

Prepared for the City Commission, June 2-15, 2016

City Manager

- ✓ The City of Gainesville **officially launched a new event and emergency information website, www.safeGNV.org, June 1** which coincides with the beginning of hurricane season in Florida. safeGNV is intended to keep Gainesville's citizens informed, connected and safe, helping to better connect citizens to each other, to information that impacts their daily lives and to serve an emergency preparedness tool. Key features of the site include a dynamic map that displays traffic and weather information, bus routes, emergency shelters, evacuation routes, as well as emergency preparedness guides and resources. safeGNV also delivers an active Twitter feed that provides citizens with pertinent updates from official and partner organizations. Whether you are wondering if the roads are clear in your part of town, or what supplies you should have on hand for hurricane season, safeGNV aims to keep you connected, informed and, ultimately, safe.. For more information about safeGNV, please contact Carrie Bush at bushcb@cityofgainesville.org or 352-393-8791.
- ✓ A **strategic planning and spring budget workshop is scheduled for Thursday, June 9** from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Catalyst Building.
- ✓ For **two Wednesdays this June, the Thomas Center's east parking lot will feature some of Gainesville's best food trucks!** Join your co-workers and the local community for [Food Truck Wednesdays](#) – delicious mid-week lunch breaks when local food trucks will be in the area and at your service. Two food trucks will be featured at each event, serving fresh lunch from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. The food trucks will be parked just outside the Thomas Center B main entrance, and all city employees and community members are welcome. Join us as we host [Humble Pie](#), [Soup to Nuts](#) and [Tropical Sno](#) on June 1, and come out June 15 for [PDQ](#) and [Snowie Gator!](#) Tell us your thoughts about food service and events at Thomas Center B with this short survey <http://goo.gl/forms/xKAh2kIvfU>.

Capital Projects

- ✓ **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](#), project manager, at 352-393-8405.
- ✓ **Sixth Street Trail Landscaping – Phase 2:** This project proposes to extend the recently completed landscaping along the Sixth Street Rail-Trail between Northwest Fourth Street and Northwest 16th Avenue. The limits for this phase of the project are between University Avenue and Northwest Seventh Avenue. Construction began in mid-May, and is expected to be completed by the end of June. For more information, please visit the [project website](#) or contact [Stefan Broadus](#), project manager, at 352-393-8406.
- ✓ **Depot Avenue Segment 2:** Depot Avenue, Segment 2 reopened to traffic on May 27. This \$7 million project included three roundabouts, two stormwater ponds, remediation efforts at Tumblin Creek, expansive utility upgrades and spanned from Southwest 11th Street to South Main Street. 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, and electrical work is about 50 percent complete. Additional construction, such as paving, electrical work and site work, will continue in June. 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. All four proposed cross culverts have been installed, distributing storm flow between the north and south sides of Northwest Eighth Avenue. Work in progress includes sidewalk widening and creek improvements; roadwork will begin in the near future. 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.
- ✓ **NW 34th Boulevard/NW 23rd Terrace:** Continuing in June 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.
- ✓ **SE Second Avenue Medians:** This project constructed landscaped medians with irrigation from Southeast Third Street to Southeast Seventh Street. Additional landscaping work will be continued in June 2016. For more information, please contact Richard Melzer, project manager, at 352-393-8407.
- ✓ **SW 12th Street:** For approximately five weeks, there will be sewer system upgrades and reconstruction taking place on Southwest 12th Street. This work began 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 Second Avenue will be closed until approximately Friday, June 10. Detours and signage will be posted to aid in travel through the area. Please use caution when driving on unpaved sections of the corridor.
- ✓ **SW 62nd St./Blvd.:** This project, recently approved by City Commission, will connect an existing gap between Butler North and Cabana Beach, with a two-lane section as part of phase 1. This connection will include linear stormwater treatment, bike lanes and a sidewalk on the northbound side. Preliminary design is expected to begin this summer. For more information, please contact [Stefan Broadus](#), project manager, at 352-393-8406.
- ✓ **Tumblin Creek Wetland and Trash Trap:** The design is complete. Scheduling and mobilization of the construction activities are being prepared to accommodate both the wet season of the year and what activities can be completed, with minimal impact to the creek during this time. Construction is currently anticipated to begin in September 2016, and it is anticipated to take approximately six months. For more information, please contact Andrew Roberts, project manager, at 352-393-8408.
- ✓ **West Sixth Street Rail-Trail:** Landscaping installation between University Avenue and Northwest Seventh Avenue will be adjacent to the trail and possibly require short term closures. This project proposes to extend the recently completed landscaping along the Sixth Street Rail-Trail between Northwest Fourth Street and Northwest 16th Avenue. Construction began in mid-May and is expected to be completed by the end of June.

