

Marion County Public Library System's Quarterly Newsmagazine

Volume 3 | Issue 4 | Winter 2011

# Words

create  
2011 Winners!

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Dare to  
**DREAM**

Once upon a time in Ocala



# words

## Marion County Public Library's Quarterly Newsmagazine

Volume 3 | Issue 4 | Winter 2011

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Elizabeth Waller with her  
Thoroughbred horse Hound Dog Harry.



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## a word FROM THE DIRECTOR

By Julie Sieg • Director, Marion  
County Public Library System

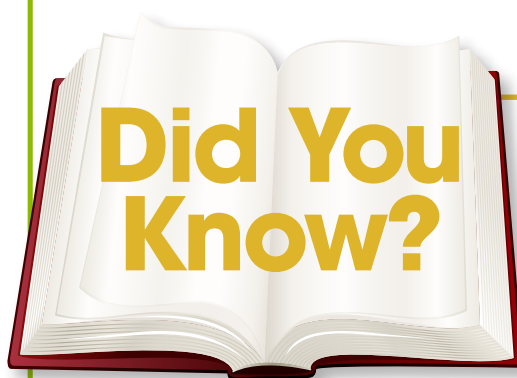


**D**are to Dream, what a thought-provoking, inspiring phrase. As a child, I dreamt constantly of horses, horses, horses. My sister, my best friend, and I would sit with our horse books on our lap and the "H" volume of the encyclopedia spread around us. We diligently made list after list of the horses we would own when we grew up. We named each horse based on what kind of horse it was, what physical characteristics they might have, or what their "job" might be. We would sit for hours talking about the merits of this horse or that horse, and how we would use the horses. This pinto or palomino was for pleasure riding. This Tennessee Walker would be for show, or the Clydesdale would be for pulling. But mostly, the horses were for racing!

Nothing brings the dream of horse racing alive to a little girl like *King of the Wind*, by Marguerite Henry! Published in 1948 and a 1949 winner of the Newbery Award, *King of the Wind* has all the drama, romance and thrill for which a little girl could ask. It is the story of a young, mute orphan boy named Agba and Sham, the orphaned foal under his care. Agba must not only care for the newly orphaned foal, but he is obligated to do so for his entire life. The story takes them from their native Morocco to throughout France and England. The love, trials, triumphs, joy and pain of Agba and Sham are shared by the reader as Marguerite Henry helps us understand the bond between man and horse.

Pick up and read *King of the Wind* and maybe you too will *Dare to Dream*.

*Julie Sieg*



Did you know that you  
can take a computer  
class at the library?

# a young girl dares to DREAM

by Lucy Tobias



Once upon a time a young girl fell in love with reading. Taking out the maximum 10 books at a time from the library, **Sandy Lynn Price** read them all, and then went back for more. Her favorite books were about horses.



Sandy Lynn Price

In the sixth grade, she eagerly read a book by Marguerite Henry called *Misty of Chincoteague*. The story tells of wild ponies, descendants of survivors of a wrecked Spanish galleon and two children who yearn for one of these ponies.

After finishing the book, Sandy dared to dream that someday she'd go to Chincoteague to the wild pony roundup. Her dream

would come true and even provide a mosaic influence of this experience at the Headquarters-Ocala Public Library.

But first, Sandy, a Miami native, moved to Ocala with her family, grew up, became a doctor, married, had children and trained horses at the family's *Stolen Hours Farm*.

She never forgot what Grandpa Beebe in *Misty* called the wild ponies: "just a piece of wind and sky." Like the children in the book, as an adult she still wanted that wind and sky for her farm. One summer, she announced that she and the children were going to the Chincoteague roundup and would bring home some ponies.

Sandy made it sound like the trip was their birthday present, but her son and daughter knew it was Mom living her dream.

They did take the trip and bring horses home. One of the

horses, Sunshine, went on to have a foal named Misty's Twilight.

"All the horses have weather names," Price said. "Misty had Stormy; Stormy had Windy; and Windy had Sunshine, who was the mother of Twilight."

Price contacted author Marguerite Henry following the Chincoteague adventure, and a long friendship ensued, as well as a book about Price's dream.

You can read the whole story of that Chincoteague trip and Twilight's life in *Misty's Twilight* by Marguerite Henry. "Marguerite Henry connected to children and gave them confidence that you can dare to dream and achieve your dreams," Price said. "She understood what

“...just a piece of  
wind and sky...”  
– “Grandpa Beebe” from  
*Misty of Chincoteague*

was important to give children: enthusiasm, confidence and understanding.”

“Adults would bring copies of her books from when they were kids, and they would be in tears when she signed them,” said Price.



And the Price mosaic connection to the library? Look at the left hand tower outside the Headquarters-Ocala Public Library. You will see a mosaic horse running at full stride. Underneath are the words “*Misty’s Twilight - Dare to Dream.*”

Horse themes, so appropriate for Marion County, continue inside. A “Horse Fever in Motion” horse called “*Coat of Many Colors,*” donated by Denise and Stuart Robinson, adorns the library lobby.



The grand entrance to the children’s room — books, a large archway, and a horse head — grabs your attention.

“Altrusa International of Ocala donated the doorway to the Children’s Room. They wanted to have a doorway that invited children in and wanted it to be books,” said Nancy Young, children’s services division manager, “Look at the words inscribed: ‘*Once Upon a Time,*’ all the best children’s books start that way. And ‘*Open the Door to the Joy of Reading*’ just welcomes you in.”

Young recalled July 31, 2004, opening day for the new Headquarters-Ocala public library. “On that day, a white horse, a descendent of Misty’s Twilight, visited the library,” Young said. “The kids could get up close to the horse and they really connected.”

