

Marion County Public Library's Quarterly Newsmagazine

words

Issue 3 | Volume 1 | Fall 2009

USING YOUR LIBRARY:

as
easy as

One,
Two,
Free!



ALSO IN THIS ISSUE: Fall Events Calendar • Book Review • Profile: Sharon Dion

Marion County Public Library's
Quarterly Newsmagazine

Issue 3 | Volume 1 | Fall 2009

Marion County Public Library
2720 East Silver Springs Boulevard
Ocala, Florida 34470
(352) 368-4507

e-mail: karen.jensen@marioncountyfl.org
website: library.marioncountyfl.org

Library Director: Julie Sieg

NEWSMAGAZINE STAFF:

Publisher: Friends of The
Ocala Public Library

Editor: Karen Jensen
Community Liaison

Writers: Linda Porter
Ken Tipper

Concept Team: Pat Anderson,
Karen Costello, Domina
Daughtrey, Cate O'Brien,
Michelle Risko, Lee Schwartz,
Susan Valle, Nancy Young

Photography: Steve Floethe
Cate O'Brien

Distribution: Susan Valle



on the cover:

Making great use of the Library's resources, Christina Revilla, reads to her children, Addison, age 7, and Madison, age 4.

a word

FROM THE DIRECTOR

By Julie Sieg • Director, Marion County Public Library System



“
We're
here to
help.”

We're from the government, and we're here to help. Really. Yes, really. In this issue of *WORDS* you will read some examples of how your Public Library has helped, and can help, during these tough economic times.

As we continue to tighten our belts, each of us is looking for ways to save a dollar. Begin with getting your free library card! The Public Library can help in so many different ways, from providing a do-it-yourself tutorial on how to repair your broken down lawnmower, or hang your own wallpaper, to offering the latest best seller to providing information on how to start your own small business, to offering free Internet access. In one category of library service alone, during the first seven months of this fiscal year, if our users had purchased the materials that were checked out of our libraries (assuming the materials were available and in print) they would have spent a cumulative amount of \$22,471,950. Instead, they were able to check-out the materials using their free public library card.

There are so many opportunities available from the libraries within your Marion County Public Library System. Come check us out!

Julie Sieg

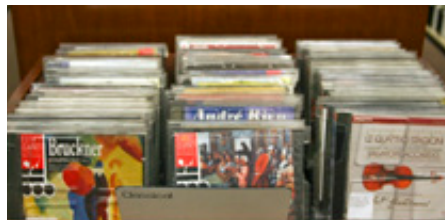
In Tough Economic Times Feel 'FREE' to Use Your Library!

By Karen Jensen • Community Liaison



force Connection states, "What better place to provide career workshops than in an environment housing lots of job-related information with high speed internet accessibility."

The library also offers an exten-



In these challenging economic times, it seems as if everyone is looking for creative ways to stretch a dollar. As families and individuals search for cost effective ways to prioritize needs and spend wisely, people are finding the Marion County Public Library System to be a valuable resource.

Being responsive to community needs is central to the library's mission, and the fact that its many programs, services and events are free, make it a one-stop shop for all ages.

For job seekers, the library is often one of the only available public facilities to offer free access to computers, the internet and career-oriented workshops. Margaret Spontak, Senior Vice President for Business Development with Work-

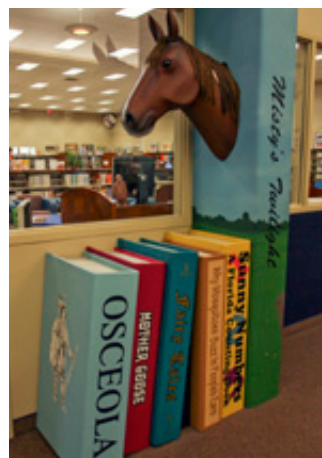
sive collection of books, magazines, newspapers, DVDs, and CDs. The on-line catalog and database services are great starting points for students, professionals, hobbyists or those looking for cost-saving information on do-it-yourself projects. And library staff, if needed, are there to help at every step of the way.

Library resources for children, teens and adults provide both entertainment and educational opportunities. Lisa Rice, Grants Coordinator for the Marion County Sheriff's Office, recently brought her two children to the Headquarters-Ocala location for an outing. "I had under-

appreciated all that the library offers," stated Rice. "I had no idea there were so many activities, videos, books on tape, and games available. I even read up on a new hobby for myself while I was there. The library is an adventure that any family can afford."

