Love Is In The Air

Ocala Friends to Host Prom Night at the Library

Friends of the Library: A Love Story

In This Issue:
- Calendar
- Book Review
- Profile
Resolve to do More, Be More

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

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

BY SUSAN REYNOLDS

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

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

Once you have your assessment results, you can “try on” some of the career matches. Click on a career title and you’ll get additional information, including the typical working conditions, the earnings you could expect, the kind of necessary educational requirements, and if there are similar or related careers you might want to also explore.

If the desired career has educational requirements, you can search for schools across the United States that offer that major. You can also choose and search schools that offer technical, undergraduate and graduate degrees. Once you’ve selected some prospective schools, make sure you check out the financial aid tab. You’ll learn all about options for Federal Financial Aid programs and scholarships. Career Cruising also has some built-in tools for those ready to enter the work force. Conduct a job search and note the appropriate job postings. You can search for full or part time employment, as well as internships or temporary employment opportunities.

Need help creating a resume, cover letter or improving your interview skills? Career Cruising has all of these features and more. Stop by your closest public library branch location and tell the staff you’re ready to get your career into high gear with Career Cruising.
Grab that tacky tux or pink sequined formal and join the fun as the Friends of the Ocala Public Library presents “Prom Night at the Library” Friday, Feb. 8, 7-9 p.m. at the Headquarters-Ocala Public Library. This third annual gala will be all about the magic, music and memories of prom days gone by, bringing many of us back to a special time in our lives. Listen to the hit songs from the 50s, 60s, 70s and 80s. Dance with your favorite partner, enjoy delicious refreshments, plus, learn about the programs and services that our library provides, all in a magical setting.

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

Book your date now for a fabulous evening at the library. Tickets are $20 per person (adults only) and may be purchased online at www.friendsofthecocalibrary.org or by calling 352-368-4591. Dress up or not, you’re certain to have a ball!
Love Across the Ages

BY ASA DRAKE

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

Kate O’Neill’s “The Tea Dragon Society” straddles the gap between picture books and chapter books for young readers. This graphic novel has the young at heart in mind and has been taken home by more than one librarian! Beautifully illustrated, “The Tea Dragon Society” offers an inclusive narrative that encourages readers to nurture close ties with friends and family. Read for forever-friendships, stay for the most adorable tea-time illustrations.

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

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

For those who need the magic of first love, try “The Seas.” In her debut novel, Samantha Hunt blends fantasy and day-to-day living, giving us an early 2000s retelling of “The Little Mermaid” complete with the Great Recession and the Iraq War. Most of all, “The Seas” celebrates a young woman’s imagination when love turns out to be different than what she expected.

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

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

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

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

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

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

With seven Friends groups here in Marion County, it’s likely that there is one near you. Check out the Friends list at right or call 352-671-8551 for more information.
from United Way’s Reading Pals, games, crafts and that delicious arctic treat – ice cream!
Co-sponsored by Publix Supermarkets.

**Polar Express**
Headquarters-Ocala
Wednesday, Dec. 5, 5:30 p.m.
Don your pajamas and hop aboard “The Polar Express” for a fun-filled night of stories, crafts and more based on the classic Chris Van Allsburg title.
Co-sponsored by Heart of Florida Health Center.

**Polar Paradise Party**
Belleview Public Library
Saturday, Dec. 8, 10:30 a.m.
G’day mate! The Polar Paradise Party goes down under! Join We Do Didgeridoo! for African-inspired hand drumming and Australian didgeridoo. Meet Walter the Wallaby and enjoy outback-themed games and more! Didgeridon’t miss this!

**Ocala Harmony Barbershop Chorus**
Sing in the holiday season!
Co-sponsored by Publix Supermarkets.
Forest Public Library
Saturday, Dec. 8, 1 p.m.
Freedom Public Library
Wednesday, Dec. 12, 4 p.m.

**Holiday Extravaganza**
Marion Oaks Public Library
Sunday, Dec. 9, noon-4 p.m.
Join in the community-wide holiday festivities with games, music, food and Santa!
Presented in conjunction with Marion Oaks Community Center staff.

**Reindeer Romp Holiday Party**
Reddick Public Library
Saturday, Dec. 15, noon-3 p.m.
It’s a community party and all are invited to enjoy the magic of the holiday season with games, giveaways, fun, food and United Way’s Reading Pals. Entertainment by Ocala Harmony Barbershop Chorus, Free Spirits Quartet, Sing for Your Supper Trio and youth from local schools.

**SPECIAL EVENTS**

**Preschool Expo**
Headquarters-Ocala
Saturday, Jan. 12, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
Learn about local preschools, family-friendly businesses and preschool-age activities in Marion County.
Co-sponsored by Fun 4 Ocala Kids.

**SPECIAL PROGRAMS**

**Starry Night**
Derek Demeter, director of the Buehler Planetarium at Seminole State College, is our guide for a closer look at the stars and planets in our night sky. Telescope provided for viewing.
Dunnellon Public Library
Tuesday, Jan. 15, 6:30 p.m.
Forest Public Library
Tuesday, Jan. 29, 6 p.m.

**BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

**African American Read-In**
Celebrate the 29th National African American Read-In with a rich heritage in literature, film, music and art. Readers, performers and listeners of all ages are welcome! Contact the library if you are interested in performing or reading.
Headquarters-Ocala
Sunday, Feb. 10, 2 p.m.
Forest Public Library
Tuesday, Feb. 12, 4 p.m.
Reddick Public Library
Tuesday, Feb. 19, 4 p.m.
Freedom Public Library
Tuesday, Feb. 26, 4 p.m. (poetry focus)
Historical Spotlight: Community of Santos
Belleview Public Library
Thursday, Feb. 21, 3:30 p.m.
The Santos Historical Committee, Inc. commemorates the once vibrant African-American community destroyed by the Cross-Florida Barge Canal project. Descendants of former residents share the story through memories and historical records.

MEET TOM AND DEBBIE O’CARROLL

Music and Magic of Ireland
Forest Public Library
Wednesday, Feb. 20, 4 p.m.
Ireland’s finest folk singer, Tom O’Carroll, and magician and actress, Debbie O’Carroll, combine enchanting stage magic, songs, poetry, comedy and stories into a master work of Irish culture. Fun for all!

The Irish Fairy Grandmother’s Magic Show
Belleview Public Library
Thursday, Feb. 21, 10:30 a.m.
Learn all about Irish folklore at a very special story time given by magician and actress Debbie O’Carroll. Songs, stories and music are sure to enchant and delight!

Dublin in Song and Story
Freedom Public Library
Saturday, Feb. 23, noon
Irish folk singer Tom O’Carroll tells the tales and sings the songs of his native city. Learn more about the capital city on the River Liffey and the colorful characters of Irish literature through story and song.

MEET THE AUTHORS

Bob Kealing
“Kerouac in Florida: Where the Road Ends”
Forest Public Library
Saturday, Jan. 12, 11 a.m.
In 1969, literary iconoclast Jack Kerouac died in Saint Petersburg, Florida, at the age of 47. Kealing, an award-winning journalist and author, takes us through the Florida life of this freethinker and his contributions to the literary world. Don’t miss this behind-the-scenes look at the Beat Generation.

Mary Flynn
“Confessions of a Hallmark Greeting Card Writer”
Dunnellon Public Library
Wednesday, Jan. 17, 11 a.m.
Imagine working down the hall from Joyce Hall? Enjoy the hilarious revelations of an award-winning author who was once a greeting card writer, complete with the quirky mishaps!

HEADQUARTERS-Ocala
2720 E. Silver Springs Blvd.
Ocala, FL 34470
352-671-8551
Programs are sponsored by the Friends of the Ocala Public Library.

HOLIDAY PROGRAM

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

SPECIAL EVENTS

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

African American Read-In
Sunday, Feb. 10, 2 p.m.
All ages.
See Program Spotlight for more locations.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

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

Escape Rooms: Can You Get Out?
Thursdays, 6 p.m.
Ages 13 and older.
Use your wits and deductive skills to solve puzzles and decipher clues!

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

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

Jan. 15 Charities and the Do Not Call Program
Feb. 19 Scams, Fraud and Identity Theft
Stuffed Animal Sleepover
Friday, Jan. 25, 5 p.m.-Saturday, Jan. 26, 10:30 a.m.
Ages 12 and younger with caregivers.
What do they do when left to themselves? Decorate a sleeping bag and tuck your favorite friend in bed for an overnight at the library! Pick up your party animal in the morning, with a full accounting of sleepy-time escapades!

Unplugged Gaming Day
Saturday, Feb. 23, 1:30 p.m.
All ages.
Scrabble, anyone? Bring the family and your favorite game and play alongside other tabletop fans!

ADULTS

Wired Wednesdays
Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.
Learn about computers and databases. Space is limited.

Computers for Beginners
Jan. 2 I Turned on My Computer, Now What?
Jan. 9 Basic Keyboarding
Jan. 16 Basic Internet
Jan. 23 Basic Internet Safety

Online Potpourri
Jan. 30 Do It Yourself Databases
Feb. 6 Career Cruising 101
Feb. 13 Say What? Pronunciator
Feb. 20 Test Prep With Pro Citizen and Learning Express

Genealogy Help Center
Wednesdays, 12:30-3:30 p.m.
Jan. 2 and Feb. 6
Genealogy gurus from the Marion County Genealogical Society assist with your search.

Technology Help Center
Wednesdays, 2:30-3:30 p.m.
Jan. 2- Feb. 27
Bring your device and drop in!

The Monday Matinée
Mondays, 2 p.m.
Movies for adults. Anyone younger than age 13 must be accompanied by an adult.

Jan. 7
Jan. 14
Jan. 21
Jan. 28
Feb. 4
Feb. 11
Feb. 18
Feb. 25

Novels at Night Book Club
Tuesdays, 6 p.m.
Enjoy a lively book discussion, treats and coffee.

