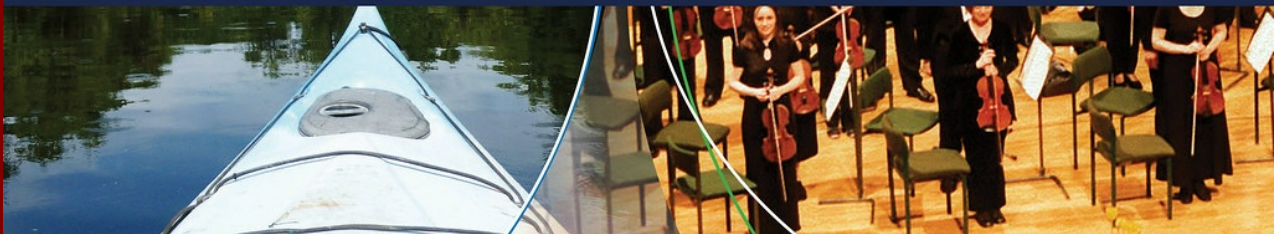




Community Update



2019 Annual Report



COUNTY MANAGER MICHELE LIEBERMAN'S 2019 ANNUAL REPORT

Alachua County Manager Michele Lieberman is pleased to release the 2019 Annual Report. Her theme in this year's report is, "Alachua County – Working for You." The format for this report is a website that includes embedded videos that highlights some of the County's most important accomplishments and initiatives.

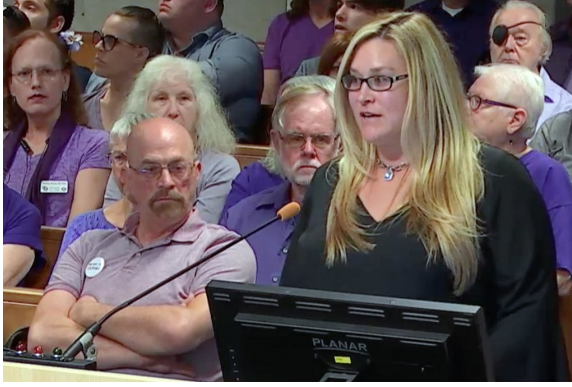
[View the Annual Report.](#)

[Watch County Manager Michele Lieberman deliver her Annual Report](#)



County Commission Bans Conversion Therapy

At the the May 28th Commission Regular Meeting, the boardroom was filled to overflowing as the County Commission put an end to conversion therapy, a proven dangerous and mentally abusive practice that was harming our children.



[Read a Gainesville Sun story about the decision.](#)

[Watch the County Commission discuss and approve the ban.](#)

Crisis Center Video

The Alachua County Crisis Center offers 24/7 crisis and suicide intervention phone counseling to all residents of Alachua County. Annually the Center responds to over 40,000 calls on the crisis lines. In addition, during times of community disaster, the Crisis Center's Rumor Control Line responds to calls from citizens seeking information, comfort, and support. Staff and volunteers work over 52,000 hours annually to fully operate Crisis Center programs.



[Watch this short video about the Crisis Center.](#)

Tower Road and NW 43rd Street Completion video



Tower Road and NW 43rd Street are two of Alachua County's most traveled roads. This year, both roadways received a major overhaul that included a complete resurfacing of both roadways, added crosswalks on NW 43rd Street and bus pullouts on Tower Road.

[Watch a short video about the projects.](#)

New Homeowner Association Florida Friendly Landscaping Code

Alachua County has adopted a new code to encourage resilient landscapes that reduce the need for frequent irrigation and use of fertilizers, pesticides, and

herbicides. Under the new Homeowner Association (HOA) Florida Friendly Landscaping™ Design Standards, HOAs may not prohibit the implementation of Florida Friendly Landscaping, and may not require the installation of irrigation. Property owners interested in making changes to their landscapes must still follow the processes outlined in their HOA documents.



[Learn more about the New Homeowner Association Florida Friendly Landscaping Code.](#)

Alachua County Clerk of the Circuit Court's Project Fresh Start



Clerk of the Circuit Court, J.K. "Jess" Irby, Esq., has announced Project Fresh Start. For one week only, from June 10, through June 14, 2019, the Clerk's Office will accept payment on overdue Alachua County traffic fines and court costs and waive the collection fees. Outstanding costs must be paid in full, and in-person, at one of the two courthouses to take advantage of the offer.