Bona fide booklovers and book-club members alike are finding the library to be a cost-effective alternative to purchasing that best-seller or favorite classic. And, especially in these stressful times, the quiet pleasure of reading is a wonderful form of relaxation. It's an opportunity to rest and replenish, even if only for an hour or so.

So if you haven't used all of the free resources that are available at any of the nine locations lately, you're overdue ... for a visit.



BOOK REVIEW:

The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society

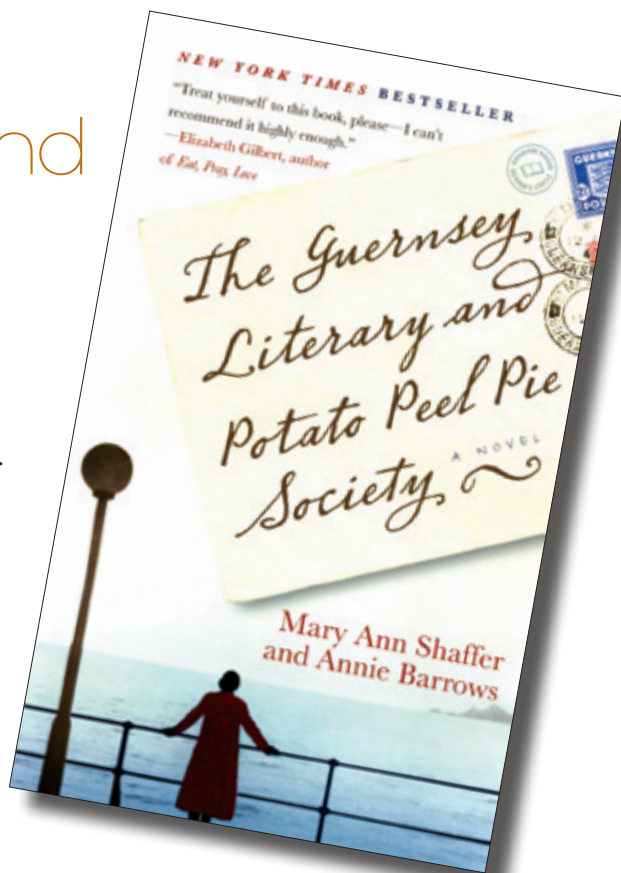
By Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows

Reviewed By Linda Porter

Books are a great support in times of trouble. They entertain, educate, and enlighten while giving us insight into the lives of others. Book lovers will enjoy *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society*, by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows, for its engaging characters and many references to books. Told through the exchange of letters among a group of friends, the novel starts off with letters from Juliet Ashton to her friends and to her publisher. World War II has just ended and the English people are picking themselves up and looking around to see what is left of their country. Juliet had been the author of a newspaper column about wartime experiences. She's sick to death of war stories and is casting about for a topic for a new book. A fresh chapter in Juliet's life begins when she receives a letter from Dawsey Adams, a farmer living on Guernsey, one of the Channel Islands hard-hit by the German occupation. Dawsey found her name written on the flyleaf of a beloved used book, thus starting off a correspondence among Juliet and the inhabitants of the island. Through the letters the Guernsey Islanders tell the story of wartime deprivation, harsh punishment, and loss of freedom and life, but also of the way the human spirit shines through the pains of war and how acts of everyday heroism get

us through the hard times. One such act was the creation of the Guernsey Literary Society, formed spontaneously as a means of avoiding punishment when a group of friends were caught breaking curfew by a patrol of German soldiers. The potato peel pie came later, when the group began meeting as a real literary society and one of their members declared that there could be no meeting without refreshments, no matter how inadequate. Books and good fellowship got the Guernsey Islanders through the war, and books and a new relationship will launch Juliet into the next stage of her life.

The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society is available at the Marion County Public Library System in regular print, large print, and as an audiobook. Check out the audiobook for a real listening treat. The full cast narration superbly captures the warmth and humor of the novel, allowing the personalities of Juliet, of her best friend, Sophie, her friend and publisher, Sidney, and the Guernsey Islanders Eben, Isola, Elizabeth, and, especially, Dawsey, to emerge through their letters.



“...the way the human spirit shines...”

programs spotlight



CREATE (Colossal, Reading, Entertaining, Artsy, Teen Event)
Saturday, October 17, 10 AM - ???

