

# Words

Love Is In The Air



OCALA FRIENDS TO HOST  
**Prom Night**  
AT THE LIBRARY

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY:  
A Love Story

## IN THIS ISSUE:

Calendar

Book Review

Profile



# words

Marion County Public Library's  
Quarterly Newsmagazine

Volume 10 | Issue 4 | Winter 2018

## Marion County Public Library

2720 East Silver Springs Blvd.

Ocala, Florida 34470

352-368-4507

email: [karen.jensen@marioncountyfl.org](mailto:karen.jensen@marioncountyfl.org)

website: [library.marioncountyfl.org](http://library.marioncountyfl.org)

Library Director: **Julie Sieg**

## NEWSMAGAZINE STAFF:

Publisher: **The Friends of The  
Ocala Public Library**

Editor: **Karen M. Jensen**

Writers: **Asa Drake,  
Karen M. Jensen,  
Pat Lakin,  
Susan Reynolds,  
Jenny Ransome**

Photos: **Pat Lakin,  
Steve Floethe**

## ON THE COVER:

*Grab your tacky tux or pink sequined formal and join the fun as the Friends of the Ocala Public Library presents "Prom Night at the Library."*



The Marion County Public Library System is a department of the Marion County Board of County Commissioners and is funded by them through general funds. The WORDS newsmagazine is funded by the Friends of the Ocala Public Library, Inc.

FIND THE LIBRARY ON  
FACEBOOK & TWITTER!



2 words *Winter 2018*

# a word FROM THE DIRECTOR

By Julie Sieg  
*Director, Marion County  
Public Library System*



## Resolve to do More, Be More

It is common to hear folks say “I love this” or “I love that.” We throw around the phrase fairly indiscriminately. But do we really *love* something, someone or some place? How do we know? We may enjoy doing an activity such as fishing, relaxing around the dinner table or training our dog. We may love people like our spouse, child and siblings. We may love some place like the Grand Canyon or the mountains when the leaves change. When we love something it gives us warm feelings, pleasure, anticipation and sometimes a sense of satisfaction or accomplishment when we think about it, are involved in it or do it. When we love something we want more of it — time with loved ones, time to do, time to be. Think of what you love. In this time of New Year’s resolutions, what do you love? Whether it is our environment, our community, your girlfriend, playing basketball, cooking, creating a quilt or helping someone in need — resolve to do more, be more.

Folks who are already doing more, being more, are our Friends of the Library. These special individuals have resolved to do more to make our community better and stronger through their public library. Annually, hundreds of Friends of the Library members contribute thousands of hours of their time, energy, talents and expertise. Our Friends love the library. If you love your library, come, join us. Resolve to do more, be more.

*Julie Sieg*



## CareerCruising

# Get your Career into High Gear

BY SUSAN REYNOLDS

**M**ost career and guidance counselors agree that it's a good idea to do your research when considering career opportunities. Whether you want to pursue further education or start a new career, the Marion County Public Library System is here to help you get on the right path. Among its many resources to help with career readiness is a new online resource called Career Cruising, funded as part of the Progress Dunnellon grant initiative.

Determining the best career path to take can be challenging. If you are an outdoors person, an office job might make you climb the walls. That's where Career Cruising can help. When you create a Career Cruising account, you can take a series of assessments to help determine your preferred learning style. You can also take an assessment that will help you match a career to your interests based on your personal likes and dislikes.

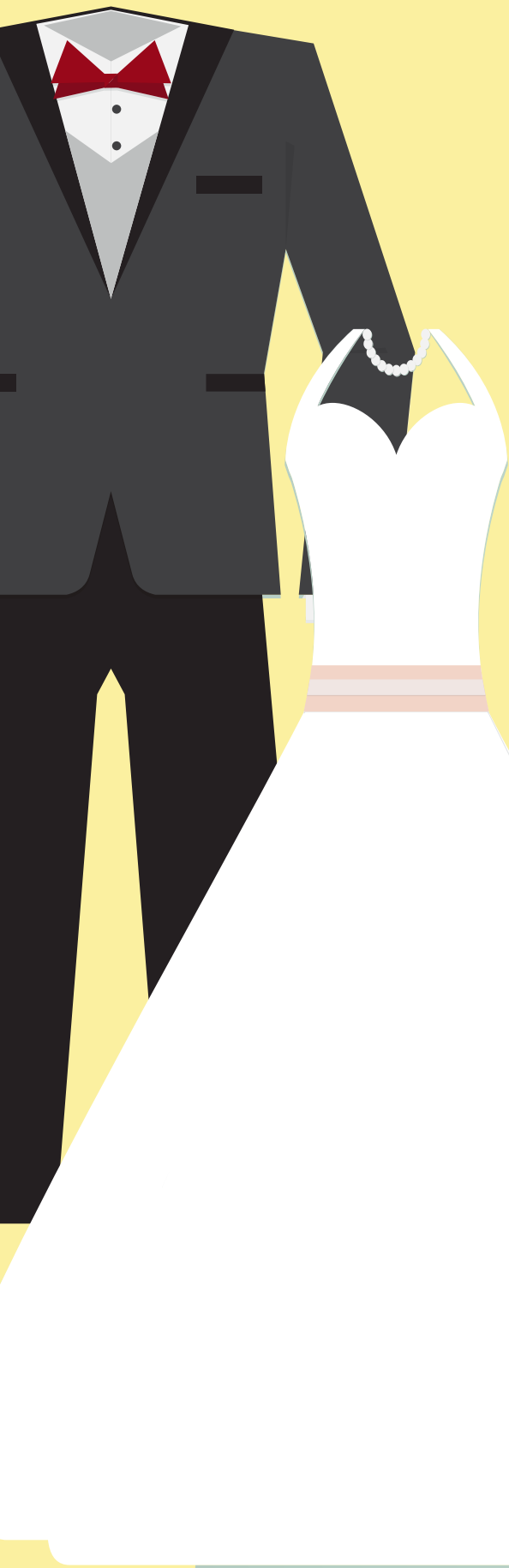
Once you have your assessment results, you can "try on" some of the career matches. Click on a career title and you'll get additional information,

including the typical working conditions, the earnings you could expect, the kind of necessary educational requirements, and if there are similar or related careers you might want to also explore.

If the desired career has educational requirements, you can search for schools across the United States that offer that major. You can also choose and search schools that offer technical, undergraduate and graduate degrees. Once you've selected some prospective schools, make sure you check out the financial aid tab. You'll learn all about options for Federal Financial Aid programs and scholarships.

Career Cruising also has some built-in tools for those ready to enter the work force. Conduct a job search and note the appropriate job postings. You can search for full or part time employment, as well as internships or temporary employment opportunities.

Need help creating a resume, cover letter or improving your interview skills? Career Cruising has all of these features and more. Stop by your closest public library branch location and tell the staff you're ready to get your career into high gear with Career Cruising. **W**



## A NIGHT AT THE LIBRARY: *Prom Night* at the Library

BY PAT LAKIN

**G**rab that tacky tux or pink sequined formal and join the fun as the Friends of the Ocala Public Library presents “Prom Night at the Library” Friday, Feb. 8, 7-9 p.m. at the Headquarters-Ocala Public Library. This third annual gala will be all about the magic, music and memories of prom days gone by, bringing many of us back to a special time in our lives. Listen to the hit songs from the 50s, 60s, 70s and 80s. Dance with your favorite partner, enjoy delicious refreshments, plus, learn about the programs and services that our library provides, all in a magical setting.

The Friends of the Ocala Public Library annual galas serve as fundraisers to help maintain and support the many programs and resources that our public library provides to Marion County residents. The galas are also Friend-raisers. When you join the Friends, you become a member of a non-profit advocacy group that helps to insure a strong and healthy public library.

