

THE SAINT BERNARD

Volume 1, Issue 1
March 2023

By Virtue of Truth

Contents

Film Festival & Self-Defense
p. 2-3

Saints Score 81-79
p.4

The Reels to Realism
p.5

Meet Our Staff
p.6-7

Blue Lights & Laundry
p. 8-9

Community Recognition
p. 10, 11, & 12

Co-Founders Commend Determination

By Sara-James Ranta,
Editor-in-Chief;
Nicholas Smith,
Metro Editor

“Freedom of the Press, if it means anything at all, means the freedom to criticize and oppose.” – George Orwell

Upon picking up this paper, you can see the dedication. The crisp edges, thin lines, the thorough articles by hard-working journalists. This process didn’t happen overnight. By pure happenstance, we converged on the project of a lifetime—the opportunity to create *The Saint Bernard*.

The importance of college students covering and understanding under-repre-

sented issues within our society has been made evident throughout history. Worldwide movements of change such as March For Our Lives in 2018, The University Uprisings of 1968, The Apartheid Protests of the 70s and 80s, Tiananmen Square, and so many more—all movements started and led by students. The shape of those very passionate voices drives the force of change.

Luckily enough, both founders hold similar desires for the impact and purpose of this paper. *The Saint Bernard* is meant to provide a platform to give journalists the resources to conduct meaningful investigations and express their valuable views. Additionally, we hope to be a place where under-represented issues can, finally, be properly covered.

One crucial component of building a movement for change is unity. Uniquely, this newspaper can be a unifying force, bringing together student or local organizations and devoted journalists to work together towards a more promising future. *The Saint Bernard* will strive to stay independent in order to bear no limitations on what we cover. Modern journalism is fragmented, in an age of mass education and wide access to information. We no longer felt comfortable settling. Now, more than ever, relevant information away from censorship is needed.

Opening these pages, you’ll find the significance speaks for itself. There is an unspoken level of respect that coincides with the determination to achieve this newspaper.

Behind the scenes, we struggled to create a name for ourselves. In the end, our greatest motivation was being denied. We hope you can see the passion for change and tenacity of each reporter bleeding through both sides of every page. Thus, anybody who yearns for progress has a home at *The Saint Bernard*.

For our online issue, submitting story leads or letters to the Editor, please email: thesaintbernardnewspaper@gmail.com

For announcements and updates, follow @thestbernardnewspaper on Instagram.

The “Heartwood” of the Gainesville Community

By Kami Rossi
Staff Reporter

In a small college town like Gainesville, Fla., it can be hard for local businesses to prosper with the competition of chains. However, with the help of farmers’ markets, it gives them a necessary platform. Every Thursday from 4 to 7 p.m., the Gainesville farmers’ market at Heartwood hosts live music and local businesses—creating new experiences for everyone.

Rolling in Style is a sustainable clothing store created by partners Waverly Ritchie and Ben Anderson. Over a year ago, they were inspired by their friends that had a similar business with second-hand clothing and decided to go for it themselves.

“We didn’t have any expectations going into it, it kind of just took off on its own,” Ritchie said.

Rolling in Style offers handbags, accessories, jeans,

jackets, shirts, sweatshirts and so much more. Not only do they host pop-ups at farmers’ markets but they also have a depop account (@rollinginstyle), which is an app that allows customers to buy their clothing online and is very convenient for any circumstance.

“It has been so rewarding meeting new people and helping them explore their individual style,” Anderson said.

Rolling in Style is a business that promotes sustainability and gives a creative outlet for the Gainesville community that is an enjoyable and unique experience. Although they have only been open for one year, they have sold over 2,000 items and the numbers are increasing every week. As they cultivate their one-of-a-kind selection of clothes, they continue to prove that clothing chains could never fabricate something as special as Rolling in Style.

If it’s a cold night at the

farmers’ market, a warm beverage from Berryland352 would be a perfect fit. Berryland352 is a versatile business that sells kombucha, hot sauces, lemonade, salad dressing, chai tea, matcha lattes, and much more. Fellow Santa Fe college student Alanis Gonza-

lez was working the stand with Ian Arnold, a Santa Fe College alumni and the owner of Berryland352. Arnold started his business after he graduated from Santa Fe college with a business degree in organizational business. Berryland352 was inspired by his work with the gardening club at Santa Fe college and his passion for agriculture.



Alanis Gonzalez and Ian Arnold of BerryLand352 handing out free samples (Photo/Kami Rossi).

lez was working the stand with Ian Arnold, a Santa Fe College alumni and the owner of Berryland352. Arnold started his business after he graduated from Santa Fe college with a business degree in organizational business. Berryland352 was inspired by his work with the gardening club at Santa Fe college and his passion for agriculture.

“We started as a gardening club at Santa Fe and now we’re dedicated towards regenerative agriculture and we grow a lot of berry plants. Mulberries are our primary organism we work with because it’s a local plant,” Arnold said.

While Arnold was at Santa Fe College, the gardening club started growing various types

of berries at Grow Hub, a local plant nursery, the roots for Berryland352 were also developing.

“We have a space at Grow Hub called berryland because it is all of our berries...so we are berryland, the land of berries,” Arnold said.

Running a small business comes with its hardships, and only one for Arnold comes to mind controlling costs.

“One of the ways we do that is partnering with Beaten Path Garden. We merged our tents so we pay half the booth fee and subsidize our weekly labor here by paying us to facilitate their bucket exchange program so that way, even if we have a slow night, they pay us a little to facilitate,” he said.

He continues, “Beaten Path Garden is actively in the community diverting waste and we are able to help them do their thing by doing our own thing.”

Beaten Path Garden is a local composting service in Gainesville that abstains from

letting food waste and harmful waste sit somewhere and instead, puts it to good use. They use regenerative composting to plant organisms and teach people about their significance.

Berryland352 opened towards the end of the COVID-19 pandemic, when other small businesses across Florida were struggling from the protocols and increases in prices, among other things. These small businesses are coming together to support one another.

Supporting local businesses allows innovation to thrive in communities and promotes a diverse market that benefits the owners and the customers. Just as these small businesses support one another, we as a community have to support them. These businesses offer so much more than their products—they offer a way to get involved with the community and support the consumption of fresh and sustainable products.

For the full story, scan this QR code:



Rolling in Style’s Waverly Ritchie and Ben Anderson (Photo/Kami Rossi).

Filmmakers Compete in 48-Hour Film Festival

By Bo Garcia
Staff Reporter

Students and members of the community were able to display their talents at the 48-hour film festival on Thursday. Many film enthusiasts from all over Gainesville were invited to participate in this year's film festival. Students were tasked with creating a 3 to 5-minute short film in the span of only 48 hours.

"We started working on the fifth of February and we immediately started brainstorming," Hannah Hofstetter explained.

"We spent a good three hours just brainstorming ideas."

Time is of the essence in a 48-hour film festival. Every hour spent needs to be carefully budgeted in order to create the best art piece.

"We probably only got three hours of sleep during those 48 hours," Hofstetter explained with a laugh.

When interviewing the other directors, it would seem that across all eight film crews, they collectively got 24 hours of sleep.

Many of the crews were all students, based within the Santa Fe College community. A notable member is Tristan "Frower" Ford, owner of a film and photography company here in Gainesville called "Chasing Shadows."

"The 48-hour film festival is a great way to learn and show your skills," Ford explained.

"The people who judge these are real film professionals working in the industry."

The eight films being shown at this year's festival had to follow a certain set of rules. They must be made within the 48-hour limit, any late submissions would not have been considered. Including the restrictions with their film length of 3-5 minutes, crews had to make a thriller flick with a specific line and prop included.

The films had a surprising amount of variety between each crew. A zombie apocalypse, a psychological thriller, and a monster movie were all shown within the span of about 15 minutes. A predator-like film where the main characters were hunted for

sport was quite interesting.

After about 45 minutes of watching, the winners were

with the audience drum-rolling along with all the participants. The first-place winners

"I felt amazing when I won," Hofstetter exclaimed, being part of Ghost Films.

"It's good to know when all your hard work pays off!"

Those that did not win the first, second, or third place trophies did not have all their work go to waste. Every single film was reviewed by professionals and many of the crews present have been noticed by professionals and now have a foot in the film industry.

The 13th annual film festival will not open registration until February next year. However, those interested in participating should still visit the Gainesville 48-hour film festival website for updates and more information on how to join.

Those interested in watching the films but not necessarily participating can still visit their website to watch all past submissions.



The winning performance group Terrible Teddy (Photo/Bo Garcia.)

announced. The films had already been judged beforehand and concluded with the award ceremony for the film festival. The categories these crews could win ranged from Best Overall to Best Writing.

The winners of this year's film festival were announced in quite a fun and cheesy way,

tied each other, which has never happened in the history of the film festival.

The winners were the groups, Ghost Film and Terrible Teddy which received \$500 each for winning in the student category. The films they created were called "Threnody" and "Feral" respectively.