Horse books are popular.

“Girls especially love horse stories, and series books are popular,” Young noted. “Anything by Marguerite Henry, the black stallion series by Walter Farley, the Saddle Club series and *Pony Pals* by Jeanne Betancourt,” said Young. For more suggestions, pick up a bookmark card in the Children’s Room with names for Children’s Horse Fiction.

As a postscript: her dream realized — Price changed the name of her horse farm to *Dare to Dream.* **W**

Lucy Beebe Tobias is a freelance writer living in Ocala. As a child, she was given *Misty of Chincoteague* for Christmas. After all these years, and many moves, she still has the book.



# create

2011 CREATE (Colossal, Reading, Entertaining, Artsy, Teen Event) was a huge success, with 97 teens competing in the categories of fine arts, filmmaking, creative writing, a talent show, and even an “Edible Book” contest! Thirteen of the 97 teens participated in more than one category, with some teens even competing in as many as four. Sponsored by the Friends of the Ocala Public Library, 2011 CREATE results are as follows:

## “Edible Book” Contest:

**First:** Storm Skaggs, *Confessions of a Cereal Kisser*

**Second:** Cayley Buckner and Alita Clark, *Lord of the Pies*

**Third:** Jacob Furr, *Weslandia*

**People’s Choice:** Amanda Ortman and Rebecca Strobel, *Hunger Games*

## Fine Arts:

**First:** Owen Cooper

**Second:** Nathan Osbourne

**Third:** Joseph Dunaway

**People’s Choice:** Owen Cooper

**Judges’ Awards (3):** Baylee Rae Mann, Jaqueline Moncado and Alex Moy

## Writing:

**First:** Cayley Buckner, *Why Rabbit Has a Short Tail*

**Second:** Alexis “Lexi” Ross, *A Cycle*

**Third:** Hunter Ross, *Dark Destiny*

**Judges’ Award:** Conni Wayne, *The River Between Us*

## Film:

**First:** Alex Moy, Samuel Sapp and Caleb Bouton, *Trapped in Gizon*

**Second:** Tyler and Ryan Lodzinski, *Go Skateboarding*

**Third:** Austin Straub, *The John Travolta Movie*

**People’s Choice:** Emily Mizner and Caitlyn Pennell, *Cupid and Psyche: The Myth*

## Talent:

**First:** Jr. Good Time Cloggers (Heather, Hannah and Katrina Krauss and Nicole Parent)

**Second:** Fear to Fail band (Travis Byrd, Hunter Dukes, Daniel Long, Bridger Webb)

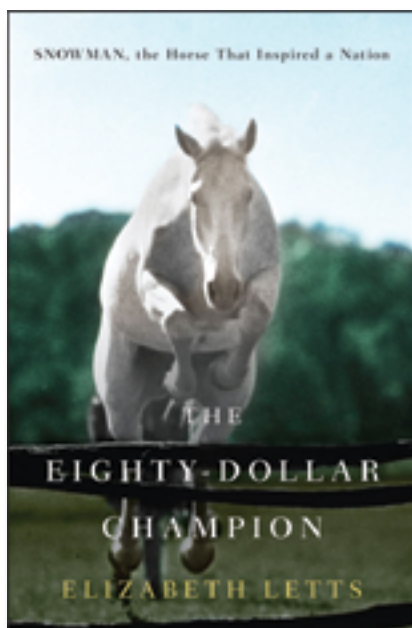
**Third:** singer Baylee Rae Mann

**People’s Choice:** Fear to Fail band

# DISCOVER a Good Book!

Reviewed By Linda Porter

Everyone loves a surprise success story, especially when the winners are a horse rescued on the way to the slaughterhouse and a hardworking rider savvy enough to recognize that horse's unexpected talents. *The Eighty-Dollar Champion: Snowman, the Horse that Inspired a Nation*, is the tale of a broken-down plow horse and his owner, Harry de Leyer. Author Elizabeth Letts, herself an accomplished equestrienne, ably tells the story of what it means to dream big. Harry de Leyer was a recent Dutch immigrant who could see beyond the loss of his family farm to the Nazis. By the early 1950s he owned a bit of land on Long Island and a few horses. In 1958, at the prestigious National Horse Show at Madison Square Garden, de Leyer and Snowman rocked the elite horse show world by winning the American Horse Shows Association Horse of the



Year, Professional Horseman's Association Champion, and Champion of Madison Square Garden's Diamond Jubilee. When not competing at the highest levels, de Leyer and his teddy bear of a horse gave lessons to lucky youngsters, sometimes swimming in Long Island Sound with some of the eight de Leyer children on his broad back.

Elizabeth Letts places Snowman's story in the context of the changing role of the horse in American culture and how one horse became a media star in a nation hungry for excitement and good news. Snowman appeared on The Johnny Carson Show, was used as a Breyer horse model, and was entered into the Show Jumping Hall of Fame. *The Eighty-Dollar Champion* is available at the Marion County Public Library System in regular print and as an audiobook. **W**



## digging deeper

There is a natural connection among horses, books, and children. Many of us grew up thrilling to the books of Marguerite Henry, Walter Farley, C.W. Anderson, and Glen Rounds. *National Velvet* and *Black Beauty* remain favorites with each new generation while more recent series, such as *Racing to Freedom*, *Pony Pals*, and *Canterwood Crest* intrigue young readers. **W**



# program spotlight



## ▲ The Magic of Brian LaPalme

Can you pull a rabbit out of a hat? Watch with wonder as acclaimed circus magician Brian LaPalme dazzle-dazzles us! You won't believe your eyes. See library listings for more information.