Book your date now for a fabulous evening at the library. Tickets are \$20 per person (adults only) and may be purchased online at [www.friendsoftheocalalibrary.org](http://www.friendsoftheocalalibrary.org) or by calling 352-368-4591. Dress up or not, you're certain to have a ball! **W**

# Love Across the Ages

BY ASA DRAKE

It is a well-known fact that a heart, no matter how young or old, desires love. As an adult reader who indulges in books for all reading levels, including the romance genre, I can affirm that the topic of love is prominent in many areas of our collection of books and library materials.



Kate O'Neill's **"The Tea Dragon Society"** straddles the gap between picture books and chapter books for young readers. This graphic novel has the young at heart in mind and has been taken home by more than one librarian! Beautifully illustrated, "The Tea Dragon Society" offers an inclusive narrative that encourages readers to nurture close ties

with friends and family. Read for forever-friendships, stay for the most adorable tea-time illustrations.

Teen romance can quickly turn sour, but **"Meet Cute"** offers just desserts. These short stories about "how they first met" give readers a taste of today's best-selling young adult authors. My favorite from the collection is Nicola Yoon's "The Department of Dead Love," where "HeartWorkers" help the broken-hearted through breakups and rejections. Of course, the municipal building for "Young Love is the prettiest of all the buildings..."



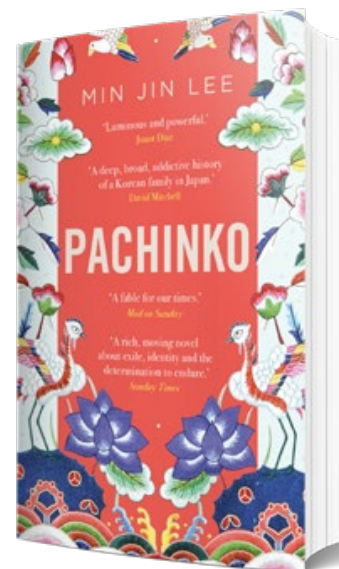
the tentative green of a new leaf and shaped like a single blade of grass."

For those who need the magic of first love, try **"The Seas."** In her debut novel, Samantha Hunt blends fantasy and day-to-day living, giving us an early 2000s retelling of "The Little Mermaid" complete with the Great Re-

cession and the Iraq War. Most of all, "The Seas" celebrates a young woman's imagination when love turns out to be different than what she expected.

Looking for a romance at odds with history? Min Jin Lee's **"Pachinko"** is reminiscent of "Great Expectations," spanning most of the 20th century to tell the story of a Korean family prospering, even through the turmoil of World War II. Written by a woman who has "always felt like a minor character," "Pachinko" lets readers fall in love with generation after generation of bittersweet lovers with a quality of care that makes sure every character has a beating heart.

Check out a love story for every age to warm your heart this winter. **W**



# FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY A Love Story

BY KAREN M. JENSEN, *Library Community Liaison*



It's the day before one of the many Friends of the Library used book sales and there's a real sense of purpose among the volunteers who are prepping the room where the sale will occur. Teamwork is essential to the process and everyone seems to be of one accord in their effort to get books unboxed and loaded onto tables for public viewing and sales. Although the scene described above may vary slightly with each of the seven Marion County Friends of the Library groups, one of the many constants is the description of a group of impassioned volunteers involved in an organized labor of love to support their public library.

In Marion County, active Friends of the Library groups include Friends of the Ocala Public Library, Belleview, Dunnellon, Forest, Fort McCoy, Freedom and Marion Oaks, with 947 members as of 2018. Funds raised by the Friends help provide for a variety of library programming and events for children, teens and adults throughout the year. Successful initiatives such as Born to Read, Ready to Read, annual programs like CREATE, the Fairy Tale Festival and countless author talks, are all sponsored by the Friends of the Library. Friends' financial assistance has also provided equipment and library materials. Last year, the seven Friends of the Library groups raised \$180,000 to help support their community-based Marion County public libraries.

Friends also help raise awareness

of the importance of public libraries within their own respective communities. According to Ocala Friends of the Library president, Suzy Heinbockel, "our Friends group recognizes the importance of a public library system to a vibrant and thriving community." They are also strong, committed advocates on behalf of the public library system, as well as volunteers who assist with library special events, programming and in many other ways that expand the library's ability to provide services to the public.

For many Friends, they credit their involvement with the group as expanding their personal connections within the community. According to Florence Pritchard, Friends of the Freedom Public Library president, "The Friends themselves grow personally as a result of their participation. They can learn new skills, bring their own creativity to new horizons, extend their circle of friends and make meaningful contributions to their communities."

All seven Friends of the Library groups actively encourage new members. Forest Friends president, Bernadette Bashaw, says, "If you love your library, then do not hesitate to find out more about the groups and their dedication. Join us, make new friends and have fun!"

With seven Friends groups here in Marion County, it's likely that there is one near you. Check out the Friends list at right or call 352-671-8551 for more information. **W**

## **Friends of the Ocala Public Library**

Meet the third Thursday of the month, 4 p.m., at the HQ-Ocala Public Library location. For more information, visit the Friends website at [FriendsOfTheOcalaLibrary.org](http://FriendsOfTheOcalaLibrary.org) or call 352-368-4591.

## **Friends of the Belleview Public Library**

Meet the third Tuesday of the month, 10 a.m., at the BookNook Used Bookstore and Historic Library in Belleview. For more information, visit the website at [FriendsOfTheBelleviewLibrary.org](http://FriendsOfTheBelleviewLibrary.org) or call 352-245-2767.

## **Friends of the Dunnellon Public Library**

Meet the first Tuesday of the month, 10 a.m., at the Dunnellon Public Library. For more information, call 352-438-2520.

## **Friends of the Forest Public Library**

Meet the third Wednesday of the month, 10:30 a.m., at the Forest Public Library. For more information, call 352-438-2540.

## **Friends of Fort McCoy Public Library**

Meet the second Wednesday of the month, 10:30 a.m., at the Fort McCoy Public Library. For more information, call 352-438-2560.

## **Friends of the Freedom Public Library**

Meet the first Monday of the month, 10 a.m., at the Freedom Public Library. For more information, visit the Friends website at [FOFLibrary.org](http://FOFLibrary.org) or call 352-438-2580.

## **Friends of the Marion Oaks Public Library**

Meet the third Friday of the month at 10 a.m., at the Marion Oaks Community Center. For more information, call 352-438-2570.

# PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

All library programs are free and open to the public. Registration/tickets may be required.



## Community Conversations

Has someone's opinion ever changed how you view the world? Come together with other folks for a casual and considerate exchange of ideas.

Marion Oaks Public Library  
Thursday, Dec. 6, 4 p.m.

**Topic: What is your most meaningful holiday tradition?**

Bellevue Public Library  
Wednesday, Jan. 23, 10:30 a.m.

**Topic: When did a small kindness make a big difference to you?**

Freedom Public Library  
Thursday, Jan. 24, 2:30 p.m.

**Topic: When did a trip change your perspective on life?**

## Read-a-Palooza!

All libraries Feb. 3-March 2

Join in the reading fun! Visit any Marion County Public Library site every week for a special surprise! Grand prize drawings at the March Seuss-a-Palooza events.

Co-sponsored by the Early Learning Coalition of Marion County.

## Florida SpringsFest

### Student Art Show

Stop in and vote for your favorite piece.

Dunnellon Public Library

Wednesday, Feb. 20, Thursday, Feb. 21

Headquarters-Ocala Public Library

Sat, Feb. 16, Sun. Feb. 17

## HOLIDAY PROGRAMS

### Arctic Blast

Forest Public Library, Saturday, Dec. 1, 2 p.m.

Enjoy the magic and juggling prowess of Comedy Maks along with stories and book giveaways

from United Way's Reading Pals, games, crafts and that delicious arctic treat – ice cream!

Co-sponsored by Publix Supermarkets.

### Polar Express

Headquarters-Ocala

Wednesday, Dec. 5, 5:30 p.m.