Jan. 8 “Little Fires Everywhere” by Celeste Ng
Feb. 12 “Mean Streak” by Sandra Brown

On the Rivers in Marion County
Saturday, Feb. 2, 2 p.m.
All aboard! Explore the history of river travel and commerce in Marion County through the eyes and journeys of history enthusiast and librarian, Taylor Benson.

TEENS

MANGAlicious Teen Club!
Thursdays, 4:30 p.m.
Jan. 3, Feb. 7
Watch favorite anime and manga titles on the big screen while enjoying Japanese snacks.

I Love POP! Toys
Sunday, Jan. 13, 2 p.m.
Obsessed with Funko POP! toys? Meet and trade POP! toys with other fans.

Show and Sketch
Mondays, 5 p.m.
Jan. 14, Feb. 11
Share your talent while learning new techniques. All skill levels welcome.

YALLA!
Tuesdays, 5 p.m.
Jan. 22, Feb. 26
Be a part of the library experience! Earn volunteer hours for service.

Geekfest! Fandoms and Comic Club
Wednesdays, 5 p.m.
Jan. 23, Feb. 27
Explore the world of pop culture and comics with fellow fans.

FABLAB: Love Edition
Wednesday, Feb. 13, 5 p.m.
Make something special for your valentine.

CHILDREN

Preschool Club
Saturday, Dec. 15, 2 p.m.
Ages 5 and younger with caregivers. Fun-filled games and activities.

Kids Code
Learn computer programming through games. Space is limited. Call 352-671-8551 to register.
Ages 7-12. Registration is required and begins Wednesday, Dec. 19.

Kids Code 1
Tuesdays, Jan. 8-22, 3 p.m.
Thursdays, Jan. 10-24, 4 p.m.

Kids Code 2
Thursday, Jan. 31-Feb. 14, 4 p.m.
Requires completion of Kids Code 1.

Gross Me Out
Saturday, Jan. 19, 2 p.m.
Ages 5-12 with caregivers.
Listen to gross stories, play with slime and make creepy crafts.

Innovation Station
Wednesdays, 2 p.m.
Jan. 23, Feb. 27
Ages 5-12 with caregivers.
Tinker, design, and create!

SPECIAL STORY TIME

Family Story Time
Saturdays, 10:30 a.m.
Dec. 8, Jan. 5, Feb. 2
Ages 5 and younger with caregivers.
**WEEKLY STORY TIMES**

Jan. 8-March 7
A variety of stories, songs, and activities for children and caregivers.

**Preschool Story Time**
Tuesdays, 10:15 a.m.
Ages 3-5.

**Toddling Twos**
Wednesdays, 10:15 a.m.

**Pajama Story Time**
Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m.
Ages 5 and younger.

**Bouncing Babies**
Thursdays, 10:15 a.m.
Infants-23 months.

**BELLEVIEW PUBLIC LIBRARY**
13145 SE Highway 484
Belleview, FL 34420
352-438-2500

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

**HOLIDAY PROGRAM**

**Polar Paradise Party**
Saturday, Dec. 8, 10:30 a.m.
See Program Spotlight for other holiday programs.

**SPECIAL EVENT**

**Community Job Fair**
Wednesday, Jan. 16, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.
Looking for a career opportunity? Sponsored by the City of Belleview.

**SPECIAL PROGRAMS**

**Community Conversation**
Wednesday, Jan. 23, 10:30 a.m.
*Topic: Discuss a time in your life when a small kindness made a big difference.*
See Program Spotlight for more conversations.

**The Irish Fairy Grandmother’s Magic Show**
Thursday, Feb. 21, 10:30 a.m.
See Program Spotlight for additional performances.

**Historical Spotlight:**
**Community of Santos**
Thursday, Feb. 21, 3:30 p.m.
See Program Spotlight.

**ADULTS**

**Genealogy Help Center**
Wednesday, 3-5 p.m.
Dec. 5, Jan. 2, Feb. 6
Genealogy gurus from the Marion County Genealogical Society assist with your search.

**Master Gardener Plant Clinic**
Fridays, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
Dec. 7, 21, Jan. 4, 18, Feb. 1, 15
The plant doctors are in!
Presented by UF/IFAS Extension Marion County.