School Board Removes Menstrual Form Questions

By Shaneka Graham
Staff Reporter

After the FHSAA faced months of criticism from the public for a suggested change that would require athletes to report their menstruation history every year, an emergency board meeting was held at The Florida High School on Thursday, February 9, 2023.

The motion to have all questions about menstrual cycles from medical forms removed was approved. The new form should be available starting spring. Right now any questions about the menstrual cycle on the form are optional.

16 board members were present for the meeting, 14 members voted yes to approve the motion, while 2 members voted no.

Board member Doug Dodd, who voted to get rid of the questions stated, "As a father of three daughters who all played middle school and high school sports and completed the pre-participation physical each year, I really understand the concern over making these questions mandatory...as an elected school board member, I do not believe that the detailed questions and informa-

tion on pages 1, 2, and 3 need to be shared with schools, instead this information should be kept private between the families and the physician."

Chris Patricca, a board member who voted no to removing the questions, explains "The factual, medical and clinically proven impact of abnormal menstrual cycles on student athletes is well established and not remotely controversial. What is controversial is the political pressure that has been placed on the association to look at this through the lens of political hot-button issues instead of seeing it for what it is, which is ensuring that screening questions are required that could lead to the avoidance of serious short term and long term debilitation conditions for female student athletes."

Steven J. McHale, another board member who agreed with the motion to remove these questions said, "As a father of two daughters and one that has participated in all levels of sports even at the collegiate level as of today—I think it is very important that we make sure all our student athletes are safe, and I agree with this one hundred percent. I think it is important that the

medical advisor committee give us their background because they are the experts and we are not, and with that being said, I again support this one hundred percent."

Before the board members gave their final decisions on whether or not they approve of this motion, they heard a couple of public comments on the issue.

"As a private care physician who has filled out many of these forms, I can tell you that there is ZERO reason why a coach needs to know anything about an athlete's period. It doesn't affect whether or not they can play. The only reason for this invasion of privacy is to weed out transgender kids who might not have periods. I can't think of a single real reason for this horrific invasion of privacy. As a doctor I would not fill out this form" says one public commenter.

"To whom it may concern, as a mother of two athletes and a former high school teacher, I am concerned about the mandatory menstrual cycle questions

on the athletes' form. Our student athletes must have physical examination by a qualified physician who then signs the athletes' form. After noting that they have completed their physical examination, I see no reason for the menstrual questions to be presented on the form at all. Physicians ask athletes as a part of their routine examination: the date, duration and flow of their last cycle. This is a serious breach of privacy on the part of the state and the school board. I know that some of our female students, their families and particular religions would rather them quit sports and band before giving their information to anyone particularly males who access the forms," says another public commenter.

This debate has been heightened because of the Supreme Court overturning Roe v. Wade. Florida currently has a 15-week abortion ban that does not allow exceptions for rape, incest or human trafficking. On top of that, in February of this year, Ron DeSantis publicly stated that he would sign a 6-week abortion ban if it were to cross his desk. With women's rights already under direct attack, an attempted law that, clearly, can only be applied to female children, seems just like another nail in the coffin of equality. A menstrual cycle report, paired with limited access to abortion, could create a new level of female bodily surveillance that we have never seen.

A screenshot from The FHSAA Board of Directors meeting (Photo/YouTube.)

FEMALES ONLY (optional)

42. When was your first menstrual period? _____
43. When was your most recent menstrual period? _____
44. How much time do you usually have from the start of one period to the start of another? _____
45. How many periods have you had in the last year? _____
46. What was the longest time between periods in the last year? _____

The E-RAD-ication of Sexual Assault

By Martina Bilbao-Breard
and Amanda Spencer
Staff Reporters

1 out of every 6 American women has been a victim of sexual violence in her lifetime, according to RAINN (Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network). College-aged women are 3 to 4 times more at risk than any other age group, with 13% of all students reporting some sort of



Participants practice safety strategies (Photo/Alachua County Sherrifs Office)

sexual assault during their college careers. These statistics are the reason behind so many national programs created to prevent these situations, such as the Rape Aggression Defense (RAD) program that is proudly offered here at Santa Fe College.

The RAD program was founded in 1989 by Virginia State University police Officer Lawrence Nadeau after years of research on defense classes. He states on *marshall.edu* that “the only way to truly solve this issue is by fully understanding the problem, as well as learning the proper techniques to help fight against it.” The RAD program “advocates realistically employable tactics, without the time investment, ceremony, regimen, or mystical concepts of a martial art.” The program became such a success that it has

spread to college campuses nationwide, one of them including Santa Fe College. Here in Gainesville, the classes are co-taught with the Alachua County sheriff’s office. Officer Sarah Howard has been directing the Rape Aggression Defense (RAD) program at Santa Fe College for a couple years, teaching women to be aware and take control of their own safety.

This program consists of three classes. The first class is a Powerpoint based class discussion where the officers speak about safety. The next day “discusses confrontation, options in various types of situations, and how and why to make a decision to resist or not,” SF College states. Finally, the class ends with RAD certified instructors performing scenario based training with the students. On the last day, students learn stances, blocking, and escape methods along with many other defense techniques.

“These classes are very hands-on,” states Officer Howard. These classes have a capacity limit of 25 students, keeping a safe instruc-

tor-to-participant ratio. The classes at SF college are also strictly for women, creating a safe environment for guided safety training. “At the end of the day, the class is about every individual and what they think about their own safety. Your participation in class is totally your own. Just showing up to class and controlling your own involvement is completely up to you,” states Officer Howard. Howard aims to inform women on the significance of administering skills that are successful in ensuring safety and keeping that approach proactive. w

The RAD self-defense classes are offered once a month. In the spring semester, they are offered up until April. Capacity is limited to 25 students per class in order to maintain a safe instructor-to-participant ratio. The last few classes that were offered were at full capacity. However, the officers hope to have an even larger turnout in the future.

Other safety measures that Santa Fe staff offer to students are safety escorts by the Santa Fe College Police Department

for students who finish class late and feel unsafe to walk to their vehicle alone. By calling the police station, an officer will be assigned to escort students safely, at all hours. Santa Fe College also provides a 2-hour program called SAFE — an introduction to safety.

Lawrence Nadeau, founder of the RAD program, states “The instructional objective of RAD is to develop and enhance the options of self defense so they may become viable to a woman who is attacked.” There have been many success stories from women who have attended these classes nationwide, sending a message to women from all over that there is a way to combat sexual violence, and it is by educating and spreading awareness. No experience is required to attend these classes, and they are free of charge. Students can sign up in advance as there are limited spots. As Officer Sarah Howard stated, “It is important to take charge of one’s own safety and take advantage of the resources available.”

Sodium Ion Batteries: Charging Up the Future

By Elijah Kenning
Staff Reporter

In 2022, Electrek reported a U.S. Department of Energy research team at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) having developed a breakthrough electrolyte recipe for increased longevity of sodium-ion batteries’ liquid cores. This is one of several feats of human ingenuity applied in breaking the barriers for sodium-ion batteries. They are on their way to becoming a formidable foundation in the future of the electricity industry.

The recent development of sodium-ion batteries in the battery industry may prove to be a promising alternative to the supply chain and environmental controversies regarding lithium and cobalt batteries.

Jiguang (Jason) Zhang, lead author of the PNNL team of the electrolyte breakthrough, has good faith in the implications of his team’s work: “[W]e have shown in principle that sodium-ion batteries have the potential to be a long-lasting and environmentally friendly battery technology.”

Sodium-ion batteries

(SIBs) utilize sodium cations rather than lithium cations. Both sodium and lithium lie in the same group (column) on the periodic table of elements, giving them similar physicochemical properties to one another, yet still different enough to have their own unique features and, along with it, their own engineering challenges.

SIBs have excellent environmental and economic cost efficiencies, with one metric ton of sodium hydroxide costing \$300-\$800 per metric ton, while lithium hydroxide can cost up to \$78,000 per metric ton. It would not be hard to imagine that sodium needed for the battery could possibly be harvested from salts extracted from the ocean or from salt mines, potentially proving to be more environmentally friendly than lithium-ion batteries’ (LIBs) lithium extractions.

Despite SIBs’ impressive potential economic benefits, there are still plenty of obstacles in their designs that need to be solved for SIBs to compete with LIBs.

While SIBs have several advantages to LIBs -- including ability to operate sufficiently in cold temperatures and minimal risk of overheating -- SIBs’ inferior energy

densities and limited charging cycles are major obstacles they need to overcome for them to have potential in the battery industry.

According to Alex Scott from Chemical & Engineering News, LIBs are capable of energy densities up to 150-275 watt-hours per kilogram, while SIBs are currently only capable of reaching up to 70-160 watt-hours per kilogram, but has potential to reach 200 watt-hours per kilogram.