Don your pajamas and hop aboard "The Polar Express" for a fun-filled night of stories, crafts and more based on the classic Chris Van Allsburg title.

Co-sponsored by Heart of Florida Health Center.

### Polar Paradise Party

Bellevue Public Library

Saturday, Dec. 8, 10:30 a.m.

G'day mate! The Polar Paradise Party goes down under! Join We Do Didgeridoo! for African-inspired hand drumming and Australian didgeridoo. Meet Walter the Wallaby and enjoy outback-themed games and more! Didgeridon't miss this!

### Ocala Harmony

#### Barbershop Chorus

Sing in the holiday season!

Co-sponsored by Publix Supermarkets.

Forest Public Library

Saturday, Dec. 8, 1 p.m.

Freedom Public Library

Wednesday, Dec. 12, 4 p.m.

### Holiday Extravaganza

Marion Oaks Public Library

Sunday, Dec. 9, noon-4 p.m.

Join in the community-wide holiday festivities with games, music, food and Santa!

Presented in conjunction with Marion Oaks Community Center staff.

### Reindeer Romp

#### Holiday Party

Reddick Public Library

Saturday, Dec. 15, noon-3 p.m.

It's a community party and all are invited to enjoy the magic of the holiday season with

games, giveaways, fun, food and United Way's Reading Pals. Entertainment by Ocala Harmony Barbershop Chorus, Free Spirits Quartet, Sing for Your Supper Trio and youth from local schools.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

### Preschool Expo

Headquarters-Ocala

Saturday, Jan. 12, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Learn about local preschools, family-friendly businesses and preschool-age activities in Marion County.

Co-sponsored by Fun 4 Ocala Kids.

## SPECIAL PROGRAMS

### Starry Night

Derek Demeter, director of the Buehler Planetarium at Seminole State College, is our guide for a closer look at the stars and planets in our night sky. Telescope provided for viewing.

Dunnellon Public Library

Tuesday, Jan. 15, 6:30 p.m.

Forest Public Library

Tuesday, Jan. 29, 6 p.m.

## BLACK HISTORY MONTH

### African American Read-In

Celebrate the 29th National African American Read-In with a rich heritage in literature, film, music and art. Readers, performers and listeners of all ages are welcome! Contact the library if you are interested in performing or reading.

Headquarters-Ocala

Sunday, Feb. 10, 2 p.m.

Forest Public Library

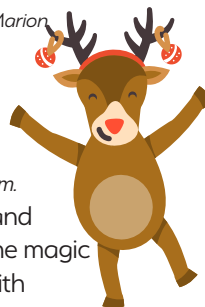
Tuesday, Feb. 12, 4 p.m.

Reddick Public Library

Tuesday, Feb. 19, 4 p.m.

Freedom Public Library

Tuesday, Feb. 26, 4 p.m. (poetry focus)



**Historical Spotlight:  
Community of Santos**

*Belleview Public Library  
Thursday, Feb. 21, 3:30 p.m.*

The Santos Historical Committee, Inc. commemorates the once vibrant African-American community destroyed by the Cross-Florida Barge Canal project. Descendants of former residents share the story through memories and historical records.

**MEET TOM AND  
DEBBIE O'CARROLL**



**Music and Magic of Ireland**

*Forest Public Library  
Wednesday, Feb. 20, 4 p.m.*

Ireland's finest folk singer, Tom O'Carroll, and magician and actress, Debbie O'Carroll, combine enchanting stage magic, songs, poetry, comedy and stories into a master work of Irish culture. Fun for all!

**The Irish Fairy Grandmother's  
Magic Show**

*Belleview Public Library  
Thursday, Feb. 21, 10:30 a.m.*

Learn all about Irish folklore at a very special story time given by magician and actress Debbie O'Carroll. Songs, stories and music are sure to enchant and delight!

**Dublin in Song and Story**

*Freedom Public Library  
Saturday, Feb. 23, noon*

Irish folk singer Tom O'Carroll tells the tales and sings the songs of his native city. Learn more about the capital city on the River Liffey and the colorful characters of Irish literature through story and song.

**MEET THE AUTHORS**

**Bob Kealing**



*"Kerouac in Florida: Where  
the Road Ends"*

*Forest Public Library  
Saturday, Jan. 12, 11 a.m.*

In 1969, literary iconoclast Jack Kerouac died in Saint Petersburg, Florida, at the age of 47. Kealing, an award-winning journalist and author, takes us through the Florida life of this freethinker and his contributions to the literary world. Don't miss this behind-the-scenes look at the Beat Generation.

**Mary Flynn**



*"Confessions of a Hallmark  
Greeting Card Writer"*

*Dunnellon Public Library  
Wednesday, Jan. 23, 2 p.m.*

Imagine working down the hall from Joyce Hall? Enjoy the hilarious revelations of an award-winning author who was once a greeting card writer, complete with the quirky mishaps!

**HEADQUARTERS-  
OCALA**

2720 E. Silver Springs Blvd.  
Ocala, FL 34470  
352-671-8551

*Programs are sponsored by the Friends of the  
Ocala Public Library.*

**HOLIDAY PROGRAM**

**Polar Express**

*Wednesday, Dec. 5, 5:30 p.m.  
See Program Spotlight for other holiday programs.*

**SPECIAL EVENTS**

**Preschool Expo**

*Saturday, Jan. 12, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.  
See Program Spotlight. Co-sponsored  
by Fun 4 Ocala Kids.*

**African American Read-In**

*Sunday, Feb. 10, 2 p.m.  
All ages.  
See Program Spotlight for more locations.*

**SPECIAL PROGRAMS**

**Art of Calligraphy**

*Sunday, Dec. 2, 2 p.m.  
Ages 13 and older.  
Curious about calligraphy?  
Learn the basics from the  
Ocala Calligraphy Guild.*



**Escape Rooms:  
Can You Get Out?**

*Thursdays, 6 p.m.  
Ages 13 and older.  
Use your wits and deductive skills to  
solve puzzles and decipher clues!*

- Dec. 13 Reindeer Games*
- Jan. 10 Fortune's Fool*
- Feb. 14 Where in the World Is  
Cupid Valentino?*

**Poems Talk**

*Mondays, 6 p.m.  
Dec. 17, Feb. 18  
Ages 13 and older.  
Bring a poem you've penned  
or a poem you love and  
join the conversation!*

**Silver Security**

*Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m.  
Ages 55 and older.  
Protect yourself from fraud and  
scams with tips from Lenora Spence  
of the Florida Department of  
Agriculture and Consumer Services.*

- Jan. 15 Charities and the Do  
Not Call Program*
- Feb. 19 Scams, Fraud and Identity Theft*



## Stuffed Animal Sleepover

Friday, Jan. 25, 5 p.m.-Saturday,  
Jan. 26, 10:30 a.m.

Ages 12 and younger with caregivers.

What do they do when left to themselves? Decorate a sleeping bag and tuck your favorite friend in bed for an overnight at the library! Pick up your party animal in the morning, with a full accounting of sleepy-time escapades!

## Unplugged Gaming Day

Saturday, Feb. 23, 1:30 p.m.  
All ages.

Scrabble, anyone? Bring the family and your favorite game and play alongside other tabletop fans!

## ADULTS

---

### Wired Wednesdays

Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.

Learn about computers and databases. Space is limited.

