

Prepared for the City Commission, May 19-June 1, 2016

City Manager

- ✓ In observance of the **Memorial Day holiday**, city offices and RTS offices will be closed Monday, May 30. RTS will provide holiday service to routes 1, 2, 5, 8, 13, 15, 16, 20, 26, 35 and 711 between 7:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Normal ADA and paratransit service will not be provided, but demand-response trips for paratransit will be provided. Please contact MV Transportation at 352-375-2784 to arrange trips. Residential curbside collection of garbage, recycling and yard trash will not be picked up Monday, and will be delayed one day for the entire week.
- ✓ At the time of this publication, the **following special City Commission meetings/workshops have been scheduled:**
 - Monday, May 23 at 5 p.m.: Spring budget workshop at Ironwood Golf Course

Capital Projects

- ✓ **Fire Station 1:** Demolition has started at the future home of Station 1, located at 525 S. Main St. Please contact Deputy Chief JoAnne Rice at 352-393-8462 if you have any questions.
- ✓ **Depot Avenue Segment 2:** The contractor is working on the final phase of the project from Southwest Third Street to west of the South Main Street roundabout. The second lift of asphalt for this phase is scheduled for the week of May 16. The contractor's (O'Steen Brothers Inc.) contact person for this project is Don Shackelford, and he can be reached at 352-459-1031. For more information, please contact [Betsy Waite](#), project manager, at 352-393-8405.
- ✓ **Depot Park Pump Station:** Construction of the valve vaults and associated piping is complete. Additional construction, such as paving, electrical work and site work, will continue in May. This project is expected to be complete in June. For more information, please contact Andrew Roberts, project manager, at 352-393-8408.
- ✓ **NW Eighth Avenue:** Section A (between Northwest 40th Drive and Northwest 34th Street) and Section C (between Northwest 23rd Street and Northwest Sixth Street) are substantially complete. Construction of Section B (between Northwest 34th Street and Northwest 23rd Street) started in February. Rehabilitation of the Possum Creek culverts started in mid-April and is 40 percent complete. Until project completion later this summer, lane closures and slower traffic may be expected in this segment. For more information, please visit the [project website](#) or contact [Stefan Broadus](#), project manager, at 352-393-8406.
- ✓ **Northwest 22nd Street:** Construction began May 16 and is estimated to be completed May 30. This project will construct curb ramps and contain sidewalk improvements at the intersections of Northwest First Avenue and Northwest Second Avenue. For more information, please contact Shawn Webber, project manager, at webbersd@cityofgainesville.org.
- ✓ **NW 34th Boulevard/NW 23rd Terrace:** Continuing in May 2016 is the construction of sidewalk along the south side of Northwest 23rd Terrace from Northwest 62nd Avenue to Northwest 34th Boulevard, and along the west side of Northwest 34th Boulevard from Northwest 23rd Terrace to the existing sidewalk. The bus stops along the project will be modified to meet current ADA standards. Construction is expected to finish in mid-June. The contractor's (Parish-McCall) contact person for this project is Brian Sheehan, and he can be reached at 352-258-1692. For more information, please contact Joe Montalto, project manager, at 352-494-6225.

- ✓ **SW Second Avenue:** On the north side of Southwest Second Avenue near Infinity Hall, construction of an ADA bus stop is substantially complete. For more information, please contact Shawn Webber, project manager, at webberSD@cityofgainesville.org.
- ✓ **SE Fourth Street Reconstruction:** The Southeast Fourth Street reconstruction project is currently undergoing permitting review through the St. Johns River Water Management District. The Southeast Fourth Street corridor is a residential road which serves existing local businesses and residents, and provides access from southeast Gainesville to the downtown area from Williston Road to Depot Avenue. Future treatment facilities will also include amenities appropriate for the adjacent rails-to-trails bike path and residential area. Construction of the stormwater ponds will begin in fall 2016. For more information, please contact [Betsy Waite](mailto:Betsy.Waite@cityofgainesville.org), project manager, at 352-393-8405.
- ✓ **Southwest 12th Street:** For approximately five weeks, there will be sewer system upgrades and reconstruction taking place on Southwest 12th Street. This work is expected to begin in mid-May in the area of Southwest 12th Street and West University Avenue, progressing south and ending in mid-June in the intersection of Southwest 12th Street and Southwest Second Avenue. The roundabout at Southwest 12th Street and Southwest First Avenue will be closed for approximately one week during this process. Detours and signage will be posted to aid in travel through the area. This work is being performed by Landmark Construction, LLC. The contractor's contact person for this project is Bruce Halverson, project manager, who can be reached at bruce.halverson@landmarkproperties.com or 706-543-1910.
- ✓ **Southwest 32nd Terrace:** Construction is complete. This project improved the sidewalk connectivity and disabled accessibility on the west side of Southwest 32nd Terrace between Southwest 35th Place and the adjacent shopping center. For more information, please contact Shawn Webber, project manager, at webbersd@cityofgainesville.org.
- ✓ **Tumblin Creek Wetland and Trash Trap:** In March, the City Commission approved a guaranteed maximum price; construction is expected to begin in May and completed by November. For more information, please contact Andrew Roberts, project manager, at 352-393-8408.

