Report

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Community Update is published by Alachua County Manager Randall H. Reid's Communications Office

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Alachua County Manager Randall H. Reid is pleased to announce the release of the Alachua County 2010 Annual Report. The report offers citizens a detailed look at County finances, departmental accomplishments, and reductions made in the FY2011 budget. This year's report is in an all-digital format.

“We are all fellow citizens of this great County. If we work hard, and treat each other with respect and civility, we can answer any question.”

— Randall H. Reid, Alachua County Manager

“Due to budget constraints we are not in a position to print a hundred thousand copies and mail them to every household in the County,” Reid said in speaking of the report, “this digital report is cost effective, eco-friendly, and offers some advantages and innovations unavailable in a print version.”

In addition to the text, the report also features a 30-minute video interview of each County department head, which can be played within the document. These interviews give citizens the opportunity to gain a detailed understanding of how County government functions. When clicking the play button please be patient in allowing the video to open.

“This report experiments with an all digital format,” Communications Coordinator Mark Sexton commented, “Some citizens are comfortable dealing with files like this and will be at ease manipulating the document on their computer. Others may wish to download the pdf and print it out.”

To view the 2010 Annual Report [click here](#). Use the up and down arrows to advance the pages.

For assistance in viewing the document, please call the Communications Office at 352-374-5204.



Alachua County Board of County Commissioners
Lee Pinkoson (Chair), Paula Delaney (Vice Chair), Rodney J. Long, Susan Baird, Mike Byerly



2010

Annual Report

Community Input Requested

During the Tuesday, January 25, 2011 County Commission Regular Meeting, two items were discussed which the Board felt were especially important to get community input on before they make any final decisions.

To view this meeting online, [click here](#).

The first item is entitled "Multimodal Transportation Mitigation Program." To learn the details about this program, please click jump point number 13 below the video screen on the meeting link above. The Special Meeting to get input from the public on this issue will be held on March 15, 2011, in the Jack Durrance Auditorium (Room 209) in the County Administration Building (12 SE 1st Street, Gainesville).

The second item is entitled "Sustainable Solid Waste Program." To learn the details about this program, please click jump point number 14 below the video screen on the meeting link above. The date and time for this Special Meeting has not been finalized.



The Alachua County Commission (as seated): Rodney J. Long, Paula M. Delaney (Vice Chair), Lee Pinkoson (Chair), Susan Baird, and Mike Byerly

For more information about the Multimodal Transportation Mitigation Program, contact Alachua County Impact Fee Administrator Jonathan Paul at 352-264-6971.

For more information about the Sustainable Solid Waste Program, contact Alachua County Waste Alternatives Manager Sally Palmi at 352-374-5213.

A.C.C.E.S.S.

Alachua County Civic Education Series

You are invited to a behind the scenes , 7 week educational experience about Alachua County government. Click anywhere on this image to find out more.

discover. learn. explore.

What's On "Alachua County Talks"

Check out the latest editions of Alachua County Talks on Community 12 TV by viewing the [Channel 12 Show Schedule](#). Or click on the images to the right to view streaming video of the episodes.



Click above to watch Alachua County Interim Court Services Director Jim Santangelo discuss the Court Services Department, its duties, programs, and the services it provides.



Click above to watch Angela Pate, Executive Director of FloridaWorks, the workforce board for Alachua and Bradford counties, provide a broad overview of the services provided by FloridaWorks that can assist citizens in finding employment.



Click above to watch Alachua County Public Works Director Richard Hedrick discuss the Public Works Department, its duties, programs, and the services it provides.



Click above to watch Alachua County Administrative Services Director Betty Baker discuss the Administrative Services Department, its duties, programs, and the services it provides.

Eastside Community Redevelopment Area Workshops

The public is invited to attend and participate in upcoming workshops hosted by the Alachua County Growth Management Department to discuss an Eastside Community Redevelopment Area (CRA) focused on the unincorporated portion of Alachua County, east of the Gainesville City limits to Newnan's Lake.

A CRA is a defined sub-area of a city or county where revitalization and economic development is promoted by a Community Redevelopment Agency through investments in community improvements to foster job and income growth.

The workshops will be held as follows:

- Thursday, February 3, 2011 at 5:30 pm at the Eastside High School Media Center (1201 SE 43rd Street)
- Thursday, February 17, 2011 at 5:30 pm at Compassionate Outreach Ministries' Fellowship Hall (320 SE 43rd Street)

This is the initial stage in the CRA planning process and community input is critical.

