

Marion County Public Library System's Quarterly Newsmagazine

Volume 4 | Issue 1 | Spring 2012

Words

A Call to Write

2012 Author Expo

to feature local writers

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words

Marion County Public Library's
Quarterly Newsmagazine

Volume 4 | Issue 1 | Spring 2012

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Author Expo is coming to Headquarters-Ocala library. See Program Spotlight and calendar for details.



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a word FROM THE DIRECTOR

By Julie Sieg • Director, Marion
County Public Library System



Things To Know About eBooks

Thanks to the generosity of the Friends of the Ocala Public Library, the Marion County Public Library System is able to introduce electronic books (eBooks) to our library users. We are very excited to finally be able to offer this new service, however small it may be upon the initial rollout. We appreciate the patience each of you has demonstrated as you have waited for this much anticipated service.

As with any new service, there are a fair number of adjustments. With everything being new, some helpful things to know about eBooks include:

1. Not every title is available in eBook format.
2. Some titles are *only* available in eBook format.
3. Some publishers will not sell eBooks to libraries. These publishers include Penguin, Simon & Schuster, MacMillan and Perseus. As a result, many popular authors and titles will be unavailable through the library.
4. The cost of an eBook to libraries far exceeds what you, as a consumer, pay.
5. eBooks will have a 7-day check out. The title will then magically disappear and move on to the next person.
6. Overdrive is the company name of our eBook vendor.
7. Overdrive eBooks are compatible with all major desktop and mobile platforms, including Windows® and Mac® computers, smartphones such as iPhone®, Android™ and BlackBerry®, and eBook readers including Sony® Reader and Kindle® (Kindle books available to US schools and libraries only).

Look for more information on the library website regarding how to begin using this new service or ask a librarian. Enjoy!

Julie Sieg

Did You Know?

Did you know that there is a new fee of \$1 for each reserve item that is not picked up or cancelled?

a call to Write

by Lucy Beebe Tobias



Be honest and confess. A book is inside you waiting to be born.

That was easy. Now take the next step—mark your calendars for a free **Author Expo** where you can talk to locally published authors and learn first-hand how to get published along with the opportunity to buy their books.

The Author Expo date is Saturday, April 14, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Headquarters-Ocala Public Library, 2720 E. Silver Springs Blvd., Ocala, Florida.

“This is our first time for an Author Expo,” said **Roseanne Russo**, Manager of Information Services for the Marion County Public Library System. “It is an opportunity for many talented people in Marion County and surrounding counties to talk about their books, get exposure and network.”

The event is open to all local authors in Marion County and adjacent counties—Lake, Levy, Citrus, Alachua and Sumter. There is limited space. Books can be for sale. Registration includes a \$10 table fee in lieu of a percentage of sales from books. Applications are due by March 16, and forms are available at

library.marioncountyfl.org, at the HQ-Ocala location and at www.friendsoftheocalalibrary.org.

For the public, the event is free. In addition to talking one-on-one with authors, the library will have a table/exhibit on how to get published.

WHAT: Author Expo

WHEN: Saturday, April 14, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

WHERE: Library Headquarters, 2720 E. Silver Springs Blvd., Ocala, 352-671-8551

AUTHORS: Applications due by March 16

“People will like this Expo, especially people interested in publishing their own books,” said Russo. “Authors can share publishing experiences.”

The event fits in well with National Library Week.

“It is a celebration of National Library Week, and we thought it would be a good chance to give local authors an opportunity to present their books. We support local authors all we can, and this will give them a chance to share their books with the public,” said **Sara Dassance**, President of the Friends of the Ocala Public Library, a key sponsor/partner for the event. **W**



Scan this QR code with your smartphone for more info!

a picture WORTHY of a thousand words

By Michelle Risko

My very first library memory is as a first-grader. My whole class gathered on the media center floor, our necks stretched and heads craned for a glimpse of the pictures as the librarian read the words. At six years of age, story time was magical. I still find the magic in a story, but now I also wonder how a picture and story meld together to capture a child's imagination.

Some writers are also illustrators and artists. But what if you're not an artist? Most major publishers hire their own illustrators to marry your words with your vision. All you need to do is submit your manuscript, and wait...

If you're not comfortable letting a publisher make those decisions, you'll need to hire an artist. If you're unfamiliar with local artists, take a look online. Most artists for-hire will have a website featuring samples of their work and pricing. If you find established artists cost a little more than you can afford, get in touch with local art schools or the community college where students may be willing to help you at a more reasonable cost.

Hands down, your most important resource is the latest edition of the "Children's Writers and Illustrators Market." There you'll find over 700 listings for publishers and illustrators, along with pricing and submission criteria. But the most important piece of advice to remember for writers and illustrators is to keep creating! **W**

shifting into OverDrive

By Michelle Risko

So you received a gorgeous new electronic book reader over the holidays, but the retail price for downloading has given you serious sticker shock? If you're starting to feel like keeping up with progress is just flat out of reach, don't give up! The Marion County Public Library has great news for e-reader fans!

Funding from The Friends of the Ocala Public Library has made it possible for the public library to move into the technology fast lane by offering downloadable eBooks. This new service, powered by OverDrive, a leading distributor of eBooks, is free with your library card.

Accessing eBooks through OverDrive will be easy from the Marion County Public Library System website, library.marioncountyfl.org. A onetime download of free software from the OverDrive site is required, as well as your library card and your PIN (personal identification number.) Visit the library website for more information or call 352-671-8551. **W**



the write answer

By Michelle Risko

The diary I kept as a teen was a sacred object. I can remember lying on my unmade bed after school and pouring my heart into that cute little book with the green paisley cover. Those pages were soaked in teen angst, and that little green diary was better than any therapist.

