Colleges look to boost mental health services

Institutions also focus on student safety and aid

By Lloyd Dunkelberger The News Service of Florida

TALLAHASSEE – With major legislation and funding issues at stake in the 2017 Legislature, Florida university leaders arrived Wednesday for a two-day meeting in Tallahassee, making their case for additional support for mental health and safety services, research efforts and student aid.

of the Board of Governors, which oversees the 12 state universities, outlined the university system's "safer, smarter, stronger" campaign, emphasizing efforts to retain and graduate students, improve research and reward institutions that have excelled.

Kuntz said performance standards have made a difference in the system.

"It has been extremely effective in raising the quality of our institutions," he said. "Our retention and graduation rates are up. Our Tom Kuntz, chairman students are graduating

with degrees in STEM and other high-demand areas and they are getting jobs."

the state Capitol, university leaders emphasized their request for additional funding to hire mental health counselors and police officers. Eight of the 12 schools fall below staffing standards for mental health counselors and nine of the institutions fall below the standard of having at least two law enforcement officers for every 1,000 students.

The universities are asking for a \$7 million

increase for mental health services and \$7 million for law enforcement in the At a press conference at 2017-18 state budget.

Timothy Jones, a U.S. Navy veteran who attends the University of West Florida, said counseling services at his school helped him deal with his past as a victim of sexual assault while trying to become a successful student. He said he flunked two classes in his first semester but now is excelling academically and will graduate in May.

"Today my life has been radically transformed." Iones said. "I was made to feel safe, something every student needs when they come to college."

Funding for the mental health services and other university system initiatives are now part of the ongoing budget debate between the state House and Senate, where the chambers are taking dramatically different paths.

According to an analysis given to the Board of Governors, which is holding a two-day meeting at Florida A&M University, the Senate budget would increase funding for the universities by \$334 million, while the House budget has a \$183 million

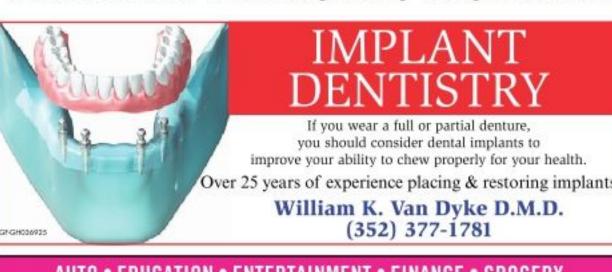
The House reduction is largely linked to ending the practice of using state funding to support personnel in university foundations, and would require the universities to spend down some of the more than \$800 million in reserves they hold.

The Senate budget includes major increases for both research and per-

formance funding. "The Senate budget is very robust and I think they tried to address all the issues that were discussed this morning," said John Thrasher, president of

Florida State University. But Thrasher, a former House speaker, said he understood the House's position, noting lawmakers cut university reserves once while he was in the Legislature.

"I under stand their concerns about certain areas of the budget," Thrasher said. "We have tried to address those and certainly during the (budget negotiating) conference we will address them even more."





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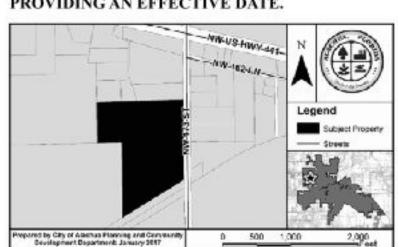
PUBLIC NOTICE OF ENACTMENT OF AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALACHUA, **FLORIDA**

Notice is hereby given that the City Commission of the City of Alachua will hold a public hearing on a proposed ordinance. The hearing will be held on April 10, 2017, at 6:00 p.m., in the James A. Lewis Commission Chambers in City Hall, located at 15100 NW 142nd Terrace, Alachua, Florida.

The ordinance title is as follows:

ORDINANCE 17-08

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ALACHUA. FLORIDA, RELATING TO THE LARGE SCALE AMENDMENT OF THE CITY OF ALACHUA COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FUTURE LAND USE MAP; AMENDING THE FUTURE LAND USE MAP CLASSIFICATION FROM MEDIUM DENSITY MODERATE DENSITY RESIDENTIAL TO RESIDENTIAL ON APPROXIMATELY 35.82 ACRES; LOCATED WEST OF NW 173RD STREET (ALSO KNOWN AS COUNTY ROAD 235A), APPROXIMATELY 1,000 FEET SOUTH OF THE INTERSECTION OF NW US HIGHWAY 441 AND NW 173RD STREET; TAX PARCEL NUMBERS 03042-050-006, 03042-050-007, 03042-052-002, 03042-052-003, 03042-052-004, 03042-052-005, AND 03042-052-006; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.



At the public hearing, all interested parties may appear and be heard with respect to the application. Copies of the application are available for public inspection at the Planning and Community Development Department, 15100 NW 142nd Terrace, Alachua, Florida, on any regular business day between the hours of 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Written comments on the application may be sent to the following address: City of Alachua, Planning and Community Development, P.O. Box 9, Alachua, FL 32616. Notice is given pursuant to Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes, that, in order to appeal any decision made at the public hearing, you will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, you may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, any persons with a disability requiring reasonable accommodation in order to participate in this meeting should call the City Clerk at (386) 418-6100 x 101 at least 48 hours prior to the public hearing.

