3115 Friendship Place Rockledge, FL 32955 Telephone: [321] 242-1117 Return Service Requested Consulting Minister THE Reverend Beth Miller THE FRIENDSHIP FellowSHIP At PinedA A Unitarian Universalist Congregation in the Liberal Tradition

Website: www.uuspacecoast.org

THE FRIENDSHIP FLYER

Volume 24 Number 7

Our mission is to promote living with love and reason

July 2016

DATE	SPEAKER	SUBJECT	SERVICE LEADER	GREETER	TOUCH OF BEAUTY	HOSPITALITY HOST			
July 3	Dr. Greg Cavenaugh , Assistant Professor at Rollins College in Winter Park	What We Need To Tell Those We Care About		Kitty Linton	Betty Allison	Ruth Rodgers			
July 10	The Reverend Kathleen Damewood Korb , Ministerial Advisor to the West Central Florida Cluster	Can Two Walk Together (agreement in diversity)	Brad Baker		Rosemary Stroda	Catherine George and Kitty Linton			
July 17	Lexi Wright , Space Coast Pride		Kathy Kelly		Kitty Linton	Birthday Cake:			
July 24	Dr. Fred Gregory, University of Florida Professor Emeritus of History of Science	Isaac Newton, Unitarian	Andy Petruska	Helen Bennett	Marcia Berry	Kathy Lees Marcia Berry			
July 31	Dr. Steve Noll , Professor of History at the University of Florida	Florida's Environmental History			Vicki Barlow				

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We have a strong group of volunteers who serve lunch at Melbourne's "Soup Kitchen" on the third Thursday of each month. Summer vacations and Snow Birds leaving have left us a bit short, so we are looking for other Members and Friends to help us out.



Please let us know if you can help. Contact **Donna Burleson 321-254-6793** for information. She will be happy to add your name to the volunteer group.



Story For All Ages My Father's Hands ...Joanne Ryder, illustrated by Mark Graham Read by Laura Petruska 06/19/2016

WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB SHUTTERED FOR SUMMER Starting this month, July, the Women's Book Club will be suspended for the summer. It will resume October 19, the third Wednesday of the

TO ACTIVE FELLOW FFPs ... from B & G Chair

month.



Cordially, ... Alan Osborne To those of you who want to help keep our FFP grounds looking attractive:

Every third Saturday of every odd month, starting July 16, then on September 17 and November 19, and so on from 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM Buildings & Grounds will have a clean-up session.

The focus will be on removing clutter from unwanted sources, trimming bushes, weeding overgrown areas, treating fences, resetting sunken slabs, and other items in need of TLC.

Please let me know a week ahead of the above dates so that meaningful tasks can be undertaken. My email, is: jaaosborne@ yahoo.com



BRAD'S BEARINGS

In his book American Grace: How Religion Divides and Unites Us, Robert Putnam discusses religious pluralism, religious polarization, the gradual decline of religious identification, the rise of the "nones", religious switching, and religious tolerance.

The book also covers the decline of mainline churches and the growth of mega churches in America. Rick Warren's Saddleback Valley

Community Church is the book's example of a growing megachurch.

Here are a few highlights:

- 1. Saddleback works hard to be inviting and friendly. It has developed hundreds of small groups to build and maintain friendships among members. The groups center on individual interest more than geographic location.
- 2. Conservative politics, particularly on social issues, drive many young people away from Evangelical churches. Most Americans embrace religious diversity and 85% believe morality is a personal matter.
- 3. Most churches are racially homogenous, but church attendees have more racially diverse friendships than non-attendees.
- 4. Religious Americans are happier than secular Americans. This is not because of belief, but because they have more friendships.
- 5. Religious Americans tend to be better neighbors then secular Americans. They belong to more civic organizations, donate more money, and volunteer more of their time in the community than non-attendees. This is true for both religious conservatives and religious liberals.
- 6. Religious identity is fairly fluid; approximately 50% of Americans have either switched their religious tradition or become inactive.
- 7. People mostly change congregations when they move or undergo another major life transition. 60% of the time they choose a congregation based on theology and belief, but they have to connect and build friendships within the congregation to continue attending.