I've come to believe there is no problem putting pen to paper can't help fix, and I'm not the only one who believes this to be so. In fact, the American Psychological Association has found that writing, or journaling, is indeed good for you. Writing releases negative emotions, decreases stress, lowers blood pressure, increases cognitive function, and strengthens the immune system, among other benefits.

To get started, you'll need the following: a smooth writing pen or pencil, any new or refurbished book of lined paper, and time set aside to write. Don't fancy yourself a writer? Choose blank paper and colored pencils and create an art journal instead!

Journaling is a safe way to say the things you need to say to people. Your journal is also a great way to keep track of your hopes and dreams, so that you can look back and marvel over how your plans for the future have changed through the years.

Keep your journal private or create it as a way to introduce yourself to your future generations. You may even choose to introduce yourself to the whole world by turning your journal into a blog. So what are you waiting for? Grab a pen and start writing! **W**

DISCOVER a Good Book!

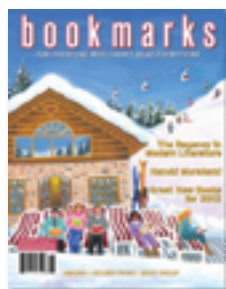
Reviewed By Linda Porter

Central Florida boasts some talented writers. Among them is **Chad T. Douglas**, author of “The Lore Trilogy.” The concluding volume, “**Lore: The Old World**” is now available at the Marion County Public Library System as well as for sale at the author’s website, www.loretrilogy.com. Douglas, a student at the University of Florida, has continued to develop his alternative world, one filled with pirates, vampires, werewolves, magic blades, and so much more. Thomas Crowe and his consort, Molly Bishop, battle the Bureau of Immortal Affairs, a Machiavellian political organization set to conquer the world. Tom, now voyaging through Death and subject to the control of the Octopus, can



no longer help Molly, leaving her plenty of scope to develop her own powers of sorcery. When Molly is captured by the Blood Moons, a particularly vicious band of sea-going werewolves, she must use her gemseeker powers to save herself and her unborn child from a desperate fate. She is assisted by the Atlanteans, led by Oi’Alli, who has her own reasons to hate Jack Darcy, leader of the werewolves and captain of their mammoth ship, The Howl.

This series has gotten better and better with convincing fantasy elements, greater roles for female characters, and nice touches of the supernatural. Chad Douglas is a writer to watch, and it is a pleasure watching his terrific imagination bloom. **W**



digging deeper

The library offers plenty of books on the art of writing, whether creative, business, or technical. Need to find an agent, or are you interested in self-publishing? The library has directories and guidebooks to help you identify where and how to publish. Several databases are available on the library’s website at library.marioncountyfl.org that will catch you up with the latest news about books and authors. You will also enjoy checking out magazines like “Bookmarks,” “Mystery Scene” and “Writer’s Digest” to help you hone your craft. **W**



program spotlight

Happy Birthday, Dr. Seuss

Do we like him here or there? Yes, we like him everywhere! Celebrate the birthday of one of our most creative authors. See individual branch libraries for more information.

Headquarters-Ocala

Saturday, Mar. 3, 10 a.m.-noon

Cosponsored by the Marion Education Association

Marion Oaks Public Library

Saturday, Mar. 3, 2-3 p.m.

Have your picture taken with a six-foot cat in a funny hat!

Dunnellon Public Library

Wednesday, Mar. 7, 2 p.m.

Spot Thing 1 and Thing 2, if you can! For grades K-2. Registration required.

You Belong @ Your Library During National Library Week!

Sunday, Apr. 8-Saturday, Apr. 14

Check out your local library during this national celebration! You DO belong here!

Headquarters-Ocala

Sunday, Apr. 8-Saturday, Apr. 14

Bean Counters, Unite! Stop by the Children's area to hunt for your librarians' favorite books and test your estimation skills with the Jelly Bean Guessing Jar.

Reddick Public Library

Wednesday, Apr. 11, noon

National Library Week Brown Bag Luncheon. Anchors aweigh! Bring your sandwich and let your mind sail to the tropical island of Cuba and the rugged ranges of Alaska. Chips, drink and dessert will be provided for your dining pleasure. For reservations, call 352-438-2566.

Author Expo

Headquarters-Ocala

Saturday, Apr. 14, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Writers, writers, everywhere! Many of Marion County's local poets, novelists, journalists and playwrights will be on hand to discuss their craft and share their publishing experiences. Books will be available for purchase. Call 352-671-8551 for more information.

Funded by The Friends of The Ocala Public Library

Celebrate National Poetry Month

Freedom Public Library

Apr. 1-30

Poetry on Parade. Put your talents on display! Write, illustrate a poem, or just share a favorite poem. Poets and poetry lovers of all ages welcome.

Bellevue Public Library

Tuesday, Apr. 3, 5-6 p.m.

Poetry Art for Teens. Celebrate Poetry Month with some creative art featuring your own poetry.

Dunnellon Public Library

Thursday, Apr. 12, 11 a.m.

Celebrate National Poetry Month

Honor poetry by sharing a favorite poem, reading a poem you've written, or even trying your hand at writing a "concrete" poem. If you're not sure what a concrete poem is, come find out.

Headquarters-Ocala

Sunday, Apr. 22, 2 p.m.

Poetry Aloud! A Poetry Month Celebration With Lena Lewin

Keep a poem in your pocket! Poets of all ages come together to celebrate National Poetry Month. Bring your favorite poem and join Poetry Ocala as they recite theirs!

Down on the Farm!

Headquarters-Ocala

Saturday, Apr. 21, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Old MacDonald had a farm—at the library! Join the barnyard fun complete with farm animals and lots of activities as we celebrate The Week of the Young Child, a National Association for the Education of Young Children event. You'll even sing a few of your favorite songs and hear a story or two. Gather up those little ones and mosey on over to celebrate farming! All families are welcome.