Batteries function by the electrochemical reactions that occur between the electrodes within the electrolyte of the battery, which keeps the stream of energy flowing. However, over time, the reactions become more sluggish as the battery cycles, causing the deterioration of the battery. This is normal for batteries, where eventually the electrochemical reactions slow down, causing the battery to deteriorate, making it unable to be recharged anymore. Michelle Lewis, the author of the Electrek article, explains that sodium cations are generally more sluggish than lithium cations, causing SIBs to die quicker than lithium-ion batteries.

The PNNL research team

counteracted this issue by developing a special electrolyte formula for their SIBs. The recipe has exponentially increased the life and energy efficiency of SIBs, allowing for up to 300-plus cycles, all while retaining an energy capacity of around 90 percent.

Additionally, SIBs anodes have been shown to deteriorate quickly, posing a threat to sufficient life cycles for SIBs.

Researchers led by Professor Seung Geol Lee at the Pusan National University of South Korea developed a solution to the poor structural instability and storage performance of SIBs caused by the interactions between the sodium ions and the anodes’ carbon microstructures. Their proposition is utilizing carbonaceous materials prepared with quinacridones -- organic compounds used as pigments for paints, watercolors, and even semiconductor applications -- to improve the performance of the anodes.

With the Electric Revolution on the rise in America, fueled by the demand for electric vehicles, solar panels and general electronics, the battery industry will become one of the most important industries for America’s potential elec-

tric future. SIBs may be a necessary solution to the lithium and cobalt issue.

Several companies have shown concerns over the geopolitical issues surrounding the lithium and cobalt supply chains, such as heavy dependence on Chinese imports for the precious metals, that could potentially hinder the development of all-electric technologies.

China dominates control over the world’s lithium and cobalt supply chains, highly influencing the price and trade of lithium and cobalt. In addition to China possessing the fifth largest supply of lithium in the world, two Chinese-based lithium mining organizations control a large portion of Australia and Chile’s lithium reserves.

For the full story, scan this QR code:



Fear the Speer: Saints score 81-79 to EFS Titans

By Christian Alvis
Sports Reporter

On February 15, 2023, the Santa Fe Saint Bernard's basketball team took on the Eastern Florida State Titans in a heated conference rivalry game. Having already dropped two games to the Titans, the Saints knew they had work to do on the court, and they showed that by starting fast going up to an early 15-5 lead.

Unfortunately, the Titans refused to go down without a fight. Coming out of this timeout, they immediately went on a 14-4 run to tie the game at 19-19. This seemed to be a constant storyline in this game, with neither team being able to pull ahead and over 20 ties throughout the course of the game. The first half also

brought a fantastic play with #1 Nasir Mann flying into the air to break up an alley-oop attempt by the Titans. Santa Fe was finally able to get it going at the end of the first half finishing off a 9-2 run before the buzzer, thanks to a corner three from #3 Cole Deptula. At the half the Saints held a 5-point lead over the Titans 36-31.

Coming out of the break, it seemed like the first half was just a glimpse of what was to come, seeing the Titans almost immediately tying up the game. One of the main reasons the Titans were in this game was a dominant performance by #24 Andres Burney who put up a season high 35 points for them on 17 of 24 shooting, along with 17 rebounds.

With the game coming down to the wire #2 Jalen Speer was fouled and had a

chance to make it a three-point game for the Saints. After draining the first one, the second shot rolled out, and the



(Photo/Christian Alvis)

Saints up 79-77 had just a 2 point lead with 0:26 seconds to go in the game. The Titans came down the court and had to go with the hot hand, giving it to Burney in the paint. He slammed the ball hard, making a tie game with 0:13 seconds left. As the Saints came down for the last shot, Jalen Speer

had the ball in his hand, with a chance at redeeming himself for the missed free throw. After a screen was set, Speer had

the mismatch on the big man, I let it go, and the rest is history." Speer explained when asked about the shot. The Titans were forced to toss a full court shot that wasn't close, and the Saints got the win 81-79.

The win puts Santa Fe at 15-11 on the season as well as being 7-5 in conference play. "It's a huge win for standings and morale," said Speer when asked about the game, "We wanted to beat these guys so bad, so I'm glad we came out and did that." The Saints regular season will come to an end with home games against 6-21 Saint Petersburg College, 9-18 Polk State College, and 25-3 Daytona State College.

a mismatch, being guarded by Burney. Speer drove into the paint and tossed the ball up with his left hand, draining the shot to give the Saints a two point lead with 2 seconds left.

"We just wanted to come down and get the best shot possible, I felt like the ball was good in my hands, we got

Chris Doering: Gainesville's Small Town Fame

By Alyssa Britton-Harr
Sports Reporter

Chris Doering, former Florida Gator and retired National Football League wide receiver, is now a studio analyst for ESPN and occasionally contributes to the Southeastern Conference network. While Doering has had a successful career, his start was different. The Gainesville native attended P.K. Yonge High School, and throughout his time there, he was a stand-out athlete in three sports: football, basketball and baseball.

Doering did not receive a football scholarship out of high school, which was disappointing, but it never stopped him from chasing his dream

of playing football. Instead, he took matters into his own hands and showed his talents as a walk-on for the University of Florida. "I had a real love for the University and love for the history of the Gator football program, running out of the Gator tunnel was always something I knew I wanted to do," he said.

Doering was put on scholarship before his red-shirt sophomore year, receiving the validation he had been looking for, which helped him further believe he would play there and have an opportunity to do great things. Upon showcasing his hard work and efforts, Doering was able to obtain a scholarship and officially be part of the team. He caught the eye of former Gators head

coach Steve Spurrier, who truly believed in him.

"[Doering] caught his eye immediately because I won our conditioning test as a freshman, and he was big into guys who showed up in shape," Doering commented. The catches he made as a freshman compared to the other three freshman scholarship wide receivers at the time displayed his competitive fire. Spurrier is one of the most competitive people he has met and respected him for that, Doering said. Doering had a successful collegiate football career at the University of Florida. During his four years, the team won three straight SEC Championships, and as a senior captain, he received first-team All-SEC and sec-

ond-team All-American Honors. He was later picked as the 185 pick during round six of the 1996 NFL Draft.

Although Doering was in the league for ten years, he always felt he had something to prove because he originally came to UF as a walk-on. His motivation, according to Doering, strived from the people doubting him, telling him he wasn't fast, strong or big enough. That carried on from his time as a Gator into the NFL. From the time he graduated in Florida, he was cut ten times in ten years, and moved 22 times from when he graduated from Florida. "It wasn't always easy," he explained.

After playing in the NFL for various teams, such as the Pittsburgh Steelers,

Denver Broncos and the late Washington Redskins, Doering decided to retire. Doering earned his degree in Telecommunications from the University of Florida, allowing him to seek out the broadcast field after retirement. He worked with local radio stations and did television appearances with Sun Sports in Florida.

For the full story, scan this QR code:



Coach Johnny Wiggs: 55 Years in the Making

By Christian Alvis
Sports Reporter

In 2007, Coach Johnny Wiggs started his first year as the head baseball coach at Santa Fe College, and since that moment Wiggs has brought the team over 500 wins, including two state championships in 2009 and 2016. From his hot seat now as a dominant coach, he first had to become a dominant player.

Wiggs always shined in sports from an early age, lettering in three different sports in high school. "... I really fell in love with all sports, my

dad gave me and my younger brothers a strong sense of competition," Wiggs explained.

He started his collegiate playing career at Valencia College before transferring to Santa Fe after his freshman year. At Santa Fe Wiggs ended with a 9-4 record and was able to catch the attention of some high level schools, but ultimately his dream was to be a Gator. "When I was in 10th grade, my counselor asked me for three goals, I told him to pitch for Florida, to pitch in the College World Series, and too pitch in Yankee Stadium, five years later he emailed me and said congratulations

you've met your first two goals," Wiggs said.

In only two seasons at UF, Wiggs amassed a 23-6 record and his name, in some places, still carries on. Not only that, Wiggs was also named to the All-Southeastern Conference team, as well as helping Florida make it to their first appearance in the College World Series. Wiggs then went on to play Baseball at the professional level for the Mariners, Tigers and the Red Sox over the course of 5 seasons. "It was a great experience for myself, but I've always said I'm no richer financially from my 5 years of minor league

baseball, if anything I'm in the hole."

After his playing career was over, Wiggs made the switch to coaching. He was an assistant for various teams before landing his first head coaching job at Polk Community College, where he would stay for 8 seasons before becoming the coach for Santa Fe. "You know, I always say I got into coaching to compete, later on I realized I love the ability to be able to help my guys live their dreams like I was able to," Wiggs explained. In total, Wiggs has over 700 wins as a coach all time, and he is just a few wins away from becoming

the winningest coach in Santa Fe's history. At the time of this article, the team this season is a scorching hot 14-0. Mixing experience, new talent and Coach Wiggs calling the shots, this team has a chance to do big things.