How does this apply to Friendship Fellowship? I think it shows how important it is for us to reach out to our visitors and new members and involve them in our community. Building a community takes place when one joins the choir, talks to others while drinking coffee, attends the film series, the Woman's Friendship Circle, the Social Justice group, the Book Discussion group, the Current Events discussion group, a committee, or our other activities. The service is just the beginning. The groups build a sustainable fellowship of friends.

Thank you,

... Brad

Inputs to the *Friendship Flyer* August 2016 edition are due to the editor by Sunday, July 24



July 2016

Comings, goings, and doings for FF@P

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Girl Scouts Sundays-July 3, 10, 17, 24, & 31 2:00—4:00 PM Coffee House		Choir Practice: Every Tuesday 7:00 PM Friendship Hall			1	2
3 Sun Svc 10:30 AM Sunday Morning Discussion: 9:15-10:15 AM Coffee House— Current Events	4	5	6 Summer Film Discussion Series: Amazing Grace (ending slave trade in British Empire) Friendship Hall, 1:00 PM (Helen Bennett)	7 Women's Friendship Circle: 10:30 AM Coffee House	8	9
10 Sun Svc 10:30 AM Sunday Morning Discussion: 9:15-10:15 AM Coffee House— Current Events	11 CLC Mtg: Coffee House, 6:00 PM	12	13 Summer Film Discussion Series: De-Lovely (about Cole Porter) Friendship Hall, 1:00 PM (Helen Bennett)	14	15	16
17 Sun Svc 10:30 AM Sunday Morning Discussion: 9:15-10:15 AM Coffee House— Current Events	18	19 Daily Bread Volunteers meet Tuesday at Daily Bread 10:30 AM	20 Summer Film Discussion Series: Judgment at Nuremberg (Post WWII Nazi trials) Friendship Hall, 1:00 PM (Helen Bennett)	21 Criminal Justice: Presentation 6:00-7:00 PM Friendship Hall (John Mandela)	22	23
24/31 Sun Svc 10:30 AM Sunday Morning Discussion: 9:15-10:15 AM Coffee House— Current Events		26	27 Summer Film Discussion Series: Lust for Life (Vincent van Gogh) Friendship Hall, 1:00 PM (Helen Bennett)	28 The Editor nee August inputs by 24 July (Sooner is Ba	y Sunday,	30

Dr. TUCKER: "NO GREATER LOVE" (For Memorial Day)"

Robert P. Tucker, Ph.D., Minister Emeritus of the UU Congregation of Lakeland, Florida, spoke of the true reasons for celebrating Memorial Day. Some might wonder why it is that we have chosen to dedicate this service to a secular holiday whose purpose it is to honor those who have died while serving in the armed services of the United States. Does not such an act, he asked, somehow disregard the separation



May 29

of church and state that we UUs are so careful to defend? Does it not tread closely to the keen sensitivity that not all wars are just? Does it not fly in the face of Samuel Johnson's opinion that "Patriotism is the last refuge of a scoundrel?" These and others are weighty questions worthy of being asked.

On the other hand, military service is a major rite of passage for millions of Americans, both male and female. More so, war involving American combatants affects all of us, families and friends of those in the military, and eventually all citizens of this country. These effects are immediate as well as long lasting ... they can endure for generations and touch people's lives long after the battles have ceased.

The basic Americana ideal for its citizens has always been, in the words of our *Declaration of Independence*: "Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

Our nation is 240 years old. Born in revolution, challenged from within and without, it has always been necessary that we maintain a strong military. Today, we have almost one and a half million men and women of active duty throughout the world, and over 800,000 reservists. Since 1776 over 40 million people have served in the U.S. military with over 25 million American veterans now living as civilians and over 18 million of these have served in time of war.