Presented by Marion County Farm Awareness Program and Crone's Cradle Conserve.

Be Money Smart!

Headquarters-Ocala

Friday, Apr. 27, 3 p.m.

Chocolate on your plate and money in your pocket, what could be better? Lynda Spence from the University of Florida/IFAS, Marion County Extension Services provides a taste of sweet success during Money Smart Week. With several courses of gourmet chocolate, financial information has never tasted so good.

Celebrate Children's Book Week

Monday, May 7-Sunday, May 13

Come and play with the new *Ready to Read: Zero to Three* activity kits. Exercise your right to read and find a great book at your local library. It's a happening place.

Headquarters-Ocala

May 1-31

Who's that I spy with my own little eye?

Peek about the Children's Room and spot your favorite literary characters. Is that a fellow in a red and white striped shirt?

Dunnellon Public Library

May 2, 2 p.m.

Celebrate Books!

Read your favorite books with friends, learn trivia about famous authors and their books, create bookmarks based on your favorite books and characters, and more for grades K-5. Registration required.

Freedom Public Library

Monday-Saturday, May 7-12

A Children's Festival of Writing

Fiction, nonfiction and poetry! We welcome all young authors in grades K-5. Writers' Corner will be available with prompts, supplies and encouragement for participating young authors.

Geek Out & Get Connected! Celebrate Teen Tech Week

Freedom Public Library

Wednesday, Mar. 7, 2 p.m.

Tech Adventures. Get connected! An adventure in information technology for ages 12+ awaits the curious.

Headquarters-Ocala

Thursday, Mar. 8, 4 p.m.

Tech Pets. Try out the latest in e-reading gadgets at our Tech Petting Zoo! The experts from Best Buy Ocala will be on hand to answer questions. Let the fun for teens 13-18 begin!

Online Safety Begins With You

The online world brings up many issues about personal safety for teens and adults. Find out about safeguards that are available for you.

Bellevue Public Library

Tuesday, Mar. 6, 5-6 p.m., teens.

Online Safety Challenge. Do you know how to stay safe online? Test your skills and pick up a few tips.

Headquarters-Ocala

Friday, Mar. 16, 1 p.m., adults; 4 p.m., teens

Ocala Police Department Presents Online Safety

Safeguard your online identity and practice safe texting with the officers of the Ocala Police Department.

Dunnellon Public Library

Wednesday, May 16, 11 a.m., adults.

I Can't Remember My Computer Password. How do I create a secure password? How can I remember all my passwords? Can I use just one password? Learn tricks to keep your computer accounts safe. Limited to 10 participants.

AARP Tax-Aide

Free volunteer tax preparation available to low- and middle-income taxpayers for routine tax returns. Call your branch library for details.

HOLIDAYS & SPECIAL DAYS

Apr. 8	Easter Sunday	All libraries closed.
May 4	Maintenance Day	HQ-Ocala and Freedom Public Library closed.
May 28	Memorial Day	All libraries closed.

HEADQUARTERS-OCALA

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

Programs are sponsored, either in whole or part,
by the Friends of the Ocala Public Library.

PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGES

Poetry Aloud!

A National Poetry Month Celebration With Lena Lewin

Sunday, Apr. 22, 2 p.m.

See Program Spotlight for more information.

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

Project: Research!

Research Assistance for College and High School Students

Do you want to do in-depth research on a topic but don't know where to begin? Are you trying to figure out how to create citations for your research paper? Are you an online student without a clue? Help is here! Reserve time with a professional librarian for individualized or group library instruction and assistance by calling the library's Information Services Division.

The Monday Matinee

Mondays, 2 p.m., Mar. 5-Apr. 23

Movies for adults and teens age 13+. As a special treat, all movies in April will honor William Shakespeare. Anyone younger than age 13 must be accompanied by a parent. Light refreshments will be served.

Cosponsored by Golden Flake

Mar. 5
Mar. 12
Mar. 19
Mar. 26
Apr. 2
Apr. 9
Apr. 16
Apr. 23

English Conversation

Tuesdays, 10-11:30 a.m., Mar. 6-Apr. 24

Practice your English with others in an informal and fun class.

Earn Your GED With CTAE on the GED Bus*

Every weekday except Wednesdays, 12:15-1:30 p.m.
Mar. 5-May 30

It's never too late to get your GED. Under new state guidelines, CTAE will charge fees for this service. Call CTAE at 352-671-7200 for details.

*Classes are not held on school holidays.

Co-sponsored by CTAE/Marion County School Board

Wired Wednesdays

Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m., Mar. 7-Apr. 25

Learn about computers and databases in these classes for adults. Space is limited.

Computer Basics for Beginners

Mar. 7 *I Turned on My Computer, Now What?*

Mar. 14 *Finding It! Introduction to the Internet*

Mar. 21 *Get Connected! Introduction to Email*

Up and Running: Where Do You Go From Here?

Mar. 28 *Netiquette: Putting Your Best Self Forward*

Apr. 4 *The Baited Hook: How to Avoid Phishing and Other Email Scams*

Apr. 11 *Playing on the Highway: Internet Safety with OnGuardOnline.gov*

Apr. 18 *Hula Hoops and Pandas? Find Free Entertainment Using Hulu and Pandora*

Apr. 25 *Tweet This! An Introduction to Twitter*

Genealogy Help Center

Wednesdays, 12:30-3:30 p.m.
Mar. 7-Apr. 25

Whether you've just begun digging up your family roots or find yourself stumped in the midst of your search, genealogy help is here! Genealogy gurus from the Marion County Genealogical Society will be here to assist you with your quest.