**Wednesday Morning Book Club**
Wednesday, 10 a.m.
Make new friends and talk about books.
Dec. 12 “Wonder” by R.J. Palacio
Jan. 9 “Naked Came the Manatee” by Hassen et al.
Feb. 13 “Me Before You” by Jojo Moyes

**Writer’s Studio**
Wednesday, noon
Dec. 19, Jan. 16, Feb. 20
Writers of all levels share information and encouragement.

**Tuesday Movie Matinée**
Tuesdays, 1 p.m.
Movies for adults. Anyone younger than age 13 must be accompanied by an adult.
Jan. 8
Jan. 15
Jan. 22
Jan. 29
Feb. 5
Feb. 12
Feb. 19
Feb. 26

**Tech Help Center**
Tuesdays, 2-4 p.m.
Jan. 8-Feb. 26
Bring your device and drop in.

**Tuesday Evening Book Club**
Tuesdays, 5 p.m.
Make new friends and talk about books.
Jan. 15 “Every Day” by David Levithan
Feb. 19 “The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time” by Mark Haddon

**Common Cents**
**Financial Seminars**
Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.
Edward Jones financial advisor
Luke Emerson shares important financial information.
Jan. 23 Foundations of Investing
Feb. 6 Five Money Questions for Women
Feb. 27 The Entrepreneurial Equation

**TEENS & TWEENS**

**YALLA South**
Tuesdays, 5 p.m.
Dec. 4, Feb. 5
Be a part of the library experience. Teens, earn volunteer hours for service.

**MANGAlicious Teen Club!**
Tuesdays, 5:30 p.m.
Jan. 22, Feb. 26
Watch favorite anime and discuss manga while enjoying Japanese snacks.

**FAMILIES**

**Just Another Mah-Jongg Monday!**
Mondays, 1 p.m.
Jan. 7-Feb. 25
Learn and play with other enthusiasts.

**Knights of the Chess Club**
Tuesdays, 4 p.m.
Jan. 8-Feb. 26
Learn and play chess!

**Knotty Knitters**
Wednesdays, 4:30 p.m.
Jan. 9-Feb. 27
Learn to knit or crochet.

**Saturday Science Lab**
Saturdays, 2 p.m.
Let’s make cool stuff!
Jan. 19 Lightsabers From Yoda to Kylo
Feb. 16 Physics in Action
**STORY TIMES**
Jan. 2-Feb. 28
A variety of stories, songs, and activities for young children with caregivers.

**BEAR Time!**
Tuesdays, 3:30 p.m.

**Preschool Adventures**
Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.
Ages 3-5.

**Toddler Time**
Thursdays, 10:30 a.m.
Infants-age 2.

**DUNNELLON PUBLIC LIBRARY**
20351 Robinson Road
Dunnellon, FL 34431
352-438-2520

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

**SPECIAL PROGRAMS**

**The Bird Is the Word**
Wednesday, Jan. 9, 2 p.m.
Attract birds to your backyard and squirrel proof your feeders with these helpful hints from Norm Lantz.

**Starry Night With Derek Demeter**
Tuesday, Jan. 15, 6:30 p.m.
See Program Spotlight for other locations.

**MEET THE AUTHOR**

Mary Flynn
Wednesday, Jan. 23, 2 p.m.
“Confessions of a Hallmark Greeting Card Writer”
See Program Spotlight.

**ADULTS**

**Master Gardeners Plant Clinic**
Tuesdays, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
Dec. 4, Jan. 8, Feb. 5
The plant doctors are in.
Presented by UF/IFAS Extension Marion County.

**TEENS**

**YALLA West!**
Wednesdays, 5 p.m.
Be a part of the library experience and earn volunteer service hours.
Jan. 2 CD Mosaics
Feb. 6 Hedgehogs

**FAMILIES**

**Fly Tie-In**
Saturday, Jan. 12, 10 a.m.
Watch, learn and create amazing fishing flies with the Dunnellon Fly-Tyers.

**Ask Your Master Gardener**
Tuesdays, 2 p.m.
Learn gardening techniques from the masters!
Presented by UF/IFAS Extension Marion County.
Jan. 15 House Plants
Feb. 19 Butterfly Gardening

**Genealogy 101**
Thursday, Jan. 17, 6 p.m.
Stitch together your family history with genealogy enthusiast Pamela Joseph.

**Couples and Money**
Tuesday, Jan. 29, 2 p.m.
Let there be peace and simplify your homelife with the money-wise guidance of IFAS Extension agent Lynda Spence.
Presented by UF/IFAS Extension Marion County.

**TEENS**

**YALLA West!**
Wednesdays, 5 p.m.
Be a part of the library experience and earn volunteer service hours.
Jan. 2 CD Mosaics
Feb. 6 Hedgehogs

**FAMILY PROGRAMS**

**Salt Dough Ornaments!**
Friday, Dec. 7, 11 a.m.
Deck the halls with dough!

**Pirate and Princess Party**
Friday, Jan. 4, 11 a.m.
Be a pirate! Be a princess!
Have fun at the party!

**Love Those Valentines!**
Wednesday, Feb. 13, 11 a.m.
Share some good times with friends!

**STORY TIMES**
Jan. 2-Feb. 27
A variety of stories, songs, and activities for children and caregivers.

**Toddling Twos**
Wednesdays, 11 a.m.
Infants-age 2.

**Preschool Adventures**
Fridays, 11 a.m.
Ages 3-5.

**FOREST PUBLIC LIBRARY**
905 S. Highway 314A
Ocklawaha, FL 32179
352-438-2540

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

**HOLIDAY PROGRAMS**
See Program Spotlight for other holiday programs.

**Arctic Blast**
Saturday, Dec. 1, 2 p.m.

**Ocala Harmony Barbershop Chorus**
Saturday, Dec. 8, 1 p.m.

**SPECIAL PROGRAMS**
See Program Spotlight for other locations.

**Starry Night with Derek Demeter**
Tuesday, Jan. 29, 6 p.m.

**African American Read-In**
Tuesday, Feb. 12, 4 p.m.

**Tom and Debbie O’Carroll’s Music and Magic of Ireland**
Wednesday, Feb. 20, 4 p.m.

**MEET THE AUTHOR**

Bob Kealing
“Kerouac in Florida: Where the Road Ends”
Saturday, Jan. 12, 11 a.m.
See Program Spotlight.
ADULTS