[Find out more about Project Fresh Start.](#)

Alachua County Earns National Achievement Award for Citizens Academy Programs

Alachua County's Citizens Academy program has been recognized with an Achievement Award from the National Association of Counties (NACo). The County was honored for its submission entitled "Engaging Citizens through an Immersive Citizens Academy" in the Civic Education and Public Information category. The award honors innovative, effective county government programs that strengthen services for residents.



[Read about the award for the Citizens Academy Program.](#)

2019 Alachua County Civics Challenge



Recalling each of the 27 amendments to the U.S. Constitution. Naming enlightenment philosophers who influenced American political thought. Understanding checks and balances and the roles of the different branches of government.

Alachua County seventh graders displayed this knowledge and more at the second annual Alachua County Civics Challenge on March

27 at the Alachua County Administration Building.

[Learn more about the 2019 Alachua County Civics Challenge.](#)

County Accepting Art for Loan and Display in the Jack Durrance Auditorium

Alachua County invites local artists to submit art for loan and display in the Jack Durrance Auditorium, on the second floor of the Alachua County Administration Building (12 S.E. 1st Street, Gainesville).

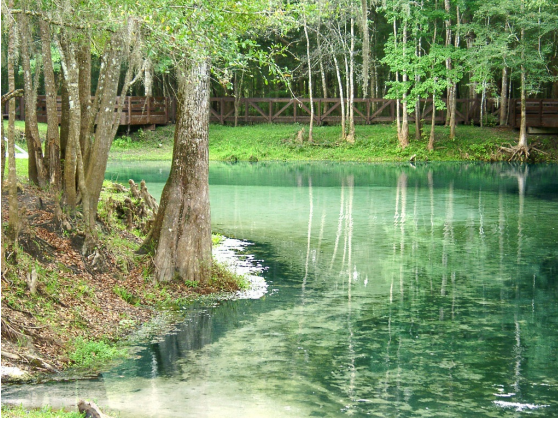


The “Art in the Jack Durrance Boardroom Program” is part of the recently adopted “Alachua County Public Arts Ordinance.” In adopting the Alachua County Public Arts Ordinance, the Board declared, “Art shall be an integral part of Alachua County.” The Board also declared, “The mission of the County public arts program is to enhance the quality of the visual environment in Alachua County, thereby adding to the quality of life and the level of citizen awareness of the importance of aesthetic experiences in their everyday lives.”

[Read about the art for loan and display program.](#)

New Hours and Fees Coming to Poe Springs Park

Poe Springs Park is now open from dawn to dusk, seven days a week. The extended hours will help both those who like to exercise in the cooler morning hours and those who enjoy a late afternoon swim. For the last several years, the park has only been open Thursday through Sunday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.



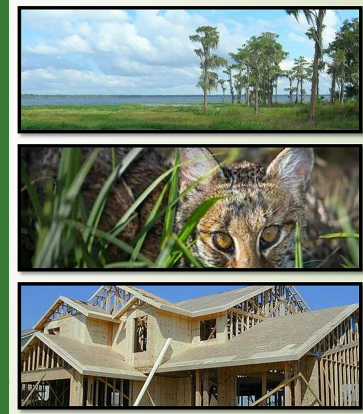
While the County is extending the hours of operation, it is also re-instituting an entrance fee of \$5.00 per car.

[Learn more about the new hours and fees.](#)

Environmental Protection Advisory Committee Vacancies

The Alachua County Board of County Commissioners is seeking applications to fill openings on the Environmental Protection Advisory Committee (EPAC). EPAC currently meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m., at the Environmental Protection Department Conference Room A, located in the Seagle Building (408 W. University Avenue, Gainesville).

[Read about EPAC and how to apply.](#)



June Extension Programs



[Commercial Horticulture Program](#)

[4-H Summer Day Camps](#)

[Environmental and Community Horticulture Programs](#)

5/28/19 COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING



[Click for the meeting highlights](#)

[Visit the Alachua County website](#)