Communications Office

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

- ✓ **Broadcast staff is working on adding a new functionality – audio streaming during live meetings.** This will allow users to listen to live meetings online, or on the iPhone or Google play app, using less bandwidth than it takes to watch streaming videos. There will be more information when the service becomes available.
- ✓ Broadcast staff **released the following, newly produced videos:**
 - [Swearing-in Ceremony of Mayor Lauren Poe and Commissioner Adrian Hayes-Santos](#): The swearing-in ceremony was held May 5, 2016 at the Thelma Boltin Center.
 - [Gainesville Presents - City Hall Clock Tower Repair and Restoration](#): The clock in front of City Hall is keeping time again after a repair and restoration led by city carpenter Fred North. Theodore "Ted" R. Crom, a world renowned horologist (one who studies clocks/time), had the great vision to rescue the Seth Thomas clock when the 1886 Alachua County Court House was replaced by the County Administration Building. He preserved this piece of Gainesville/Alachua County history by his restoration of the clock to its original working order and leading the effort to build the clock tower in 1983, nearly a century after it first rang out over town. It was his wish that it be enjoyed by the local community and visitors for another century plus.

Gainesville Fire Rescue

GFR Risk Reduction Bureau contact: Interim Asst. Chief Steve Hesson – 352-393-8377

- ✓ **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. The cost is \$30 per person. For information on **Safe Assembly Training classes**, please call 334-5065.
- ✓ GFR is participating in the **Fun 4 Gator Kids Touch-a-Truck Saturday, May 21 starting at 9 a.m.** at the Northeast Complex by Citizens’ Field. Admission is free. More information can be found at www.gatortouchatruck.com.
- ✓ GFR is **accepting applications for the Junior Fire Academy and the ABCs of Safety Summer Camp**. Please visit the [events tab on GFR’s website](#) for more information.

GFR Support Services Bureau contact: Training Chief Shawn 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

- ✓ **Join your friends, your co-workers and your community for these fun Bike Month events!**
 - **Wednesday, May 25 at 10 a.m. at downtown connector trail: National Bike Month Tree Planting**

The Bicycle/Pedestrian Program and Parks, Recreation & Cultural Affairs Department are holding a tree planting in honor of National Bike Month along the downtown connector trail (SE 10th Ave. and SE Veitch St.). RSVP at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YWTQSMC>.
 - **Thursday, May 26 at 11:30 a.m. at the Bo Diddley Plaza: National Bike Month Press Conference**

The Public Works Department invites the public to celebrate National Bike Month! Plans include awards, proclamation and more! For more information, contact the Bicycle/Pedestrian Program at 352-334-5070 or bikped@cityofgainesville.org.
- ✓ The [Bicycle/Pedestrian Program](#) is coordinating/participating in the following:
 - Thursday, May 19: Present overview of work in the community to the Student Community Relations Advisory Board (UF Campus Housing Office)
 - Friday, May 20: Participate in the Mini Touch-a-Truck event at GFR’s Safety City
 - Friday, May 20: Team up with Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to present Teen Driver Safety presentations at Santa Fe High School
 - Friday, May 20: Host a booth at the East Gainesville Relay for Life at Howard Bishop Middle School Track