For most of its history, America has been blessed with peace. On ten different occasions, over 40 million armed forces members have been called upon to fight in major wars. In every case they have performed valiantly, giving what was demanded of them, and more. Many were wounded, countless others suffered psychological trauma, and over one million service men and women lost their lives defending this country.

Shakespeare called way the "son of Hell!" Civil War Union General Brigadier-General William Tecumseh Sherman said, "There is many a boy here today who looks on war as all glory, but, boys, it is all Hell ... I look upon war with horror." Dwight David Eisenhower often spoke out against the horrors of war, "I hate war as only a soldier who has lived it can, only as one who has seen its brutality, its futility, its stupidity. Any man who is forced to turn his attention to the horrors of the battlefield, to the grotesque shapes that are left there for the burying squads—he doesn't want war!"

Our Civil War, for example, was more than a horror. Americans fought Americans, brothers against brothers, fathers against sons, not to mention the dreadfulness of the Andersonville and Elmira prisoner-of-war camps. But much worse was to follow: the trench warfare and poison gas attacks of World War I; atrocities such as the bombing of Pearl Harbor and the Bataan Death March in World War II, brain-washing and physical torture during the Korean war, and the notorious tiger-pens holding American POWs during and even after the Viet Nam War.



SUE HUSEMAN: University of Maine at Machias President!

Sue Huseman, Member of the Congregation at Friendship Fellowship from November 24, 2014, served as the University's Acting President from 2003-2004. While on vacation at her Maine homestead, she agreed to come out of retirement to lead the system's smallest campus in July and is expected to remain through the end of the year. Her tenure may be extended by up to two three-months after that.



According to the *Bangor News*, she will be charged with continuing to build ties between the system's smallest university and its largest.

We sincerely hope to get her back when she retires ... again.



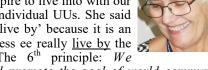
Story For All Ages Where Once There Was a Wood By Denise Fleming Read by Pat Tebbe 06/12/2016

"Give me liberty or give me death!" –Patrick Henry, 1775. "Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal"—Abraham Lincoln, 1863. The four freedoms: speech, worship, from want, from fear—Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1941. "Let every nation know ... that we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe to assure the survival and the success of liberty."—John F. Kennedy, 1961. For a nation to "fulfill its destiny," it must survive. Calvin Coolidge declared: "The nation which forgets its defenders will be itself forgotten."

Dr. Tucker concluded ... We UUs are not simple-minded people. We understand how wrong is: "Our country, right or wrong!" Nor bumper stickers in the 1960s: "America, love it or leave it." Despite the limitations of nationalism, we can still recognize that patriotism, as a tool for establishing and maintaining human freedom, is worth our conditional respect and of our periodically re-examined practice. ... jce

Rev BETH MILLER ADDRESSES UU PRINCIPLE #6: WORLD COMMUNITY WITH PEACE, LIBERTY and JUSTICE June 5

Friendship Fellowship Consulting Minister Beth Miller, in covering the seven UU Principles, had number 6 as today's subject. The seven principles are an articulation of the values we affirm and aspire to live into with our congregations, and as individual UUs. She said 'live into' rather than 'live by' because it is an ongoing, life-long process ee really live by the values we profess. The 6th principle: We



covenant to affirm and promote the goal of world community with peace, liberty and justice for all.

The Reverend Sean Denison in his book The Seven Principles in Word and Worship wrote: "The sixth principle seems extravagant in its hopefulness and improbable in its prospects. So much has happened since the principles were adopted in 1961 and revised in 1985. Can we continue to say we want world community Peace, liberty and justice for all? The world if full of genocide, abuse, terror, and war. What have we gotten ourselves into? ... There is no guarantee that we will succeed, but I can assure you that we improve ourselves and improve the world by trying."

Trying is a calling for people of faith. ... we can't allow ourselves to give up on it. Trying is just what we do, each in our own ways with our own abilities and gifts.