Celebrate the talented teens of Marion County! Join us for this showcase of teen artists, including a Film Festival, a Fine Arts Show, a visit from NY Times bestselling author (and also a teenager), Nancy Yi Fan, and a Battle of the Bands! For more information, please contact (352) 671-8551. Co-sponsored by The Friends of the Ocala Public Library, City of Ocala Recreation and Parks, Marion County Parks and Recreation Department.

Break the Code! Unravel the Library Mystery!

Inviting all super sleuths in Grades 4-6 to solve a mystery using computer skills. Reservations required.

Headquarters - Ocala
September 13, 2 PM

Bellevue Public Library
September 26, 2 PM

Dunnellon Public Library
October 1, 4 PM

Freedom Public Library
September 16, 3 PM and November 4, 3 PM

S.U.R.F.'S UP! It's Super Ultimate Reading Fun Time!

Hang ten (minutes & toes) with your favorite librarian and a good book. Catch the Reading Wave!

Headquarters - Ocala
Every weekday (M-F)
September 14 - November 6, 3:30 PM

Bellevue Public Library
Tuesdays
September 1 - November 17, 3:30 PM

Dunnellon Public Library
Mondays
September 14 - November 16, 3:30 PM

Freedom Public Library
Wednesdays
September 2 - November 4, 3:30 PM

Keys to Access: Library Open Houses to Showcase Accessible Resources

View demonstrations of the new technology and resources available for people with disabilities. Please note: Sign language interpreters and equipment demonstrations by Freedom Scientific will be available at sites designated with an (*). Please call 352-671-8551 for more information. Keys to Access equipment and resources are funded through a State of Florida LSTA grant from the federal Institute of Museum & Library Services.

Monday, September 21

*Headquarters - Ocala 1-4 PM

Tuesday, September 22

*Bellevue Public Library 10 AM - Noon
Oberman Public Library 1-4 PM

Wednesday, September 23

*Dunnellon Public Library 1-4 PM
Fort McCoy Public Library 1-4 PM

Thursday, September 24

*Marion Oaks Public Library 10 AM - Noon
*Reddick Public Library 2-4 PM

Friday, September 25

*Forest Public Library 10 AM - Noon
*Freedom Public Library 2-4 PM

HOLIDAYS AND SPECIAL DAYS

Monday, September 7

Labor Day
All Libraries Closed

Monday, October 12

The following libraries are closed for maintenance:
Headquarters-Ocala, Bellevue, Dunnellon

Wednesday, November 11

Veteran's Day
All Libraries Closed

Thursday and Friday, November 26 and 27

Thanksgiving Holiday
All Libraries Closed



HEADQUARTERS OCALA

2720 E. Silver Springs Blvd., Ocala
(352) 671-8551

SPECIAL PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGES

Keys to Access Open House

Monday, September 21, 1- 4 PM
See 'Programs Spotlight' section for info.

Read, Learn, Play - National Gaming Day @ Your Library

Saturday, November 14, 2 - 4 PM
Play Wii games and board games. Program for Grades K - adults. Reservations required.

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

Master Gardeners

Saturdays, 2 PM
Learn gardening techniques from the Masters! Presented by Marion County Master Gardeners, Marion County Extension Services/University of Florida, IFAS.

September 5: Flower Gardening & Cut Flower Arrangements

October 3: Transplanting Shrubs & Moving Plants Around

November 7: Holiday Table Arrangements

The Monday Matinee

Mondays, 2 PM
September 14 - November 16
Movies for adults and teens 13+.

Refreshments will be served. Co-sponsored by Coca-Cola Enterprises, Golden Flake, and RE/MAX AllStars Realty.

September 14: *About a Boy*

September 28: *A Civil Action*

October 5: *Evening*

October 19: *Pay It Forward*

October 26: *Proof*

November 2: *Rear Window*

November 9: *Sahara*

November 16: *The Sum of All Fears*

*ESOL Class

Mondays & Tuesdays, 5:30 PM
August 24 - December 15
Learn English at the library. Program is free and open to the public.

*English Conversation

Tuesdays, 10 - 11:30 AM
August 18 - December 15
Practice your English with others in an informal and fun class.

*Earn Your GED on the GED Bus

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 11 AM
August 18 - December 17
It's never too late to get your High School Diploma.

Wired Wednesdays

Wednesdays, 10:30 AM
Computer and database instruction for adults. Space is limited.