For more information [click here](#), or contact Michael Castine, Alachua County Growth Management Planner at 352-374-5249 or mcastine@alachuacounty.us.



Come Fall in Love

**Dogs \$45. Cats \$33.
Silent Auction
food and fun**

**2/12/11
1p.m. - 4p.m.**

**Adoption counselors and trainers
available to assist you**

Animal vendors



Find that special love

**Alachua County Animal Services
3400 NE 53 Ave. Gainesville
For more information Contact:
Hilary Hynes 352-264-6881**

Upcoming Election Information

CITY OF GAINESVILLE ELECTION (MARCH 15, 2011)

Monday, February 14, 2011 is the last day to register to vote for the March 15, 2011 City of Gainesville Election. You must be a City of Gainesville resident to vote in the Gainesville City Election. Voters are encouraged to verify and update their registration status

EARLY VOTING AVAILABLE

Early Voting for the City of Gainesville Election will be available March 7, 2011 through March 12, 2011, at the County Administration Building at 12 S.E. 1st Street, Gainesville.

Weekdays, Monday – Friday 9 AM to 5 PM
March 7, 2011 through March 11, 2011

Saturday – 9 AM to 5 PM
March 12, 2011 Early Voting ends

Florida Law requires voters to present picture and signature ID in order to vote, or vote a provisional ballot.

S.E. 1st Avenue has an after-hours mail drop located at the main entrance. Voter registration applications received through the mail drop will be accepted up until midnight on the 14th.

Registration forms are available online at www.VoteAlachua.com. You may use the application form to register to vote, update your voter information, or to update your signature by downloading the application. You may also register to vote in person at the Supervisor of Elections Office or by mail. For a list of other facilities in the county where voter registration application forms may be obtained, please visit our website or call the Supervisor of Elections Office at 352-374-5252. To vote in the City of Gainesville Election, mail-in applications must be postmarked no later than the February 14th deadline.

VOTE BY MAIL

To request a ballot and Vote by Mail, voters may make their request online at www.VoteAlachua.com or call the Supervisor of Elections Office at 352-374-5252. Voters will need to make sure their address and signature on file with the Supervisor of Elections are current. Your mail ballot may not count if the signature does not match the signature on your voter record. The last day to request your ballot be mailed is Wednesday, March 9, 2011, by 5 PM.

To request a ballot for another voter, you must be a designated member of the voter's immediate family or a legal guardian. Requests can be made online, in person, by mail, by telephone or by fax. All requests must include the voter's name, residence

address, and date of birth. The request must also include the requestor's name, residence address, relationship to the voter and driver's license number if available. Mail or fax request must also include the requestor's signature.

A voter may designate in writing another person to pick up an absentee ballot starting Thursday, March 10, 2011. The designee must have a note signed by the voter, a picture identification of the designee and must complete an affidavit. The affidavit is available for download at www.VoteAlachua.com. The designee may not pick up more than two absentee ballots per election, not including the designee's own ballot and ballots for members of his or her immediate family.

Absentee ballots are available at the Supervisor of Elections Office for voters who may have emergencies that will not allow them to go to their polling place to vote.

All absentee ballots must be received in the Supervisor of Elections Office by 7 PM Election Day.

VOTE AT YOUR PRECINCT

Any voter may vote in the precinct of their residence between 7 AM and 7 PM on Election Day. Florida Law requires voters to present picture and signature ID in order to vote, or you may vote a provisional ballot. If you need to locate your precinct, go to www.VoteAlachua.com.

POLL WORKERS NEEDED

If you are interested in serving as a Poll Worker, you may call the Supervisor of Elections Office at 352-374-5252 or you may complete the Poll Worker Application on our website at www.VoteAlachua.com.

If you have any questions or need further information, visit our website at www.VoteAlachua.com or contact the Supervisor of Elections Office at 352-374-5252.



Supervisor Of Elections Scholarship Opportunity

Applicants must:

- demonstrate a financial need and furnish a financial statement which shows what their own contribution is to their educational expenses (Student does not have to submit an official form, but can send a statement of their financial need).
- submit two current letters of recommendation which must accompany the application or be received by the deadline: one from the college or university last attended or graduated from; and one from a citizen of good standing in the community.
- submit a resume of their high school and/or college activities as well as their community service activities.
- maintain a "C" average or above for the previous year.
- be a U.S. citizen and a resident of Florida for two years preceding the academic year for which application is made.
- be a registered voter.

students attending an accredited Florida university or college. Applicants must be enrolled or accepted as a junior or senior and be either a Political Science major, Public or Business Administration major or Journalism/Mass Communications major .