Technology Help Center
Wednesdays, 10 a.m.
Dec. 5-Feb. 27
Bring your device and drop in!

Forest Coloring Club
Thursdays, 11 a.m.
Dec. 6, Jan. 3, 17, Feb. 7, 21
Express yourself through coloring and interesting conversation.

Forest Readers Book Club
Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.
Make new friends and talk about books.
Dec. 12  “An O’Brien Family Christmas” by Sherryl Woods
Jan. 9  “Wuthering Heights” by Emily Bronte
Jan. 23  “Cat & Mouse” by James Patterson
Feb. 13  “The Notebook” by Nicholas Sparks
Feb. 27  “My Antonia” by Willa Cather

DIY Art—Watercolors
Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.
Jan. 2, Feb. 6
Express yourself through art!

Forest Writer’s Studio
Thursdays, 5:30 p.m.
Jan. 10, Feb. 14
Writers of all levels share work and encouragement.

Friday Cinema
Fridays, 2 p.m.
Movies for adults. Anyone younger than age 13 must be accompanied by an adult.
Jan. 11
Jan. 25
Feb. 22

Crafts for a Cause
Mondays, 10 a.m.
Jan. 14, Feb. 18
Help our community! Create items for those in need.

Trivia Café Brown Bag Luncheon
Tuesdays, noon
Jan. 12, Feb. 22
Bring a sandwich and enjoy lunch with fellow trivia enthusiasts! Dessert and beverage provided.

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

Thursday, Jan. 24, 2 p.m.
Senior Moment or Something More Serious?
Thursday, Feb. 28, 10 a.m.
Advance Directives

Ask Your Master Gardener
Saturdays, 10:30 a.m.
Get your garden growing!
Presented by UF/IFAS Extension Marion County.
Jan. 26  Improving Soil Health
Feb. 16  Spring and Summer Gardening

Antique or Junk?
Tuesday, Feb. 26, 10:30 a.m.
Have a hidden treasure? Find out with amateur antiques appraiser Norm Lantz. Limit one item per person. No guns, coins or stamps.

TEENS & TWEENS

YALLA East
Thursdays, 5 p.m.
Dec. 20, Jan. 17, Feb. 21
Be part of your library experience! Teens, earn volunteer service hours.

YALLA East
Thursdays, 5 p.m.
Dec. 20, Jan. 17, Feb. 21
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Thursdays, 5 p.m.
Dec. 20, Jan. 17, Feb. 21
Be part of your library experience! Teens, earn volunteer service hours.

Financial Awareness
Tuesdays, 11 a.m.
Join Thomas Cooper, VP of The Entrepreneur Society Ocala, as he provides tips and guidance to achieve financial success.
Jan. 8, 22  Becoming Debt Free
Feb. 5, 19  Social Security Savvy

FORT MCCOY PUBLIC LIBRARY
14660 NE Hwy. 315, Fort McCoy, FL 32134
352-438-2560

ADULTS

Monday Morning Book Club
Mondays, 10:30 a.m.
Make new friends and talk about books.
Dec. 3  “Open House” by Elizabeth Berg
Jan. 7  “The Darling Dahlia and the Cucumber Tree” by Susan Wittig Albert
Feb. 4  “Her Royal Spyness” by Rhys Bowen

Art Workshop
Thursdays, 4 p.m.
Express yourself through art!
Jan. 17  Beading Bonanza
Feb. 21  Passion for Pixels

Tech Zone
Monday, Feb. 18, 2 p.m.
Explore technology with hands-on activities.

FAMILIES

Imagination Station Kids Club
Wednesdays, 2:30 p.m.
Imagine, create, construct!
Dec. 5  Card Central
Jan. 23  Fairy House Workshop
Feb. 27  Spring Into Action!

Family Story Time
Fridays, 10:30 a.m.
Jan. 4-Feb. 22
A variety of stories, songs and activities for children and caregivers.

FUNtasmagoria
Wednesdays, 4 p.m.
Explore the world!
Jan. 9  Bone Up on Bones
Jan. 16  What’s That Smell?
Jan. 30  Magnificent Machines
Feb. 6  Building Buildings
Feb. 13  Trains, Planes and Automobiles
Feb. 20  The Music and Magic of Ireland (See Program Spotlight)

Family Flicks
Saturdays, 2 p.m.
Movies for the whole family! Anyone younger than age 13 must be accompanied by an adult.
Jan. 19
Feb. 2

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352-438-2560

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Forest Writer’s Studio
Thursdays, 5:30 p.m.
Jan. 10, Feb. 14
Writers of all levels share work and encouragement.