Sept. 9: Introduction to Computers

Sept. 16: Fantasy Football Resources

Sept. 23: Introduction to Email

Sept. 30: Electronic Health Resources

Oct. 7: Introduction to MS Word

Oct. 14: Job Searching Resources

Oct. 21: Hobbies & Crafts Reference Center

Oct. 28: Novelist Plus

Nov. 4: Introduction to Genealogy Resources

Nov. 18: Introduction to Blogging

Need Computer Help?

Thursdays, 1- 3 PM
September 10 - November 19
Can't get your computer to work? Seek help from our highly skilled volunteers and staff.

PROGRAMS FOR TEENS

Read Any Good Books Lately?

1st Tuesday of the Month, 3:30 PM
Teen Book Discussions for ages 13-18.
September 1: Whodunnit? (Mysteries)
October 6: Beyond Reality (SciFi)
November 3: You Go, Girl! (Female characters with attitude)

CREATE (Colossal, Reading, Entertaining, Artsy, Teen Event)

Saturday, October 17, 10-???
See 'Programs Spotlight' section for info.

PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN

Super Spider Saturday

Saturday, September 12, 2 PM
Celebrate the 70th anniversary of Marvel Comics with Spiderman. Enjoy a web of activities for grades K-6! Children may come dressed as their favorite Spiderman character. Bring your camera! Limited seating.

Break the Code! Unravel the Library Mystery

Sunday, September 13, 2 PM
See 'Programs Spotlight' section for info.

S.U.R.F.'S UP!

It's Super Ultimate Reading Fun time!

Monday - Friday, 3:30 PM
September 14 - November 6
See 'Programs Spotlight' section for info.

Book Break

Wednesdays, 2 PM Check It Out!
Share a favorite book. Discover new books and authors for Grades K-6.

September 16 : *Mystery Stories*

November 4 : *Spooky Stories*

Tween Lines: Parent/Tween Book Club for Grades 4-6

Sundays, October 4 & 18, 2 PM
Join us for a lively Sunday afternoon Tag Team Share Fest of the latest in fantastical fiction for tweens. Tweens must be accompanied by at least one adult. Reservations required.

A Taste for Red: Meet the Author!

Saturday, October 10, 2 PM
What happens when your 6th grade science teacher is also your mortal enemy? Meet author, Lewis Harris, and find out. For Grades 4-6.

Fairy Tale Extravaganza!

Saturday, October 31, 2 PM
It's a fairy and folk tale gathering! Dress as your favorite fairy or folk tale character, play Fairy Tale Jeopardy, and walk the 'Fairy Tale Mystery Trail.' Open to children birth -12yrs. with an adult.

STORYTIMES

September 15 - November 5

Terrific Three's Storytime

Tuesdays, 10:15 AM

Fabulous 4's & 5's Storytime

Tuesdays, 1:15 PM

Family Storytime 0-5 year olds

Tuesdays, 6:30 PM

Toddlin' Two's Storytime

Wednesdays, 10:15 AM

Bouncin' Babies Storytime

Thursdays, 10:15 AM: Walkers
Thursdays, 11:15 AM: Pre-Walkers

Cuentos Para Niños

Jueves, 6:30 PM
Septiembre 17- Noviembre 5
Cuentos, canciones y actividades para toda la familia en Español.

BELLEVIEW PUBLIC LIBRARY

13145 SE Hwy. 484, Belleview
(352) 438-2500

SPECIAL PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGES

Keys to Access Open House

Tuesday, September 22, 10 AM - Noon
See 'Programs Spotlight' section for info.

Read, Learn, Play - National Gaming Day @ Your Library

Saturday, November 14, 2- 5 PM
Fun & games for Grades K - adults.

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

Master Gardeners

Thursdays, 10:30 AM
Learn gardening techniques from the Masters! Presented by Marion County Master Gardeners, Marion County Extension Services/University of Florida, IFAS.

September 3: Vegetable Gardening

October 1: Your Florida Lawn

November 5: Rose Gardening

Computer Classes

Thursdays, 1:00 PM
Computer and database instruction for adults.
September 3: Introduction to the Computer
September 10: Email Basics
September 17: Beyond Email Basics
September 24: Internet Basics
October 1: Internet Printing
October 8: Intro to Library Databases
October 15: Introduction to the Computer
October 22: Email Basics
October 29: Beyond Email Basics
November 5: Internet Basics
November 12: Internet Printing
November 19: Intro to Library Databases

The Tuesday Matinee

Tuesdays, 1 PM
Movies for adults and teens 13+.