Ask Your Master Gardener

Selected Saturdays, 2 p.m.

Learn gardening techniques from the masters.

Presented by UF/IFAS Marion County Master Gardeners, UF/IFAS Marion County Extension Services

Mar. 10 **Florida Landscape Design.**
Grow your own piece of art and add character to your yard.

Apr. 7 **Growing Fruit in Our Climate.**
Live healthier! Produce your own source of tasty nutrition.

Friends of the Ocala Public Library Monthly Board Meeting

Third Thursdays, 1 p.m.
Mar. 15, Apr. 19, May 17

Friday Variety Hour

Third Fridays, 1 p.m.

Fridays are fun days at the library for adults!

Mar. 16 **Ocala Police Department Presents Online Safety.**

See Program Spotlight for other computer safety programs.

Apr. 20 **Repurposed Art.**
Don't toss it out, hang it up! Recycle your old throwaways into unique art with fiber sculptor Jowanna Dove.

Author Expo

Saturday, Apr. 14, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

See Program Spotlight for more information.

Poetry Aloud! A National Poetry Month Celebration With Lena Lewin

Sunday, Apr. 22, 2 p.m.

See Program Spotlight for more information.

Be Money Smart!

Friday, Apr. 27, 3 p.m.

See Program Spotlight for more information.

PROGRAMS FOR TEENS

Project: Research! Research Assistance for College and High School Students

Do you want to do in-depth research on a topic but don't know where to begin? Are you trying to figure out how to create citations for your research paper? Help is here! Reserve time with a professional librarian for library instruction and assistance by calling the library's Information Services Division.

Manga-licious! Teen Book Club

First Tuesdays, 4 p.m.
Mar. 6, Apr. 3

Join us for high-energy talks about all things manga and anime.

Geek Out! A National Teen Tech Week Celebration

Thursday, Mar. 8, 4 p.m.

Try out the latest in e-reading gadgets at our Tech Petting Zoo! The experts from Best Buy Ocala will be on hand to answer questions. Let the fun begin!

Chill on Fridays

Third Fridays, 4 p.m.

Chill at the library on Fridays this spring with a variety of fun activities for ages 13-18.

Mar. 16 **Ocala Police Department Presents Online Safety.**

See Program Spotlight for other computer safety programs.

Apr. 20 **Repurposed Art.**
Don't toss it out, hang it up! Recycle your old throwaways into unique art with fiber sculptor Jowanna Dove.

Teen Library League

Last Mondays, 5 p.m.

Mar. 26, Apr. 30

Calling all teens age 13-18! It's a meeting of teen minds! Get involved in your library and help us plan upcoming teen activities and events. Light refreshments will be served.

PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN

Preschool Club

Selected Saturdays, 2 p.m.

Mar. 17, Apr. 7, May 19

Calling all 3-5 year olds and their caregivers! Enjoy fun-filled activities and games designed to boost your child's early reading skills.

Spectacular Sundays: Tween Time at Your Library

Selected Sundays, 2 p.m.

Fun-filled days are simply fabulous with these special programs for grades 4-6. Registration required.

Mar. 11 **Rhyme Time.** *Combine your imagination with books, magazines and other random objects to create found poetry!*

Apr. 15 **Make It Sweet!** *Bring on the smiles with a sugary afternoon of candy making at the library.*

Wacky Wednesday Is Going Green!

Wednesday, Mar. 7, 2 p.m.

It's crafts, games and fun! Assorted activities and diversions for grades K-6.

Spring Break Fun for Grades K-6

Tuesday, Mar. 20-Friday, Mar. 23

Bring your creative and adventurous self!

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 2 p.m.
Art Camp With Artist Marnie Starbuck.
Registration is required.

Friday, 10:30 a.m.
Movies With Munchies

Friday, 2 p.m.
Movies With Munchies

Super Saturdays

Selected Saturdays

Mar. 3, 10 a.m.-noon
Happy Birthday, Dr. Seuss.

See Program Spotlight for more Seuss celebrations!

Apr. 21, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
Down on the Farm.

See Program Spotlight for more information.

Apr. 28, 2 p.m.
Family Art Party. We'll provide the materials and you provide the creativity. Sculpture, collage, painting and more for grades K-6.

STORY TIMES

It's B.E.A.R. Time: Be Excited About Reading!

Monday-Friday, 3:30 p.m.
Mar. 1-May 31

Join the Children's Library staff in the Children's Program Room for a couple of good books and a poem.

Terrific Three's Story Time

Tuesdays, 10:15 a.m.
Mar. 20-Apr.24

Enjoy a variety of stories, action songs and fingerplays followed by an activity. Program is limited to 25 children and their caregivers.

Fabulous 4's & 5's Story Time

Tuesdays, 1:15 p.m.
Mar. 20-Apr.24

Literature comes to life with a variety of stories, fingerplays, music and movement followed by an activity.

Family Story Time

Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m.
Mar. 20-Apr. 24

Enjoy a variety of stories, action rhymes and songs followed by an activity. Child must be accompanied by a caregiver.

Toddlin' Two's Story Time

Wednesdays, 10:15 a.m.
Mar. 21-Apr. 25

Enjoy a variety of stories, action rhymes and songs followed by an activity. Program is limited to 20 children and their caregivers.

Bouncin' Baby's Story Time

Thursdays, 10:15 a.m.
Mar. 22-Apr. 26

Enjoy a variety of stories, songs, rhymes and fingerplays for babies 0-23 months old accompanied by their caregivers. Program is limited to 15 children and their caregivers.

BELLEVUE PUBLIC LIBRARY

13145 SE Hwy. 484, Bellevue
352-438-2500

Programs are sponsored, either in whole or part, by the Friends of the Bellevue Public Library.