(Photo/Santa Fe College)

SFC Police Chief Facing Dual-Office Allegations

By Alex Hood
Staff Reporter

Recently elected Gainesville City Commissioner and Santa Fe College Police Chief Ed Book is under scrutiny after a complaint was filed against him with the Attorney General's office for dual officeholding. Article II, Section 5a of Florida's Constitution states that "No person shall hold at the same time more than one office under the government of the state and the counties and municipalities therein." The complaint, which was filed in January of this year and was previously reported on by the Gainesville Sun, has also been sent to the Alachua County Supervisor of Elections and the Florida Secretary of State.

According to guidance on dual officeholding from the Attorney General's Office, both the positions of police chief and city commissioner are considered to be sworn "offices." Florida Statutes further specify that police officers of public colleges are considered officers of the state.

The provision is meant to prevent potential conflicts of interest, and ensure that local public officials are not permitted to consolidate local power.

Another concern- The job of Gainesville City Commissioner, while technically listed a part-time job, requires full-time attention. Commissioner Desmon Duncan-Walker stated in a Dec. 1st city commission meeting that, "Contrary to how (the job) is listed, it is not part time. It is full-time; it is overtime. It is all day, it is all night, it is all consuming." Commissioners recently voted 4-3 to raise their own salaries by over 90% in order to reflect that sentiment, with Mr. Book voting against the increase.

Although Mr. Book has continually maintained that the situation is a "non-issue," similar cases in the past have caused problems for dual officeholders. In 2013 in Miami, Luis Cabrera was prevented from taking the office of Acting City Manager, a temporary position which would've lasted just 10 days in the absence of the City Manager, due to his other position as Deputy Chief of Police. In 2007, current Alachua County Sheriff Clovis Watson, Jr. willfully resigned from his position as police commissioner after being appointed city manager for the City of Alachua.

Another issue which is not specifically mentioned in the complaint, is that Mr. Book

may have also violated Florida's "Resign-to-Run" law, which states that "An elected or appointed 'officer' may not qualify as a candidate for another state, district, county or municipal public office if the terms or any part of the terms would overlap with each other if the person were to be elected or appointed and did not resign from the office the person presently holds."

The Resign-to-Run law indicates that Mr. Book may have needed to resign from his position as an appointed officer (Police Chief) before even qualifying to run for municipal public office. The State Attorney General's office has previously ruled that even a reserve police officer should resign before running for city commission.

Mr. Book claims that he was cleared to run for office by a Feb. 9th, 2022 letter from the Florida Ethics Commission, which stated that it would be appropriate for him to run. The Saint Bernard was able to obtain a copy of that letter through a public records request, and found that it only discusses potential conflicts of interest, specifically covering voting on issues concerning Santa Fe College.

Although Book has pre-

viously claimed that the Ethics Commission is "the highest law of the land on issues like this," the footnotes of this letter indicate that Mr. Book should have further consulted with either the State Attorney General's office or Division of Elections. Furthermore, it explicitly mentions both the aforementioned resign-to-run law and constitutional dual officeholding prohibition as potential sources of conflict.

What might be most concerning to the community is that one of Mr. Book's central campaign messages was an emphasis on commitment, service, and community engagement, and he was absolutely right to point out the city commission has been lacking in that area. It remains unclear if Mr. Book will be able to deliver on that promise while balancing his position as Chief of Police. The inverse also remains unclear: What effect, if any, will Chief Book's new position have on the rest of his department, or the overall safety and policing of the campus as a whole? It's worth pointing out that fellow City Commission newcomer Casey Wilits has taken a smaller role at his previous job, and commissioners former and current such as David Arreola have

spoken publicly about having to do the same.

It seems unclear what the 'right' thing to do in this scenario is, but very few things are more frustrating than seeing someone in a position of power, especially a police officer, act as though they are above the law. To be part of a judicial system which imprisons people for years of their life even for minor and non-violent violations of the law, while simultaneously violating the Constitution which vests in you the power to imprison... it feels very hypocritical. Our elected officials and police officers need to be held accountable for their actions, and the standard is going to be even higher if you check both of those boxes. I am calling on Mr. Book to address this issue, and I expect that soon he will do so.

For the full story, scan this QR code:



New Florida Bills Target Trans Community

By Nicholas Smith
Metro Editor

From the moment transgender rights became a pressing political issue, Florida and its legislature, with strong support from Governor Desantis, have provided staunch opposition. Up until recently, opposition to the existence of transgender individuals has come in the form of rhetoric. The "book ban" scandal, codifying a law attempting to ban books in elementary school classes that Ron Desantis deems as "woke indoctrination," kicked off Desantis' long list of state changes. Unfortunately, this past month, bills were introduced in both the Florida house and senate, aiming to codify Florida's war on transgender rights.

In The House, HB 1421 was proposed on Friday, March 3rd. Through the vague, charming language provided, HB 1421 starts by providing a ban on insurance coverage for treatment that seeks to alter "external or internal" physical characteristics. These

treatments include, but are not limited to, puberty blockers and "sex" reassignment surgery, with these treatments also receiving a complete ban for minors. On top of the erasure of most future transitions, the legislature is seeking to retroactively, and even posthumously, reverse the genders of trans individuals who have already succeeded in their transition, by including the amendments "of any misstatement, error, or omission occurring in any birth, death, or fetal death record." Later in the bill, it adds that if anybody somehow manages to afford and secure gender-affirming treatment, HB 1421 makes sure it's as dangerous as possible. In Section 3, Subsection 6 of the bill, it poses that any minor who receives gender-affirming care, and is physically harmed by medical malpractice, can not sue for damages on the grounds of malpractice; backed by their assertion that this sort of treatment is not healthcare.

Continued on Page 11

From Reels to Realism Online

By Rosie Vanyo
Staff Reporter

Social media has had a large influence on the lives of almost everyone since the release of Six Degrees in 1997. On the website, people could make profiles and interact with friends. The application was replaced by Friendster in 2002, then social media morphed into MySpace, Facebook, and the list goes on. These applications have evolved in ways we as humans probably never thought imaginable. There are now forms of applications that allow people to show the photos and videos they have taken, share their art forms, and even show what they are doing in real time. From what we wear to who we interact with, some form of social media always has a hold on these aspects of our lives.

An analysis done by the team at Kepios has shown that about 59.4% of the world's population is on some form of social media in 2023. This wide space of humans interacting from across the planet is fascinating and also terrify-

ing. Social media has become a place of microtrends, body image issues, and overconsumption. One of the trends that should be touched on is Realism. Realism, according to the new Oxford dictionary, is the fact of representing a person, thing, or situation accurately or in a way true to life. In the past, social media was all about perfection; smooth acne-free skin, perfect bodies with no stretch marks or wrinkles, a constant stream of people with no problems and only happiness. As social media becomes more and more prevalent in human lives, people started to question why we have been posing as these false 'perfect' characters. Influencers began to post photos of themselves unedited and unposed to compare their edited and posed bodies. This not only made the average person feel so much better about themselves but also gave away to the false narrative that all models and influencers are perfect.

Being a college student in a chronically online world is difficult and very anxiety

inducing. When speaking to students on the Santa Fe campus about social media and the new boom in realism, Olivia, a female student, shared her opinion.

"I think it's a good thing, for a very long time I spent hours comparing my body to the bodies of models on Instagram, it's a bit refreshing to know that this idea I had in my head of what I should look like is not achievable even to those who we are told are perfect." Of the ten people I spoke to, eight of them said they had experienced insecurities and self doubt because of social media.

For the full story, scan this QR code:



The Saint Bernard Staff



Sara-James Ranta (SJ) is co-Founder and Editor-in-Chief of The Saint Bernard Newspaper. With a fiery passion for hard-hitting journalism and a background in leading award-winning newspapers, Ranta is excited to share her passion of print journalism at Santa Fe College. She is most passionate about politics, feminism and activism, with previous work spanning from climate change to the effects of stereotyping. Ranta is majoring in Journalism (no surprise) and in her free time, she enjoys kayaking, going to the beach and visiting her family.



Nicholas Smith is co-Founder of The Saint Bernard Newspaper and currently the Metro Editor, handling all stories regarding Gainesville and the surrounding areas. Nick is from Baltimore, but graduated from high school at Cypress Bay in Weston, FL. With a background in activism, he is majoring in Political Science at Santa Fe. Smith has a dog named Karl Barx, and in his free time he enjoys surfing. He's also taken on roles as an actor in a few local films.



Cali Perry is PR Manager and Editor for The Saint Bernard. Currently pursuing a degree in English with a minor in Public Relations, she enjoys interviewing professionals and writing about student events. When she's not defending her love for parentheses (and wordy asides,) she enjoys watching F1, reading Jane Austen novels and traveling the world. (additionally, she loves dogs.)