Friday Cinema
Fridays, 2 p.m.
Movies for adults. Anyone younger than age 13 must be accompanied by an adult.
Jan. 11
Jan. 25
Feb. 22

Crafts for a Cause
Mondays, 10 a.m.
Jan. 14, Feb. 18
Help our community! Create items for those in need.

Trivia Café Brown Bag Luncheon
Tuesdays, noon
Jan. 12, Feb. 22
Bring a sandwich and enjoy lunch with fellow trivia enthusiasts! Dessert and beverage provided.

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

Thursday, Jan. 24, 2 p.m.
Senior Moment or Something More Serious?
Thursday, Feb. 28, 10 a.m.
Advance Directives

Ask Your Master Gardener
Saturdays, 10:30 a.m.
Get your garden growing!
Presented by UF/IFAS Extension Marion County.
Jan. 26  Improving Soil Health
Feb. 16  Spring and Summer Gardening

Antique or Junk?
Tuesday, Feb. 26, 10:30 a.m.
Have a hidden treasure? Find out with amateur antiques appraiser Norm Lantz. Limit one item per person. No guns, coins or stamps.
FAMILIES

FUNtasmagoria
Mondays, 4 p.m.
Explore the world!
Jan. 14 Bone Up on Bones
Feb. 11 Magnificent Machines

FREEDOM PUBLIC LIBRARY
5870 SW 95th St., Ocala, FL 34476
352-438-2580
Programs are sponsored by the Friends of Freedom Public Library

HOLIDAY PROGRAM
Ocala Harmony Barbershop Chorus
Wednesday, Dec. 12, 4 p.m.
See Program Spotlight for holiday programs.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS
See Program Spotlight for other locations.

Community Conversation
Thursday, Jan. 24, 2:30 p.m.
Topic: Talk about a trip that changed your perspective on life.
See Program Spotlight for more conversations.

Tom O’Carroll’s Dublin in Song and Story
Saturday, Feb. 23, noon

ADULTS

As the Page Turns Book Club
Tuesdays, 2:30 p.m.
Join the club and turn the page! Everyone is welcome!
Dec. 4 “Miller’s Valley” by Anna Quindlen
Feb. 5 “March Book Three” by John Lewis

Ask Arnold! Comprehensive Computer Assistance
Thursdays, noon-2 p.m.
Dec. 6-Feb. 28
Staff and volunteers are available to help with all computer needs.

The Tuesday Matinée
Tuesdays, 3 p.m.
Movies for adults. Anyone younger than age 13 must be accompanied by an adult.
Jan. 8
Feb. 12

Genealogy Resources
Monday, Jan. 14, 10:30 a.m.
Use library resources to get started in family research.

Basic Computer Classes
Tuesdays, 2 p.m.
Learn something new!
Seating is limited.
Jan. 15 Introduction to Computers
Jan. 22 Basic Internet
Jan. 29 Basic Word
Feb. 19 Library Computer Resources

Personal Finance
Tuesday, Jan. 29, 4 p.m.
Need help understanding where the money goes? Let Thomas Cooper, VP of The Entrepreneur Society Ocala, explain the principles of budgeting and money management. It’s worth it!

TEENS & TWEENS

Gratitude Rocks!
Wednesday, Dec. 5, 2 p.m.
Write inspiring messages with Cindy Lee Skinner James, Ocala Rocks.

YALLA Free!
Thursdays, 5 p.m.
Dec. 13, Jan. 10, Feb. 14
Be a part of the library experience. Teens, earn volunteer service hours.

Gamers Unite!
Saturdays, 3 p.m.
Jan. 12, Feb. 9, Feb. 23
Are you up for a video game challenge?

FAMILIES

Read to Hannah the Therapy Dog
Mondays, 3 p.m.
Jan. 7-Feb. 25
Hannah is all ears and geared up for some great stories. It’s PAWsitive fun!

Family Film Fest
Wednesdays, 3 p.m.
Movie fun for the whole family! Anyone younger than age 13 must be accompanied by an adult.
Jan. 23
Feb. 27

STORY TIMES
Jan. 9-Feb. 27
Stories, songs and activities for young children with caregivers.

Preschool Adventures
Wednesdays, 10:15 a.m.
Ages 3-5.

Toddler Time
Wednesdays, 11 a.m.
Infants-age 2

MARION OAKS PUBLIC LIBRARY
294 Marion Oaks Lane, Ocala, FL 34473
352-438-2570
Programs are sponsored by the Friends of the Marion Oaks Public Library

HOLIDAY PROGRAM
Holiday Extravaganza
Sunday, Dec. 9, noon-4 p.m.
See Program Spotlight for other holiday programs.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS
Community Conversation
Thursday, Dec. 6, 4 p.m.
Topic: What is your most meaningful holiday tradition?
See Program Spotlight for more conversations.