- Saturday, May 21: Participate in Touch-a-Truck from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Northeast Complex by Citizens' Field. Admission is free. More information can be found at www.gatortouchatruck.com.
- Saturday, May 28: Participate in the Humana Walkathon for Homeless Veteran's at 8 a.m. at Albert "Ray" Massey Westside Park

Consider the [Bicycle/Pedestrian Program](#) for your next meeting, community event or training. They provide bicycle and pedestrian-related presentations, demonstrations, videos and trainings for toddlers, youth, teens, young adults, adults and seniors. For more information, scheduling a bicycle/pedestrian event, questions or volunteer opportunities, please contact Dekova Batey, bicycle/pedestrian program coordinator, at 352-334-5070 or bikeped@cityofgainesville.org, or visit www.cityofgainesville.org/bikeped.

- ✓ The **Community Traffic Safety Team (CTST) Program** is a volunteer organization made up of community representation from citizens, agencies and groups such as public works, law enforcement, fire departments, school board, health department and many others. The CTSTs are sponsored by the Florida Department of Transportation with the mission of helping to reduce crashes and improve safety on area roadways. Through events, information, ongoing programs and education, team members work together to develop solutions to local traffic safety problems. The **Alachua County CTST meets the third Thursday of every month** (excluding July and December). The CTST Program will coordinate the following meeting:
 - **Thursday, May 19 at 10 a.m.:** CTST meeting at Santa Fe College Gainesville Technology Entrepreneurship Center (GTEC) (2153 SE Hawthorne Road)

For more information on the group or to submit a traffic safety concern, visit the group website at <http://trafficsafetyteam.com/>.

- ✓ The **Gainesville Clean Water Partnership (GCWP)**, a partnership collaboratively run between the City of Gainesville, Alachua County and FDOT District 2, **has been selected by the Florida Stormwater Association (FSA) to receive an Outstanding Achievement Award for 2016 Stormwater Programs**. The GCWP works with agency departments as well as the Gainesville urban community for healthy waterways. The GCWP has demonstrated, through successful ongoing internal and external campaigns, outreach programs, events, projects and pollution prevention efforts that interagency cooperation can lead to creative and innovative programming that is sustainable and effective. The award will be presented during the FSA Annual Conference in June.
- ✓ **Gainesville's pilot bike share program, Go Gainesville, opened on May 6, starting with two stations**. One station is downtown at Bo Diddley Plaza and the other is on the Sixth Street Trail near the intersection with Southwest Second Avenue. The bikes can be rented on an hourly basis for \$3 an hour. Monthly (\$15) and annual passes (\$25) are also available, and then the first hour of every ride is free. For additional information, please visit <http://zagster.com/gainesville>.

Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs

Recreation Education contact: Ben Dillard – 352-393-8192

- ✓ **Summer vacation camp registration is now open. PRCA is happy to offer several summer camp options for elementary and middle school students**. For children in 1st-5th grade, three exciting sessions are available. Each session is action-packed, filled with exciting experiences and focuses on The Six Pillars of Character® program: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship. Free swimming lessons are included in all sessions. Students in 6th-8th grade, three middle school camp sessions will focus on arts, music, video, photography, computers, personal

finance, life skills and mentoring. For information on fees, times and scholarships, please visit PRCA's [camps webpage](#).

- ✓ **Romeo and Juliet Pop-Up Teen Theater Summer Camp** is July 25-Aug. 5 for kids age nine-19. We The People Theater brings Shakespeare's tale of love and passion to life at this free camp. Applicants will be interviewed and selected for enthusiasm and ability to fully participate throughout the camp program. The camp is limited to 25 participants. The camp is in partnership with We The People Theater and the University of Florida Arts in Medicine programs. To register, or for more information, please visit www.WeThePeopleTheater.org or call 352-363-1294.