#### Computers for Beginners

Jan. 2 *I Turned on My Computer,  
Now What?*

Jan. 9 *Basic Keyboarding*

Jan. 16 *Basic Internet*

Jan. 23 *Basic Internet Safety*

#### Online Potpourri

Jan. 30 *Do It Yourself Databases*

Feb. 6 *Career Cruising 101*

Feb. 13 *Say What? Pronunciator*

Feb. 20 *Test Prep With Pro Citizen  
and Learning Express*

### Genealogy Help Center

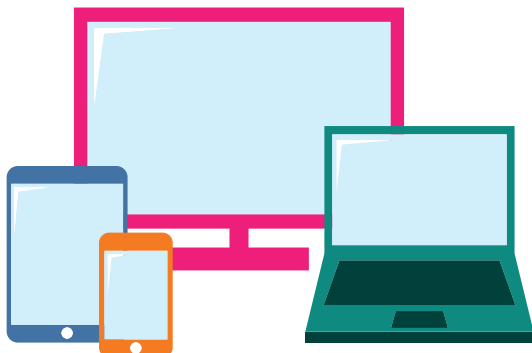
Wednesdays, 12:30-3:30 p.m.  
Jan. 2 and Feb. 6

Genealogy gurus from the Marion County Genealogical Society assist with your search.

### Technology Help Center

Wednesdays, 2-3:30 p.m.  
Jan. 2-Feb. 27

Bring your device and drop in!

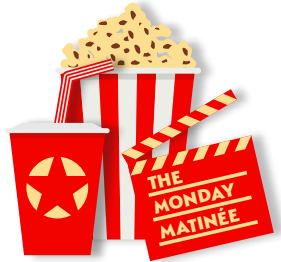


## Crafternoons

Wednesdays, 5:30 p.m.  
Registration required.

Get in touch with the right side of your brain! Call 352-671-8551 to register.

Jan. 2 *DIY Cardmaking*  
Feb. 6 *Simple Mosaic*



## The Monday Matinée

Mondays, 2 p.m.

Movies for adults. Anyone younger than age 13 must be accompanied by an adult.

Jan. 7  
Jan. 14  
Jan. 28  
Feb. 4  
Feb. 11  
Feb. 18  
Feb. 25

## Novels at Night Book Club

Tuesdays, 6 p.m.

Enjoy a lively book discussion, treats and coffee.

Jan. 8 *"Little Fires Everywhere"  
by Celeste Ng*  
Feb. 12 *"Mean Streak" by  
Sandra Brown*

## On the Rivers in Marion County Saturday, Feb. 2, 2 p.m.

All aboard! Explore the history of river travel and commerce in Marion County through the eyes and journeys of history enthusiast and librarian, Taylor Benson.

## TEENS

---

### MANGAlicious Teen Club!

Thursdays, 4:30 p.m.  
Jan. 3, Feb. 7

Watch favorite anime and manga titles on the big screen while enjoying Japanese snacks.

### I Love POP! Toys

Sunday, Jan. 13, 2 p.m.

Obsessed with Funko POP! toys? Meet and trade POP! toys with other fans.

## Show and Sketch

Mondays, 5 p.m.  
Jan. 14, Feb. 11

Share your talent while learning new techniques. All skill levels welcome.

## YALLA!

Tuesdays, 5 p.m.  
Jan. 22, Feb. 26

Be a part of the library experience! Earn volunteer hours for service.

## Geekfest! Fandoms and Comic Club

Wednesdays, 5 p.m.  
Jan. 23, Feb. 27

Explore the world of pop culture and comics with fellow fans.

## FABLAB: Love Edition

Wednesday, Feb. 13, 5 p.m.

Make something special for your valentine.

## CHILDREN

---

### Preschool Club

Saturday, Dec. 15, 2 p.m.

Ages 5 and younger with caregivers.

Fun-filled games and activities.

### Kids Code

Learn computer programming through games. Space is limited. Call 352-671-8551 to register.

Ages 7-12. Registration is required and begins Wednesday, Dec. 19.

#### Kids Code 1

Tuesdays, Jan. 8-22, 3 p.m.

Thursdays, Jan. 10-24, 4 p.m.

#### Kids Code 2

Thursday, Jan. 31-Feb. 14, 4 p.m.

Requires completion of Kids Code 1.

### Gross Me Out

Saturday, Jan. 19, 2 p.m.

Ages 5-12 with caregivers.

Listen to gross stories, play with slime and make creepy crafts.

### Innovation Station

Wednesdays, 2 p.m.

Jan. 23, Feb. 27

Ages 5-12 with caregivers.

Tinker, design, and create!

## SPECIAL STORY TIME

---

### Family Story Time

Saturdays, 10:30 a.m.

Dec. 8, Jan. 5, Feb. 2

Ages 5 and younger with caregivers.



## WEEKLY STORY TIMES

Jan. 8-March 7

A variety of stories, songs, and activities for children and caregivers.

### Preschool Story Time

Tuesdays, 10:15 a.m.

Ages 3-5.

### Toddling Twos

Wednesdays, 10:15 a.m.

### Pajama Story Time

Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m.

Ages 5 and younger.

### Bouncing Babies

Thursdays, 10:15 a.m.

Infants-23 months.

## BELLEVIEW PUBLIC LIBRARY

13145 SE Highway 484

Belleview, FL 34420

352-438-2500

Programs are sponsored by the Friends of the Belleview Public Library.

## HOLIDAY PROGRAM

### Polar Paradise Party

Saturday, Dec. 8, 10:30 a.m.

See Program Spotlight for other holiday programs.

## SPECIAL EVENT

### Community Job Fair

Wednesday, Jan. 16, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Looking for a career opportunity?

Sponsored by the City of Belleview.

## SPECIAL PROGRAMS

### Community Conversation

Wednesday, Jan. 23, 10:30 a.m.

**Topic: Discuss a time in your life when a small kindness made a big difference.**

See Program Spotlight for more conversations.

### The Irish Fairy Grandmother's Magic Show

Thursday, Feb. 21, 10:30 a.m.

See Program Spotlight for additional performances.

### Historical Spotlight:

#### Community of Santos

Thursday, Feb. 21, 3:30 p.m.

See Program Spotlight.

## ADULTS

### Genealogy Help Center

Wednesdays, 3-5 p.m.

Dec. 5, Jan. 2, Feb. 6

Genealogy gurus from the Marion County Genealogical Society assist with your search.



### Master Gardener Plant Clinic

Fridays, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Dec. 7, 21, Jan. 4, 18, Feb. 1, 15

The plant doctors are in!

Presented by UF/IFAS Extension Marion County.

### Wednesday Morning Book Club

Wednesdays, 10 a.m.

Make new friends and talk about books.

Dec. 12 "Wonder" by R.J. Palacio

Jan. 9 "Naked Came the Manatee" by Hiassen et al.

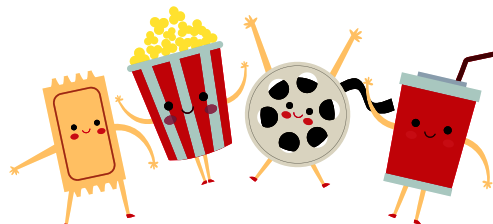
Feb. 13 "Me Before You" by Jojo Moyes

### Writer's Studio

Wednesdays, noon

Dec. 19, Jan. 16, Feb. 20

Writers of all levels share information and encouragement.



### Tuesday Movie Matinée

Tuesdays, 1 p.m.

Movies for adults. Anyone younger than age 13 must be accompanied by an adult.

Jan. 8

Jan. 15

Jan. 22

Jan. 29

Feb. 5

Feb. 12

Feb. 19

Feb. 26

### Tech Help Center

Tuesdays, 2-4 p.m.

Jan. 8-Feb. 26

Bring your device and drop in.

### Tuesday Evening Book Club

Tuesdays, 5 p.m.

Make new friends and talk about books.

Jan. 15

"Every Day" by David Levithan

Feb. 19

"The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time" by Mark Haddon

### Common Cents

#### Financial Seminars

Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.

Edward Jones financial advisor Luke Emerson shares important financial information.

Jan. 23

Foundations of Investing

Feb. 6

Five Money Questions for Women

Feb. 27

The Entrepreneurial Equation

## TEENS & TWEENS

### YALLA South

Tuesdays, 5 p.m.

Dec. 4, Feb. 5

Be a part of the library experience. Teens, earn volunteer hours for service.

### MANGAlicious Teen Club!

Tuesdays, 5:30 p.m.

