Spooky Stories & Places
AND SPINE-TINGLING DECORATIONS FOR FALL

IN THIS ISSUE: CALENDAR • BOOK REVIEW • PROFILE
It was a dark and stormy night...a classic opening line for a scary story. It is amazing what a single phrase can accomplish to turn our mind in one direction or another. Think about if you had little else but a single line. In 1984 as I began my career as a children’s librarian, I remember reading a children’s book with a single line and an illustration. I was compelled to turn each page. I was intrigued, inspired, fascinated and, frankly, creeped out. 1984 was the same year “The Mysteries of Harris Burdick,” by Chris Van Allsburg, came out. When I think of a scary story I think of “The Mysteries of Harris Burdick.” But, in all fairness, the book allows the reader to picture what the reader wants to imagine and make up their own story. The book is very simple. It consists of fourteen different illustrations, fourteen titles and fourteen lines of text.

From The Mysteries of..., imagine an illustration of a young boy, nine or 10 years old, contentedly asleep, tucked in bed. His bedroom window is open and five small, soft points of light are floating outside the window and inside his room. The only words on the page are the title “Archie Smith, Boy Wonder” and the text, “A tiny voice asked, ‘Is he the one?’”. Your imagination takes it from there.

According to Van Allsburg, in the early ‘80’s, Harris Burdick left loose pages, representing fourteen different stories, with a children’s book publisher. Mr. Burdick promised to bring the full stories the next day. He never returned. The publishing of “The Mysteries of Harris Burdick” was an attempt by Van Allsburg to flush out Harris Burdick’s book.

A scary story, an intriguing conversation starter or a stellar writing prompt... check out “The Mysteries of Harris Burdick.”
For many who live in the warm, southern climate, the time of the year we refer to as fall is magical! With the hot summer months finally fading into the sunset and the first breath of fall in the air, the nights seem darker, the moon shines brighter and family stories and decorations become just a little bit (or a lot) spooky. Here are a few tips to get your goosebumps going and have some fiendish, frightful, good fun.

Fall is that time of year when families get into the spirit by baking cookies, carving pumpkins and decorating the home to celebrate the season. They display their favorite ghost outside the front door (it’s just a beach ball in a bedsheet) and serve the most gruesome homemade slime at party time (a little dry ice and a glow stick under a bowl of green fruit punch). And something as simple as warming cinnamon and clove oils in a diffuser and playing a CD with creepy sounds provide the perfect ambiance to round out that spooky tableau.

What is it about fall that inspires its own unique creativity? Maybe it’s because autumn’s arrival is right before the busy winter holiday season, or maybe some of us have DIY spine-tingling decorating tendencies in our DNA. Either way, tackling simple home-decorating projects often invites ingenuity. For that spooky party decorating touch, keep ideas simple at first: a little sand and battery-operated tea lights inside several decorated milk jugs placed along a path is a warmly lit invitation to guests. Add some orange or darker colors and cast a completely different tone to get your guests’ hearts racing. An online pattern and a permanent marker can recreate a creepy tombstone on rigid foam board. A bit of gray paint and floral moss complete the look, and leaves one with a sense of accomplishment.

Whether you are a DIY decorating newbie or experienced DIY darling, check out your public library system for additional tips. You’ll find ideas for woodworking, painting and decoupage in the “Women’s Day Book of Holiday Crafts.”

In “Crafts to Make in the Fall” Kathy Ross talks us through the creation of a stuffed black cat guaranteed to make your guests scream (or chuckle). You’ll also find 225 projects to make ghosts and ghouls in “Martha Stewart’s Handmade Holiday Crafts.”