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

- ✓ **Mickle Pool, located at 1717 SE 15th St., opens Friday, May 27** – just in time for the Memorial Day weekend! All three city pools are open for Memorial Day weekend, so there are plenty of options to kick off the summer with a splash! Spring pool hours and hours for Memorial Day weekend are available on the [pools webpage](#).
- ✓ **American Red Cross Lifeguarding and safety classes are available.** Want to qualify for a great summer job? Get certified as a professional American Red Cross Lifeguard. For those 15 years and older, the course is \$175, and includes books and materials. Lifeguarding re-certification and adult/pediatrics first aid/CPR/AED classes are offered as well. Please visit our [lifeguarding and safety classes webpage](#) for more information.
- ✓ **Register for Pop Warner Football and Cheerleading through July 21**, or until teams are filled. The mission of Pop Warner Little Scholars is to enable young people to benefit from participation in team sports and activities in a safe and structured environment. Through this active participation, Pop Warner programs teach fundamental values, skills and knowledge that young people will use throughout their lives. The programs are for boys 5–11 years-old and girls 5–13 years-old. Pop Warner seeks to provide fun athletic learning opportunities for children, while emphasizing the importance of academic success, and seeks to familiarize players and spirit participants with the fundamentals of football, cheerleading and dance. For more information, please visit the [Pop Warner webpage](#).
- ✓ On your mark, get set, go! Make a splash at one of the city's pools this summer learning or practicing your swimming skills! There are **convenient group and private lessons that are available beginning May through September**. For a full schedule, please visit the [swimming lessons webpage](#).
- ✓ The purpose of the **Junior Lifeguard Summer Camp** is to increase self-confidence and promote safe behavior in the aquatic environment. Throughout the course, campers will learn a wide range of skills including first-aid, CPR and rescue techniques. The program, which is developed by the American Red Cross, will encourage campers to take on leadership roles, as well as challenge them mentally and physically. Besides learning the primary responsibilities of a lifeguard, this course is action packed with fun activities, games and free swimming! The cost is \$82.75 for city residents and \$124.25 for non-city residents. [Registration](#) is open now!

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

- ✓ **[Earth Academy Day Camp](#)** awakens your child's innate curiosity, while encouraging an environmental ethic and service appreciation. This nature-based day camp is held at Morningside Nature Center's 416-acre nature sanctuary, and uses hands-on fun to focus attention on natural and cultural history. Instructors are career educators and science professionals experienced in working with children. In addition to a variety of theme-based, multidisciplinary projects, campers have fun with character development activities demonstrating trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship. Camp tends to fill quickly and space is limited so be sure to register early!

Camp is open to first-sixth graders. Camp hours are 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. with early drop-off and late pickup available. The cost is \$121.50 per week for city residents and \$182.50 for non-city residents. Please note, **currently only Session III (June 27-July 1) and Session IV (Aug. 1-5) have availability.** To be added to the waiting list for other sessions, or for more information, please visit the [Earth Academy Day Camp](#) page.

- ✓ **Last month of free, environmental education programs at Morningside Nature Center!** The free, educational and fun-filled programs at Morningside Nature Center end in May, but will return in September!
 - 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.

Morningside Nature Center is located at 3540 E. University Ave., approximately three miles east of downtown Gainesville. For more information, please call 352-334-3326.

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

- ✓ PRCA, in cooperation with Shakerag Culture Center, Inc., is pleased to announce upcoming **Jewel Box Concerts at the Historic Thomas Center.**

- **Walter Parks** presents “**Swamp Chandelier**”: Thursday, May 26 at 7 p.m. (doors open at 6 p.m.) Tickets are \$20 at the door (cash or check only, please) or can be purchased online, in advance with a credit card for \$18 at <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2505437>.

Guitarist and singer Walter Parks, the longtime sideman for Woodstock legend Richie Havens, has created Swamp By Chandelier, a new solo tour that’s both a concert and a historical experience.

- **The Legendary JC’s Dance Party**: Saturday, June 4 at 7:30 p.m. at the Thelma Boltin Center, located at 516 NE Second Ave. (doors open at 6:30 p.m.). Tickets are \$15 per person or \$25 per couple, cash or check only, at the door, or they can be purchased online, in advance with a credit card at <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2505458>. Children 12 and under are free.

Not only does the band pay respect to their influences through their gold-standard original tunes, they have also performed with some including James Brown, B.B. King, Dr. John and Al Green.

The Historic Thomas Center is located at 302 NE Sixth Ave. in Gainesville. For additional information, please contact Russell Etling, cultural affairs manager, at 352-393-8532, or contact Joseph Saccocci, Shakerag Culture Center, Inc. vice president, at jsaccocci@cox.net or 352-373-5514.