Jan. 22, Feb. 26

Watch favorite anime and discuss manga while enjoying Japanese snacks.

## FAMILIES

### Just Another Mah-Jongg Monday!

Mondays, 1 p.m.

Jan. 7-Feb. 25

Learn and play with other enthusiasts.

### Knights of the Chess Club

Tuesdays, 4 p.m.

Jan. 8-Feb. 26

Learn and play chess!

### Knotty Knitters

Wednesdays, 4:30 p.m.

Jan. 9-Feb. 27

Learn to knit or crochet.

### Saturday Science Lab

Saturdays, 2 p.m.

Let's make cool stuff!

Jan. 19

Lightsabers From Yoda to Kylo

Feb. 16

Physics in Action

## STORY TIMES

Jan. 2-Feb. 28

A variety of stories, songs and activities for young children with caregivers.

### BEAR Time!

Tuesdays, 3:30 p.m.

### Preschool Adventures

Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.

Ages 3-5.

### Toddler Time

Thursdays, 10:30 a.m.

Infants-age 2.

## DUNNELTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

20351 Robinson Road

Dunnellon, FL 34431

352-438-2520

Programs are sponsored by the Friends of the Dunnellon Public Library.

## Drop-In Book Club

Thursdays, 11 a.m.

Dec. 20 "Behold the Dreamers"  
by Imbolo Mbue

Jan. 17 "The Day the World Came  
to Town" by Jim Defede

Feb. 21 "Fates and Furies"  
by Lauren Groff

## Technology Help Center

Thursdays, 10 a.m.-noon

Jan. 3-Feb. 28

Bring your devices and drop in!

## Book Art Heart

Thursday, Jan. 10, 1 p.m.

Transform a tattered book into a work of art. All supplies provided.

## Friday Matinée

Fridays, 1 p.m.

Movies for adults and teens.

Anyone younger than age 13 must be accompanied by an adult.

Jan. 11

Jan. 18

Jan. 25

Feb. 1

Feb. 8

## Fly Tie-In

Saturday, Jan. 12, 10 a.m.

Watch, learn and create amazing fishing flies with the Dunnellon Fly-Tyers.

## Ask Your Master Gardener

Tuesdays, 2 p.m.

Learn gardening techniques from the masters!

Presented by UF/IFAS Extension Marion County.

Jan. 15 House Plants

Feb. 19 Butterfly Gardening

## Genealogy 101

Thursday, Jan. 17, 6 p.m.

Stitch together your family history with genealogy enthusiast Pamela Joseph.

## Couples and Money

Tuesday, Jan. 29, 2 p.m.

Let there be peace and simplify your homelife with the money-wise guidance of IFAS Extension agent Lynda Spence.

Presented by UF/IFAS Extension Marion County.

## TEENS

### YALLA West!

Wednesdays, 5 p.m.

Be a part of the library experience and earn volunteer service hours.

Jan. 2 CD Mosaics

Feb. 6 Hedgehogs

## FAMILIES

### Salt Dough Ornaments!

Friday, Dec. 7, 11 a.m.

Deck the halls with dough!

### Pirate and Princess Party

Friday, Jan. 4, 11 a.m.

Be a pirate! Be a princess!

Have fun at the party!

### Love Those Valentines!

Wednesday, Feb. 13, 11 a.m.

Share some good times with friends!

## STORY TIMES

Jan. 2-Feb. 27

A variety of stories, songs, and activities for children and caregivers.

### Toddling Twos

Wednesdays, 11 a.m.

Infants-age 2.

### Preschool Adventures

Fridays, 11 a.m.

Ages 3-5.

## FOREST PUBLIC LIBRARY

905 S. Highway 314A

Ocklawaha, FL 32179

352-438-2540

Programs are sponsored by the Friends of the Forest Public Library.

## HOLIDAY PROGRAMS

See Program Spotlight for other holiday programs.

### Arctic Blast

Saturday, Dec. 1, 2 p.m.

### Ocala Harmony Barbershop

#### Chorus

Saturday, Dec. 8, 1 p.m.

## SPECIAL PROGRAMS

See Program Spotlight for other locations.

### Starry Night

#### with Derek Demeter

Tuesday, Jan. 29, 6 p.m.

### African American Read-In

Tuesday, Feb. 12, 4 p.m.

### Tom and Debbie O'Carroll's

#### Music and Magic of Ireland

Wednesday, Feb. 20, 4 p.m.

## MEET THE AUTHOR

### Bob Kealing

"Kerouac in Florida: Where the Road Ends"

Saturday, Jan. 12, 11 a.m.

See Program Spotlight.

## SPECIAL PROGRAMS

### The Bird Is the Word

Wednesday, Jan. 9, 2 p.m.

Attract birds to your backyard and squirrel proof your feeders with these helpful hints from Norm Lantz.

### Starry Night With

#### Derek Demeter

Tuesday, Jan. 15, 6:30 p.m.

See Program Spotlight for other locations.

## MEET THE AUTHOR

### Mary Flynn

Wednesday, Jan. 23, 2 p.m.

"Confessions of a Hallmark  
Greeting Card Writer"

See Program Spotlight.

## ADULTS

### Master Gardeners Plant Clinic

Tuesdays, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Dec. 4, Jan. 8, Feb. 5

The plant doctors are in.

Presented by UF/IFAS Extension Marion County.

## ADULTS

### Technology Help Center

Wednesdays, 10 a.m.

Dec. 5-Feb. 27

Bring your device and drop in!

### Forest Coloring Club

Thursdays, 11 a.m.

Dec. 6, Jan. 3, 17, Feb. 7, 21

Express yourself through coloring and interesting conversation.

### Forest Readers Book Club

Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.

Make new friends and talk about books.

- Dec. 12 "An O'Brien Family Christmas" by Sherryl Woods  
Jan. 9 "Wuthering Heights" by Emily Bronte  
Jan. 23 "Cat & Mouse" by James Patterson  
Feb. 13 "The Notebook" by Nicholas Sparks  
Feb. 27 "My Antonia" by Willa Cather

### DIY Art—Watercolors

Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.

Jan. 2, Feb. 6

Express yourself through art!

### Songbirds!

Saturday, Jan. 5, 10:30 a.m.

Learn about our winged friends from the experts at Marion Audubon Society. Includes a nature walk.



### Financial Awareness

Tuesdays, 11 a.m.

Join Thomas Cooper, VP of The Entrepreneur Society Ocala, as he provides tips and guidance to achieve financial success.

- Jan. 8, 22 *Becoming Debt Free*  
Feb. 5, 19 *Social Security Savvy*

### Forest Writer's Studio

Thursdays, 5:30 p.m.

Jan. 10, Feb. 14

Writers of all levels share work and encouragement.

### Friday Cinema

Fridays, 2 p.m.

Movies for adults. Anyone younger than age 13 must be accompanied by an adult.

Jan. 11

Jan. 25

Feb. 22

### Crafts for a Cause

Mondays, 10 a.m.

Jan. 14, Feb. 18

Help our community! Create items for those in need.

### Trivia Café Brown Bag Luncheon

Tuesdays, noon

Jan. 15, Feb. 12

Bring a sandwich and enjoy lunch with fellow trivia enthusiasts! Dessert and beverage provided.

### Hospice of Marion County

Mike Sever, hospice pharmacy manager, and Jessica McCune, outreach support liaison, discuss important life topics.

Thursday, Jan. 24, 2 p.m.

*Senior Moment or Something More Serious?*

Thursday, Feb. 28, 10 a.m.

*Advance Directives*

### Ask Your Master Gardener

Saturdays, 10:30 a.m.

Get your garden growing!

Presented by UF/IFAS Extension Marion County.

Jan. 26 *Improving Soil Health*

Feb. 16 *Spring and Summer Gardening*

### Antique or Junk?

Tuesday, Feb. 26, 10:30 a.m.