**Marion Oaks Public Library**  
Saturday, Dec. 17, 2 – 3 p.m.

**Headquarters-Ocala**  
Saturday, Dec. 31, 2 p.m. for families.  
Tickets required due to limited seating.

**Dunnellon Public Library**  
Wednesday, Jan. 11, 11 a.m. for adults.

**Bellevue Public Library**  
Saturday, Jan. 14, noon – 12:30 p.m. for families.  
Saturday, Jan. 14, 1 – 2 p.m. for tweens grades 4 – 6. Registration required.

## African American Read-In ►►

Join more than a million readers in the 23rd national tribute to African-American literature and writing. All ages are invited to attend. Contact the branch library prior to the event if you would like to be a volunteer reader or performer. See library listings for details.

**Freedom Public Library**  
Saturday, Feb. 4, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

**Headquarters-Ocala**  
Saturday, Feb. 25, 2 – 4 p.m.



## ▲ Lights! Camera! Action! Filmmaking for Teens. Headquarters-Ocala

Saturday, Feb. 11, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Calling all teen filmmakers ages 13 – 18! During this day-long workshop led by Isaac Brown and Ana Paula Habib, award-winning directors of Jellyfish Smack Productions and film department instructors at The Art Institute of Jacksonville, participants will learn the process of turning their ideas into motion pictures. Whether you are a first-time filmmaker with a vision or an accomplished student



filmmaker looking to hone your skills, this workshop is an opportunity to learn more about the different phases of filmmaking and get hands-on experience with film production equipment. Participants in this workshop will work in production teams to develop and produce a short film piece. **Registration required.**

Sponsored by The Appleton Museum of Art at the College of Central Florida

## The Polar Express: A Family Holiday Event Headquarters-Ocala

Thursday, Dec. 8, 6 p.m.

Don your mittens and hop aboard as the volunteers from United Way recreate the wonderland of *The Polar Express* by Chris Van Allsburg. All families welcome.

## Gary Kuhl, Nature & Wildlife Photographer Dunnellon Public Library

Saturday, Jan. 7, 3 p.m.

What a wild ride! Join wildlife photographer (and the former director of the Southwest Florida Water Management District, retired Public Work's Director of Sumter County and Eagle Scout) Gary Kuhl for a thrill-packed presentation of his hiking trip down the Grand Canyon's South Rim along with scenes from his rafting trip on the Colorado River.



### **Aqua Antics! The Aquacomedies of Bruce Mozert** **Headquarters-Ocala**

*Friday, Jan. 20, 1 p.m. for adults/4 p.m. for teens*

Discover the world of Silver Springs in its heyday through the images and words of film master **Bruce Mozert**. Known worldwide as an iconic underwater photographer, Mozert has worked with NBC, CBS, ABC, and many Hollywood productions. Enjoy a select screening of his humorous underwater films and accompanying discussion. There may even be mermaids!

### **John Sikorski — Live!** **A One-Man Antiques Road Show** **Headquarters-Ocala**

*Friday, Feb. 17, 1 p.m.*

Is that a piece of the Rosetta Stone? Bring in your treasures for a quick examination by **John Sikorski**, local antique and collectible expert. One item per person.

### **Family Pet Expo** **Headquarters-Ocala**

*Saturday, Feb. 18, 2 p.m.*

It's all about pets! Spend time with the experts from Marion County Animal Services and other local businesses and learn about feeding, training and raising your animal friends. Licensing, microchip services, a rabies clinic and pet adoption services will be provided. All ages of animal lovers invited. Woof!

### **AARP Tax-Aide**

AARP Tax-Aide is the nation's largest, free, volunteer-run tax assistance and preparation service assisting low to middle-income taxpayers with routine tax questions. Call your local library for information about times and requirements.

### **Early Voting**

An early voting opportunity will be provided at Belleview, Dunnellon, Forest and Freedom public libraries on the following dates:

*Saturday & Sunday, Jan. 21 – 22, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.*  
*Monday – Saturday, Jan. 23 – 28, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.*

### **HOLIDAYS & CLOSED DAYS**

**Christmas Holiday** Sunday & Monday, Dec. 25 – 26  
All libraries closed.

**New Year's Holiday** Sunday & Monday, Jan. 1 – 2  
All libraries closed.

**Martin Luther King, Jr. Day** Monday, Jan. 16  
All libraries closed.

**Training/Maintenance Day** Monday, Feb. 20  
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 ADULTS**

#### **English Conversation**

*Tuesdays, 10 – 11:30 a.m.*

*Jan. 3 – Feb. 21*

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

#### **Earn Your GED With CTAE on the GED Bus\***

*Tuesdays & Thursdays, 11 a.m.*

*Jan. 3 – Feb. 23*

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

#### **Wired Wednesdays**

*Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.*

*Jan. 4 – Feb. 22*

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

#### **Computers for Beginners Series: An Introduction to Computers**

*Jan. 4 I Turned on My Computer, Now What?*

*Jan. 11 Finding It! (Introduction to the Internet)*

*Jan. 18 Get Connected (Introduction to Email)*

#### **Library Online: A Roadmap to Your Virtual Library**

*Jan. 25 Your Personal Library: Accessing the MCPLS From Home*

*Feb. 1 Start Your Engines: Auto Repair Reference Center*

*Feb. 8 Extra! Extra! Read All About It! A Closer Look at Newsbank*

*Feb. 15 Find Your Next Great Read: Novelist Plus*

*Feb. 22 What Ails You? Exploring Our Health Databases*

#### **Genealogy Help Center**

*Wednesdays, 12:30 – 3:30 p.m.*

*Jan. 4 – Feb. 22*

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.