September 8: *Seven Pounds*

September 22: *The Bucket List*

October 13: *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button*

October 27: *He's Just Not That Into You*

November 10: *Blades of Glory*

November 24: *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*

Cents and Sensibility

Mondays, 6 PM
 Improve your life with tips from Lynda Spence, Family and Consumer Sciences, Extension Faculty of IFAS Extension Services. Register with County Extension @ 352.671.8400. Note: Program may be cancelled due to low registrations.
September 28: Avoid Holidizzz: Controlling Holiday Consumer Pitfalls

October 26: Who Gets Grandma's Yellow Pie Plate?

November 23: Healthy Home Essentials

Meet the Author: Connie Mann (aka Connie Neumann)

Wednesday, October 7, 2 PM
 Visit with Belleview's own Captain Connie, author of romance and suspense novels as well as *Parenting in the Homestretch*.

PROGRAMS FOR TEENS

Anything Goes! Crafts 'n Fun for Teens

Tuesdays, 6:00 PM

October 13: Mosaics

October 27: Open Mike Night

November 10: Beading

PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN

S.U.R.F.'S UP!

It's Super Ultimate Reading Fun time!

Tuesdays 3:30 PM

September 1 - November 17

See 'Programs Spotlight' section for info.

Break the Code! Unravel the Library Mystery

Saturday, September 26, 2PM

See 'Programs Spotlight' section for info.

STORYTIMES

Preschool Storytime

Fridays, 10:30 AM

September 4 - November 20

PROGRAMS FOR FAMILIES

Family Game Day

1st & 3rd Thursdays, 3 PM

September 3 - November 19

Join in the fun!

Family Flix

September 16, 2 PM: *The Little Mermaid*

September 28, 2 PM: *Inkheart*

October 30, 2 PM: *Goosebumps*

Stop, Drop, and Roll

Saturday, October 3, 10:30 AM

A visit with the Belleview Station of the Marion County Fire Dept.

DUNNELTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

20351 Robinson Road, Dunnellon
 (352) 438-2520

SPECIAL PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGES

Keys to Access Open House

Wednesday, September 23, 1-4 PM

See 'Programs Spotlight' section for info.

Read, Learn, Play - National Gaming Day @ Your Library

Saturday, November 14, 2 PM

Fun & games for Grades K - adults.

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

Master Gardeners

Tuesdays, 2 PM

Learn gardening techniques from the Masters! Presented by Marion County Master Gardeners, Marion County Extension Services/University of Florida, IFAS.

September 15: Vegetable Gardening

October 20: Orchids

November 17: To Be Announced

Senior Institute Discussion Group

Mondays, 1 PM

September 21, October 19, November 16

Topics are of interest to adults and vary monthly. Presented by the faculty of Central Florida Community College.

Computer Classes

Computer and database instruction for adults. Call library for availability. Presented by Library Staff and the Friends of the Dunnellon Public Library.

Card Making Class

Saturday, September 26, 11 AM

Wow all your friends!

Health Screenings for Adults

Saturday, October 10. Call for appointment.

Comprehensive health screenings will be conducted by Ocala/Marion County Health Education Partners.

PROGRAMS FOR TEENS

Read Beyond Reality Library Clues Contest

Monday - Friday, October 19 - 23

Calling all Middle and High School Teens!

Put on your thinking caps and unravel the hidden secrets of the library. Prize drawings!

Games in the Afternoon

Saturday, October 24, 3 PM

For Teens Only. Bring your friends and your good sportsmanship and have fun!

PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN

S.U.R.F.'S UP!

It's Super Ultimate Reading Fun time!

Mondays, 3:30 PM

September 14 - November 16

See 'Programs Spotlight' section for info.

The Saturday Matinee

Saturdays, 3 PM

September 19: *The Tale of Despereaux*

October 17: *Charlotte's Web*

November 21: *The Hotel for Dogs*

Give a Hoot! It's Owl and Author Time!

Tuesday, September 22, 4:30 PM

Meet a barn owl and owl expert, Keith Belisle, from the Ocala Wild Life Sanctuary (OWLS) and meet Betty Gilbert, author of *Buffy the Burrowing Owl*.

Kraffy Kids: Art & Crafts & Tons of Fun!

Wednesdays, 4 PM

September 30, October 28, November 18

For K - 5th Graders. Registration required.

Break the Code! Unravel the Library Mystery

Thursday, October 1, 4 PM

See 'Programs Spotlight' section for info.