Rosie Vanyo is a staff reporter for The Saint Bernard. Her goal within journalism is to share her love and passion for music. Whether it be live events or new releases, Vanyo is always looking for a reason to dissect a piece of music or an artist. When she is not at school, you can find Vanyo bartending at a local restaurant or feeding her cat way too many treats. Her major is journalism, and she is currently finishing off her last semester at Santa Fe before heading to UF to finish out her degree.



Tiffany Gonzalez-Sanchez is the Student-Involvement Editor of The Saint Bernard Newspaper. Majoring in psychology, Tiffany is passionate about destigmatizing mental health subjects, promoting self-improvement, and creating health and safety awareness. Tiffany places a large emphasis on outreach and collaboration, and she strives to increase the sense of community at Santa Fe College. Finding freedom through expression and communication, Tiffany enjoys writing poetry and jamming to music on her free time.



Christian Alvis is a sports writer for The Saint Bernard. Born in Tallahassee Florida, Alvis was always raised a Gator, while being behind enemy lines. With a passion for sports since a young age, he strives to cover all kinds of sports all throughout the Gainesville area. Christian is an avid fan of all University of Florida sports and hopes to attend the school after graduating from Santa Fe, he plans to Major in Sport Marketing or Sports Journalism.

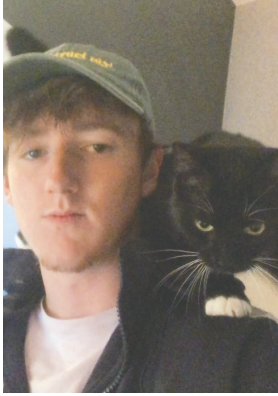


Kamala Rossi is a staff reporter for The Saint Bernard. She has aspirations of representing Santa Fe College by writing reputable pieces that uplift and inform people; it is a hope of Rossi's to create something that is fun and interesting for the readers. She is majoring in journalism with hopes of pursuing a career as a traveling journalist with a versatile skill set. Rossi likes to surf, travel, read, and go to concerts.

The Saint Bernard Staff



Martina Bilbao-Breard is a staff reporter for The Saint Bernard newspaper. She loves covering wellness, beauty, local events, and entertainment, spanning topics from issues on campus to celebrities and trends. She enjoys music and playing the guitar, as well as going on long runs.



Alex Hood is a staff reporter for The Saint Bernard and is starting his second semester at Santa Fe College. His favorite topics to cover are local and state politics as well as local history. He is a Gainesville native and enjoys working for his community, playing sports and hanging out with friends. Alex is excited for the new student paper and hopes to connect students with their community and keep people informed.



From a Peruvian family, Kelly Solis is staff reporter for The Saint Bernard Newspaper, majoring in what seems to be a completely different path: Mechanical Engineering. With two years of journalism experience in high school, she is super excited about the opportunity in writing and improving for this newspaper. In her free time, she enjoys making multi-media artwork and journaling on hikes. She loves to read philosophy and Spanish poems. Equally fun, she loves to FaceTime her family in Miami and talking with her niece and nephew.



Shaneka Graham was born and raised in St. Catherine, Jamaica and currently attends Santa Fe College. She is majoring in Journalism. She chose to study Journalism because she believes that it is extremely important that the public is provided with information that they need to make the best decisions about their lives and their communities.

Elijah Kenning is an Electrical Engineering student at the Gator Engineering Program at Santa Fe. He is a staff reporter for The Saint Bernard Newspaper. With a love for both science and writing, he strives to make science and technology more readable and understandable for the average college student. He has strong passions in chemistry, physics, mathematics, computer science, and natural history.



Alyssa Britton-Harr is a first-year journalism major, writing for The Saint Bernard as a staff reporter. When not writing, she enjoys cheering on the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and going to country concerts.



Amanda Spencer is a staff reporter for The Saint Bernard newspaper. She is a journalism major with a passion for sports journalism. She enjoys playing guitar, singing, and playing soccer in her free time. Songwriting introduced her to her passion for writing, and she adores being by the beach.



Elizabeth Menendez is a staff reporter for The Saint Bernard. Menendez hopes to shine a light on the amazing things happening within the Santa Fe community. Menendez is a Communications major, hoping to eventually build a career for herself in the world of Real Estate. For fun, she enjoys hanging out with friends and spending time outside. She is also an avid volunteer and has attended three different mission trips. She is also a member of the Rotaract club at Santa Fe. Menendez is hoping for a great semester writing for The Saint Bernard.



Assistant Professor Alex Siwiecki (he/him/his) serves as the faculty advisor for the Saint Bernard. Professor Siwiecki earned an MFA in Fiction from UF and has been teaching at Santa Fe College since 2018.

Blue Lights Discourse on Campus Black List

By **Tiffany Gonzalez-Sanchez**
Student-Involvement
Editor

Regardless of your association to the University of Florida, if you've lived in Gainesville, FL, then chances are you've heard this claim. Though once true, the claim is now incorrect. In 2019 protests were sparked by concerned students demanding the implementation of blue-light phones on UF's staple Fraternity Row. The UFPD responded to these protests by adding four blue light phones to Fraternity Row, yet people continue to spread whispers that there are none.

Over three years after the protest and resolution, "blue-lights" continue to be a topic of debate and concern throughout Gainesville's student population, and many remain misinformed. The heat raised by this issue prompts two primary questions: what are blue-lights, and what are the primary controversies surrounding them?

Blue-light phones, referred to as emergency phones at Santa Fe College, are easily identifiable by their appearance. Each one is a blue stand-alone column, with the words EMERGENCY printed in large letters. Though there are different versions and models, all blue-light phones act as a means of quick direct com-

munication with emergency services.

To be activated, one simply pushes the red button by the call box. Then, the person would be connected to a dispatcher, the location of the box would be shared with emergency services, and the blue light at the top would signal the alert. By 2005, 91% of all university and college campuses in the nation had implemented the blue-light system (Bureau of Justice Statistics).

Despite the Clery Act—not many statistical reports regarding campus-specific crime or campus blue-light systems are publicly available. Consequently, it is difficult for the public to draw firm conclusions regarding the holistic effect blue-lights have on campus crime. Nevertheless, there are two leading stances on the efficacy and value of blue-light systems at college and university campuses. Both stances share the foundational fact that blue-light systems were implemented on campuses to increase security and safety.

One popular stance claims that blue-lights are not appropriately used enough times to satisfy their intended purpose. According to Rave Mobile Safety—a company which offers a competing product—the blue-lights at University of Florida were activated a total of 508 times in a two-year period, less than 3% of these

activations required police involvement, and only one was considered an emergency. Many students who align with this stance consider these statistics as demonstrating the blue-light system's lack of efficacy. Consequently, the students ponder whether blue-light systems hold significant value.



An emergency phone on UF campus
(Photo/Tiffany Gonzalez-Sanchez)

Others, however, interpret the value of blue-lights differently. The opposing leading stance claims that—regardless of whether the blue-lights are activated frequently—emergency phones do increase the safety of campuses. Students from Santa Fe College and University of Florida have explained that the presence of blue-light phones adds a sense of safety and security to their surrounding areas. These students claim that blue-lights act as an important preventative measure against crime. The

argument is that the presence of blue-lights imply a police presence, and therefore the blue-lights can discourage people from committing crimes in an area.

As aforementioned, there is insufficient available data for the public to certainly confirm either stance. Though, aside from preventing definitive conclusions regarding efficacy, the general under-reporting of blue-lights on Gainesville campuses causes another problem to arise: misinformation.

Numerous students at Santa Fe College have expressed concern over the incorrect idea that Santa Fe campuses do not have blue-light phones. In actuality, the blue-light system has been implemented across Santa Fe College campuses, with over 10 emergency phones scattered across Santa Fe's Northwest campus. The discrepancy between what was believed and what is true likely occurs because Santa Fe College documents, such as their campus maps, use the term "emergency phones" rather than blue-light phones. Furthermore, there is little information regarding the presence of such emergency phones. The only readily accessible information directly related to Santa Fe's emergency phones—on Santa Fe's website—are the campus map and an article from 2014.

Similarly, many college

students in Gainesville, FL falsely believe that there are currently no blue-light phones on University of Florida's Fraternity Row. While the protests in 2019 calling for blue lights on Fraternity Row were well covered by news outlets, the resolution was not. Despite UF's quick response, debate over the topic continues. Some students continue the debate simply because they are uninformed that any resolution ever occurred. Others—which are aware of the protest's resolution—are concerned that the blue-lights were placed in areas which may be inconvenient to access in times of need. They note that the blue-lights on Fraternity Row tend to be by the ends of the street—places which may be difficult to access in the case of an emergency near the central cluster of fraternities.

