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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Martha Wellman's Life is Celebrated at Park Dedication Ceremony

Tallahassee – Blueprint 2000 and Leon County officials will gather on Monday, June 1st at 9:30 a.m., along with family, friends and colleagues for the dedication of the "Martha Wellman Park". The Martha Wellman Park is located on West Tennessee Street west of Capital Circle NW (5317 West Tennessee Street). This project creates a 4,000 foot long multi-use trail around the 15-acre stormwater pond, of which 70 percent of its capacity is for retrofit treatment. The park will also include recycled benches and receptacles along the trail, lighting and significant landscaping. It will be a wonderful addition to the west side of town and honors all the things Martha stood for and implements fully, the holistic philosophy of the Blueprint 2000 authors. In addition, this location is within the Lake Munson Drainage Basin, which was a particular passion of Martha.

Ms. Wellman moved to Tallahassee/Leon County in 1972. From the beginning, she demonstrated her long-term commitment to promoting conservation within the community. She took a lead role in the Lake Munson Action Plan and the Leon County Water Resources Citizens Advisory Committee. In addition, she was deeply involved with conservation committees that supported the preparation of the local Comprehensive Plan.

Ms. Wellman was an original member of The Economic and Environmental Consensus Committee. She played a critical role in the creation of Blueprint 2000, along with serving as a Community Representative for the Capital Circle Southwest Project Development & Environment Study project for Blueprint 2000.

Mr. Michael Miller wrote, "Martha had enormous curiosity and a great reputation as a researcher which she brought to the sport of bird watching as well as everything else she did. She gave so much to Tallahassee, Leon County and the State of Florida through decades of work on behalf of the environment." Mr. Miller was a longtime friend of Ms. Wellman.

Ms. Henree Martin wrote, "Martha was a faithful, tireless member of Blueprint 2000 who was always in attendance and always contributed to the discussion. Her knowledge of infrastructure issues and her passion for our community were displayed in the way she lived her life". Ms. Martin served along side Ms. Wellman on The Economic and Environmental Consensus Committee, which advocated creating a unified community vision to address multi-use projects, sector planning, tying environmental and transportation projects together in corridors, and delivering them in a manner to stimulate economic development in targeted areas of the community.

In conclusion, Ms. Wellman is still a part of the lives of those who knew her because of the influence she had on them. The naming of the park "Martha Wellman Park" will be a constant reminder of a woman of character, who lived a wonderful life and should inspire us to live as she did. Ms. Wellman died on May 1, 2007.

For more information, call Public Involvement Manager Margie Quillman at (850) 701-2740.