Olympia Brown, the first woman to be ordained to our ministry in 1863 put the notion of world community this way: "Every nation must learn that the people of all nations are children of God, and must share the wealth of the world. You may say this is impossible, far away, can never be accomplished, but it is what we are appointed to do. Sometime, somehow, somewhere, we must each teach this great lesson."

In 1945, when WWII had ended, much of Europe and Japan were in ruins and the world wanted peace. Leaders of 51 countries came together and created the United Nations. Its purpose was to maintain international peace and security and provide humanitarian aid, protect human rights, uphold international law, and promote democracy. They envisioned a world community with peace, liberty and justice for all people. There are now 193 member states, and the UN has helped make the world a safer, freer and better place.

The world may not be there yet, but it is a better place according to the Center for American Progress. There were five worldwide positive trends at the end of 2013:

1. We live longer. In the 1950s the worldwide life expectancy was 47, in 2011 it was 70, an increase of 50%.

2. Fewer live in extreme poverty. Between 1981 and 2010, 721 million fewer lived in extreme poverty, a decrease from 40% to 14%.

3. There are fewer wars with fewer deaths and the world is getting to know more freedom. The number of deaths by civil wars and wars between counties per 100,000 world citizens has decreased drastically from 300 in WWII to 30 during the Korean War to less than 10 in the 70s and 80s. Now in the 21stcentury it is less than one!

Since the end of WWII, the percentage that were democratic rose from just a few to more than 60% today. A freer world is

ortotation and the second s continued at the bottom of the next column





Story For All Ages Sav Hello! by Linda Davick Read by Ruth Rodgers 05/29/2016

safer because democracies almost never engage in war against each other

4. Violent crimes are decreasing, those of citizens against each other as well as crimes governments commit against their citizens. Slavery is nearly eradicated. Torture as a legal punishment has gone down. The developed world has seen a huge decrease in murders, robberies, and car thefts.

5. Discrimination has declined. Racism, sexism, homophobia, and other forms of discrimination are not gone ... by a long shot. But over time people have made great progress in fighting those issues. African-Americans were in chains 150 years ago. European Jews were massacred more recently. But things continue to improve.

Of course this doesn't mean that we are there yet, that the world is fine just as it is. There's still too much poverty, too much violence, too much disease, too much discrimination, too much misunderstanding and hatred. It doesn't mean we can sit back and relax. On the contrary, it is till our calling to try to make the world a better place. Reverend Beth is sharing these positive trends in the world's recent history because they are hopeful and can encourage us to contribute to them, to keep trying.

She closed with the following Robert F. Kennedy quote: "Few will have the greatness to bend history itself, but each of us can work to change a small portion of events. It is from numberless diverse of courage and belief that human history is shaped. Each time a man stands up for an ideal, or acts to improve the lot of others, or strikes out against injustice, he sends forth a tiny ripple of hope, and crossing each other from a million different centers of energy and daring those ripples build a current which can sweep sown the mightiest walls of oppression and resistance.'

Be a ripple. Keep trying.

Founders Day ... 23 Years ... June 5, 2016





Sid Sherman gave an accurate perception of Friendship

Founders available for picture taking

The Friendship Flyer

David Peterson, Erich Dalton, Barbara Kurtz, John Curry, Donna Dalton, Lorraine Hennig, Smitty Hooper, Eppie Root, Ruth Rodgers, Sid Sherman (John England ... absent ... shot this picture)

Same people in r/h picture, except John England is between Erich Dalton and John Curry (Barbara Kurtz ... absent ... shot this picture)





The Friendship Flyer

Reverend BETH MILLER ... "A MATTER OF PRINCIPLES #7: THE INTERDEPENDENT WEB" June 12, 2016

In the last of a seven-part sermon series, the Reverend Beth Miller talked about "respect for the interdependent web of existence of which we are a part." As she has stressed at the beginning of each of these sermons, these principles are not a creed to which we must subscribe but rather a set of visions that lead us, in the words of Doug Muder, contributing editor of UU World magazine, "into a challenging spiritual path."