"God Squad" by Rabbi Marc Gellman answers questions of faith every Saturday in



Continued from B1

funds by DOJ would likely

arrested.

be challenged in court. Darnell told The Sun last week that the jail notifies Immigration and Customs Enforcement when a foreign-born person is

However, Darnell will not hold that person beyond a typical release on a request from ICE. She requires a judge's order or a criminal warrant.

Darnell and the Florida Sheriffs Association contend that holding inmates on a request would violate constitutional rights under the Fourth Amendment prohibiting the illegal seizure of a person.

Alachua County Commission Chairman Ken Cornell said he is supportive of Darnell. He added the county budget office found that the county got about \$4 million in federal funds, about half of which went to the sheriff's office.

"I personally don't react to threats. I'm standing with our sheriff on this one - she's following the law," Cornell said.

Darnell said it is her understanding that DOJ would not restrict funding for law enforcement functions.

Meanwhile, Gainesville Mayor Lauren Poe said he also supports Darnell. Poe said the city has been looking into potential ramifications for the city if it or the the Gainesville Police Department run afoul of DOJ's position on detaining undocumented immigrants.

"We're trying to get a sense of what it means to be a sanctuary city, if it applies to us at all and what are some of the things that can be affected if it is legal to restrict federal funds," Poe said. "This applies to a person at the time of booking, which has nothing to do with the city. We don't know if there is a relevance to us but we'd like to find that out. All that aside, I strongly support the statement that Sheriff Darnell came out with."



opinigs, ribin contacted the City mid-March to note a monitoring deficiency for the High Springs Water System. They too had missed a monitoring test during 2016. In addition, the public notice distributed Jan. 31 of this year for the Disinfection Byproducts (DBP) Maximum Containment Level (MCL), followed the fourth quarter results, apparently contained incorrect information.

As with Alachua, High Springs will also insert a letter to water utility customers explaining what this all means to the water testing oversight will be addressed in the future.

Unlike Alachua, High Springs has been able to lower, but not eliminate THMs in the City's drinking

is simple, but the remedy is not. Chlorine is required to be added to the drinking water, which the City does as directed. Unfortunately chlorine also reacts to biomatter (leaves, bark and no idea how to rectify this other naturally-occurring items that are dissolved in everybody's water. Biomatter is found in of waiting for us to resolve aquifers, rivers and lakes. The only place it isn't found tell the other cities how to

the situation, it still has not remedied it completely, said Booth.

"We are doing everything we possibly can. We have found that there THMs are accumulating in the water tower." Generally, the water tower is emptied and maintained once every two years. Because of this issue, Booth says the tower will be emptied this year, rather than next. "In addition, a big mixer will be added that won't allow any residuals to form there," he

According to Booth, consumer and how this the plan has to be approved by DEP, but he's hopeful they will approve it. About paying for it, Booth said the City will take it out of the water funds. "It shouldn't cost more than \$30,000 to do, and we'll The City's explanation do it in conjunction with the company that cleans the tower for us anyway," he said. "We're being proactive and doing our own research on this."

"EPA and DEP have problem and we are not the only city dealing with this issue. They are sort the problem so they can

dissipates into the water, water will help affevrate increased lisk of fillose While that has improved that problem as well," he types of cancers] in humans



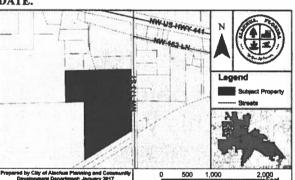
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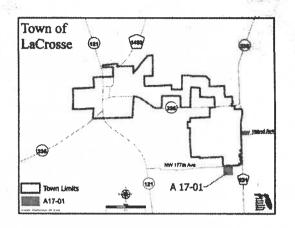


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(Published: Alachua County Today - March 30, 2017)

NOTICE IS TIERED I CIVEN, pursuant to Section 1/1.044, Fiorida Statutes, as amended, that the ordinance, which title hereinafter appears, will be considered for enactment by the Town Council of the Town of LaCrosse, Florida, at a public hearing to be held on April 10, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Council Meeting Room, Town Hall, located at 20613 North State Road 121, LaCrosse, Florida. At the aforementioned meeting all interested parties may appear and be heard with respect to the ordinance. The complete legal description of the area to be annexed, as well as a copies of the ordinance, can be obtained from the Office of the Town Clerk, Town Hall located at 20613 North State Road 121, LaCrosse, Florida, during regular

Ordinance No. 2017-02, Petition No. A 17-01, by Signature Equity Group, Inc., provides for the voluntary annexation of a price of the contiguous to the boundaries of the Town of LaCrosse, Florida, as shown on the location map below. The area to be annexed is located in Section 6, Township 8 South, Range 20 East, Alachua County, Florida. The area to be annexed consists of 37.59 acres, incre or less



