

First Coast Tiger Bay Tracks



November 2018 The First Coast Tiger Bay Club, Inc. P.O. Box 2608, Jacksonville, FL 32203

Homelessness in Jacksonville November 16, 2018

Tramp, vagrant and transient are only some of the pejorative words used to describe homeless people. The term “homeless” usually refers to people who are unsheltered (including those staying in emergency or transitional shelters). In the Jacksonville area it remains a chronic problem with both moral and fiscal dimensions. How large is the homeless population locally, what are its causes and what policies address these issues? A recent survey of the homeless in the Duval, Nassau and Clay County area provide some answers:

<https://christensen-project.psychiatry.ufl.edu/2018/03/09/homelessness-in-jacksonville/>



To help us address these questions our **First Coast Tiger Bay Club** speaker for the November program will be **Dawn Gillman**, Chief Executive Officer for Changing Homelessness since 2009. The official agency description specifies:

*The mission of **Changing Homelessness** is to guide the community effort to prevent and end homelessness by providing*

leadership, advocacy, support, standards, and fund-

ing. As the area Lead Agency on Homelessness, we foster communication and provide training to 40 member agencies that offer direct services to people in need. Always in search for new grants and funding opportunities for our Mission, we are also in charge of providing data collection coordination for these services through the Homeless Information Management System (HMIS), ensuring useful data with the highest integrity possible. We analyze this data to trend changes occurring in the populations our member agencies serve. We are proud that our community has seen an 80% reduction in Veteran homelessness, 50% in chronic homelessness and a 30% decrease in overall homelessness since 2009. The agency manages approximately \$6 million dollars in local, state and federal grants of which over \$4 million is pass through to other agencies. Our single largest grant is the Supportive Services for Veteran Families. This grant provides both rapid rehousing and prevention assistance.

Under Dawn Gillman’s leadership the organization has expanded to more than 35 staff resulting in an increase in both the capacity and funding operations for reducing homelessness in northeast Florida. This funding provides housing, case management, prevention and other supportive services. For more information see: <http://changinghomelessness.org/>

For an excellent review of the major races in Florida see:

<https://www.politico.com/magazine/story/2018/10/22/how-to-win-florida-2018-senate-race-rick-scott-bill-nelson-221665>

**2018
Tiger Bay
Officers**

Henry Cordes, President
Dr. Stephen Baker, 1st Vice President
Hazel Gillis, Secretary
Marcia Turner, Treasurer

FIRST COAST TIGER BAY CLUB meets for lunch every month, except December, on the 3rd Friday at 11:30 at The River Club, 1 Independent Drive, 35th Floor. Cost for the event, which includes the wonderful buffet and parking, is \$25.

Reservations are required: Call (904) 571-5337 or E-Mail: fcctigerbay@gmail.com

Florida # 1 Again!

Florida leads the nation again in TV political ad spending this year. Recent figures show TV ad spending in the Florida governor's race topped \$133 million compared to the second highest spending governor's race in Illinois with a mere \$95 million. The Florida senate race was also the nation's most expensive at \$96 million compared to second place for the Missouri senate contest at only \$59 million. Overall the total number of TV ads is up 59% since the last off-year election in 2014 and negative ads are up 61%.

-Figures from Anthony Man, *SunSentinel* (Oct. 31, 2018)

Does the candidate spending the most usually win?

That was **not** the case in Florida's last primary for governor in terms of amount of money each candidate spent per vote. For both major parties the candidate spending the least per vote actually won. Ron DeSantis spent \$17.55 per vote to win the Republican nomination and Andrew Gillum only \$13.13 per vote to take the Democratic nomination. The candidate spending the most was Democrat Jeff Greene with \$227.90 per vote. --Calculations from Jim Turner in the *Herald-Tribune* (Aug. 31, 2018)

October 2018 Straw Poll Results

(n=31)

1- How thoroughly have you researched the amendments?

- 35% - Very
- 55% - Somewhat
- 10% - A little
- 0% - Hardly at all

2 - How are you planning on voting for the amendments?

- 13% - All Yes
- 13% - Mostly yes
- 26% - About half yes
- 48% - Mostly no
- 0% - No

3 - Do you feel like most of the amendments are partisan?

- 52% - Yes
- 23% - No
- 26% - Not sure

4 - Do you think that the Constitution Revision Commission is a good idea?

- 32% -Yes
- 39% - No
- 29% - Not sure

5 - Are you bothered by "bundling" different proposals in amendments?

- 97% - Yes
- 0% - No
- 3% - Not sure

The First Coast Tiger Bay Club is a multi-partisan political forum that promotes free and open debate but does not support any candidates or issues.

Dr. Stephen Baker, Newsletter Editor

Henry Cordes, Publisher

**Reservations are REQUIRED. Please RSVP by
Tuesday November 13, 2018
E-mail: fctigerbay@gmail.com or 904-404-5471**

The First Coast Tiger Bay Club is a multi-partisan political and civic forum designed to explore crucial issues of the day by interacting with outstanding speakers in an open format. The club is non-partisan, never supports particular candidates, nor take sides on issues.