This notion of an interdependent web is not new, nor limited to Unitarian-Universalism. The Gaia Hypothesis of the 1970s portrayed the earth and everything within its atmosphere as a fully integrated, self-regulating system that we must be in harmony with if we do not want to become extinct, and in the 1990s the idea of Conscious Evolution taught that humanity has the ability to choose either cooperation and co-creation or selfdestruction. These movements support what ancient earth-based religions have always taught: "The earth does not belong to us; we belong to the earth."

We all understand and accept this idea of the interdependent web, but the challenging religious path for UUs is to affirm and promote RESPECT for that interdependence. As Albert Einstein once said, "The world we have created is a product of our thinking. It cannot be changed without changing our thinking," and if we do not want to become extinct, we must not only change our thinking but do what we can to change others as well.

One such path to change is Earth Charter 2000, an international declaration of fundamental principles for building a just, sustainable, and peaceful global society in the 21st century. It calls upon humanity to create a global partnership and proposes that environmental protection, human rights, equitable human interdependent development, and peace are and indivisible. Begun in 1968 by Maurice Strong and Mikhail Gorbachev, its proposals were too forward-thinking and too politically fraught to be dealt with at that time, so it lay dormant until being revived in 1994, again by Strong and Gorbachev. A six-year drafting process began, overseen by the Earth Charter Commission, a worldwide group whose purpose was to develop a global consensus on values and principles for building a just, sustainable, and peaceful global society in the 21st century.

This Earth Charter declares that "the dominant patterns of production and consumption are causing environmental devastation, the depletion of resources, and a massive extinction of species." It points out that benefits are not shared equally, the gap between rich and poor is widening, the rise in human population has overburdened ecological and social systems, and the foundations of global security are threatened. This charter has been endorsed by the United Nations, many world governments and non-governmental organizations, activist groups, universities, youth organizations, and religious groups, including the UUA. It offers a vision of hope and a call to action.

Another hopeful avenue toward changing thinking is what many call the Great Turning. Mohandas Gandhi once said, "The difference between what we do and what we are capable of doing would suffice to solve most of the world's problems." The Great Turning is about moving humanity from what we currently do to what we're capable of doing, and need to do, to turn our presence



To the Four Directions Four voices: Alan Osborne, Spike Wilds, Allen Claxton, Andy Petruska Sunday, June 19

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on the planet from self-destructive to sustainable. In his book. *The Great Turning: From Empire to Earth Community*, David Korten, former professor at the Harvard Business School, lays out the case for cooperation and partnership, and Johanna Macy, environmental activist and adjunct professor at Star King School for the Ministry, has made a documentary, *The Great Turning*, that explores the shift from industrial growth to a life-sustaining civilization.

This shift, says Korten, must begin with cultural turning, then economic turning, and finally political turning. From Arab Spring to the Occupy movement, from global concern about climate change to various human rights movements, there are significant signs that momentum is building around the planet for a cultural change. This, in turn, will lead to an economic turning—from measuring well-being by the size of our yachts and bank accounts to measuring it by the health of our families, communities and natural environment. Finally, political turning will follow.

What, concluded Miller, can we do to bridge the difference between what we do and what we are capable of doing? That is the challenging spiritual path of our 7th principle. She ended with the final sentence of Earth Charter 2000: "Let ours be a time remembered for the awakening of a new reverence for life, the firm resolve to achieve sustainability, the quickening of the struggle for justice and peace, and the joyful celebration of life."

...rr

Rodger Gourd's Celebration of Life

Held in Friendship Hall, Saturday, June 18

Top: Sally Gourd with table of Mementos Mid: Service ... most chairs were full Bottom: Catered and provided food ... a feast for all

Welcome

Laura & Carelton Walker Clifford Saylor Toni Mathis Kayt Kennedy Terica Shiflet

GUESTS

We extended our Friendship Welcome to these guests . . . and we encourage them to return again and again!