- ✓ The “**Free Fridays**” **Concert Series kicks off Friday, May 6.** Downtown Gainesville comes alive every Friday night (from May 6 to Oct. 21) from 8–10 p.m. as local and regional bands are showcased under the stars. Each year, thousands come out to enjoy the free, live concerts and shows in a family-friendly environment. This year, “Free Fridays” is returning to its home at the newly renovated Bo Diddley Plaza, which is located at 111 E. University Ave. For more information, please call 352-393-8746, or view the [2016 schedule online](#). Upcoming “Free Fridays” concerts include:
 - **May 20:** [Hot Club DeVille](#) (Gypsy jazz)
 - **May 27:** The Music of Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young (tribute by [Other Voices](#) and friends)
 - **June 3:** [Little Jake & The Soul Searchers](#) (blues, R&B)

- ✓ **Thomas Center Galleries: CONFLUENCE: LENNIE & JESSE** in the Thomas Center's Mezzanine and Main Galleries Friday, May 27-Tuesday, Sept. 20. Curated by Anne E. Gilroy, this double exhibition recognizes the artwork and legacy of two of Gainesville's renowned artists, Leonard E. Kesl (1926-2012) and Jesse James Aaron (1887-1979). The Kesl drawings and Aaron sculptures on display have rarely, if ever, been seen, and allow visitors to celebrate the immense creativity and talent of these nationally-recognized artists who once called Gainesville home. Remarkable photographs of the artists at work provide context for their pieces and insight into their artistic process. The opening is May 27 from 7-10 p.m.
- ✓ **“The Thomas Center: Illustrated History & Guide,” the enchanting coffee-table book that depicts the historical journey of the Thomas Center, has been published.** Filled with captivating stories of the center, from its origin as a home, then hotel, to its place as an evolving social center, to its renown as a celebrated arts and cultural center and an award-winning wedding destination, the book will transport you through time in a celebrated depiction of Gainesville's beloved treasure. With support by an Arts Tag Grant from the City of Gainesville, and financial support from the Thomas Center Associates, Inc., among others, the book is authored by Rie Burton and Sam Gowan, and edited by Carolyn Roberts, with additional story and photo contributions from many friends of the Thomas Center. **The book will be available for purchase and signing during ArtWalk, Friday, May 27 from 7-10 p.m. at the Thomas Center.**
- ✓ Shortly before the annual meeting in April, the **Evergreen Cemetery Association of Gainesville, Inc. received a generous donation for the remaining amount to fund the Babyland Initiative.** The association is grateful for the support of the donors that made the success of the initiative possible. More renovations are being planned for Babyland in the future. Donations are still being accepted to help continue to make Evergreen Cemetery an even more wondrous place. For more information, please visit www.thiswondrousplace.org or follow them on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/thiswondrousplace>.

Nature Operations contact: Linda Demetropoulos – 352-393-8445

- ✓ **The community is invited to Cofrin Nature Park**, which is located at 4810 NW Eighth Ave., **Tuesday, May 24 from 10-11:45 a.m. to celebrate park improvements recently recognized by the City Beautification Board.** Many beautiful and environmentally-responsible improvements were recently completed at Cofrin Nature Park. A major goal of the renovation was to stabilize the Beville Creek shoreline, reduce erosion and improve water quality. This free celebration features guided walking tours of creek shoreline enhancements and the adjacent Survivors of Suicide Memory Garden, educational exhibits and formal presentations. Limited event parking is available at University City Church of Christ, located at 4626 NW Eighth Ave., which is directly east of Cofrin Nature Park. Optional tours are available at 10 a.m. and 10:30 am, with the formal program at 11 a.m.
- ✓ **The Gainesville Greenway Challenge volunteer workdays take place the first Saturday of every month from 9-11:30 a.m. The next volunteer work day is June 4.** Participants will work in local nature parks, removing non-native invasive plants to restore native habitat for the plants and animals that live there, and for people to enjoy. Groups can also arrange for special dates. Volunteers will work outdoors, and should bring sunscreen, insect repellent, protective gloves and closed-toe footwear appropriate for wet conditions. Pre-registration is required; you may fill out the form [here](#). Groups or individuals can sign up for the Gainesville Greenway Challenge by registering on its [website](#). For more information, email gnvgreenwaychallenge@gmail.com or call 352-393-8428.