ADULTS

Novels at Noon
Wednesdays, noon
Make new friends and talk about books!
Dec. 19 “The Red Garden” by Alice Hoffman
Jan. 16 “The Book Thief” by Markus Zusak
Feb. 20 “Orphan Train” by Christina Baker Kline
Journaling Done Write  
Friday, Jan. 4, 10:30 a.m.  
Learn how to journal with local author Marian Rizzo. Start your New Year’s resolution write!

Personal Financial Success  
Thursdays, 4:30 p.m.  
The financial experts at The Entrepreneur Society Ocala explain how to manage personal finances, home ownership, and so much more.

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

Marshmallow Madness  
Friday, Jan. 18, 4 p.m.  
Create a snowman, build the tallest tower, an igloo or something else! The options are endless.

Clay Creations  
Friday, Feb. 22, 4 p.m.  
Bring your imagination to life with Nicola Wisniewski of ElvenSpun.

REDDICK PUBLIC LIBRARY  
15150 NW Gainesville Road Reddick, FL 32686  
352-438-2566

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

TEENS & TWEENS

YALLA Oaks!  
Wednesdays, 5 p.m.  
Dec. 19, Jan. 16, Feb. 20
Be a part of the library experience. Teens, earn volunteer service hours.

Funding College  
Wednesdays, 4:30 p.m.  
Jan. 16, Feb. 20
The financial experts at The Entrepreneur Society Ocala focus on college finances, with tips for obtaining grants and scholarships. Guardians encouraged to attend.

Love Stinks  
Monday, Feb. 11, 5:30-7 p.m.
Snappy love lines got you down? This party is for you! Dreary attire encouraged.

HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Reindeer Romp Holiday Party  
Saturday, Dec. 15, noon-3 p.m.
See Program Spotlight for more holiday programs.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Brown Bag Luncheon with Annabelle Leitner  
Thursday, Jan. 31, noon
Bring your bag lunch and take a trip down the memory lane of northwest Marion County. Beverage and dessert provided. Contact the library to reserve a piece of pie!

African American Read-In  
Tuesday, Feb. 19, 4 p.m.
See Program Spotlight for more locations.

ADULTS

Basic Computing  
Mondays, 1 p.m.  
Jan. 7, 28
Learn about computers and databases.

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

I ❤️ Watercolors—Painting 101  
Wednesday, Jan. 23, 1 p.m.
Create something special with local artist Susan Starling.

TEENS

YALLA North!  
Saturday, 1 p.m.  
Dec. 15, Feb. 9
Be a part of the library experience! Earn volunteer hours for service.

FAMILIES

FUNtasmagoria!  
Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 4 p.m.  
Jan. 9-Feb. 27
Explore the world with stories and fun-filled activities!

STORY TIMES

Jan. 8-Feb. 27
Stories, songs and activities for young children with caregivers.

Toddler Time  
Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m.

Preschool Adventures  
Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.

AT YOUR SERVICE

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

Access Florida Assistance  
Forest Public Library, Tuesdays, 12:30-3 p.m.  
Dec. 4-Feb. 26
Help provided with filing for various government assistance programs.

CareerSource Citrus Levy Marion  
Job seeker services available! Call the library nearest you for times and locations.

Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)  
Visit www.uscis.gov or call 1-800-375-5283 to schedule an appointment at your local library with an official from the USCIS Orlando Field Office.

Florida Diagnostic & Learning Resources System  
Free screenings for children birth through age 5 who may have difficulty with learning, speaking, playing, seeing, walking and hearing.
Screening appointments may be held at your local library. Contact ChildFind at 352-671-6051 to schedule.

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

GED and ESOL Classes
Dunnellon Public Library, Mondays-Thursdays, 6:30 p.m.
Earn your GED or learn to speak English at the library through Marion Technical College. It’s FREE. Classes follow the Marion Technical College schedule.

Serving Health Insurance Needs of Elders (SHINE)
Obtain free Medicare counseling through the Florida Department of Elder Affairs. Contact Headquarters-Ocala, Belleview, Dunnellon and Forest public libraries for times.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

Friends of the
Bellevue Public Library
Tuesdays, 10 a.m.
Dec. 18, Jan. 15, Feb. 19

Friends of the
Dunnellon Public Library
Tuesdays, 10 a.m.
Dec. 4, Jan. 8, Feb. 5
BOOK SALE
Friday, Feb. 22-Saturday, Feb. 23, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Friends of the
Ocala Public Library
Thursdays, 4 p.m.
Dec. 20, Jan. 17, Feb. 14
BOOK SALE
Friday, Feb. 1, early admission for Ocala Friends only, 2-4 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 2, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Friends of the
Forest Public Library
Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.
Dec. 19, Jan. 16, Feb. 20
BOOK SALE
Thursday, Feb. 7, 4-8 p.m.
Friday, Feb. 8-Saturday, Feb. 9, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Friends of the
Freedom Public Library
Mondays, 10 a.m.
Dec. 3, Jan. 7, Feb. 4

Friends of the
Fort McCoy Public Library
Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.
Dec. 12, Jan. 9, Feb. 13

Friends of the
Marion Oaks Public Library
Fridays, 10 a.m.
No meetings Dec., Jan., Feb.