Communications Office

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

- ✓ In mid-May, the Communications Office held two workshops to **help identify potential opportunities to improve communications across general government.**
- ✓ Communications Office staff has **assisted with the planning and launch of the new www.safegnv.org website**, which is Gainesville's hub for event and emergency information. The website officially launched June 1.
- ✓ **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:**
 - **[Connect now with safeGNV: safeGNV.org](http://www.safegnv.org)** is your hub for event and emergency information. You'll find real-time information about situations that impact your life, simple steps to get connected and useful guides to help you get prepared.
 - **[City Snapshot – National Bike Month Kickoff](#)**: Throughout May, the City of Gainesville celebrated National Bike Month, kicking off the month at the Bo Diddley Plaza. A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held for the new bike share system, Go Gainesville. The following morning members of the community joined the mayor and city commissioners for a bike ride to highlight the urban trail system.

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 **accepting applications for 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/communitytraining.

Public Works

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

- ✓ **Residential curbside collection** of garbage, recycling and yard trash will not be picked up Monday, May 30, in recognition of Memorial Day, and **will be delayed one day for the entire week.**
- ✓ The **MTPO-Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)** is a committee of various transportation related agency staff, advising the MTPO (a local transportation authority, tasked to advise the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) on federally funded transportation decisions in our area). The TAC will meet Wednesday, June 15 at 2 p.m. in the conference room at the North Central Florida Regional Planning Council, which is located at 2009 NW 67th Place. For more information, contact 352-955-2200 or visit www.ncfrpc.org/mtpo/index.html.
- ✓ The **Bicycle/Pedestrian Program** is coordinating/participating in the following:
 - **Friday, June 3:** Participate in the Florida Department of Health initiative to address health, obesity and other factors plaguing communities around the state. The meeting is Friday, June 3 at 10 a.m. in the auditorium at the Alachua County Health Department, located at 224 SE 24th St. For more information on this initiative, contact Kourtney Oliver at 352-334-8889 or kourtney.oliver@flhealth.gov.
 - **Saturday, June 4:** Participating in the National Trails Day Community Cleanup in Gainesville. Those who are interested in participating can register for locations and times at www.surveymonkey.com/r/D58SFJH. National Trails Day is a celebration of America's trail system, occurring annually on the first Saturday in June. America's 200,000 miles of trails allow us access to the natural world for recreation, education, exploration, solitude, inspiration, transportation and much more. For more information, please contact Arthur Stockwell of the Greater Alachua Trail Keepers at info@greateralachuatrailkeepers.org.
 - **Monday, June 13-Thursday, June 16:** Presenting at the Florida Teen Safe Driving Coalition Leadership Academy, in St. Petersburg, Fla. This conference will equip teens across the state with education as well as the opportunity to learn programs, initiatives and campaigns to impact their school and community. The Florida Teen Safe Driving Coalition will serve as technical assistance throughout the year as participants work on their outreach projects and return the following year to share progress and continue the process. For more information on the Florida Teen Safe Driving Coalition, visit: www.teensafedriving.org/fl.

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.

Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs

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

- ✓ **Register soon for summer vacation camp! 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

- ✓ Another great season of **Summer Heatwave kicks off with a free Pool Party at Andrew R. Mickle Sr. Pool Thursday, June 9 from 3-7 p.m.** Participants can enjoy the pool, music and food cooked up by the Gainesville Police Department. It's a perfect way to celebrate the last day of school! **Coed Basketball starts Monday, June 13**, and is available for ages 11–18 (18, if still in school). It is open to all players, regardless of skill. **Teen Lounges** return to the MLK Center Monday, June 13, and are available for kids age 11-18 (18, if still in school). There are special activities like swimming, cooking, movie night, video games and much more! The lounge is open Monday through Fridays from 6-9 p.m., and continues through Friday, Aug. 5. Participants can register at the center, and need a wristband to participate. Save the date for two other Operation Respect Yourself Parties during the summer:
 - Thursday, July 15, from 11:30 a.m.-4 p.m. at H. Spurgeon Cherry (Westside) Pool (1001 NW 31st Dr.)
 - Saturday, August 6 from 11:30 a.m.-4 p.m. at Dwight H. Hunter (Northeast) Pool (1100 NE 14th St.)