> Melbourne Cocoa Rockledge Cocoa Beach Palm Bay



The Friendship Flyer

SAVING OUR INDIAN RIVER LAGOON

Virginia Barker, Director of Brevard County Government's Natural Resources Management Department, gave an informative presentation covering the Indian River Lagoon. She earned a Master of Environmental Management degree from Duke University and her efforts have been repeatedly recognized through awards from local and state organizations, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.



The Indian River Lagoon consists of three lagoons: Mosquito Lagoon, Banana River, and the Indian River. It is the most biodiverse lagoon ecosystem in the North America, with more than 2100 species of plants and 2200 species of animals. Unfortunately, the Indian River Lagoon system is troubled. We see stories describing algae blooms and fish kills in the newspaper and on the evening news. Healing the lagoon requires both individual and community action. There are three main categories that need to be addressed to fix the lagoon. They are Reduce, Remove, and Restore:

- **REDUCE:** We must reduce the pollutant and nutrient inputs;
- **REMOVE:** Detrimental muck, and

• **RESTORE:** Oysters, clams, shorelines and wetlands, for filtration to reduce turbidity.

Before 2011 there were some indications that the lagoon's health was improving. Water levels of nitrogen and phosphorus had been decreased since 1994 and the total area of seagrass had increased to levels that met or exceeded the levels of 1943. However, there were also indicators that the lagoon's health was fragile, and possibly declining. Brevard oyster, clam, and blue crab harvests had fallen precipitously. Recently, the oyster harvest was 0.7%, the clam harvest was 0.2%, and the blue crab harvest was 11% of levels they were 27 years ago.

Nitrogen and phosphorous, found in fertilizer, are the two of major pollutants endangering the lagoon. They are nutrients to algae, which are simple plants. An oversupply of these nutrients, called eutrophication, results in algae blooms which reduces the amount light reaching the seagrass beds. When the algae die, the subsequent bacterial decay of the algae reduces free oxygen levels in the lagoon causing fish kills. Moreover, the nitrogen and phosphorus contained in the dead algae is then released creating the potential for additional algae blooms.

Brevard's 90,000 septic tanks and animal waste are sources of nitrogen and phosphorous that will eventually reach the lagoon. Moreover, Brevard operates six wastewater treatment plants and many of 16 municipalities also operate wastewater treatment plants, and they are potential sources of nitrogen and phosphorus.

Since 2011 there has been a significant loss of seagrass beds, several unusual mortality events, and significant algae blooms in the lagoon:

- 2011 Algae Super Bloom and Secondary Bloom
- 2012 and 2013 Brown Tide
- 2015 2105 Brown Tide and record breaking fish kills
- Unusual mortality events include the deaths of 223 Manatees, 74 Bottlenose Dolphins and 300+ Brown Pelicans

Problems with the lagoon are attributed not only to excessive levels of nutrients, but also to turbidity, color and chlorophyll

SID SHERMAN

Not *quite* as old as Methuselah, Our engaging Founder, Sid, Has a wonderful sense of humor, And we know he always did.

His knowledge is astounding, Of biblical proportions, From Adam to Revelation He has taught without distortions.

Just ask him about our history, He knows the vital truth Of the Genesis of the Bible And our congregation's youth.

He keeps count of our membership, He tells when we have a quorum; He can answer any question Of any kind of forum.

Sid attends our movies, He's one of our finest teachers On Judaism, the Roosevelts, And whatever the preacher preaches.

So as you reach ninety-seven We're proud that we can boast Of our famous Unitarian— The one we love the most!

> ... Helen Bennett June 23, 2016



which reduces the amount of light reaching the seagrass beds, and to "muck." The Indian River Lagoon originally had a sandy bottom covered with sea grasses. However, runoff from storm drains, hard surfaces, ditches, canals and tributaries have lead to an excessive accumulation of silt, sediment, and detritus called "muck". In some parts of the lagoon muck has reached depths of up to 15 feet. It blankets sea grasses, contributes to turbidity, and contains and releases a large supply of nutrients.