*\*Classes are not held on school holidays. Co-sponsored by CTAE/Marion County School Board*

## The Monday Matinee

*Mondays, 2 p.m.*

*Jan. 9 – Feb. 13*

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

*Co-sponsored by Golden Flake*

*Jan. 9*

*Jan. 23*

*Jan. 30*

*Feb. 6*

*Feb. 13*

## Ask Your Master Gardener

*Second Saturdays, 2 p.m.*

Learn gardening techniques from the masters!

*Presented by Marion County Master Gardeners; Marion County Extension Services/University of Florida, IFAS*

*Jan. 14 A Soil Sampler*

Unearth the dirt on dirt. Learn about the different types of soils in Marion County.

*Feb. 11 Spring Planting*

Before you hoe, get in the know! Get ready to plant your garden for spring.

## Friends of the Ocala Public Library Monthly Board Meeting

*Third Thursdays, 1 p.m.*

*Jan. 19, Feb. 16*

## Friday Variety Hour

*Third Fridays, 1 p.m.*

*Jan. 20, Feb. 17*

Fridays are fun days at the library for adults!

## Jan. 20 Aqua Antics!

*The Aquacomedies  
of Bruce Mozert*

Discover the world of Silver Springs in its heyday through the images and words of film master Bruce Mozert. Enjoy a select screening of his humorous underwater films and accompanying discussion. There may even be mermaids!

## Feb. 17 John Sikorski — Live!

*A One-Man Antiques Road Show*

Wondering about Aunt Mabel's ugly doorstep? Bring in your treasures for a quick examination by John Sikorski, local antique and collectible expert. One item per person. *See Program Spotlight for more information.*

## Friends of the Ocala Public Library Quarterly Book Sale

*Saturday, Feb. 4, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.*

Find books, CDs and DVDs for sale at excellent prices. Support your public library!

## Family Pet Expo

*Saturday, Feb. 18, 2 p.m.*

It's all about pets! See Program Spotlight for more information.

## African American Read-In

*Saturday, Feb. 25, 2 – 4 p.m.*

Join the community in the celebration of our African-American heritage in literature, film, music and art! Volunteer readers and performers of all ages are welcome! Please contact a participating library if you are interested in being a reader.

## PROGRAMS FOR TEENS

### Manga-licious! Teen Book Club

*First Tuesdays, 4 p.m.*

*Jan. 3, Feb. 7*

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

### Chill on Fridays

*Third Fridays, 4 p.m.*

Chill at the library with a variety of fun activities. Ages 13 – 18.

### Jan. 20 Aqua Antics!

*The Aquacomedies  
of Bruce Mozert*

Is that a mermaid? Discover the world of Silver Springs in its heyday through the images and words of film master Bruce Mozert. Enjoy a select screening of his humorous underwater films and accompanying discussion. There may even be mermaids!

### Feb. 17 Whatcha Reading?

Celebrate Friday with books, YouTube, pizza, and a few good friends.

## Teen Library League

*Last Mondays, 5 p.m.*

*Jan. 30, Feb. 27*

Calling all teens age 13 – 18! Get involved in your library and help us plan upcoming teen activities and events. Light refreshments will be served.

## Lights! Camera! Action! Filmmaking for Teens.

*Saturday, Feb. 11, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.*

Calling all teen filmmakers ages 13-18 for a day-long filmmaking workshop with award-winning directors Isaac Brown and Ana Paula Habib! Learn the process of turning ideas into motion pictures. Participants of this workshop will work in production teams to develop and produce a short film piece. Registration required. Sponsored by The Appleton Museum of Art at the College of Central Florida. *See Program Spotlight for more information.*

## PROGRAMS FOR PARENTS

### Ready to Read: Zero to Three Make & Take Parent Workshops

*Sunday, Jan. 22, 2 p.m.*

*Saturday, Feb. 11, 10:30 a.m.*

Make a toy for your infant or toddler while sharing ideas for positive child development. Discover endless possibilities for learning through reading, singing and talking with your child. For parents of children ages 0 – 3 years old. Registration required.

*This project is funded under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act, from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, administered by the Florida Department of State, Division of Library and Information Services and is brought to you by the Marion County Board of County Commissioners.*

## PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN

### Preschool Club

*Selected Saturdays, 2 p.m.*

*Dec. 3, Jan. 14, Feb. 11*

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



## New Year's Eve Party With Magician Brian LaPalme

Saturday, Dec. 31, 2 p.m.

Come ring in the New Year with Marion County's favorite magician, Brian LaPalme! Tickets will be handed out at 1:30 p.m. Limited seating. For families with children in grades K – 6.

## Family Pet Expo

Saturday, Feb. 18, 2 p.m.

It's all about pets! Come spend time with the experts on feeding, training and raising your animal friends. Enjoy displays and presentations by local agencies and businesses. Animal lovers of all ages are welcome.

## Spectacular Sundays: Tween Time at Your Library

Selected Sundays, 2 p.m.

Grades 4 – 6. Registration required.

### Jan. 8 Calling all Wimpy Kids

Got cabin fever? Rodrick rules! Join in the Wimpy kid games, trivia, and zany fun.

### Feb. 5 Tween Chef

Back by popular demand! Come test your culinary skills as you compete for the title of Library Tween Chef. Yes, there's a secret ingredient!

## Wacky Wednesdays

Selected Wednesdays, 2 p.m.

It's crafts, games & fun! Assorted activities and diversions on early-release days for grades K – 6.

Dec. 7 Holiday Crafts

Jan. 18 Wii Just Dance™ Party

Feb. 8 Valentine's Day Crafts

## Holiday Fun for All Ages

Celebrate the holidays with your favorite librarians, a few good books, and lots of cheer.

Thursday, Dec. 8, 6 p.m.