Ironwood Golf Course contact – Jeff Cardozo – 352-393-8500

- ✓ **Swing into summer with Youth Golf Camp at Ironwood Golf Course.** Registration opened Sunday, May 1. This coed camp is for kids age six–17 years old (children who are six-years-old are required to take a free golf skills evaluation by appointment). There are limited spots per session.

Kids will have a fun-filled day learning about the golf! The cost is \$135 per person; golf equipment is provided by Ironwood. For more information, please visit www.ironwoodgolfcourse.org.

Community Redevelopment Agency

CRA (Community Redevelopment) contact: Sarah Vidal-Finn – 352-393-8203

- ✓ **A. Quinn Jones Museum interior renovations are complete!** The CRA is working on additional site work and collaborating with Cultural Affairs to develop exhibits/programming.
- ✓ **Conceptual architectural renderings for houses in the Heartwood neighborhood have been developed.** Download the preliminary floorplans on the new landing webpage at <http://heartwoodgnv.com/>.
- ✓ **Staff launched a new, mobile-friendly CRA website.** The CRA also partnered with Planning and Development Services staff to create an interactive GIS map with more than 74 project locations. Please visit www.gainesvillecra.com to view the new website and share feedback or suggestions.
- ✓ **Bo Diddley Plaza is getting Patticakes soon!** Staff is working with the owners of a local café/cupcake bakery to complete an interior build-out of the new plaza café space.
- ✓ **The CRA is coordinating with PRCA staff on plaza events;** please visit www.bodiddleyplaza.com to learn more about upcoming events and activities ranging from Zumba to Lunchtime Jazz Mixes.
- ✓ In cooperation with GRU, the CRA recently **released a [request for qualifications](#) to redevelop 17-acres of former industrial land in southeast Gainesville.** The goal of the solicitation is to identify potential private development partners that will promote the Power District redevelopment opportunity to a local, regional and national audience. Proposals are due June 9, 2016.
- ✓ **The CRA Board recently approved \$233,141 in funding to continue renovating the Cotton Club Museum & Cultural Center (CCMMCC).** Staff is coordinating with the CCMCC Board on next steps.
- ✓ **The midtown Northwest First Avenue corridor improvements project include** undergrounding overhead utilities, upgrading water service, increasing available on-street parking, installing continuous sidewalks, planting quality shade trees, adding consistent lighting and other enhancements. Staff is working on stakeholder coordination and 90 percent construction documents. The project is anticipated to begin construction after the last Gator football game in November 2016.
- ✓ **The CRA was recognized with City Beautification Awards for the Bo Diddley Plaza and the Southwest Fifth Avenue Porters Community Project.**

Economic Development & Innovation

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

- ✓ On Thursday, May 19, the Economic Development and Innovation Director will **attend a First-Step meeting regarding an assisted living facility.**
- ✓ On Monday, May 23, the Economic Development and Innovation Director was asked to **attend a meeting of the Library Partnership in east Gainesville to address business development issues relative to individuals who have been incarcerated.**
- ✓ On Tuesday, May 24, the Economic Development and Innovation Director will **attend a First-Step meeting regarding a proposed shipping container (housing) project.**

- ✓ On Tuesday, May 24, the Economic Development and Innovation Director will **attend a meeting of the Action Officer Group.**
- ✓ On Wednesday, May 25, the Economic Development and Innovation Director **has a monthly call with staff at the Florida Institute for the Commercialization of Public Research.**
- ✓ On Thursday, May 26, the Economic Development and Innovation Director will **attend a routine meeting of Gainesville-Alachua County Regional Airport Authority.**

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.
- ✓ On **Thursday, May 26 at 6 p.m., the Police Advisory Committee will meet at the GPD Hall of Heroes.** The Police Advisory Committee meets every month to discuss current issues involving the police department and national issues. It is a committee that is comprised of leaders in the community who volunteer their time to this committee. The committee invites everyone to attend the meeting to discuss issues in their neighborhood with them and Chief Tony Jones.
- ✓ **Chief Tony Jones will walk the Lux Apartments Complex Tuesday, May 31.** If you would like to join, please meet the group in front of the leasing office at 6 p.m. The address is 1015 NW 21st Ave.

The next report will cover June 2-15, 2016. Items for submission to the report are due to the Communications Office no later than Thursday, May 26. For more information, please contact [Laura Rawson](#) at extension 8740.