For the full story, scan this QR code:



Spotlighting Allen Quinn Jones: GNV History

By **Alex Hood**
Staff Reporter

Allen Quinn Jones, or "Prof" Jones as his students referred to him, was an educator and community leader in Gainesville who was crucial to the progress and education of the Black community in Alachua County during the segregation era. He was born on March 3rd, 1893, in Quincy, Fla, and was the sixth of seven siblings. He completed primary school in Quincy before moving to Tallahassee and attending what was then Florida A&M College, now Florida A&M University. He completed high school and college in seven years total, graduating in 1915. After college, Jones would obtain two master's degrees, one from Oskaloosa College in 1920 and another

from the Hampton Institute (now Hampton University.)

Jones came to Gainesville in 1921, taking a position as the principal of Gainesville's Union Academy. The Union Academy was organized under the Freedmen's Bureau after the Civil War and was the first school for African Americans in Gainesville and Alachua County. In 1923, the school closed, and Alachua County constructed two new public high schools. The school was reopened as Lincoln High School on NW 7th Ave, where the building still stands today and is now the A. Quinn Jones Center. Between 1925 and 1926, Jones secured state accreditation for the high school and Lincoln became the second school for Black students in Florida to do so, paving the way for graduates to attend college. He was a principal

and teacher for over 40 years before retiring from education in 1957.

Jones married Frederica "Freddie" Jones in 1937, she was also a teacher at Lincoln High from 1928-1966. She was a member of the first graduating class of Florida A&M University in 1954, obtaining a Master of Science. They were both longtime members of the Greater Bethel AME Church and A.Q. Jones was the principal of the Sunday School program for many years. The couple lived in a house just across the street from the former site of Lincoln High School that is now known as the A. Quinn Jones Museum and Cultural Center. It is on the National Registry of Historic Places. It is dedicated to "Prof" Jones, the people and places of the Fifth Avenue/Pleasant Street neighborhood, and... a collec-

tion of oral histories centering on the African-American experience in Gainesville."

Jones' efforts to make Gainesville a place where Black children could get a good education at a time when most local leaders either didn't care about or actively campaigned against the education of Black children was crucial to the foundation of what Gainesville and Alachua County is today. Many of the Black civil rights activists and political leaders that positively impacted our community in the 20th century and even today were either directly or indirectly influenced by his leadership and commitment, and he was able to impact an untold number of Black families by giving their children the tools to succeed in spite of the institutional constraints placed upon them.

Message us!

For our online issue, submitting story leads, or for letters to the Editor, please email: thesaintbernardnewspaper@gmail.com

for announcements and updates, follow @thebernardnewspaper on Instagram!

Loads of Learning GNV Strengthens Education

By Elizabeth Mendez
Staff Reporter

The Loads of Learning GNV program utilizes laundromats in low income areas throughout Gainesville to hold literacy events for children and their families. Loads of Learning GNV is the result of the City of Gainesville and other organizations, such as Episcopal Children's Services, Alachua County Library District, United Way of North Central Florida, Laundry Cares Foundation, Too Small to Fail Foundation, and Local Laundromat Owners, partnering together to sponsor a difference within the Gainesville community.

The start of this program

can be largely accredited to Karissa Raskin, Manager of Systems Change & Special Projects at the City of Gainesville, and her fellow team members who oversee Loads of Learning GNV.

Raskin explained, "The city wanted to start this program to enhance resources in the community in a variety of different ways. We especially wanted to improve education disparities, and so we looked into a mechanism to do so."

The mechanism Raskin and the team found was to pair with local laundromat owners in order to place reading nooks inside of their businesses, but they didn't just stop there. Loads of Learning GNV is the first program of its kind to hold

volunteer trainings in order to really keep the program up and running. "There are currently four laundromats participating in this program, and our goal is to have a volunteer at each location twice a week," said Raskin.

Although having these volunteers has been a blessing, the program has faced its fair share of challenges. Raskin said, "Our biggest challenge has been getting the word out to community members, as we don't know what comes first; the chicken or the egg. Do we promote the program to the community before having all of the volunteers necessary, or do we find the volunteers first?"

Another challenge that

comes with starting any new program is that the community is not exactly sure what to think of it just yet.

Despite these challenges, the program has also had great success empowering the children and families participating throughout Gainesville. Not only has this program been a positive addition to the community, but the partnership model in and of itself is now being used as a reference for other cities wanting to implement the program into their own communities.

Raskin said, "The feedback we have heard from people, and owners, at the laundromats, who were originally apprehensive, is all positive, and they have been taking

amazing care of the nooks."

Now that Loads of Learning GNV is successfully up and running, Raskin and the team are already looking ahead towards what will come next for this program.

Raskin said, "My hope is derived from our newfound ability to collect feedback from community members that shows the youth have an increased interest and love for learning, and that these parents and caregivers are now recognizing their ability to utilize everyday spaces in the community as learning spaces, leading to their own feelings of empowerment to be inspirations for education to their children."

Outlining Health Inequalities and Historical Injustice

By Kelly Solis
Staff Reporter

The Center for Medicare Advocacy defines the term "health disparities" as a difference within disadvantaged social groups, such as racial/ethnic minorities, the poor, women, and other social groups who have systematically experienced worse health and/or greater health risks than others. Although there have been many momentous advances in the diagnosis and treatment of most chronic diseases, there is evidence that racial and ethnic minorities tend to receive lower quality of care than non-minorities, causing them to experience more morbidity and mortality.

These outcome disparities in healthcare have been a long-standing reality for African Americans. Take for example, the case of Henrietta Lacks, known for her HeLa cells. She was one of the most prevalent occurrences that led to the black communities' distrust in the healthcare system. In 1951, Henrietta Lacks, a young black mother of five, was an individual who suffered from last stage cervical cancer. She would eventually seek treatment from John Hopkins Hospital, one of the few hospitals in the country that treated Black patients. There, a non-consensual tissue sample was taken from Lacks during her checkup. One that would change the world of medicine as we know it, yet, until recently, none of the credit would be given to Henrietta Lacks. Her cells were special because they had an unbelievable ca-

capacity to continue reproducing and surviving, as if they were immortal. Soon after the sample was collected, she passed away due to the severity of her disease. Many believe the fate of her cells would be left in the hands of her family. That was not the case, her family was given no control of what would happen with or to her cells. Not only was the family left unacknowledged, they did not receive a single penny from John Hopkins after they publicly used Lack's name and sold her cells to other corporations.

Her story illustrates the racial inequities that are embedded in the US research and health-care systems. Today, work done with HeLa cells grounds much of modern medicine; they have been involved in key discoveries in many fields, including cancer research, immunology, and infectious diseases. Scientists developed a research method to determine whether a cell line is cancerous or not with the HeLa cells.

Though healthcare is unequal from a national standpoint, we see those inequalities materialize locally as well. As researched by James F. Lawrence, director of GNV4ALL, Gainesville's east and west sides have unequal welfare. As the east side homes most of the Black community, the residents have a lower average life span than that of the White west-siders, who actually have an above average longevity. Furthermore, there is an questionable ratio of health clinics and urgent cares available in each area.

James shed light on the fact that while there are 31 medical facilities on the west with 28 open every business day, there are only 11 on the east with 2 open Monday through Friday. The Department of Health and Human Services identified the six areas where serious racial and ethnic disparities exist in health access and outcomes: cancer screening, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, HIV Infection/AIDS, immunizations, and infant mortality.

In Florida, the black community has been more prone to the late stages of breast cancer that cannot be helped. If the black community is concerned to approach health officials because of the historical mistreatment they face, they run the risk of not getting diagnosed until it is too late. According to Florida Healthy Babies, racial health disparities even impact the first hours of a person's life. In a study from Miami-Dade County, black babies are three times more likely than white babies to die in the care of white doctors. As the mortality rate for white babies has been largely unaffected by a doctor's race, the

mortality rate for black newborns shrunk between 39% and 58% when black doctors took charge over birth.

On the grounds of Contractarian ethics, it is morally problematic that there are members of our society who contribute just as much to their community, but who do not receive some of society's basic benefits. In other words, as members of our society, we receive societal benefits in exchange for burdens, for instance, being granted certain freedoms and health assistance in exchange for things like paying taxes and following the law. It's simply equity. Racial health disparities demonstrate historical injustices. Take the case of the African Americans in the 1950s, the taxes were paid and laws were followed without the ability to vote, being limited in public transportation, nor was proper health care received. In Kantian ethics, we have a moral duty to address health disparities because it is basic respect for everyone. Health disparities involve detriment to a large group of people...clearly, the people on the losing side of

these disparities are not benefited, but health disparities are not benefiting any other individual either because that would be violating the principle of beneficence.

There are many ways to reduce these disparities. Promote delivery of culturally adequate care. Encourage additional epidemiological research to better understand the causes of disparities. Increase public awareness. Support local governments in their efforts to improve health insurance coverage in their communities. Researching state programs designed to reduce racial and ethnic health disparities. GNV4ALL was created to handle racial and economic disparities, and they are opening the *Gainesville Empowerment Zone Family Learning Center* for the community.

Ultimately, the issue at hand is one that will not dissolve overnight. As previously demonstrated, this issue is one that has been deeply engraved in our history. In the end, infectious diseases know no racial or ethnic boundary.