Have a hidden treasure? Find out with amateur antiques appraiser Norm Lantz. Limit one item per person. No guns, coins or stamps.

## TEENS & TWEENS

# YALLA!

### YALLA East

Thursdays, 5 p.m.

Dec. 20, Jan. 17, Feb. 21

Be part of your library experience! Teens, earn volunteer service hours.

### Art Workshop

Thursdays, 4 p.m.

Express yourself through art!

Jan. 17

*Beading Bonanza*

Feb. 21

*Passion for Pixels*

### Tech Zone

Monday, Feb. 18, 2 p.m.

Explore technology with hands-on activities.

## FAMILIES

### Imagination Station Kids Club

Wednesdays, 2:30 p.m.

Imagine, create, construct!

Dec. 5

*Card Central*

Jan. 23

*Fairy House Workshop*

Feb. 27

*Spring Into Action!*

### Family Story Time

Fridays, 10:30 a.m.

Jan. 4-Feb. 22

A variety of stories, songs and activities for children and caregivers.

### FUNtasmagoria

Wednesdays, 4 p.m.

Explore the world!

Jan. 9

*Bone Up on Bones*

Jan. 16

*What's That Smell?*

Jan. 30

*Magnificent Machines*

Feb. 6

*Building Buildings*

Feb. 13

*Trains, Planes and Automobiles*

Feb. 20

*The Music and Magic of*

*Ireland (See Program Spotlight)*

### Family Flicks

Saturdays, 2 p.m.

Movies for the whole family!

Anyone younger than age 13 must be accompanied by an adult.

Jan. 19

Feb. 2

## FORT MCCOY PUBLIC LIBRARY

14660 NE Hwy. 315, Fort McCoy, FL 32134  
352-438-2560

## ADULTS

### Monday Morning Book Club

Mondays, 10:30 a.m.

Make new friends and talk about books!

Dec. 3

*"Open House" by Elizabeth Berg*

Jan. 7

*"The Darling Dahlias and the Cucumber Tree" by Susan Wittig Albert*

Feb. 4

*"Her Royal Spyness" by Rhys Bowen*

## FAMILIES

### FUNtasmagoria

Mondays, 4 p.m.

Explore the world!

Jan. 14 *Bone Up on Bones*

Feb. 11 *Magnificent Machines*

## FREEDOM PUBLIC LIBRARY

5870 SW 95th St., Ocala, FL 34476  
352-438-2580

Programs are sponsored by the Friends of Freedom Public Library.

## HOLIDAY PROGRAM

### Ocala Harmony

#### Barbershop Chorus

Wednesday, Dec. 12, 4 p.m.

See Program Spotlight for holiday programs.

## SPECIAL PROGRAMS

See Program Spotlight for other locations.

### Community Conversation

Thursday, Jan. 24, 2:30 p.m.

**Topic: Talk about a trip that changed your perspective on life.**

See Program Spotlight for more conversations.

### Tom O'Carroll's

#### Dublin in Song and Story

Saturday, Feb. 23, noon

### African American

#### Poetry Read-In

Tuesday, Feb. 26, 4 p.m.

Feel the rhythms of African American poetry!

See Program Spotlight for more locations.

## ADULTS



### As the Page Turns Book Club

Tuesdays, 2:30 p.m.

Join the club and turn the page! Everyone is welcome!

Dec. 4 *"Miller's Valley" by Anna Quindlen*

Feb. 5 *"March: Book Three" by John Lewis*



### Ask Arnold! Comprehensive Computer Assistance

Thursdays, noon-2 p.m.

Dec. 6-Feb. 28

Staff and volunteers are available to help with all computer needs.

### The Tuesday Matinée

Tuesdays, 3 p.m.

Movies for adults. Anyone younger than age 13 must be accompanied by an adult.

Jan. 8

Feb. 12

### Genealogy Resources

Monday, Jan. 14, 10:30 a.m.

Use library resources to get started in family research.

### Basic Computer Classes

Tuesdays, 2 p.m.

Learn something new!

Seating is limited.

Jan. 15 *Introduction to Computers*

Jan. 22 *Basic Internet*

Jan. 29 *Basic Word*

Feb. 19 *Library Computer Resources*

### Personal Finance

Tuesday, Jan. 29, 4 p.m.

Need help understanding where the money goes? Let Thomas Cooper, VP of The Entrepreneur Society Ocala, explain the principles of budgeting and money management. It's worth it!

## TEENS & TWEENS

### Gratitude Rocks!

Wednesdays, Dec. 5, 2 p.m.

Write inspiring messages with Cindy Lee Skinner James, Ocala Rocks.

### YALLA Free!

Thursdays, 5 p.m.

Dec. 13, Jan. 10, Feb. 14

Be a part of the library experience. Teens, earn volunteer service hours.

### Gamers Unite!

Saturdays, 3 p.m.

Jan. 12, Feb. 9, Feb. 23

Are you up for a video game challenge?



## FAMILIES

### Read to Hannah the Therapy Dog

Mondays, 3 p.m.

Jan. 7-Feb. 25

Hannah is all ears and geared up for some great stories. It's PAWSitive fun!

### Family Film Fest

Wednesdays, 3 p.m.

Movie fun for the whole family!

Anyone younger than age 13 must be accompanied by an adult.

Jan. 23

Feb. 27

## STORY TIMES

Jan. 9-Feb. 27

Stories, songs and activities for young children with caregivers.

### Preschool Adventures

Wednesdays, 10:15 a.m.

Ages 3-5.

### Toddler Time

Wednesdays, 11 a.m.

Infants-age 2.

## MARION OAKS PUBLIC LIBRARY

294 Marion Oaks Lane, Ocala, FL 34473

352-438-2570

Programs are sponsored by the Friends of the Marion Oaks Public Library.

## HOLIDAY PROGRAM

### Holiday Extravaganza

Sunday, Dec. 9, noon-4 p.m.

See Program Spotlight for other holiday programs.

## SPECIAL PROGRAMS

### Community Conversation

Thursday, Dec. 6, 4 p.m.

**Topic: What is your most meaningful holiday tradition?**

See Program Spotlight for more conversations.

## ADULTS

### Novels at Noon

Wednesdays, noon

Make new friends and talk about books!

Dec. 19 *"The Red Garden" by Alice Hoffman*

Jan. 16 *"The Book Thief" by Markus Zusak*

Feb. 20 *"Orphan Train" by Christina Baker Kline*

## Journaling Done Write

Friday, Jan. 4, 10:30 a.m.

Learn how to journal with local author Marian Rizzo. Start your New Year's resolution write!

## Personal Financial Success

Thursdays, 4:30 p.m.

The financial experts at The Entrepreneur Society Ocala explain how to manage personal finances, home ownership, and so much more.

Jan. 10	Personal Finance Part 1
Jan. 17	Personal Finance Part 2
Jan. 24	Home Maintenance Principles
Jan. 31	Home Ownership From Rent to Own
Feb. 7	Special Needs Planning
Feb. 14	Social Security

## TEENS & TWEENS

### YALLA Oaks!

Wednesdays, 5 p.m.

Dec. 19, Jan. 16, Feb. 20

Be a part of the library experience. Teens, earn volunteer service hours.



### Funding College

Wednesdays, 4:30 p.m.

Jan. 16, Feb. 20

The financial experts at The Entrepreneur Society Ocala focus on college finances, with tips for obtaining grants and scholarships. Guardians encouraged to attend.

### Love Stinks

Monday, Feb. 11, 5:30-7 p.m.

Snappy love lines got you down? This party is for you! Dreary attire encouraged.

## FAMILIES

### Family Story Time

Saturdays, 10:30 a.m.

Jan. 5- Feb. 23

A variety of stories and songs for young children and their caregivers.

## Marshmallow Madness

Friday, Jan. 18, 4 p.m.

Create a snowman, build the tallest tower, an igloo or something else! The options are endless.