### The Polar Express: A Family Holiday Event.

Don your mittens and hop aboard as the volunteers from United Way recreate the wonderland of *The Polar Express* by Chris Van Allsburg. All families welcome.

Monday, Dec. 19, 2 p.m.

### Movie Time: Toy Story

Thursday, Dec. 22, 2 p.m.

### Movie Time: Walt Disney's Mickey's Christmas Carol & How the Grinch Stole Christmas

## Holiday Fun for Grades K – 6

Spend the afternoon with crafts and games!

Tuesday, Dec. 20, 2 p.m.

### Wii Gaming

Wednesday, Dec. 21, 2 p.m.

### Get Crafty

## Super Saturdays

Selected Saturdays, 2 – 3 p.m.

Grades K – 6.

### Dec. 31 New Year's Eve Party with Brian LaPalme

Magical fun for the whole family! See *Program Spotlight* for more information.

### Jan. 21 Make a Memory Book

Want to jazz up your family photos? Bring your favorite pictures and spend the afternoon at the library creating a memory book with your family. Registration required.

### Feb. 18 Family Pet Expo

It's all about pets! Come spend time with the experts on feeding, training and raising your animal friends. See *Program Spotlight* for more information.

## STORY TIMES

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

Every weekday, 3:30 p.m.

Dec. 1 – Mar. 2

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.

Jan. 24 – Feb. 28

Enjoy a variety of picture book stories, flannel boards, 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.

Jan. 24 – Feb. 28

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

## Family Story Time

Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m.

Jan. 24 – Feb. 28

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.

Jan. 25 – Feb. 29

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.

Jan. 26 – Mar. 1

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

## BELLEVIEW PUBLIC LIBRARY

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

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

## PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

### Ask Your Master Gardener

First Thursdays, 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Learn gardening techniques from the masters!

Presented by Marion County Master Gardeners; Marion County Extension Services/University of Florida, IFAS

Dec. 1

Orchids

Jan. 5

Fertilizing and Plant Nutrition

Feb. 2

Organic Vegetable Gardening

## Tuesday Movie Matinee

Selected Tuesdays, 1 p.m.

Jan. 3  
Jan. 10  
Jan. 17  
Jan. 31  
Feb. 7  
Feb. 14  
Feb. 21  
Feb. 28

## Marion County Health Fair

Saturday, Jan. 7, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Here's to your health! Participate in mental and physical health screenings and get your health passport stamped at vendor booths. Win prizes with a completed passport. Nutritious refreshments provided.

Sponsored by the Marion County  
Mental Wellness Coalition

## A Good Yarn! 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/crochet project. Beginners are welcome.

Jan. 18 *Still Alice* by Lisa Genova  
Feb. 15 *Angelology* by  
Danielle Trussoni

## Basic Computer Classes

Wednesdays, 1 p.m.

Jan. 11 *Introduction to the Computer*  
Jan. 18 *Mouse Play*  
Jan. 25 *Basic Internet*  
Feb. 1 *Basic Email*  
Feb. 8 *Internet Searching  
and Printing*  
Feb. 15 *Staying Safe Online*  
Feb. 22 *Introduction to the Computer*  
Feb. 29 *Mouse Play*

## PROGRAMS FOR TEENS

### Get Crafty at Your Library! Crafts & Fun for Teens

Tuesdays, 5 – 6 p.m.

#### Jan. 17 **Teen Tech: Photo Fun!**

Turn your holiday photos into works of art.

#### Feb. 7 **Chinese Paper Folding**

Celebrate the Chinese New Year with some origami.

## Feb. 21 **Duct Tape Crafts: Book Covers**

Create a unique cover for your favorite book or journal.

## Teen Holiday Party!

Friday, Dec. 16, 4 – 5 p.m.

Decorate some gingerbread men and spread some holiday cheer!

## PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN

### B.E.A.R! Be Excited About Reading!

Tuesdays, 3:30 p.m.

Jan. 10 – Feb. 28

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.

Jan. 11, Jan. 25, Feb. 8, Feb. 22

Stories, music and fingerplays for babies ages 0 – 18 and their caregivers.

### Toddler Story Time

Thursdays, 10:30 a.m.

Jan. 12 – Feb. 23

Stories, fingerplays, and music for toddlers ages 18 – 36 months and their caregivers.

### Preschool Story Time

Fridays, 10:30 a.m.

Jan. 13 – Feb. 24

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

## PROGRAMS FOR FAMILIES

### Family Flix

Selected Wednesdays, 2 p.m.

Dec. 7

Jan. 18

Feb. 8

### Holiday Party

Saturday, Dec. 10, 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Be of good cheer with stories, songs, crafts, and a visit from a jolly old elf. Don't forget your cameras! Registration is required beginning Nov. 21 – Dec. 7.

## Family Game Day

First and third Thursdays, 3 p.m.

Jan. 5 – Feb. 16

Enjoy board and card games.

## The Magic of Brian LaPalme

Jan. 14, noon – 12:30 p.m.

Welcome back acclaimed circus magician Brian LaPalme as he dazzle-dazzles us all. You won't believe your eyes! *See Program Spotlight for more information.*

## Tween Card Trick Workshop with Magician Brian LaPalme

Jan. 14, 1 – 2 p.m.

Fool your friends and impress your family. Registration is required and available Dec. 27 – Jan. 11. For children age 10 – 12. *See Program Spotlight for more information.*

## Sidewalk Chalk Art

Feb. 11, 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Imagination required. Be prepared to have fun and get dirty!

# 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

### Friday at the Movies

First Fridays, 1 p.m.

Dec. 2

Jan. 6

Feb. 3

## Friends of the Library Monthly Meeting

First Tuesdays, 10 a.m.