For more information, please visit the [Teen Summer Programs webpage](#).

- ✓ **On Friday, June 24 at 10 a.m., the nation's top water safety and training organizations are joining forces to present the World's Largest Swimming Lesson™ (WLSL)**, which builds awareness about the importance of teaching children to swim to help prevent drowning. Waterparks, pools and aquatic facilities around the world will host local WLSL lessons at 10 a.m. in an attempt to break the Guinness World Record. Last year, City of Gainesville pools had 378 participants! **All three city pools will participate in this year's event.** Attendees get free admission, and can stay at the pool after the lesson. For more information, visit the [Aquatics Special Events webpage](#).

- ✓ **Operating hours for municipal pools are as follows (through June 12):**

Northeast Pool

M-F: 6-9 a.m., Lap Swim
M-F: 11:30 a.m.-7 p.m., Open/Lap Swim
SA: 12-5 p.m., Open/Lap Swim
SU: 12-5 p.m. Open/Lap Swim

Westside Pool

M-F: 3-7 p.m., Open/Lap Swim
SA: 12-5 p.m., Open/Lap Swim
SU: 12-5 p.m., Open/Lap Swim

Mickle Pool

M-F: 3-7 p.m., Open/Lap Swim
SA: 12-5 p.m., Open/Lap Swim
SU: Closed

- ✓ **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 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.

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**.
 - **[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.
- ✓ This summer, the **Jewel Box Concert Series proudly presents a Bluegrass Series** with five outstanding groups! The series starts Friday, June 24, and continues every Friday through Friday, July 22. All shows start 7:30 p.m., with the doors opening at 6:30 p.m. Admission is \$20 at the door the day of the concert (cash or check only) for individual shows or buy tickets to all five shows and get a \$20 discount at <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2503461>. The full schedule of the June and July Bluegrass Series can be viewed on the [Jewel Box Concert Series webpage](#).

- **Tony Trischka & Shad Cobb:** Friday, June 24 at 7:30 p.m. at the Historic Thomas Center (doors open at 6:30 p.m.). In 2007, Tony Trischka received an International Bluegrass Music Association (IBMA) award for Banjo Player of the Year. His album, “Double Banjo Bluegrass Spectacular” received IBMA awards for Recorded Event of the Year, Instrumental Album of the Year, as well as a Grammy nomination. Shad Cobb is a powerful and nuanced fiddler who draws from deep traditions, and has played for the Osborne Brothers, Willie Nelson, Steve Earle, Marty Raybon, Mike Snyder and the John Cowan Band.

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 jsaccocci23@gmail.com 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:
 - **June 3:** [Little Jake & The Soul Searchers](#) (blues, R&B)
 - **June 10:** [Wester Joseph’s Stereo Vudu](#) (vudu rawk, ska)
 - **June 17:** [Fast Lane](#) (R&B, soul, funk)
- ✓ **[Thomas Center Galleries](#): CONFLUENCE: LENNIE & JESSE** in the Thomas Center's Mezzanine and Main Galleries through 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.

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

- ✓ 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 gngreenwaychallenge@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.** 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.

Economic Development & Innovation

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

- ✓ On Thursday, June 2, the Economic Development and Innovation Director will **participate as a panel member with Santa Fe College regarding hiring of a permanent GTEC Director.**
- ✓ On Thursday, June 2, the Economic Development and Innovation Director will **present a QTI Resolution to the City Commission.**
- ✓ On Monday, June 6, the Economic Development and Innovation Director will **attend a First-Step meeting regarding a proposed minor subdivision.**
- ✓ On Tuesday, June 7, the Economic Development and Innovation Director will **attend First-Step meetings regarding a proposed shipping container residential development and a proposed commercial development.**
- ✓ On Thursday, June 9, the Economic Development and Innovation Director will **attend Strategic Planning and Budget Workshop** to be held at the Catalyst Building. The director has worked with Strategic Planning and Budget staff to facilitate meeting at the space.
- ✓ On Tuesday, June 14, the Economic Development and Innovation Director will **attend the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Dick’s Sporting Goods** store in Butler Plaza.

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 next report will cover June 16-July 6, 2016. Items for submission to the report are due to the Communications Office no later than Thursday, June 9. For more information, please contact [Laura Rawson](#) at extension 8740.