LIBRARY CLOSED DAYS AND HOLIDAYS

Parade Day
Saturday, Dec. 8
Headquarters-Ocala Library will be closed to the public at 4 p.m.

Christmas Eve
Monday, Dec. 24
All Marion County Public Library System locations will be closed.

Christmas Day
Tuesday, Dec. 25
All Marion County Public Library System locations will be closed.

New Year’s Eve
Monday, Dec. 31
All Marion County Public Library System locations will be closed.

New Year’s Day
Tuesday, Jan. 1
All Marion County Public Library System locations will be closed.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Monday, Jan. 21
All Marion County Public Library System locations will be closed.

Staff Training Day
Friday, Feb. 15
All Marion County Public Library System locations will be closed.

EXHIBITS & DISPLAYS

HEADQUARTERS-OCALA PUBLIC LIBRARY

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

DUNNELLON PUBLIC LIBRARY

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

FOREST PUBLIC LIBRARY

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

REDDICK PUBLIC LIBRARY

December  Christmas Display by Reddick Patrons
January  Watercolor Paintings by Susan Starling
February  Northwest Marion County by Annabelle Leitner
The National African American Read-In is the nation’s oldest event dedicated to diversity in literature. Established in 1990 by the Black Caucus of the National Council of Teachers of English, the African American Read-In endeavors to make literacy a significant part of Black History Month. Since 1990, more than 6 million readers have participated in events around the world.

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

Featured readers last year at the Headquarters-Ocala Public Library’s event included retired Ocala Police Department Deputy Police Chief Rodney Smith who read from William C. Daniels’ “Believe: Turning Your Stumbling Blocks into Stepping Stones” and Ms. Peachie Jackson who read a piece by Mary McLeod Bethune. After the reading, many joined in to learn and demonstrate some West African dance moves as master Djembe drummer Mamadouba Mohamed Camara performed on his drums. The Guinean “master of masters” is known worldwide for his amazing percussive talent.

See Program Spotlight in this issue for more information about African American Read-In events at a library location near you. If you are interested in reading or performing at one of the library’s African American Read-In events this year, please contact your local library. Come join the celebration!
2018 Winners!

**FINE ARTS SHOW**

1st: Aixa Cruz  
Dunnellon High School

2nd: Gabriele Cortes-Arroyo  
West Port High School

3rd: Alex Kirkpatrick  
West Port High School

People’s Choice:  
Olivia Wicks  
Homeschool

**WRITER’S CONFERENCE**

1st: Xyonn Soloman  
West Port High School

2nd: Jordan Myrick  
Vanguard High School

3rd: Elena Olvera  
Forest High School

Judges’ Choice:  
Esther Ariza  
West Port High School

**FILMMAKER’S FESTIVAL**

1st: Math Homework  
Zoe Burgess  
Forest High School

2nd: Jumper  
Cody Wood  
Vanguard High School

3rd: People’s Choice:  
Sophie Rizzo  
West Port High School
MEET THE AUTHOR

AMY MANGAN

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

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

Prom Night at the Library

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

Sponsorships Available

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

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

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

MEET THE AUTHOR:
AMY MANGAN
Author of “This Side Up: The Road to a Renovated Life”
Sunday, Jan. 6
2 p.m.
Meeting Room C
HQ-Ocala Public Library

QUARTERLY BOOK SALE
Saturday, Feb. 2
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Meeting Rooms A, B, and C
HQ-Ocala Public Library
(FRIENDS members only:
Friday, Feb. 1, 2-4 p.m.

PROM NIGHT AT THE LIBRARY
Friday, Feb. 8
HQ-Ocala Public Library
$20 per person

Welcome to our New Board Members!

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

February BOOK SALE

Time to stock up on more books! Our next quarterly Book Sale will be on Saturday, Feb. 2, from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. in Meeting Rooms A, B, and C at Headquarters-Ocala Public Library. Early admission for Friends members only will be Friday, Feb. 1, 2-4 p.m.
Every lifelong library lover has a story and Eleanor Simons is no exception. Her library love story began as a child, influenced by a mother who was an avid reader, and a home full of books. She fondly remembers making detailed lists of all the topics she wanted to learn about, visiting her public library, and returning with books that she would eagerly read and enjoy.

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

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

Through the years she has been a steadfast library supporter. She is a Friend of the Ocala Public Library and also served on its board of directors. In the early 1980s, Eleanor and a group of colleagues recognized the importance of computer technology and supported the installation of the downtown Ocala library’s first coin-operated computer. She remains interested in technology and uses library resources to educate herself about new technology and other interests, including cooking. When it comes to fiction she “likes really good stories that develop characters.”

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