Dec. 6, Jan. 3, Feb. 7

## The Drop-in Book Club

Selected Wednesdays, 11 a.m.

Read the book and join us for a lively discussion.

Dec. 14 *Widow of the South*  
by Robert Hicks

Jan. 18 *Still Alice* by Lisa Genova

Feb. 15 *Eighty-Dollar Champion*  
by Elizabeth Letts



## Ask Your Master Gardener

Third Tuesdays, 2 p.m.

Learn gardening techniques from Urban Horticulture Agent Norma Samuel.

Presented by Marion County Master Gardeners; Marion County Extension Services/University of Florida, IFAS

### Jan. 17 Gardening Basics

Be the envy of your neighbors with these easy tips to grow a successful garden.

### Feb. 21 Vegetable Gardening

Grow a bigger and better spring vegetable garden.

### Rock Your Garden

Wednesday, Feb. 22, 10:30 a.m.

Use your painting skills to turn an ordinary rock into a miniature masterpiece. Registration required.

### The Magic of Brian LaPalme

Wednesday, Jan. 11, 11 a.m.

How did he do that? Brian LaPalme will wow adults with the art of illusion and his deft sleight of hand. *See Program Spotlight for more information.*

### Gary Kuhl: Nature and Wildlife Photographer

Saturday, Jan. 21, 3 p.m.

What a wild ride! Join wildlife photographer Gary Kuhl for a thrill-packed presentation of his hiking trip down the Grand Canyon's South Rim along with scenes from his rafting trip on the Colorado River. *See Program Spotlight for more information.*

### Basic Computer Classes

Selected days, 10:30 a.m.

Jan. 9	Mouse
Jan. 13	Internet/Email
Jan. 17	Microsoft Word
Jan. 23	Mouse
Jan. 27	Internet/Email
Jan. 30	Microsoft Excel
Feb. 6	Mouse
Feb. 10	Internet/Email
Feb. 14	Microsoft Word
Feb. 21	Mouse
Feb. 24	Internet/Email
Feb. 27	Microsoft Excel

## PROGRAMS FOR TEENS

### Second Annual Teen Cookie Decorating Party

Wednesday, Dec. 28, 3 p.m.

Use your sweet imaginations to create outstanding and outlandish confections! Cookies and decorations are supplied. For teens in middle and high school. Registration required.

## PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN

### Deck the Halls! Make Holiday Ornaments

Wednesday, Dec. 7, 2 p.m.

Put your flair on the holidays and make your own ornament! For children in grades K - 5. Registration required.

### Holiday Celebration Story Time

Friday, Dec. 9, 11 a.m.

For toddlers and preschool ages.

### Giddy-up! Horse Coloring Contest

Feb. 1 - 28

February is "We Love Horses" month so enter our coloring contest and maybe win a prize! Prizes will be awarded on Feb. 29.

### "It's a Horse, of Course" Party

Wednesday, Feb. 8, 2 p.m.

Come to our neeeigh-borhood horse party complete with horse stories, horse art, and horse games for children in grades K - 5. Registration required.

## STORY TIMES

### Toddler Story Time

Wednesdays, 11 a.m.

Jan. 11 - Feb. 29

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

### Preschool Story Time

Fridays, 11 a.m.

Jan. 13 - Feb. 24

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

## Baby Songs and Nursery Rhymes

Third Tuesdays, 11 a.m.

Jan. 24, Feb. 21

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

## SPECIAL PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGES

### Cars 2: An All-Ages Movie Matinee

Wednesday, Dec. 21, 2 p.m.

Drive on in for hilarity! School's out so come to the library for some popcorn and a movie.

## PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

### Basic Computer Classes

Call library for information.

### 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.

Dec. 14

Dec. 28

Jan. 18

Feb. 1

Feb. 15

Feb. 29

### Friends of the Forest Public Library Monthly Meeting

Third Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.

Dec. 21, Jan. 18, Feb. 15

New members are welcome!

### Forest Crafty Cut-Ups

Second Saturdays, 10:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Dec. 10, Jan. 14, Feb. 11

Open to all who craft, discover a different craft at each meeting. Come and go — or spend all day.

## PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN

### Stuffed Animal Sleepover

Thursday, Dec. 22, 7 – 7:30 p.m.

Bring your special stuffed animal friend for a sleepover at the library! After some stories and a snack, we will tuck the animals in and say goodnight. Come back the next day to pick up your stuffed animal and find out what mischief it got into during the night!

### Family Story Time

Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m.

Dec. 6 – Feb. 28. No program Dec. 27

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

### Stories & Stuff Children's Book Club

Thursdays, 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Dec. 1 – 15, Jan. 5 – Feb. 23

Let's read and talk about a great book. Then we'll have a snack and make an art project! For children in grades K – 3.

### Friday Favorites Tween Book Club

Fridays, 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Dec. 2 – 16, Jan. 6 – Feb. 24

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.

Dec. 7, Feb. 8

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

## FORT M<sup>c</sup>COY 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.

Dec. 8, Jan. 12, Feb. 9

New members are welcome!

### Friends of the Fort McCoy Public Library Annual Book Sale

Friday & Saturday, Feb 17 – 18

10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Books and more will be for sale at excellent prices! Come and support your library.

## 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

### Light Up the Library!

Tuesday, Dec. 13, 6 p.m.

Celebrate the winter holidays with stories, music, crafts, and refreshments. A pajama party for children of all ages!

### African American Read-In

Saturday, Feb. 4, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Join over a million readers in the 23rd National African American Read-In! Celebrate African-American heritage in literature, film, music, art, and sweet potato pie. Volunteer readers and performers of all ages are welcome.