Kindermusik: Music and Movement

Thursday, October 29, 11 AM

Angie Gabb, Kindermusik instructor, returns to the library to delight your musical youngster. For ages 2-5.

Crawl, Slither and Chomp! A Peek at Florida's Wildlife

Thursday, November 12, 4 PM

Florida wildlife comes indoors! Join Darran Cheman, assistant park manager of Rainbow River State Park, for a viewing of snakes, turtles and even an alligator!

STORYTIMES

Baby Songs and Nursery Rhymes

Tuesdays, 10:30 AM

Birth -12 months

September 29, October 27, November 17

Toddler Storytime - 2's & 3's

Wednesdays, 10:30 AM

September 9 - November 18

Preschool Storytime - 4's & 5's

Fridays, 10:30 AM

September 11 - November 20

FOREST PUBLIC LIBRARY

777 S. County Road 314A, Ocklawaha
 (352) 438-2540

SPECIAL PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGES

Keys to Access Open House

Friday, September 25, 10 AM - Noon

See 'Programs Spotlight' section for info.

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

*Earn Your GED on the GED Bus

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 2 PM

August 18 - December 17

It's never too late to get your High School Diploma.

The Wednesday Matinee

Wednesdays, 2 PM

Movies for adults and teens 13+.

August 19: *Pirates of the Caribbean:*

At World's End

September 9: *Sweet Home Alabama*

September 23: *Shall We Dance?*

October 7: *On the Town*

October 21: *Ghostbusters*

November 18: *The Phantom of the Opera*

PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN

Kids Klub

Wednesdays, 2:30 PM

September 16 & November 4

Games, crafts, stories & fun for K - 6.

Movie Matinee

Monday, September 28, 2 PM

The Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian

Creepy Crafts

Friday, October 30, 2 PM

Make some creepy crafts for Halloween and impress your friends and parents. For School-age children.

Trunk-or-Treat in the Forest

Saturday, October 31, 5 PM

There's a party in the Forest so grab a costume and a goody bag and come for a walk! Treats and sweets for all!

Sponsored by the Friends of the Forest Public Library.

STORYTIME

Preschool Storytime

Tuesdays, 10:30 AM

September 8 - November 24

FORT MCCOY PUBLIC LIBRARY

14660 NE Hwy 315, Fort McCoy
(352) 438-2560

SPECIAL PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGES

Keys to Access Open House

Wednesday, September 23, 1-4 PM
See 'Programs Spotlight' section for info.

Lyndel Comedy and Magic Productions

Thursday, November 12, 7 PM
Join us for a fun-filled evening at the library with zany stories, amazing magic, audience participation and surprises!

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

GED Education

Mondays & Wednesdays, 6 PM
September 2 - November 30

PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN

Preschool Storytime

Tuesdays, 10:30 AM
September 15 - November 3

FREEDOM PUBLIC LIBRARY

5870 SW 95th Street, Ocala
(352) 438-2580

SPECIAL PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGES

Keys to Access Open House

Friday, September 25, 2-4 PM
See 'Programs Spotlight' section for info.

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

Ask Arnold! Comprehensive Computer Help

Thursdays, Noon
Questions and problems are welcome!
No appointment necessary.

Computer Classes

Thursdays, 2 PM
Two-part series. Seating is limited.
Registration is required.
Part I: Computer Basics September 17;
October 1, 15, 29; November 12

Part II: Introduction to the Internet
September 24; October 8,
22; November 5, 19

Master Gardeners

Tuesdays, 2 PM
October 13 & November 10
Learn gardening techniques from the Masters and experience the Mobile Plant Clinic. Presented by Doris Mauricio, Marion County Master Gardeners, Marion County Extension Services/University of Florida, IFAS.

PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN

S.U.R.F.'S UP! It's Super Ultimate Reading Fun time!

Wednesdays, 3:30 PM
September 2 - November 4
See 'Programs Spotlight' section for info.

Break the Code! Unravel the Library Mystery

Wednesdays, 3 PM
September 16 & November 4
See 'Programs Spotlight' section for info.

STORYTIMES

September 15 - November 5

Read to Your Baby Storytime

Tuesdays, 10:30 AM

Preschool Storytime

Thursdays, 10:30 AM

HERMAN B. OBERMAN PUBLIC LIBRARY

4040 Deepwater Court, Dunnellon
(352) 438-2564

SPECIAL PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGES

Keys to Access Open House

Tuesday, September 22, 1-4 PM
See 'Programs Spotlight' section for info.

PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN

Preschool Storytime

Wednesdays, 10 AM
September 2 - November 25

A Celebration of Fall

October 29, 6:00 PM
Enjoy not-too spooky stories, refreshments and seasonal goodies. All ages welcome.

MARION OAKS PUBLIC LIBRARY

294 Marion Oaks Lane, Ocala
(352) 438-2570

SPECIAL PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGES

Keys to Access Open House

Thursday, September 24, 10 AM - Noon
See 'Programs Spotlight' section for info.

PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN

Preschool Storytime

Fridays, 10:30 AM
September 4 - November 20

REDDICK PUBLIC LIBRARY

15150 NW Gainesville Road, Reddick
(352) 438-2566

SPECIAL PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGES

Keys to Access Open House

Thursday, September 24, 2-4 PM
See 'Programs Spotlight' section for info.

PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN

Preschool Storytime

Wednesdays, 10 AM
September 16 - November 4.

OUR SYSTEM-WIDE SUMMER READING PROGRAM IS OVER!

Over 27,000 people participated in our inaugural event. Congratulations to the 2009 winners! We would like to extend our special thanks to **The Presidents' Council of the Friends of The Library Groups of the Marion County Public Library System** and to the following area businesses for providing the prizes for the System-Wide Summer Reading Program.

- AMF Ocala Lanes Bowling
- Barnes & Noble Bookstore
- Bob Evans Restaurant
- Bruster's Ice Cream
- Captain Tom's Custom Charters
- Easy Street Fun Center
- Greiners for Men & Ladies
- Marial Arts World
- OcalaMoms.com
- Olivia & Co. Kids
- Popeye's Famous Fried Chicken
- Sonic Drive-In
- Taco Bell
- Terri Byrd, Photographer
- Too Your Health Spa
- Wayne's Brick City Café



Library Card Sign Up Month September 2009

September is Library Card Sign-up Month! Observed since 1987, Library Card Sign-up Month is a time when libraries everywhere remind parents that a library card is the most important school supply of all. For more information on how to sign up for a free library card, stop by any of the nine Marion County Public Library System locations, call 352-671-8551 or visit our website at library.marioncountyfl.org.

Library Names New Community Liaison

By Ken Tipper • *Friends of the Ocala Public Library*

A recognized community leader has recently been named the new Community Liaison for the Marion County Public Library System. Karen Jensen brings a strong resume, which dovetails well with her new responsibilities coordinating the library's public relations, grants and volunteer programs.

A native of Valparaiso, Indiana, Jensen attended Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana, and graduated with a degree in English, and a minor in Speech.

A life-long love of horses initially brought her to Marion County in 1982, but one of her first community contacts helped her secure the position of public relations coordinator for the March of Dimes. This position was the introduction to nonprofit and public sector work that has since been the main-stay of her career.

Karen served as the Executive Director for The Volunteer Service Bureau for 12 years and then joined the Department of Juvenile Justice-5th Judicial Circuit



as the Community Partnership Coordinator. After budget cuts eliminated this position in 2001, Karen hung out her own shingle advertising Synergistics Consulting Inc. which specialized in nonprofit management.

"When this position with the Marion County Public Library System became available, it just felt like the right fit for me," said Jensen. "I am looking

Keys to Access:

Technology & Resources to Assist People with Disabilities

The Marion County Public Library System will showcase new technology and equipment for people with disabilities during a series of Open Houses, beginning September 21, 2009. To find out more about dates, locations, or the availability of services at a specific location, call 352-671-8551, visit our website at library.marioncountyfl.org or check out the Program Spotlights in our calendar.

forward to publishing the next issue of 'Words', working with the Friends of the Ocala Public Library and a great marketing committee."

So we welcome Karen to the Marion County Public Library System, where so many other talented people work. And we are thrilled to have Amy Mangan, former Community Liaison, on the board of the Friends of the Ocala Public Library as its marketing committee chair.



create

*COLOSSAL, READING,
ENTERTAINING, ARTSY
TEEN EVENT*

Saturday, October 17, 2009
10 a.m. til ?
Headquarters-Ocala Library
For details, call 671-8551.



Find out faster by e-mail!

Introducing E-notices @ your Library!

We'll let you know the moment your requested items have arrived and remind you that your books are due before you owe a fine. See Circulation for more information about how to access E-notices.