The title of said ordinance reads, as follows:

ORDINANCE NO. 2017-02

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF LACROSSE, FLORIDA, PURSUANT TO PETITION NO. A 17-01, RELATING TO VOLUNTARY ANNEXATION; MAKING FINDINGS; ANNEXING TO AND INCLUDING WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF TOWN OF LACROSSE, FLORIDA, CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED IN ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA, WHICH IS REASONABLY COMPACT, AND CONTIGUOUS TO THE BOUNDARIES OF THE TOWN OF LACROSSE, FLORIDA; REDEFINING THE BOUNDARIES OF THE TOWN OF LACROSSE, FLORIDA; PROVIDING FOR LAND USE CLASSIFICATION OF THE REAL PROPERTY TO BE ANNEXED: PROVIDING THAT EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2018, THE REAL PROPERTY TO BE ANNEXED SHALL BE ASSESSED FOR PAYMENT OF MUNICIPAL AD VALOREM TAXES AND BE SUBJECT TO ALL GENERAL AND SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS; PROVIDING THAT EXISTING LICENSED BUSINESSES, TRADES, OR PROFESSIONS OPERATING WITHIN THE REAL PROPERTY TO BE ANNEXED MAY CONTINUE SUCH BUSINESSES. TRADES, OR PROFESSIONS THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE BOUNDARIES OF THE TOWN OF LACROSSE, FLORIDA; DIRECTING THE TOWN CLERK WITHIN SEVEN DAYS OF THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ORDINANCE, TO FILE CERTIFIED COPIES OF THIS ORDINANCE WITH THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE, FLORIDA OFFICE OF ECONOMIC AND DEMOGRAPHIC RESEARCH. THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ALACHUA COUNTY. FLORIDA, THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA, THE PROPERTY APPRAISER OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA, THE TAX COLLECTOR OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA, AND ALL PUBLIC UTILITIES AUTHORIZED TO CONDUCT BUSINESS WITHIN THE TOWN OF LACROSSE, FLORIDA; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

At the aforementioned meeting all interested parties may appear and be heard with respect to the ordinance.

All persons are advised that, if they decide to appeal any decisions made at the public hearing, they will need a record of the proceedings and, for such purpose, they may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

Persons with disabilities requesting reasonable accommodations to participate in this proceeding should contact the Town Clerk, at least 48 hours prior to the public hearing via telephone at 386.462.2784. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the Florida Relay Service at 1.800.955.8770 or 1.800.955.8771.

(Published: Alachua County Today - March 30, 2017)



NOTICE OF FILING OF FY 2015-2016 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CITY OF HIGH SPRINGS COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT **AGENCY**

The City of High Springs Community Redevelopment Agency has filed an Annual Report on program activities within its Community Redevelopment District for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 (October 1, 2015 — September 30, 2016). A copy of the report is available for public inspection, along with preliminary financial statements, at High Springs City Hall, 23718 W US HWY 27, High Springs, FL 32643, Monday – Thursday, 7:30 am – 6:00 pm, or online at www highsprings.us. If you have any questions regarding this item, please contact Amanda Rodriguez, CRA Executive Director at 386-454-1416.

(Published: Alachua County Today - March 30, 2017)

AFFIDAVIT FOR POSTED LAND USE SIGN

I	Justin Ta	bor	, POSTED THE LAND USE
	(name)		
SIGN ON _		FOR THE	Ordinance 17-08 (RL REGI Florida, LLC) LSCPA - CCOM1
LAND USE	(date) E ACTION.		(state type of action and project name)
AS PER AR	RTICLE 2.2.9 D O	F THE LAN	ID DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS.
THIS WILL	BE INCLUDED	IN THE ST	AFF REPORT.
(signature)			
4 (number of s	signs)		



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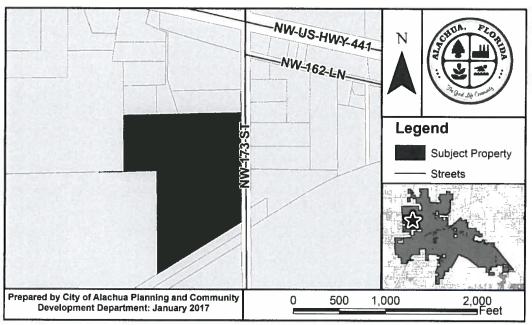
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Richard Gorman 5716 NW 93rd Avenue Alachua, FL 32653 Peggy Arnold 410 Turkey Creek Alachua, FL 32615 David Forest 23 Turkey Creek Alachua, FL 32615

Craig Parenteau FL Department of Environmental Protection 4801 Camp Ranch Road President TCMOA 1000 Turkey Creek Alachua, FL 32615 Linda Dixon, AICP Assistant Director Planning PO Box 115050 Gainesville, FL 32611

4801 Camp Ranch Road Gainesville, FL 32641 Lynda Coon Jeannette Hinsdale P.O. Box 1156 Alachua, FL 32616 Lynn Coullias 7406 NW 126th Ave Alachua, FL 32615

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