## Clay Creations

Friday, Feb. 22, 4 p.m.

Bring your imagination to life with Nicola Wisniewski of ElvenSpun.

# REDDICK PUBLIC LIBRARY

15150 NW Gainesville Road Reddick, FL 32686

352-438-2566

Programs are sponsored by the Friends of the Ocala Public Library.

## HOLIDAY PROGRAM

### Reindeer Romp Holiday Party

Saturday, Dec. 15,

noon-3 p.m.

See Program Spotlight for more holiday programs.



## SPECIAL PROGRAMS

### Brown Bag Luncheon with Annabelle Leitner

Thursday, Jan. 31, noon

Bring your bag lunch and take a trip down the memory lane of northwest Marion County. Beverage and dessert provided. Contact the library to reserve a piece of pie!

### African American Read-In

Tuesday, Feb. 19, 4 p.m.

See Program Spotlight for more locations.

## ADULTS

### Basic Computing

Mondays, 1 p.m.

Jan. 7-28

Learn about computers and databases.

Jan. 7	Basic Internet
Jan. 14	Surf the Library
Jan. 28	Basic Email

### I ♥ Watercolors—Painting 101

Wednesday, Jan. 23, 1 p.m.

Create something special with local artist Susan Starling.

## TEENS

### YALLA North!

Saturday, 1 p.m.

Dec. 15, Feb. 9

Be a part of the library experience! Earn volunteer hours for service.

## FAMILIES

### FUNtasmagoria!

Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 4 p.m.

Jan. 9-Feb. 27

Explore the world with stories and fun-filled activities!

## STORY TIMES

Jan. 8-Feb. 27

Stories, songs and activities for young children with caregivers.

### Toddler Time

Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m.

### Preschool Adventures

Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.

# AT YOUR SERVICE

### AARP Tax Prep Assistance

Assistance available at most libraries starting in February. Call for schedule or to obtain an appointment.

### Access Florida Assistance

Forest Public Library, Tuesdays, 12:30-3 p.m.

Dec. 4-Feb. 26

Help provided with filing for various government assistance programs.

### CareerSource

### Citrus Levy Marion

Job seeker services available!

Call the library nearest you for times and locations.

### Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)

Visit [www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov) or call 1-800-375-5283 to schedule an appointment at your local library with an official from the USCIS Orlando Field Office.

### Florida Diagnostic & Learning Resources System

Free screenings for children birth through age 5 who may have difficulty with learning, speaking, playing, seeing, walking and hearing.

Screening appointments may be held at your local library. Contact ChildFind at 352-671-6051 to schedule.

### Florida Telecommunications Relay, Inc. (FTRI)

FTRI provides amplified telephones free of charge to qualifying individuals through the Center for Independent Living of North Central Florida. Contact your local library or call the Center at 352-368-3788 for an appointment.

### GED and ESOL Classes

Dunnellon Public Library, Mondays-Thursdays, 6:30 p.m.

Earn your GED or learn to speak English at the library through Marion Technical College. It's FREE. Classes follow the Marion Technical College schedule.

### Serving Health Insurance Needs of Elders (SHINE)

Obtain free Medicare counseling through the Florida Department of Elder Affairs. Contact Headquarters-Ocala, Belleview, Dunnellon and Forest public libraries for times.

## FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

### Friends of the Belleview Public Library

Tuesdays, 10 a.m.  
Dec. 18, Jan. 15, Feb. 19

### Friends of the Dunnellon Public Library

Tuesdays, 10 a.m.  
Dec. 4, Jan. 8, Feb. 5

#### BOOK SALE

Friday, Feb 22-Saturday, Feb. 23, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

### Friends of the Ocala Public Library

Thursdays, 4 p.m.  
Dec. 20, Jan. 17, Feb. 14

#### BOOK SALE

Friday, Feb. 1, early admission for Ocala Friends only, 2-4 p.m.  
Saturday, Feb. 2, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

### Friends of the Forest Public Library

Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.  
Dec. 19, Jan. 16, Feb. 20

#### BOOK SALE

Thursday, Feb. 7, 4-8 p.m.  
Friday, Feb. 8-Saturday, Feb. 9, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

### Friends of the Freedom Public Library

Mondays, 10 a.m.  
Dec. 3, Jan. 7, Feb. 4

### Friends of the Fort McCoy Public Library

Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.  
Dec. 12, Jan. 9, Feb. 13

### Friends of the Marion Oaks Public Library

Fridays, 10 a.m.  
No meetings Dec., Jan., Feb.

## LIBRARY CLOSED DAYS AND HOLIDAYS

### Parade Day

Saturday, Dec. 8

Headquarters-Ocala Library will be closed to the public at 4 p.m.

### Christmas Eve

Monday, Dec. 24

All Marion County Public Library System locations will be closed.

### Christmas Day

Tuesday, Dec. 25

All Marion County Public Library System locations will be closed.

### New Year's Eve

Monday, Dec. 31

All Marion County Public Library System locations will be closed to the public at 4 p.m.

### New Year's Day

Tuesday, Jan. 1

All Marion County Public Library System locations will be closed.

### Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Monday, Jan. 21

All Marion County Public Library System locations will be closed.

### Staff Training Day

Friday, Feb. 15

All Marion County Public Library System locations will be closed.

# EXHIBITS & DISPLAYS

## HEADQUARTERS-OCALA PUBLIC LIBRARY

- December Handcrafted Journals and Scrapbooks by **Nancy Roberts**
- January Calligraphy by **Ocala Calligraphy Guild**
- February Fine Art by **Art Circle of Belleview**

## DUNNELLON PUBLIC LIBRARY

- December Hands-On Wood Turning by **Henry Norvell**
- January Fly Tying Collection by **Marcia Thompson**
- February Wood Carving by **Dave Melton**

## FOREST PUBLIC LIBRARY

- December Holiday Village
- January Watercolors by **Sandra Sanders**
- February Watercolors by **Sandra Sanders**

## REDDICK PUBLIC LIBRARY

- December Christmas Display by **Reddick Patrons**
- January Watercolor Paintings by **Susan Starling**
- February Northwest Marion County by **Annabelle Leitner**



# Celebrate the 29th National African American Read-In



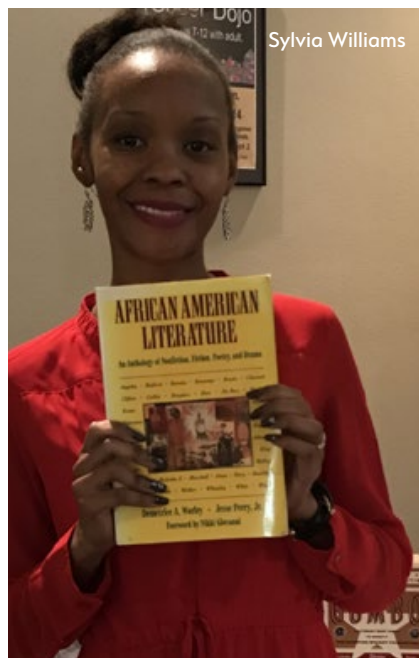
Janet Griffin



Mamadouba Camara

The National African American Read-In is the nation's oldest event dedicated to diversity in literature. Established in 1990 by the Black Caucus of the National Council of Teachers of English, the African American Read-In endeavors to make literacy a significant part of Black History Month. Since 1990, more than 6 million readers have participated in events around the world.

Over the years, many community leaders and citizens have joined Read-In events at public libraries in Marion County to read favorite passages by African American authors, recite poetry and celebrate African American culture through music and dance. From artists and poets, to dancers and musicians, various members of our community have stepped up to the microphone.



Sylvia Williams

Featured readers last year at the Headquarters-Ocala Public Library's event included retired Ocala Police Department Deputy Police Chief Rodney Smith who

read from William C. Daniels' "Believe: Turning Your Stumbling Blocks into Stepping Stones" and Ms. Peachie Jackson who read a piece by Mary McLeod Bethune. After the reading, many joined in to learn and demonstrate some West African dance moves as master Djembe drummer Mamadouba Mohamed Camara performed on his drums. The Guinean "master of masters" is known worldwide for his amazing percussive talent.