SPECIAL THANKS TO

**Woods Printing,
Phillips Printing, and
The Windsor of Ocala**
for their generous
support of our
programs.

Bookmarks

Friends of the Ocala Public Library's News and Notes The Friends Have a Brand New Look!

Friends Fall Calendar

All events are free, open to the public, and held in Meeting Room C, Headquarters-Ocala Library. Refreshments served.

Wednesday, October 14, 2 PM

Author **Victor DeGenti** talks about his works including *Windrusher*, *Windrusher and the Cave of the Tho-Hoth*.

Saturday, October 24, 10 AM - 4 PM

Last Book Sale of the Year!

Meeting Rooms B & C.

Saturday, November 21, 2 PM

The Life and Times of Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings. Performed by **Karen De Vos**.

Change is good and for the Friends of the Ocala Public Library, there's a lot of change lately.

First, the Friends' Ocala Bookstore underwent an extensive makeover with updated furnishings, paint, and, even, an awning. **Michael Koontz** of **Koontz Company**, created a "market theme" for the re-design incorporating novelty elements and a stunning market-style awning entrance to entice guests entering the public library to stop by the bookstore first. Wanna see the renewed digs first

hand? Come to the **Bookstore's OPEN HOUSE on Thursday, August 27 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.** Refreshments will be served and guests may be eligible for door prizes. Plus, great book deals are always a given!

Second, the Friends are developing a web site, complete with new logo, to better serve library supporters. Check often for breaking news of its debut. Call 368-4591 to find out how you can be a part of this volunteer organization whose mission is to support our wonderful public library.

Memberships Welcome

Currently, Friends have 391 members whose financial and volunteer support helps to fund library initiatives, staff development, and reading programs. Over \$135,000 was provided to the public library for programs and initiatives in the past 12 months. Here's a quick look at just some of the programs funded by Friends this past year:

- The library's Children's Book Festival and Summer Reading Programs
- The library's Children's Reading Garden
- Movie licensing and refreshments for the library's film series
- Educational reimbursement to library staff working toward bachelor and masters degrees
- Special speaker series at the library
- Youth and Adult programming at the library such as the African-American Read-In, Women's History Month presentation, and Word Jam Poetry Writing Program
- Furniture and equipment for the library
- The library's Public Relations Program

Did You Know?

- Quarterly booksales provide much-needed funding for these efforts. Did you know an average Friends Booksale sells over 5,000 books?
- The Friends' yearly volunteer hours are 7,488 hours and the Friends Bookstore is completely run by volunteers.
- Join the Friends of Ocala Public Library today! Membership begins at only \$5 and supports your public library! Email Marilyn Stadick at stadickmar@earthlink.net or call 368-4591.



Marion County Public Library System
2720 East Silver Springs Boulevard
Ocala, Florida 34470

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profile

By Ken Tipper • *Friends of the Ocala Public Library*



Sharon Dion Celebrates 35 Years of Service

The mosaic panel of the old Carnegie Library, that adorns the front of the Headquarters-Ocala building, reminds Sharon Dion of her time as both a teen library volunteer and part-time employee.

The third-generation Ocalan graduated from Ocala High School in 1969. She attended Trevecca Nazarene College in Nashville and graduated in 1974 with a B.A. in English. Each summer, she always came home to work at the library.

Sharon has memories of “the old round building downtown.” She recalls the flooding that occurred after a heavy rain, the air-conditioning unit that broke down, and Elvira the hen that made its home in the library garden space.

It was with mixed emotions that Sharon made the move to the current Headquarters-Ocala location. She expresses sadness at leaving the place where she had worked 29 years, but is happy to now work in such a beautiful facility. “It is so nice not to have to pay for parking spaces.” she said.

July 22, 2009, marked Sharon’s

35 years of full time service in the Marion County Public Library System. On July 7, she was honored by the Marion County Board of County Commissioners for that accomplishment. She has worked in every department of the library except for the Children’s Division and Administration. Currently, she works in Information Services as a Public Service Librarian. In 2009, Sharon said she “expanded my horizons” by also working in the Technical Services Department.

Sharon’s husband Maurice passed away in 1985. Her daughter, Michelle, will be married next April and Sharon is really looking forward to this event.

Sharon has many other interests outside of work. She sings in the Oakcrest Baptist Church choir, collects spoons, angels, and music boxes. And of course, Sharon loves to read. WHEN she retires, she plans to research her family tree. In the meantime, she is content to be the longest-serving Marion County Public Library staff member, and one who I am certain is highly regarded by everyone.