Pam Carpenter, Supervisor of Elections announces the opportunity for local college or university students to apply for a \$1,200 scholarship through the Florida State Association of Supervisors of Elections (FSASE).

FSASE will award three \$1,200.00 scholarships. The deadline to submit applications to the Alachua County Supervisor of Elections is March 18, 2011. The scholarships will be awarded to full-time

Applications may be obtained online at www.VoteAlachua.com or from the Alachua County Supervisor of Elections Office at 111 SE 1st Avenue, Gainesville. Completed applications and letters of recommendation must be submitted to the Supervisor of Election of the County in which you are registered to vote.

All Alachua County applications will be reviewed by the Supervisor of Elections Office and one finalist will be forwarded to the FSASE Scholarship Committee to represent Alachua County. The FSASE Scholarship Committee will select three winners (\$1,200 each) from the finalists submitted from Supervisors of Elections throughout the State of Florida.

The scholarship is awarded in June, therefore applicants must be a student post-June of the award year.

For more information, contact the Alachua County Supervisor of Elections at 352-374-5252.



DONT FLUSH IT!



Drop off your unused pills at any Wise's pharmacy or the Hazardous Waste Collection Center off Waldo Rd for proper disposal.

Do your part to prevent marine and freshwater animals from absorbing these chemicals.

Crisis Center Receives Reaccreditation

The Alachua County Crisis Center was recently notified of their successful reaccreditation by the American Association of Suicidology (AAS). The Center is one of over 150 suicide and crisis intervention agencies in North America accredited by AAS.

In 1976, the Crisis Center became the fourth center in the US to be accredited for its work in suicide prevention. This year, the Center will celebrate 35 years of continuous accreditation and 42 years of service. The Crisis Center offers 24 hour per day phone crisis and suicide intervention counseling to all residents of Alachua County.

For more information about AAS, [click here](#).

For more information about Crisis Center services, [click here](#) or call 352-264-6785.

February Extension Programs

The Alachua County Extension Office is pleased to announce the following Family & Consumer Sciences Programs, for February, 2011. These programs are offered by Dr. Brenda Williams, Family & Consumer Sciences Agent. All of these programs are held at the Extension Office (2800 NE 39th Avenue, Gainesville).

Home Buying Education Course (HUD Approved) – (3 sessions)
5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Making the Decision to be a Homeowner: Getting Your Credit & Budget in Order, February 15.

The Home Purchasing Process: From Offer to Closing, February 22.

Working with Housing Professionals: Experts will answer your questions, March 1.

Attendees must be present at all three sessions to receive a certificate of completion. The cost to attend is \$10.00 (for individual/couple). Attendees must pre-register by calling 352-337-6209 (voicemail) by February 10. There must be 5 individual/couples for class to be conducted.

Building Your Financial Future (A personal financial management program - for those filing bankruptcy only) –

February 17, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Attendees will learn 4 basic concepts that will aid in handling financial resources responsibly and building a financially secure future. This program has been approved to issue certificates evidencing completion of a personal financial management instructional course in compliance with the Bankruptcy Code. Attendees must bring their case number with them.

Topics include: Develop Your Budget, Money Management Skills, Use Credit Responsibly, and Consumers Rights and Responsibilities

Cost to attend this class is \$10.00 (cash only) for course materials. Pre-register by February 11, by calling 352-955-2402. For alternate class dates, or view the complete brochure, visit <http://alachua.ifas.ufl.edu/calendar.shtml>

Food Safety and Quality Program (ServSafe®) – February 16,
8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

This program is dedicated to providing training which enables food managers and staff to offer Florida consumers food that is prepared in a clean and safe environment. For more information and to register, please visit <http://foodsafety.ifas.ufl.edu>, or call toll-free at 1-888-232-8723.

For more information, call 352-955-2402. Visit <http://alachua.ifas.ufl.edu/calendar.shtml> for additional programs offered by the Extension Office.