See Program Spotlight in this issue for more information about African American Read-In events at a library location near you. If you are interested in reading or performing at one of the library's African American Read-In events this year, please contact your local library. Come join the celebration! [W](#)



# create

2018 Winners!

## FINE ARTS SHOW



**1<sup>st</sup>** **Aixa Cruz**  
*Dunnellon High School*

**2<sup>nd</sup>** **Gabriele Cortes-Arroyo**  
*West Port High School*

**3<sup>rd</sup>** **Alex Kirkpatrick**  
*West Port High School*

**People's Choice:**  
**Olivia Wicks**  
*Homeschool*

## WRITER'S CONFERENCE

**1<sup>st</sup>** **Xyonn Soloman** *West Port High School*

**2<sup>nd</sup>** **Jordan Myrick** *Vanguard High School*

**3<sup>rd</sup>** **Elena Olvera** *Forest High School*

**Judges' Choice:**  
**Esther Ariza** *West Port High School*



## FILMMAKER'S FESTIVAL

**1<sup>st</sup>** *Math Homework*  
**Zoe Burgess** *Forest High School*

**2<sup>nd</sup>** *Jumper*  
**Cody Wood** *Vanguard High School*

**3<sup>rd</sup>** **and People's Choice:** *1%*  
**Sophie Rizzo** *West Port High School*



# images

Fairy Tale Festival at Headquarters-Ocala Public Library



DIY Art Napkin Collage at Forest Public Library



Fairy Tale Festival at Headquarters-Ocala Public Library



Open house at Marion Oaks Public Library



Fairy Tale Festival at Headquarters-Ocala Public Library



Crafts at Belleview Public Library

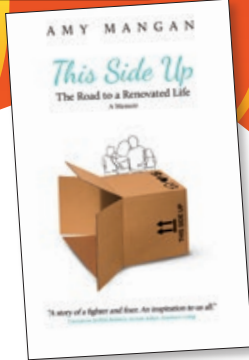
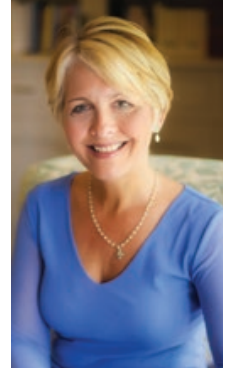
# Bookmarks

## MEET THE AUTHOR

### AMY MANGAN

Join us on Jan. 6, at 2 p.m. at the Headquarters-Ocala Public Library, in Meeting Room C, as we welcome Ocala native Amy Mangan, author of "This Side Up: The Road to a Renovated Life." Amy's mixed story of woes and wonders is written with grace, style and intense emotion. You'll laugh and you'll cry as she skillfully takes you through the "rooms" of her life, demonstrating that failure is a part of our existence, and that rebuilding one's life is always possible.

Our Meet the Author events are free, and light refreshments will be provided. Amy's book will be available for purchase, and she will personally sign each of them after the program.



## Prom Night at the Library

Remember the long gowns and fancy suits, the music, the dancing, and the magic of prom night? On Friday, Feb. 8, from 7-9 p.m., you will have the opportunity to experience these special moments again. Headquarters-Ocala will be open for an evening of fun, dancing, food, and, of course, books! We'll be making prom memories all over again! The cost of the event is \$20 per person. Invitations are available at the Book Market. Sponsored by the Friends of the Ocala Library, this is a membership and fundraising event, with all proceeds donated to support the library. For more information about this event, see the article in this issue of Words.

### Sponsorships Available

We are looking for sponsors from our community who are willing to assist the Friends with "Prom Night at the Library." Sponsorship levels are below. For more information, contact Diane Trexler at 352-208-4651.

- \$1500 *Top Hats and Tiaras* sponsor
- \$1000 *Sequins and Cumberbunds* sponsor
- \$500 *Corsages and Boutonnieres* sponsor
- \$250 *High-Tops and Stilettos* sponsor

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**MEET THE AUTHOR:  
AMY MANGAN**  
Author of "This Side Up:  
The Road to a Renovated Life"  
Sunday, Jan. 6  
2 p.m.

Meeting Room C  
HQ-Ocala Public Library

**QUARTERLY  
BOOK SALE**  
Saturday, Feb. 2  
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

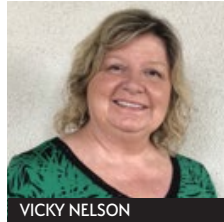
Meeting Rooms A, B, and C  
HQ-Ocala Public Library  
(FRIENDS members only)  
Friday, Feb. 1, 2-4 p.m.

**PROM NIGHT  
AT THE LIBRARY**  
Friday, Feb. 8

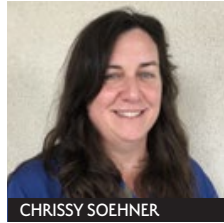
HQ-Ocala Public Library  
\$20 per person



SANDY BARNSTABLE



VICKY NELSON



CHRISSY SOEHNER



KYLE YANCEY

## Welcome to our New Board Members!

In September, the Friends of the Ocala Library inducted new officers and board members. This year's officers are Suzy Heinbockel, president; Bridget Kiefer, vice president; and Dave Schlenker, secretary. Our new Friends' Board members are Sandy Barnstable, Vicky Nelson, Chrissy Soehner, and Kyle Yancey. Sandy Barnstable is retired from the accounting field in Illinois. Vicky Nelson is a retired RN and administrator from Florida Hospital Ocala (formerly MRMC). Chrissy Soehner and her husband operate The Monkey Cage, a children's consignment shop in downtown Ocala. Kyle Yancey is employed at BBVA Compass Bank. We welcome all of our new Board members who bring a wealth of knowledge and skills to the Board.



## BOOK SALE

Time to stock up on more books! Our next quarterly Book Sale will be on Saturday, Feb. 2, from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. in Meeting Rooms A, B, and C at Headquarters-Ocala Public Library. Early admission for Friends members only will be Friday, Feb. 1, 2-4 p.m.

# profiles

BY JENNY RANSONE

Every lifelong library lover has a story and Eleanor Simons is no exception. Her library love story began as a child, influenced by a mother who was an avid reader, and a home full of books. She fondly remembers making detailed lists of all the topics she wanted to learn about, visiting her public library, and returning with books that she would eagerly read and enjoy.

Eleanor has resided in Ocala for 54 years, but grew up in Hialeah, Florida. She attended the University of Florida where she majored in education and met the man she would marry and with whom she would raise a family. While her husband completed his studies to become a lawyer, she began her teaching career in Bell, Florida. They later moved to Ocala where she taught at the high school, middle school, and elementary school levels, for both public and private institutions. For many years, she was a reading teacher and remembers walking her students to the downtown Ocala public library when she taught at Grace Episcopal School.

Eleanor dedicated her career to inspiring children of all ages to read and become lifelong learners, including her own sons whom she regularly brought to the public library and helped carry home “piles of books.” She is proud to say that all of her grandchildren are also readers.

Through the years she has been a steadfast library supporter. She is a Friend of the Ocala Public Library and also served on its board of directors. In the early 1980s, Eleanor and a group of colleagues recognized the importance of computer technology and supported the installation of the downtown Ocala library’s first coin-operated computer. She remains interested in technology and uses library resources to educate herself about new technology



and other interests, including cooking. When it comes to fiction she “likes really good stories that develop characters.”

For Eleanor, lifelong learning and library use go hand in hand. She sees public libraries as a place where there is literally something for everyone; where you can ask questions and find the information you need. She sums public libraries up this way, “You can get an education in any field you want. There are people there to help you and it’s free.” Her lifelong library support has helped to sow the seeds of knowledge for future generations to enjoy. **W**