As individuals we can help restore the lagoon by reducing soil erosion by planting and mulching bare ground, keeping leaves and grass clippings out of ditches and the stormwater system, washing our cars over grass or at a car wash, participating in lagoon restoration projects, inspecting and maintaining septic tank systems, minimizing fertilizer, pesticide, herbicide and fungicide use, picking up after our pets, and replacing highmaintenance landscapes with Florida friendly plants.

As a community the five counties that border the lagoon, the seven counties in the lagoon watershed, and Florida's government need to work together to take a number of actions. Muck need to be removed and new construction needs to treat stormwater on site. The shoreline, oyster and clam restoration projects need to be increased. Vegetation needs to be removed from ponds and ditches. Erosion prevention during development and restoration needs to be enforced. Sewer service needs to be increased, and the number of septic tanks needs to be reduced. Fertilizer use needs to be regulated and the regulations enforced.ebb

CRIMINAL JUSTICE FORUM Summary June 16



Neither rain nor wind could deter people committed to experience an evening of world class entertainment by Keaton Damir Akins and an insightful presentation by Sheriff Iven's Reentry program Corporal Sherri Somers here at the Friendship Fellowship Hall in Rockledge, Florida.

I wanted to thank our guests Keaton Damir Akins, Trumpeter extraordinaire whose artistic use of the instrument in song touched the heart and soul of the struggle that goes on here in these United States.

Corporal Sherri Somers gave those present an idea of what the Sheriff's Reentry program is all about with a short video by Sheriff Ivey. Corporal Somers talked about the Care, Custody, and Control of people that the Brevard County Sheriff's Office is responsible for each day.

The Corporal also talked about the release process when a man or a woman walks "down the ramp" upon leaving the jail. The letting go with the realization that tough choices begin for those leaving.

The community was apprised on the need for Housing, Food, and Clothing when those men and women "with their back to the wall" are released.

Trumpeter Keaton Damir Akins entertained us with songs from his recently released album, *The Thus Comes One's Secret*. I especially enjoyed the striking dichotomy of *America the Beautiful* and *America the Barbarous*.

Special thanks to Breathing Space Florida and Helen Bennett's Friendship Fellowship Adult Education program for cosponsoring the Criminal Justice Forum evenings. Thanks to all who braved the weather and helped to make the evening a success. Laura Petruska, Aland and Pearl Osborne, Brad Baker, Kitty Linton, Dustin Wells, Dave Ferrier, Marshall Frank, Helen Bennett, Rosemary Stroda, David Warren, Don Oates, Bobbie Keith, Mandy Verderosa, Billy Maxwell, Allen and Harriet Claxton, Catherine George, and Jean Harris.

Special thanks also to David McMillian, owner of Carraba's here in Suntree for donating a pan of vegetable Lasagna for guests.

Members of Friendship Fellowship and others enjoyed the music, poetry, refreshments and, most importantly, the facts and dialogue about what is happening in our community. ... John Mandala

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DON'T TELL PUBLIX!

As I slowly meander down that aisle I find my soap, and its name is Dial, But I know they're keeping my tastes on file— Till there's no more smile and there's no more Dial!

Somehow I even forgot to hoard The delicious roast beef called Carving Board, So now every time I go to the store No longer can I be buying more.

And whether the item is big or little, It vanishes, like Brownie Brittle, And if the Meringue cookie is green In Publix it nevermore is seen.

Do you know what I am talking about? They've even banished my sauerkraut! And my chili powder, Amazing Taste, Has taken a powder from Publix, with haste.

So how can I manage to survive When these products I need to keep me alive, Have vanished from every Publix shelf Because of that tattling Publix elf?

> ... Helen Bennett June 16, 2016