The Alachua County Extension Office is pleased to announce the following Commercial Horticulture Programs, for February, 2011. These programs are offered by Aparna Gazula, Commercial Horticulture Agent. All of these programs are held at the Extension Office (2800 NE 39th Avenue, Gainesville).

Worker Protection Standard – Train the Trainer Workshop

February 17, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Under FAWSA and WPS, agriculture employers must ensure that agricultural workers and pesticide handlers employed in the state of Florida receive protection from agricultural pesticides and information concerning pesticides. The Worker Protection Standard Train the Trainer (WPS TTT) Program promotes the development of a working population of knowledgeable WPS trainers of agricultural workers and pesticide handlers, in order to prevent and reduce pesticide exposure and related illness.

Cost to attend this class is \$5.00. Pre-register by February 11, by calling 352-337-6209. For more information call 352-955-2402. A complete brochure with registration form can be found at: <http://alachua.ifas.ufl.edu/calendar.shtml>.

Alternative Enterprises for Small Farmers Workshop Series: Small Ruminants – Goat and Sheep Production and Forages

February 17, 6 p.m.

Topics to include: Toxic Plants for goats & sheep. Pasture Management for the spring/summer as well as goat & sheep nutrition.

No cost to attend this class. Please pre-register by February 11, by calling 352-337-6209.

Limited Commercial Landscape Maintenance Workshop

February 24, 9 a.m. to 3:15 p.m.

License Information: The Limited Commercial Maintenance License is available only for Landscape Maintenance Contractors applying pesticides to their customers' properties. The Limited Commercial Landscape Maintenance License Exam requires a passing grade of 75%. This certification must be renewed annually either by testing or with 4 CEUs. Each applicator must be licensed and may not supervise other applicators.

Registration fee is \$30.00 per person (lunch included), but does not include IFAS Bookstore Study Manuals. Pre-register by February 18, by calling 352-337-6209. Program flyer and registration form can be downloaded from: <http://alachua.ifas.ufl.edu/calendar.shtml>

For more information contact Aparna Gazula, Commercial Horticulture Agent, 352-955-2402.

Alachua County Advisory Boards

Get Involved

The Alachua County Commission is committed to citizen involvement on its advisory boards and is soliciting applications for the following vacancies:

Affordable Housing Advisory Committee: One citizen actively engaged in the banking or mortgage industry in connection with affordable housing, one citizen actively engaged in the residential home building industry in connection with affordable housing, one citizen actively engaged as a for-profit provider of affordable housing, one citizen actively engaged as a not-for-profit provider of affordable housing, one Alachua County resident

Alachua County Housing Authority: One tenant-commissioner, one alternate tenant-commissioner (these positions require residency in public housing or that applicant is on the Alachua County Housing Authority's Section 8 Voucher Program), one Alternate.

Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Board: Two citizens-at-large

CHOICES Advisory Board: One managed care employee, one certified public accountant, one health policy professional, one nurse, one CHOICES program participant (alternate), one small business owner, one attorney

Citizens Disability Advisory Committee: Two citizens with disabilities, two citizens-at-large

Community Agency Partnership Program: Two citizens-at-large

Environmental Protection Advisory Committee: One citizen-at-large, one alternate

Fair Housing/Human Rights Board: One residential rental manager

Gainesville/Alachua County Arts in Public Places Trust: One art historian, one professional in the field of art

Health Care Board: One low-income health care consumer, one dentist, one pharmacist

Historical Commission: One citizen-at-large

Land Conservation Board: Three natural resources professionals

Poverty Reduction Advisory Board: One citizen 55 or older, one low-income resident, one representative of a faith-based organization, one citizen with a disability

Recreation and Open Space Advisory Committee: Two citizens-at-large, *Three citizens-at-large*

Regional Transit System Advisory Board: One senior citizen

Rural Concerns Advisory Committee: One citizen involved in Silviculture/Agriculture, two citizens from unincorporated areas outside of the urban cluster, one citizen-at-large

Veteran Services Advisory Board: One Viet Nam Veteran, one citizen-at-large (Veteran)

Value Adjustment Board: One citizen (must own homestead property in Alachua County)

Victim Services and Rape Crisis Center Program Advisory Council: One alternate, two citizens-at-large

Positions in italics are not yet vacant, but will be available before April 30, 2011.

[Click here for an application](#)

Applications are also available at the County Manager's Office on the 2nd Floor of the County Admin. Building, 12 SE 1st St., Gainesville. For more info., call 352-264-6904.