If you prefer to get crafty online, the library has you covered there too with the “Hobbies and Crafts” database on the library’s website. For projects, plans and DIY inspiration for fall or any occasion, visit your local Marion County Public Library System branch or website at library.marioncountyfl.org. So much fun it’s scary!
Spooky Mash-Up Books
THAT DARE YOU TO BE SCARED

BY SCOTT MASON

Picture if you will a dark and still night with only the sound of crickets chirping and an occasional chilling wind penetrating your bones. You find a small path surrounded by barren, stark white trees that seem to shudder when the wind blows. The shudder mirrors your own. You decide to follow this path and it takes you to our first story, “Pride and Prejudice and Zombies” by Seth Grahame-Smith. This is a mash-up parody of the Jane Austin novel and the popular zombie subgenre of horror. The book incorporates a zombie plague into the classic novel. Miss Elizabeth Bennet is not only training to be a zombie fighter but also to find a husband. Mary and her four sisters are sent by their mother, Mrs. Bennet, to attend a ball to meet the wealthy and single Mr. Bingley. During the ball, something completely unexpected happens: zombies attack! Will these young ladies find love, learn about themselves, and survive an onslaught of hungry ghouls?

As we continue down this narrow and dark path we find the book “Little Women and Werewolves.” Author Porter Grand takes this classic novel and adds an element of eeriness to the original story as well as a different creature of the night. The novel plays on the idea that this was a first draft, and that the author always intended for the story to feature werewolves! Jo and her sisters Amy, Beth and Meg star in a coming-of-age tale, or should I say tail, with furry beasts howling at the moon. I think even Louisa May Alcott might have appreciated the diversion into the macabre since she wrote a short story called “Lost in a Pyramid,” also known as “The Mummy’s Curse.”

At the end of the path, discover “Sense and Sensibility and Sea Monsters” by Ben H. Winters. In this tale Henry Dashwood, his wife and their three daughters Elinor, Marianne and Margaret, live on an expensive estate until Henry is killed by a hammerhead shark. Mr. Dashwood’s estate is then inherited by John, who is Henry’s son from a previous marriage. Things become very interesting when the remaining Dashwoods travel to Devonshire and meet a half-man-half-squid amalgam named Colonel Brandon. Will their love be true or will there be a spooky turn?

Follow any path to your local Marion County Public Library branch, or the library’s website, where you can check out these books and more... if you dare!
Friends of the Freedom Public Library

FUND NEW LIBRARY COMPUTERS AND IMPROVEMENTS TO STAFF WORK AREA

BY KAREN M. JENSEN

Freedom Public Library will celebrate its 20 year anniversary in 2020 and the list of accomplishments and highlights just got longer thanks to donations from the Friends of Freedom Public Library. With funding provided by The Friends, the Freedom location now has 15 new Dell laptops, a portable storage and charging cart and offers computer classes to the public in its meeting room. In addition, the Friends also funded a complete renovation to the staff work area to include new office cubicles with plenty of storage, a free-standing desk, a work table and brand new bookshelves.

According to the Friends of Freedom Public Library president, Florence Pritchard, “Raising funds to help improve the Freedom Public Library’s facilities is a key element in the Freedom Friends’ mission. We are proud and pleased to have funded a portable computer classroom and renovated the library’s staff work area because we know that these contributions will help the staff as they provide a remarkable range of services to our community. We prize our membership in the Friends because of the relationships we build with library staff and patrons and because we are all library lovers at heart.”
Marion County is home to breathtakingly scenic spots, lush forests, horse farms and crystal-clear natural springs. But did you know that it’s also home to some pretty active paranormal sites? Here are five spooky spots in Marion County.

Seven Sisters Inn is a beautiful Ocala landmark, proclaimed by many to be haunted and so popular that it was featured on SyFy Network’s show “Ghost Hunters.” Although the inn is now closed, experts in the field of the paranormal say that it is still inhabited by seven happy haunts that were always very welcoming and gracious to the inn’s guests. The spirits apparently liked to look after the location, as well as have a little fun while doing so. Most notably, a happy spirit named George was a flirtatious gentleman from the 1950’s who liked to personally welcome the female guests in his own special way.