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

Ask Your Master Gardener

First Thursdays, 10:30 a.m.

Learn gardening techniques from the masters.

Presented by UF/IFAS Marion County Master Gardeners, UF/IFAS Marion County Extension Services

Mar. 1 **Ask the Experts.**
Attendees are encouraged to bring any samples or pictures to this session.

Apr. 5 **Annuals and Perennials**

May 3 **Florida Lawns**

Tuesday Movie Matinee

Tuesdays, 1 p.m., Mar. 6-Apr. 24

Movies for adults and teens 13+. Anyone under age 13 must be accompanied by a parent.

Mar. 6
Mar. 13
Mar. 20

Mar. 27
Apr. 3
Apr. 10
Apr. 17
Apr. 24

A Good Yarn! A Book, Crochet & Knitting Club

Third Wednesdays, 2:30-4 p.m.

Enjoy a lively discussion of a featured book while you are relaxing with your latest knitting or crochet project. Beginners are welcome.

Mar. 21 **Shanghai Girls** by Lisa See

Apr. 18 **The Zookeeper's Wife**
by Diane Ackerman

May 16 **The Forgotten Garden**
by Kate Morton

Basic Computer Classes

Wednesdays, 1 p.m.

Seating is limited. Tickets are distributed at 12:30 p.m.

Mar. 7 **Basic Internet**
Mar. 14 **Basic Email**
Mar. 21 **Internet Searching and Printing**
Mar. 28 **Introduction to the Computer**
Apr. 4 **Mouse Play**
Apr. 11 **Basic Internet**
Apr. 18 **Basic Email**
Apr. 25 **Internet Searching and Printing**

PROGRAMS FOR TEENS

Get Crafty at Your Library!

First and third Tuesdays, 5-6 p.m.

Mar. 6-Apr. 17

Mar. 6 **Teen Tech Week: Online Safety Challenge.** Do you know how to stay safe online? See Program Spotlight for other computer safety programs.

Mar. 20 **Candy Making.** Easy filled chocolates for the first day of spring.

Apr. 3 **Poetry Art.** Celebrate Poetry Month with some creative art featuring your own poetry.

Apr. 17 **Stress Ball Squeezies.** School stress getting you down? Make an easy personalized stress ball to squeeze the stress right out of your life.

PROGRAMS FOR FAMILIES

Family Game Day

First and third Thursdays, 3 p.m.
Mar. 1 & 15, Apr. 5 & 19

Enjoy board and card games.

Family Flix

Selected weekdays, 2 p.m.

Mar. 7
Apr. 6
May 2

PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN

Outdoor Bicycle Rodeo & Helmet Giveaway

Saturday, Mar. 17, 10:30 a.m.-noon

Be sure to bring your bikes! Helmets are limited to 75 children. Tickets will be distributed before the date of the event. For children age 6 and older.

Rodeo presented by the Marion County Sheriff's Office. Helmets provided by the Epilepsy Foundation of Florida.

Construction Zone

Saturday, Apr. 21, 2-3:30 p.m.

Calling all budding architects and builders! Try your hand at Legos, Lincoln Logs, and more.

For children in grades K-6 and their caregivers.

STORY TIMES

It's B.E.A.R. Time: Be Excited About Reading!

Tuesdays, Mar. 6-Apr. 24, 3:30-4 p.m.

Join the Children's library staff for a couple of good books and a poem. For children of all ages.

Baby Story Time

Second and fourth Wednesdays, 11:30 a.m., Mar. 14 & 28, Apr. 11 & 25

Stories and music for babies 0-18 months old and their caregivers.

Toddler Story Time

Thursdays, 10:30 a.m., Mar. 1-Apr. 26

Stories, fingerplays and music for toddlers 18-36 months old and their caregivers.

Preschool Story Time

Fridays, 10:30 a.m., Mar. 2-Apr. 27

Stories, songs, movement and crafts for children 3-5 years old.

DUNNELLON PUBLIC LIBRARY

20351 Robinson Road, Dunnellon
352-438-2520

Programs are sponsored, either in whole or part, by the Friends of the Dunnellon Public Library.

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

Friends of the Library Monthly Meeting

First Tuesdays, 10 a.m.
Mar. 6, Apr. 3, May 1

New members are welcome.

Friday at the Movies

First Fridays, 1 p.m.

Movies for adults and teens 13+. Anyone under age 13 must be accompanied by a parent.

Mar. 2
Apr. 6
May 4

Drop-In Book Club

Third Wednesdays, 11 a.m.

Mar. 21 *The Help* by Kathryn Stockett
Apr. 18 *So Brave, Young and Handsome* by Leif Enger
May 16 *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* by Jamie Ford

The Art of Fly Tying

Thursday, Mar. 1, 1 p.m.

Land a big one! Marcia Thompson, member of the Dunnellon Fly Tyers, will share the art of making the hand-tied flies used in fly fishing. Meet Roy Bartoo, who developed the "Rainbow Dry Fly," named for our own Rainbow River.

Ask Your Master Gardener

Tuesdays, 2 p.m.

Learn gardening techniques from the masters.

Presented by UF/IFAS Marion County Master Gardeners, UF/IFAS Marion County Extension Services

Mar. 20 *Herbs in the Landscape*
Apr. 17 *Ask the Experts. Attendees are encouraged to bring any samples or pictures to this session.*

Celebrate National Poetry Month

Thursday, Apr. 12, 11 a.m.

See Program Spotlight for more information.

Author Visit: Terri DuLong

Saturday, Apr. 21, 10:30 a.m.