Black Americans are dying at twice the rate of white Americans

US Covid-19 deaths by race per 100,000 as of September 15, 2020



Note: Death rate figures are rounded
Source: APM Research Lab

Vox

An infographic on the comparison of U.S COVID-19 deaths (Photo/VOX/APM Research Lab)

Black Student Union : Engage, Empower, and Educate

By Roderick J. Jackson II

The Black Student Union at Santa Fe College is an organization in service to all African-American students on campus. The direct demand of the BSU is to engage and envelop students with a culture of community and collaboration in relation to the institution. Under the advice of the Black Enrichment Center specialist, Bianca Wilburn, we've managed to cultivate a sense of camaraderie amongst the constituents of the organization.

The Black Student Union has been known in its former years to be a true staple of the Santa Fe Saints community, and in the past semester alone we've taken the initiative upon ourselves to further that tradition. With the workload of

an average college student, it can be a bit daunting to ask the members of the organization to step into the community for a bit of social engagement. Yet, nearly every opportunity we've either created solely from our own budget or from the generosity of the college. It has been executed through great efficiency and effort. From volunteer work with different schools: elementary, middle, and high school, to some of the more social events held such as open mics hosted by us, and even museum tours to stimulate a comfort in higher education.

We take immense pride in expanding campus diversity, inclusion, and overall outreach to the individual student. The mission of BSU is to strive in a continuous charge toward a more inclusive, sustainably successful,

college community so that all members of our organization understand that their voices are heard, and their presence on campus is felt.

A group photo from the volunteer experience the Black Student Union was a part of in collaboration with Student Life in support of middle schoolers. (Photo/BSU)



My Sister's Keeper: Advancing Women Empowerment

By Tiffany Gonzalez-Sanchez
Student-Involvement Editor

My Sister's Keeper provides a place where they can be themselves unapologetically and without fear of prejudice. My Sister's Keeper (MSK) is a Santa Fe College student club; it is for women by women. In a recent interview, Vice President Val Deris stated that MSK's primary mission is to advance "the conscious understanding that women of color are in need of empowerment; not only by their peers and constituents, but by society—and this place is going to be a welcoming environment for them."

MSK's primary focus is creating a prosperous community for women of color—specifically "for Black women," said Deris. Nonetheless, the club welcomes every woman regardless of race—offering an all-encompassing sisterhood. Throughout her interview, Deris warmly recalled profound feelings of belonging and empowerment which

she gained upon joining MSK. Deris highlighted that, even before becoming an official member, she experienced a heartfelt "companionship" with MSK's current president; "it was more than a friendship, it was—and is—a sisterhood."

MSK is a unique club because of its attribution of success to the community. In the words of Deris, "we [woman students] are all just trying to get our education. College can be a stressful time in our lives, and in these times community support is imperative to success."

Not only does MSK foster safe and authentic sisterhood, but it also provides countless opportunities. Notably, this club considers opportunities for amplifying women's voices to be a top priority. As a branch of the Black Excellence Committee, MSK provides an established platform for Black women to voice their experiences and concerns directly to Santa Fe. Additionally, Deris explained that MSK's partnership with My Brother's Keeper (MBK) creates

a particularly open and respectful environment where "we can have a lot of conversation on gender roles." Through community and collaboration, MSK facilitates a unique platform—and they want your voice included.

Continuing this community-based approach, MSK emphasizes outreach. This is exemplified by their involvement in both student-life and community service. MSK recently volunteered at a local middle school where they successfully promoted com-

munity support amongst the children by partaking in group activities such as team sports. Many of these events are collaborations with MBK.

When asked if there was anything she wanted to speak on individually, Deris explained that her personal goal is to solidify "the understanding that we are going to be an organization like MBK" and to propose that Santa Fe College "consider giving some funding to a soon to be organization that empowers and lifts up woman of color."

Join MSK: Email shariel.jones@sfcollege.edu or valerie.deris@go.sfcollege.edu
Meet Friends and Collaborators: Any day of the week in the MBK room (NW Campus, I-Building)
Stay Updated: Email shariel.jones@sfcollege.edu or valerie.deris@go.sfcollege.edu for access to MSK's GroupMe.



MSK creates meaningful conversations in collaboration with MBK. (Photo/MSK)

Trans Rights: Cont. (5)

Next, in the senate, *Clay Yarborough*, a Republican from Duval County, proposed SB 254 on the same day that HB 1421 was proposed. Yarborough's bill's most notable proposition is to grant Florida jurisdiction over any child who is receiving, or is even "at risk" of receiving gender-affirming care. By amending an already-existing law, this bill lumps gender-affirming care with our general understanding of child abuse. To show how confusing and misleading this language is, here is an excerpt from the bill, including Yarborough's amendment: "A court of this state has temporary emergency jurisdiction if the child is present in this state and the child has been abandoned or it is necessary in an emergency to protect the child because the child, or a sibling or parent of the child, is subjected to or threatened with mistreatment or abuse or is at risk of or is being subjected to the provision of sex reassignment prescriptions or procedures as defined in s. 87 456.001." Here, we see a clear effort to equate the treatment of trans children to traditional child abuse. This equivalency becomes even more troubling come section 2 of this bill. Section two covers jurisdic-

tion by stating that, whichever state protects the child best, should take jurisdiction of the case. Now, insofar as the bill views gender-affirming care as child abuse, SB 254 will almost always take jurisdiction over another state, whose laws may protect trans rights.

Between the two bills, Florida is creating an environment where transgender individuals will have to decide between the financial ruin that uninsured healthcare brings, or the misery of being denied their own existence. Even if these individuals can afford care without insurance, the care will come with the fear of a botched procedure with no possibility of legal recourse. For trans children in Florida, the reality is even more grim. They must exist without treatment, and if their parents are brave enough to seek treatment, the child can be taken into state custody. There is an ideology in Florida and beyond that is actively pursuing the eradication of transgender individuals. We all must work to support our fellow citizens, now more than ever. *The NIH* states that 82% of transgender people have considered suicide and 40% have attempted. If these bills pass, we can only expect these numbers to get worse.

SF's LGBTQ+ Student Resource Center, established in 2021, provides an affirming and welcoming space for all LGBTQ+ students. We work to provide community empowerment and offer support and resources that incorporate principles of social justice to reduce homophobia and transphobia on SF campus and beyond. We have special events, a lending library, and plenty of study and social space.

Come by and visit our space Monday-Thursday from 9:30AM to 4:30PM in S-212.

Email jojo.sacks@sfcollege.edu with any questions.

Subscribe to

The Gainesville Iguana

*progressive newsletter and
calendar of events.*

352-378-5655



www.gainesvilleiguana.org

A Letter From The Editor

Greetings! If you hadn't caught the details in the upper-left corner of our front page, this is The Saint Bernard's first volume *and* first issue. We are debuting history as Santa Fe's first newspaper in over two decades. While lacking an easy feat, as you've also read from our front page, I believe it is my duty to express the sheer accomplishment of the writers you read within these pages. As our co-Founder message promotes, truthfully, this all started in an email. From it, I couldn't

have imagined it would flourish into The Saint Bernard. In the beginning, my biggest fear was not gaining enough writers up to the task. I knew I would be asking for students, outside of their own scholarly responsibilities, to write and edit on their own time. I'd be asking them to attend weekly meetings, to not shy away from criticism, and to inevitably, cope within the chaos of an ever-changing, brand-new student newspaper. With each meeting, I grew speechless over the

amount of students dedicated to achieving this goal. As a team, we didn't hold back from one another. I thank each staff member for their devotion to the creation of The Saint Bernard, your commitment is an example for all journalists aiming to make a stand and create a better future for the media industry. I honor your passion immensely.

- SJ

Art Club Promotes Creativity

By Cali Perry
Public Relations Editor

Art Club is the "perfect way to learn new skills and meet new people" according to Kathleen Harton, the President of the club and current Associates-of-Arts' student at Santa Fe College. Their goal is to support budding artists on campus and help them grow in skills, all while making friends. Throughout the semester, the Art Club has hosted exciting workshops such as candlemaking, mosaics tiling, calligraphy and more. In future semesters, they plan to keep current workshops and potentially add new ones, such as a crochet workshop.

They also stress the importance of community involvement. One weekend during November, the Art Club was involved in the 41st Annual Downtown Festival and Art Show in Gainesville. Beyond this, the club offers volunteer opportunities locally at places like the Repurpose Project, a non-profit that diverts useful resources from the landfills and redirects them to be used for art projects. They also recently assisted in an after school program for kids to teach art and help with craft projects.

The Art Club exists on other Santa Fe College campuses in the area. While the club at the main campus is focused on workshops, the

Watson Center campus is currently working on a picnic table painting project. Their plan is to paint the picnic tables around campus with fun images and bright colors. Keep an eye out for this project if you are ever on Watson Center campus.

