

The Gainesville Sun

**PACERS FORCE HEAT TO A GAME 6, 1C**



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75¢

**MAYA ANGELOU: 1928-2014**



Maya Angelou speaks at the Phillips Center on Feb. 27, 2013.

FILE PHOTO

# Author, poet detailed the black experience

The Washington Post

**M**aya Angelou, a child of the Jim Crow South who rose to international prominence as a writer known for her frank chronicles of personal history and a performer instantly identified by her regal presence and rich, honeyed voice, died Wednesday at her home in Winston-Salem, N.C. She was 86.

Her literary agent, Helen Brann, confirmed the death but said she did not know the immediate cause. Angelou had heart ailments and had been in declining health for years.

She established her literary reputation in 1969 with "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings," a memoir detailing the racism and abuse she endured during her harrowing childhood.

From her desperate early years, Angelou gradually moved into nightclub dancing and from there

**Inside**

■ Joel Buchanan, who worked to preserve black history in Gainesville, dies at 65.

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THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/FILE

President Bill Clinton reaches out to hug poet Maya Angelou after she delivered the inaugural poem during his inauguration ceremony in Washington, D.C., on Jan. 20, 1993.

began a career in the arts that spanned more than 60 years. She sang cabaret and calypso, danced with Alvin Ailey, acted on Broadway, directed for film and television, and wrote more than 30 books, including poetry, essays and, responding to the public's

appetite for her life story, six autobiographies.

She won three Grammy Awards for spoken-word recordings of her poetry and prose, and she was invited by President-elect Bill Clinton to read an original poem at

ANGELOU on Page 5A

## Angelou left a lasting impression at UF

By Jeff Schweers  
Staff writer

When Maya Angelou came to speak at the University of Florida in February 2013, a record-setting crowd of 1,700 swarmed the Phillips Center for the Performing Arts, with hundreds of others who couldn't get tickets spilling onto the lawn outside to watch on giant TV screens.

Angelou's appearance generated a lot of buzz, and students were excited to have someone with so much historical and cultural significance on campus.

The crowd was testament to Angelou's popularity, and the power of her words to move people of all generations, all genders, all backgrounds, said Josh Holtzman, chairman of the Accent Speaker's

Bureau at the time. Angelou's performance that night — reading her poems, singing songs, sharing her life experiences — left a lasting impression, Holtzman said.

"Everyone left feeling moved and inspired by her words and experience," Holtzman said.

Speaking from Chicago, where he is an LSAT instructor, Holtzman

REACTION on Page 5A

## GRU secures permit for possible new power plant

*Permit does not mean city will decide to build plant*

By Christopher Curry  
Staff writer

As part of a future planning process, Gainesville Regional Utilities has secured a permit for a new power plant that the City Commission has not yet decided to build.

In April, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection approved a construction permit for a 50-megawatt natural gas-fired plant at GRU's Deerhaven property on U.S. 441.

If built, the power station will be a "peaking" plant. Such plants are able to fire up quickly during times of high demand and usage such as late afternoon and evening when people are home with the lights on and the air conditioning running.

The 10-year future needs site plan that GRU submitted on April 1 to the Florida Public Service Commission said the plant would be built in 2018 "if required."

That future planning document also noted that the "need, timing and technology of this peaking power addition are under evaluation."

The City Commission has not had a public discussion on the potential plant or the permit application. GRU officials have briefed them in individual meetings.

GRU officials said that, if utility staff eventually

GRU on Page 4A



MATT STAMEY/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The audience listens during "Illness to Wellness: a Community Forum on Mental Health" on Wednesday at the Thelma Boltin Center.

## Experts: Above all, mentally ill need stability

By Cindy Swirko  
Staff writer

Even when the Rev. Richard Reedy is alone, he isn't really alone.

"I take these people with me everywhere," he said. "They yell at me, scream at me, tell me what to do."

Reedy has a mental illness and, as president of the Florida Peer Support Coalition, he spoke about it as a panelist at Wednesday night's "Illness to Wellness: a Community Forum on Mental Health" at the Thelma Boltin Center.

The forum, sponsored by The Gainesville Sun, drew a large crowd to hear several experts discuss the impact of mental illness on

FORUM on Page 4A

TODAY: Heavy t-storm. 65% chance of rain.	<b>HIGH</b> <b>87</b>	<b>LOW</b> <b>67</b>	TOMORROW: <b>High: 89 Low: 67</b> 70% chance of rain. 5-day forecast, 6B	BUSINESS 3B CLASSIFIED 7D COMICS 4D	CROSSWORD 2D LOCAL 1B LOTTERY 2A	INDEX OBITUARIES 4B OPINION 6A PEOPLE 2A	SPORTS 1C SUDOKU 3D TELEVISION 3D	© 2014 The Gainesville Sun Gainesville, Florida, Vol. 141, No. 316, five sections	For Home delivery call: 378-1416 Toll Free: 1-800- 443-9493	
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