Meet Cedar Key resident Terri DuLong, New York Times and USA Today best-selling author. Ms. DuLong has penned the Cedar Key series of books, which include *Spinning Forward*, *Cast About* and *Sunrise on Cedar Key*.

Sponsored by the Dunnellon Friends of the Library

Making Cards With Pat

Thursday, May 10, 10:30 a.m.

Unleash your creative side and make unique birthday cards. All supplies furnished. Registration required.

I Can't Remember My Computer Password

Wednesday, May 16, 11 a.m.

See Program Spotlight for other computer safety programs.

PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN

Dr. Seuss Celebration for Grades K-2!

Wednesday, Mar. 7, 2 p.m.

See Program Spotlight for more Seuss celebrations.

Top Secret: Codes and Code Breaking

Tuesday Apr. 17, 4 p.m.

Do you want to communicate on the hush-hush? If so, join us to learn TOP SECRET codes, code writing and code breaking! Adventurers and spies in grades 3-5, welcome! Registration required.

Celebrate Books! A Children's Book Week Celebration

Wednesday, May 2, 2 p.m.

For grades K-5. Registration required.

See Program Spotlight for more information.

Arts and Crafts for Grades K-5

Selected Wednesdays, 4 p.m.

Engage your creativity with arts and crafts! Registration required.

Mar. 14 **Luck of the Irish.**

Create leprechaun crafts for St. Patrick's Day! (Rainbow and pot o' gold not included.)

Apr. 4 **Spring Fling!** *Create a variety of crafts based on your favorite baby animals.*

May 9 **Mamma Mia.** *Decorate a picture frame for the inspirational woman in your life.*

STORY TIMES

Baby Songs and Nursery Rhymes

*Third Tuesdays, 11 a.m.
Mar. 20, Apr. 17, May 15*

Songs, rhymes and simple books for babies 23 months old and younger and their caregivers.

Toddler Story Time

*Wednesdays, 11 a.m.
Mar. 7-May 16*

Enjoy a variety of books, fingerplays and music for children ages 2-3 and their caregivers.

Preschool Story Time

*Fridays, 11 a.m.
Mar. 2-May 18*

Reading is fun with books, music, flannel boards and crafts for children ages 4-5 and their caregivers.

FOREST PUBLIC LIBRARY

905 S. County Road 314A, Ocklawaha
352-438-2540

Programs are sponsored, either in whole or part, by the Friends of the Forest Public Library.

PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGES

Dolphin Tale An All-Ages Movie Matinee

Wednesday, Mar. 21, 2 p.m.

Dive on in for some popcorn and a movie. Bring a hanky.

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

The Forest Florida-Friendly Workshops

*Mondays, 10 a.m.-noon
Mar. 5-26*

Love Florida! Learn how to be an environmentally responsible citizen through four workshops, including Florida-Friendly Landscaping™. Programs will be held at the Forest Community Center. Preregister by Mar. 1 by calling Donna at 352-671-8400.

Presented by UF/IFAS Marion County Extension Services. Sponsored by Marion County Parks and Recreation and the Friends of the Forest Public Library.

Computer Confidence

*First and third Wednesdays, 10-11:30 a.m.
Mar. 7 & 21, Apr. 4 & 18, May 2 & 16*

Build your confidence at these drop-in sessions and have your computer questions answered.

The Wednesday Matinee

Selected Wednesdays, 2 p.m.

Movies for adults and teens 13+. Anyone younger than age 13 must be accompanied by a parent.

Mar. 14

Mar. 28

Apr. 11

Apr. 25

May 9

May 23

Friends of the Forest Public Library Monthly Meeting

*Third Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.
Mar. 21, Apr. 18, May 16*

New members are welcome!

Forest Crafty Cut-Ups

*Second Saturdays, 10:30 a.m.-4 p.m.
Mar. 10, Apr. 14, May 12*

Open to all who craft. We will be demonstrating a different craft at each meeting. Come and go, or spend all day.

PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN

Stories & Stuff! A Children's Book Club for Grades K-3

*Thursdays, 3:30-4:30 p.m.
Mar. 1-May 24*

Let's read and talk about a great

book. Then we'll have a snack and make an art project!

Friday Favorites Tween Book Club

*Fridays, 3:30-4:30 p.m.
Mar. 2-May 25*

Let's get together and share our favorite books, have a snack, and create something! For children in grades 4-6.

Kids' Club

*Selected Wednesdays, 2:30-4 p.m.
Mar. 7, May 2*

It's crafts! It's games! It's fun! Assorted activities and diversions on early-release days for preschool-grade 6.

Pop-Ups, Popcorn and Pop

Tuesday, Mar. 20, 2:30-4 p.m.

Enjoy a popping good time making pop-up cards while eating popcorn, drinking pop and listening to some pop music!

STORY TIMES

Family Story Time

Tuesdays, 11 a.m., Mar. 6-May 22

A variety of stories, action rhymes, music and art for families.

FORT McCOY PUBLIC LIBRARY

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

Programs are sponsored, either in whole or part, by the Friends of the Fort McCoy Public Library.

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

Friends of the Fort McCoy Public Library Monthly Meeting

*Second Thursdays, 10 a.m.
Mar. 8, Apr. 12, May 10*

New members are welcome!

PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN

Preschool Story Time

Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m., Apr. 1-May 16

Enjoy stories, poems and more for ages 3-5.

FREEDOM PUBLIC LIBRARY

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

Programs are sponsored, either in whole or part, by the Friends of the Freedom Public Library.

PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGES

Poetry on Parade A National Poetry Month Celebration

Apr. 1-30

See Program Spotlight for details.

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

Basic Computer Classes

Thursdays, 2 p.m., Mar. 1-29

Tickets are required and will be distributed starting at 1 p.m. on the day of each class. Seating is limited to 10 participants.