Anyone and everyone who wants to try something new is welcome to join the Art Club. They always welcome new members and encourage students to try something new. Currently, they meet twice a week but this is subject to change with the following semesters. To take a look at previous workshops and events, as well as contact them for more information, check out their Instagram @sf_artclub.

Saving Energy with The CWC

By Daniel Dull
Student Reporter

With inflation raising prices on nearly every aspect of life and wages remaining stagnant, it is now more important than ever to check our expenses and save as much as possible. One often overlooked expense is our utilities. Electric bills seem to progressively get higher, but anyone like myself knows that it's almost impossible to cut down on electric usage without regressing back to the dark ages. The Community Weatherization Coalition (CWC), however, can help with plugging any unnoticed leaks in our power usage.

Originally founded by a group of leaders concerned about rising energy costs, the CWC operates inside of Alachua county to provide energy

audits and free energy tune-ups for Alachua county residents since 2008. Their 2021 annual report on energy savings states that their volunteers managed to provide energy audits for 33 households since late July (they had stopped providing services in early March due to the covid pandemic.)

Alane Humrich, the current director of the CWC, can be reached at (352) 450-4965. Those interested in registering for an energy audit can also apply online at <https://communityweatherization.org>.

The CWC's energy audits typically involve experienced volunteers coming to a property in person and analyzing and explaining in detail how a homeowner or renter can cut down on energy costs. However, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, they developed a DIY program that allows residents

to pick up a testing kit and provide their own energy audits within the safety of their own home. While it's best to go the traditional route and have an expert take a look, those with tight schedules can register for the DIY option and pick up a test kit. Their volunteers have several videos published on youtube demonstrating the best ways to perform this self test, and since the program began, over 100 households in 2021 participated.

Having these energy audits performed can help homeowners fight the growing costs of utilities and thus keep more money in their pockets. Reports from the Gainesville Sun estimate these audits can reduce utility bills by up to 20%. While the CWC does accept donations, the tune-ups are free as well.

THE SAINT BERNARD NEWSPAPER

We need your support! A thriving student newspaper requires community involvement. We encourage clubs and organizations of Santa Fe College to contact us regarding press coverage. We encourage both students and teachers to provide feedback with each passing issue. Please reach out to us for story leads, ways to get involved, letters to the Editor, student/teacher guest article submissions, as well as art and creative writing submissions. We also want to promote the community by providing space in the future for local business ads. If interested, please email. Promote, engage and connect with us at thesaintbernardnewspaper@gmail.com or on our Instagram, [@thestbernardnewspaper](https://www.instagram.com/thestbernardnewspaper).

SF Animal Education Club

By Cali Perry
Public Relations Editor

The Animal Education Club, evolved from the Animal Lovers League, provides opportunities to come together to learn more about animal species. Dillion Muegge, the Vice President of the Animal Education Club, outlined the organization and their goals. The club has three goals. First, they want to educate the next generation of professionals in the animal world and help them meet their career goals. Second, they want to offer hands-on experience to everyone. Third, they want to increase knowledge about animals and professions related to animals through guest

speakers. Above everything, they want everyone to have the opportunity to learn. They welcome anyone and everyone who has an interest in participating and learning. Some meetings include an informative guest speaker, while others are more social...they have a diverse portfolio of events.

During this semester, they have been involved in the community, specifically within two organizations around Gainesville. The first is the nearby retirement home for horses, where they provide shelter and food for other equine animals. This semester they volunteered around the farm, helping care for the horses and doing numerous odd jobs around the property. Another organization

they have participated in is the Jungle Friends Primate Sanctuary, helping with measuring medication, mending fences, cleaning enclosures, and numerous other helpful tasks. Both volunteer locations are excellent for networking with professionals to build contacts for after-school opportunities, should the participants make that a priority. They have plans for events in the upcoming semester so students can make the most of their time at Santa Fe College.

If you would like to learn more, contact the club directly and they would be more than happy to update you. Follow them on Instagram [@sf_animateducationclub](https://www.instagram.com/sf_animateducationclub) to stay up to date.

In it's highest excellence, The Saint Bernard declares:

We don't misidentify or misrepresent ourselves to get a story. When we seek an interview, we identify ourselves as journalists. We always strive to identify all the sources of our information. We balance the newsworthiness of a story with respect for privacy and safety. We do not provide full lists of questions in advance or allow interview subjects to approve our text or images before publication. We must be fair. When mistakes are made, they must be corrected – fully, quickly, transparently and ungrudgingly.

Our Editorial page does not reflect the opinions of The Saint Bernard Newspaper as a whole or Santa Fe College. It is meant to provide well-evidenced claims on potentially controversial issues.

We are ALWAYS looking for suggestions. Email thesaintbernardnewspaper@gmail.com.

Ethics Bowl Competes in National Championship

By Cali Perry
Public Relations Editor

When it comes to math, there is only one right answer. When it comes to ethics, there is only one wrong answer... and that is to refuse to talk about it. The Ethics Bowl team at Santa Fe College talks about controversial, ethical issues both civilly and collegially amongst the team and other colleges. They share opinions on ethical topics like the morality of zoos, if vaccines should be mandated, and whether or not medical autonomy should be granted to minors. It is meant to be a safe space within Santa Fe College to discuss these topics, furthering the development of minds and learning about the world and themselves. Opinions are never black and white; they're gray and on a spectrum.

On November 19th 2022, the Santa Fe team competed at the APPE 2022 Two-Year College National Championship Ethic Bowl at Georgia Military College in Milledgeville, Georgia. It is a competitive yet collaborative event where stu-

dents discuss real-life ethical topics. Organized by Brigadier General Rock Donahue, this was a professional event with elegance. During an ethics bowl, teams are asked insightful questions attached to one of fifteen cases. The team, which has been meeting all semester, has memorized positions, arguments, alternative viewpoints, and stakeholders surrounding each case. To maintain a fair playing ground, all matches stick to this regimented schedule. Judges distribute points throughout the cases, and the team that receives the most points wins. Santa Fe's team is composed of captains Amy Trask and Kyle Garzon, and members Apourva Bangalore Raviprashd and Marcus Perry. They are coached by Dr. Ron Claypool.

First, Santa Fe College went against Triton College from River Grove, Illinois. Triton College discussed a case titled *Abandoned? Well That's Too Bad*. This case surrounds the Rowe family suing due to health concerns arising from a leak of harmful substances from a well on their property. The question the team was re-

sponsible for answering was, *'Who is to blame?'* Santa Fe received the case *Damn the Dam*. It questions the ethicality of draining Lake Powell before it dries up naturally, taking into consideration then tens of thousands of people relying on it and that there are radioactive chemicals at the bottom. Santa Fe won this dialogue.

The second team Santa Fe faced was Marion Military College from Marion, Alabama. The conversation zipped between teams, making it an engaging discussion. Marion presented the case *Do No Harm* which revolved around the criminal charges filed against nurse RaDonda Vaught after her medical negligence contributed to a patient's death. Santa Fe received the case *Justice Delayed, Justice Denied* which discussed the miscarriage of justice for Emmitt Till, a 14-year-old boy who was lynched in Alabama in 1955 after one woman's lie went too far. Would this woman, who escaped punishment at the time, be better punished in today's climate. We were victorious in this talk.

Third, Santa Fe went

against Harper College who visited from Palestine, Illinois. They were awarded with the case *Do Innocents Pay The Price: Is it ethical to ban athletes who represent sanctioned countries from sporting events?* Santa Fe presented *A Minor Problem* which begs the question when, if ever, is it ethical for a minor to have medical autonomy. The judges decided in Harper College's favor.

Lastly, Santa Fe defended against the home team, Georgia Military College. They had the case *Anti-Vax or Anti-American*, which asked, *'Is it ethical to deny graduation to cadets for refusing the Covid vaccination?'* Santa Fe received *Freedom of Tweets*, a case about whether online content moderation is ethical on private and public platforms and what limit, if any, companies like Twitter should place on their platforms. This case was lost by a single point.

In the past seven years, Santa Fe College has made an appearance at five national championships. Last year our two teams beat both of the teams from Yale. Yes, the

one known for producing Ivy League leaders and thinkers. Santa Fe was ranked #1 in the state of Florida for 6 years and #14 nationally (a group of more than 300 teams.)

There are many ways the ethics bowl can help promote personal growth, both personally and professionally. In the words of Amy Trask, one of the team's captains, "I realized success and understanding was synonymous with communicating." Civil discourse in the ethics bowl increases communication skill, therefore increasing future success. The cases mentioned encompass important topics that often cause arguments. Instead of yelling at each other, these cases are discussed in a formal and respectful manner. The ethics bowl teaches members how to craft a civil discourse - they are not trying to be loud, aggressive or persuasive, but rather confidently discuss what you believe is the ethical thing to do in the case while providing opposing viewpoints and supporting your belief.