### Study Hall

Tuesdays & Thursdays,

Jan. – Feb., 2 – 6 p.m.

The library's meeting room will be available to students of all ages on a walk-in basis. Tutors, study groups, and homework helpers are welcome.

## PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

### Friends of Freedom Public Library Monthly Meeting

Third Mondays, 10 a.m.

Dec. 19, Jan. 9, Feb. 6

New members are always welcome!

### Friends of Freedom Public Library Annual Meeting

Saturday, Jan. 14, 1 p.m.

Entertainment and refreshments will be provided.

### OM Yoga

Saturdays, 10:15 – 11:15 a.m.

Jan. 7 & 14 and Feb. 4 & 11

Ingrid Crane offers a month of gentle yoga for all conditions, using a chair or mat. Fitness for mind and body. Come join us! Sit in a chair and relax!

### Basic Computer Classes

Thursdays, 2 p.m.

Registration opens at 1 p.m. on the day of each class. Seating is limited.

Jan. 12 Basics for Beginners

Jan. 19 How to Search

Jan. 26 Document Basics

Feb. 2 Email Basics

Feb. 9 Basics for Beginners

Feb. 16 How to Search

Feb. 23 Document 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.

## PROGRAMS FOR TEENS & TWEENS

### Join the Jelly: A Casual Working (and Thinking) Event for Teens and Tweens

Selected Wednesdays, 4 p.m.

Dec. 7, 14, & Jan. 11 – Feb. 29

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 and older. Volunteer opportunities are available for ages 14 and older.

### Special Jelly Jams

Selected Wednesdays, 4 p.m.

Be a part of what's happening!

Jan. 25 Burns Night celebrating

Robbie Burns

Feb. 1 Langston Hughes Birthday

Feb. 29 Leap Day

## PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN

### Baby and Toddler Story Time

Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m.

Dec. 6, Jan. 10 – Feb. 28

Stories, music, art, and creative



play for children ages 0 – 2  
and their caregivers.

## Toddler and Preschool Story Time

Thursdays, 10:30 a.m.

Dec. 8, Jan. 12 – Feb. 23

Books, music, art and playtime  
for children ages 3 and older  
and their caregivers.

## Whatever Wednesday!

Selected Wednesdays, 2 p.m.

Early-release relief for students  
of all grade levels at loose ends.  
When school's out, we're in.  
For children in grades K – 5.

### Dec. 7 **Winter Wonder Whatever Wednesday!**

Chef Wally's Cookie Workshop  
with chocolate chip truffles and  
all things sparkly. A frosting frolic!

### Jan. 18 **Wally's Winnie the Pooh Wednesday!**

Christopher Robin and Tigger,  
too, celebrate Winnie the Pooh  
Day! A reading exposition.

### Feb. 8 **Be My Valentine!**

Card crafting at the library. Live it up  
with lace! For children of all ages.

## 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 ALL AGES

### The Magic of Brian LaPalme: A Family Holiday Party

Saturday, Dec. 17, 2 – 3 p.m.

Welcome back acclaimed  
circus magician Brian LaPalme  
as he dazzle-dazzles us all. You  
won't believe your eyes! Program  
will be held in the Marion Oaks  
Community Center Meeting Room.  
Seating is limited. **See Program  
Spotlight for more information.**

## PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

### Friends of the Marion Oaks Public Library Monthly Meeting

Second Tuesdays, 11 a.m.

## PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN

### Preschool Story Time

Fridays, 10:30 a.m. Dec. 2 – Feb. 24

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

## REDDICK PUBLIC LIBRARY

15150 NW Gainesville Rd., Reddick  
352-438-2566

## PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN

### Preschool Story Time

Thursdays, 10 a.m. Jan. 19 – Feb. 23

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

## EXHIBITS AND DISPLAYS

### Headquarters-Ocala

Dec. Paintings by Alma Lugo

Jan. Wood Carvings by  
Clifford Babcock

Feb. A Celebration of African-  
American History Month  
by various artists

### Bellevue

Dec. Glass Paintings by Sandra Finn

Jan. Fine Art by Duncan Corbett

Feb. The Lost Tribes of Florida by  
Deborha and Joey Parker

### Freedom Library Display Case

Dec. Winter Wonderland from the  
Friends of Freedom Public Library

Jan. Doll House Scale Miniatures  
by Susan Fahrney

Feb. The Dead Sea Scrolls  
by Ed Tenhor

### Freedom Library Meeting Room

Dec. – Feb. Shutterbugs

Presented by various photographers  
from on Top of the World

Jan. Recycled Paper Assemblages  
by David D'Alessandris



## A Horse of Our Own

by Michelle Risko

**H**orse Fever in Motion," the sequel  
to Marion Cultural Alliance's pop-  
ular "Horse Fever," is an art exhibit  
created to travel, increasing the  
exposure of the popular equine art proj-  
ect. All nine of the "Horse Fever in Motion"  
horses are displayed in Marion County,  
including the library's own "Coat of Many  
Colors," donated to the library by Stuart  
and Denise Robinson.

Test your "Horse Fever in Motion" savvy  
about "Coat of Many Colors" with the  
following quiz:

1. The artist who designed and  
sculpted the blank "Horse Fever  
in Motion" horses also created  
two horses for the original  
Horse Fever project, one of  
which was named "Flamingo  
Fury." What is his name?
2. The tail of what animal  
makes up the tail of "Coat  
of Many Colors?"
3. What is the name of the Tampa  
based graphic artist that  
painted "Coat of Many Colors?"
4. Which of the following animals  
is not represented as part of  
"Coat of Many Colors?"

- a. Giraffe; b. Elephant;  
c. Peacock; d. Zebra

Answers can be found on page 14.