Mar. 1 *Get Connected: Email Basics*

Mar. 8 *Basics for Beginners*

Mar. 15 *How to Search*

Mar. 22 *Document Basics*

Mar. 29 *Get Connected: Email Basics*

Ask Arnold! Comprehensive Computer Assistance

Thursdays, noon-2 p.m.

Friendly volunteer assistance is available for all your computer needs, including laptops and wireless access. No appointment necessary.

Friends of Freedom Public Library Monthly Meeting

First Mondays, 10 a.m.

Mar. 5, Apr. 2, May 7

New members are always welcome!

National Women's Checkup Day! Check-In and Recharge With Ingrid Crane!

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

In celebration of Women's Health Week, enjoy refreshments for body, mind and soul. Join a workshop focused on women's health led by yoga instructor, Ingrid Crane.

PROGRAMS FOR TEENS AND TWEENS

Freedom Jelly

Wednesdays, 4 p.m., Mar. 7-May 30

Work groups have never been more inspiring! Bring your thoughts, talents and friends to this highly charged meeting of teen minds for an afternoon full of art, crafts, gaming and book discussions. For ages 12+. Volunteer opportunities are available for ages 14+.

Geek Out!

A Teen Tech Week Celebration

Wednesday, Mar. 7, 2 p.m.

See Program Spotlight for other locations.

Hunger Games Party

Wednesday Mar. 21, 2 p.m.

Celebrate the book and prepare for the movie! Accept the Trivia Challenge and participate in Hunger games, crafts and (ironically) refreshments. Ages 12 and older.

PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN

Whatever Day: Plugged and Unplugged!

What's up right now at your library? For students in grades K-5 who are at loose ends.

Mar. 7, 2 p.m. **Poetry Party.** *The poetic alternative to a book club. Read, write, draw, and eat poetry.*

Apr. 6, 10 a.m. **Shout Out for Libraries!** *Become a library advocate! Create posters, buttons, and short films and help us prepare for National Library Week.*

May 2, 2 p.m. **Cinco de Mayo Fiesta!** *Party with pizzazz!*

Festival of Writing A Children's Book Week Celebration

Monday-Saturday, May 7-12

Fiction, nonfiction and poetry! We welcome all young authors in grades K-5. Writers' Corner will be available with prompts, supplies and encouragement for participating young authors.

STORY TIMES

Baby and Toddler Story Time

Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m.

Mar. 6-Apr. 24

Stories, music, art and creative play for children 0-2 years old and their grownups.

Preschool Story Time

Thursdays, 10:30 a.m., Mar. 1-Apr. 26.

Books, music, art, and playtime for children 3-5 years old and their grownups.

MARION OAKS PUBLIC LIBRARY

294 Marion Oaks Lane, Ocala

352-438-2570

Programs are sponsored, either in whole or part, by the Friends of the Marion Oaks Public Library.

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

Ask Your Master Gardener

Thursday, Mar. 15, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Learn gardening techniques from the masters! Attendees are encouraged to bring any samples or pictures to this session. Program will be held in the Arts and Craft Room, Marion Oaks Community Center.

Presented by UF/IFAS Marion County Master Gardeners, UF/IFAS Marion County Extension Services

PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN

Preschool Story Time

Fridays, 10:30 a.m., Mar. 2-May 25

Happy Birthday, Dr. Seuss and The Cat in the Hat!

Saturday, Mar. 3, 2-3 p.m.

See Program Spotlight for more information.

REDDICK PUBLIC LIBRARY

15150 NW Gainesville Rd., Reddick

352-438-2566

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

National Library Week Brown Bag Luncheon

Wednesday, Apr. 11, noon

Reservations required.

See Program Spotlight for more information.

PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN

Preschool Story Time

Thursdays, Mar. 22-Apr. 26, 10-11 a.m.

Enjoy stories, poems and more for 3-5 year olds.

EXHIBITS AND DISPLAYS

Headquarters-Ocala

Display Case

March *Master Gardeners*

April *Jowanna Dove,
Fiber Art Sculpting*

May *Ocala Plastic Modelers' Club*

Children's Room

March-May *Bottle Cap Art in the style of Russian artist Wassily Kandinsky.*

Bellevue Public Library

Display Case

March *Woods Carvings* by the Wood Carving Club

April *Civil War Display* by the Sons of Confederate Veterans

May *Beach and Shells* by Mary Kay Taylor

In Library Display

March *Varied artwork* by the Art Club of Bellevue

April *Paintings* by June Gresham

May *Pottery* by Jud Spence

Forest Public Library

March *Photography* by David Whitis

April *Mixed Media* by Sandra Sanders

May *Acrylic Paintings* by Patricia Holcomb

Freedom Public Library

Display Case

March *Hummel Figurines* by The Ocala Hummel Club

April *Beatrix Potter Collection*

May *Pop-Ups! Books as Exploration of Design, Math and Text* by St. Petersburg College, Student Exhibit

Meeting Room

March-May *Shutterbugs* presented by various photographers from On Top of the World

April *Poetry on Parade*

worddup!

By Amanda Lugo

We have made great strides in an age of progress and technology, and one of the most influential parts of this time for teenagers is social networking! Facebook and Twitter are our giants, with a slew of others trailing behind. But teens with a knack for writing have found a great way to express thoughts and opinions that don't fit a 140 character limit—blogging! Blossoming “micro-blogging” websites like Tumblr and full-fledged blogging platforms like Wordpress and Blogger (formerly Blogspot) are home for thousands of young adults to share media, offer criticism on popular books and movies, and post pieces of writing that can be read by users around the world. Constructive criticism from unbiased sources can help hone writing skills, and without character limits, budding writers can effectively branch out to share their view on any subject. If you're interested in the art of words, keep an eye out for writers' workshops at your library! **W**



Teen Correspondent Amanda Lugo

do you blog?