CREATE Filmmakers



CREATE Students at Teen Writers Conference



CREATE Artist Owen Cooper



CREATE Cloggers: Heather, Hannah and Katrina Krauss and Nicole Parent

Library Snapshot Day Children's Division at HQ-Ocala Public Library



Kalis Stevens & Kamaia Washington at Fairy Tale Festival





# Bookmarks

Friends of the Ocala Public Library's News and Notes

## Meet The Author

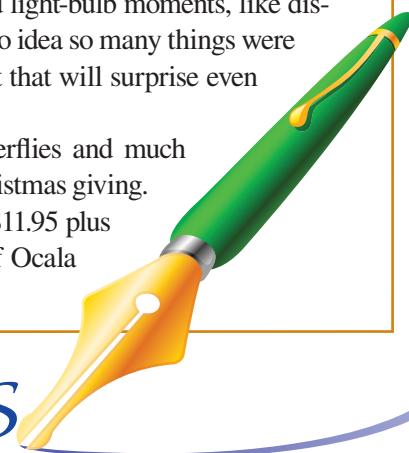
Sunday, December 11, 2011 2 p.m. • Meeting Room C Headquarters-Ocala Library

Ocala writer Lucy Tobias has taken her love affair with the Sunshine State to another level. The prize-winning journalist who took us along as she explored the historic and downright quirky nooks of our state in *50 Great Walks in Florida* now has a book for eco gardeners. It's a combination of both inspirational and practical advice for gardeners.

"*Florida Gardens Gone Wild* unfolds the story of my down and dirty life with gardening," says Tobias. "There are moments of infatuation, days of frustration, and light-bulb moments, like discovering natives, and organics and connections with nature. I had no idea so many things were so connected. Along the way I found resources and places to visit that will surprise even seasoned gardeners."

Tobias will show slides of gardens, flowers, rain barrels, butterflies and much more. A book signing follows the talk. This book is perfect for Christmas giving.

For this event the book, normally \$15.95 plus tax, will be just \$11.95 plus tax. For every book sold a donation of \$2 goes to the Friends of Ocala Public Library. Refreshments will be served.



## CALLING ALL LOCAL AUTHORS

On Saturday, April 14th, 2012, the Marion County Public Library System and the Friends of the Ocala Public Library, Inc. will sponsor **Authors' Expo**. Tables will be available in the meeting rooms at Headquarters-Ocala Library and authors will discuss and sell their books. Please contact **Roseanne Russo at 671-8551** for more information and to reserve table space. More details will be available in the spring 2012 issue of WORDS.

## SUPPORT OUR LIBRARY

For users and Friends of the Ocala Public Library, there are several ways you can support this great community resource. As 2011 comes to an end, please consider:

- **DONATING** your gently used books (adult's and children's), DVDs, CDs and magazines to the Book Market. During this fiscal year (10/11 – 9/12) *the Friends have budgeted over \$100,000 to support the library*. These funds are provided from sales in the Book Market and at the quarterly book sales. The more you donate, the more help we can provide to the library.
- **SHOPPING** in the *Book Market* for great reads and gifts.
- **RENEWING** your *Friends* membership in early January.

Thank you...and Happy Holidays!

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**December 11, 2011, 2PM:**

**Author Lucy Tobias**  
discusses her new book,  
*Florida Gardens Gone Wild*

Held in Meeting Room C,  
Headquarters-Ocala Public Library.  
Refreshments served.

**February 4, 2012,  
10AM-4PM:**

**Quarterly  
Book Sale**

Held in Meeting Rooms,  
Headquarters-Ocala Public Library

Visit Our Web Site @ [www.friendsoftheocalalibrary.org](http://www.friendsoftheocalalibrary.org) • Please Renew Your Friends Membership

# profiles

By Ken Tipper

**M**ary Tortora traces her love of horses back to her early childhood when she first began collecting models of horses and reading about them. She recalled having a picture taken of her on a pony at the age of five, but it was not until she was 15 that she started taking riding lessons. The owner of those horses took her under her wing, and Mary began helping with the upkeep of the horses as well.

After graduating from high school, a friend who was working at Hobeau Farms in Ocala persuaded Mary to join her and she became a combination of exercise rider, groom and farm hand. “I did it all” recalled Mary. Two years later she moved to Red Oak Farms and it was there that she got interested in thoroughbred racing. “I watched my first race at Calder in Miami and I was hooked,” she remembered. Determined to become a professional jockey, Mary was at that time too heavy for the sport, but worked at her weight. She eventually got down to 100 lbs. She was ready and after two years of galloping and exercising at Calder she got her first mount, a mare named La Armada. She was the only woman in the race and she recalled that she came in last!

Mary’s first win came aboard Lady



Grace Hoy in a claiming race at Calder, where she said she didn’t make much money, but it was great fun to win. Her biggest win, the Widener Handicap, was on Lord Darnley at Hialeah in 1981. This was the first win in a grade one race by a woman jockey. To mark this memorable occasion, the owner of the horse, and member of the Getty family, had a gold pin in the horse’s likeness made for Mary. She and Lord Darnley became a team again in 1982 when they won the Gulfstream Handicap.

Mary rode professionally for about six years and then started a family. Her family ran Equitor Farms in Ci-

tra for 21 years until it was recently sold. She and husband Richard, a farrier, now live on 21 acres in Citra, where they have seven horses. She currently works as an exercise rider for local trainer Monty Thomas.

Of her career as a jockey, Mary says, “I always respected the male riders, and competed with them to the best of my ability. I will always be grateful that God put me in the right place at the right time. When watching women riders these days, I feel that they are doing just fine in our sport”.

That surely applies to Mary Tortora as well — she did just fine! **W**