By Lucy Beebe Tobias

What is your passion? Tracing family history? Making bread from scratch?

In the old days, we actually wrote letters by hand telling family and friends about recent adventures. Then cards with short notes became the norm. Next came email and text messages.

Here is another way—blogging. It is not scary. Yes, you can do it!

Blogging platforms have done the work for you. Just write a piece on your computer and drop in on a blogging page.

Some options:

- If you own your own domain name (mine is www.LucyTobias.com) then use WordPress.org.
- Or blog for free at WordPress.com
- Try Google's Blogger.com
- Have a look at TypePad

Forget the advice to blog 3-5 times a week. Your passion = your timeline. For example, I follow a cooking blog that occasionally posts the chef's favorite recipes. Yum.

Get started! Readers are waiting to know more about your passion on your blog. **W**

Bottle Cap Art Display in Children's Services Division at Headquarters Public Library



Raquel Zayas and H.A. Tucker with Meg the Service Dog at the 2012 Pet Expo.



Julie Sieg, Sara Dassance, Jan Schorffhaar, USF student's Reema Mohini and Elizabeth Weibley attend Library Legislative Day in Tallahassee.



Chris Masi checks out Star Wars display at the Belleview Public Library



Toddlin Two's Story Time at Headquarters-Ocala Public Library

Bookmarks

Friends of the Ocala Public Library's News and Notes

A Letter from the President:

Dear Friends,

In this first issue of WORDS of 2012, I want to look backward and forward. First, 2011 was an exciting one for the Friends of the Ocala Library, Inc. We were able to support our library with \$73,000 in financial support through sales of donated books in the Book Market and the quarterly book sales. These funds were used for programming for children including the summer reading program, fairytale festival, library express, Born to Read, and reading readiness programs. CREATE, a weekend featuring the incredibly talented teens in Marion County, was funded by Friends. The audio-visual capability of the meeting rooms was upgraded. We supported further education of the library staff. WORDS was published quarterly. Carl Hiaasen spent a Saturday in Marion County, speaking with hundreds of school children in the afternoon and to a capacity crowd of adults in the evening. All this was made possible by hours of work by our dedicated board and Book Market volunteers. Thank you.

Our membership reached a new high of 503 members. This provides us with a strong base as we advocate for state and county support for our library system.

In the year ahead we have budgeted \$108,000 to the library to continue the above programs plus \$25,000 to launch eBooks for Marion County library users. We ask that you will continue your support by joining or renewing your membership in Friends, donating your gently used books, magazines, CDs, and DVDs to the Book Market, AND by spreading the word of the Book Market. (See the coupon on this page to get started.)

Finally, all best wishes for 2012, a year that I hope includes great books, many visits to the library and a membership in Friends!

Sara Dassance,

President, Friends of the Ocala Public Library, Inc.

Save at
The Book Market

\$1⁰⁰ Off
your **\$5⁰⁰ Purchase!**

INSIDE THE LOBBY OF OCALA HEADQUARTERS LIBRARY

Hours: M-F 10-6; Sat. 10-5; Closed Sunday

Expires: April 15, 2012

LOCAL AUTHOR EXPO

In celebration of National Library Week, The Friends of the Ocala Library are pleased to sponsor this exciting event on **Saturday, April 14**. See the details in this issue and watch the Star Banner the week before for a list of authors and more details. **Save the Date!**

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Saturday, April 14, 2012,

11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Local Author Expo

Held in Meeting Room C,
Headquarters—Ocala Public Library.

Saturday, May 5, 2012,

10 a.m.-4 p.m.

**Quarterly
Book Sale**

Held in Meeting Rooms,
Headquarters—Ocala Public Library

Visit Our Website @ www.friendsoftheocalalibrary.org • Please Renew Your Friends Membership

profiles

By Ken Tipper

Local poet **Lena Lewin** fondly remembers her childhood in her native Jamaica. She also remembers her parents teaching their children values that would stand her in good stead in later years. In 1978, widowed, tired of the socialist regime of Prime Minister Michael Manley, with \$50 in her pocket and two suitcases full of her belongings, she emigrated to the U.S. where she joined her daughter in Chicago. She became a U.S. citizen in 1984. But, for a native of tropical Jamaica, frigid Chicago eventually proved too cold for Lena and her daughter, and they moved to Ocala in 1981.

Lena wrote her first poem at the age of nine and has been composing them ever since. Her love of the craft shines through when she talks about poetry. “It lifts the spirit and is a great means of communication, a compelling force to share with others,” she said.

A member of Poetry of Ocala, Lena has won numerous awards for her poetry and has published two books. She is a member of the Academy of American Poets and the Florida State Poets organization. She says the public library has been a great resource for Poetry Ocala members, providing facilities for their meetings, and she is looking forward to their participation in National Poetry Month on April 22. Her works, and those of other members, will be featured.

Lena is also active in other community organizations, including the Caribbean-American Alliance, the poetry community, and in her church. She is a former elder, and an active member at Fort King Presbyterian Church.

Poetry and inspiration come naturally to Lena. When asked if she had a favorite poem, she recited from memory. *(at right)*

Then Lena left this writer with a traditional Jamaican farewell—“Walk good.” **W**



Why did you die, young soldier
And what were you fighting for?
The angel smiled as he questioned
The soldier just home from the war.

I didn't die, said the soldier
I just saw some lovely stairs
And I climbed right into heaven,
On a stairway fashioned of prayers.

Each step was the prayer of a loved one,
They made it easy to climb.
I was fighting for all things beautiful
To man since the Dawn of Time.