The Ma Barker House is the source of some interesting Marion County history. The house was the location for the famous shoot-out between outlaws Kate (Ma) Barker, her son Fred and the FBI. Approximately 2,000 bullets were exchanged in the gunfight and the bullet holes in the house are visible to this day. Paranormal enthusiasts have claimed to see the faces of Ma and Fred in the home’s windows. In 2016, the house was moved from its original location to the Carney Island Recreation and Conservation Area where rumor has it the spirits of Ma and Fred still reside.

Tiger Trail is the local name for a section of road in Dunnellon where scenes from the movie “Jeepers Creepers” were filmed. According to local lore, many unexplained accidents and eerie encounters have occurred there, including visions of three young children standing along the road in the early hours of the morning.

Mud Lake is a small body of water located in the Ocala National Forest. The lake has a grisly and dark history steeped in murder cover-ups and violence. There are those who claim to have seen shapes coming from the water and feel a noose like sensation around their necks when they approach the lake.

The Ocala Ritz Historic Inn was once a popular place for posh parties during the Prohibition era. Unfortunately, one of those parties got a little out of hand, resulting in a fire that killed several people. There are those who claim that the unlucky victims of the fire can still be seen and heard around the former hotel that is now a residence for homeless veterans.

For more information about creepy folklore, local lore and ghostly findings in Marion County and elsewhere, check out the variety of topic related materials from your Marion County Public Library System collection. Dare to be scared!
All library programs are free and open to the public. Registration/tickets may be required.

CELEBRATION

Community Celebration
Library Block Party
Come one and all and celebrate the library! Take a sneak peek at our new sound system, purchased for our library with monies granted by Clay Electric to our Friends of Fort McCoy Public Library. Enjoy games for all ages, music, food, government and local businesses and more!
Saturday, Nov. 2, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.
Fort McCoy Public Library

COMUNITY CONVERSATION

Supernatural Encounters
Have you ever had an incident that you can’t explain? All are welcome (even skeptics!) to share thoughts in this open environment.
Tuesday, Sept. 24, 4 p.m.
Marion Oaks Public Library
Saturday, Oct. 5, 10:30 a.m.
Forest Public Library

FALL FESTIVITIES

Ocala’s Haunted History
Ages 13 and older.
Does the past ever leave us? Take a moment to hear the stories and unearth the haunted history of Ocala!
Presented by Ocala Ghost Walks & Historical Tours.
Wednesday, Sept. 11, 6 p.m.
Headquarters-Ocala

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

Community Job Fair
Looking for a career opportunity? Bring your resume and meet with possible employers.
Sponsored by the City of Belleview.
Wednesday, Oct. 16, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.
Belleview Public Library

SPECIAL EVENTS

Star Wars Extravaganza
Grab your lightsabers and blasters! The Imperial forces are descending on Marion Oaks Public Library. Cosplayers are welcome. Take home free comic books and prizes to celebrate Star Wars Reads Month. All ages.
Saturday, Oct. 12, 1:30 p.m.
Marion Oaks Public Library

Fairy Tale Festival
Ages 12 and younger with caregivers.
Travel to once upon a time. Dress up as your favorite character, dance around the maypole with the Greenwood Morris Dancers and enjoy “Shoestring Fairytales” presented by the Ocala Civic Theatre’s Creative Arts Student Troupe.
Saturday, Sept. 21, 1-4 p.m.
Headquarters-Ocala

Stories Under the Stars:
Phantoms in the Fort
Ghosts, goblins and ghouls return to Fort King for an evening of spine-tingling tales. Bring your own chair and listen to stories of the strange and eerie. The darker it gets, the spookier the stories!
Presented in partnership with Ocala Recreation and Parks, Fort King National Historic Landmark and Ocala Storytelling Festival, Inc.
Saturday, Oct. 19, 7-9 p.m.
Fort King Historic Landmark, 3925 East Fort King St., Ocala

Trunk or Treat!
It’s the season for lots of fun with games, clowns, face painting and, of course, candy! Presented in conjunction with the Forest Community Center.
Saturday, Oct. 26, 4 p.m.
Forest Public Library

Halloween Comicfest
Ages 13 and older. Anyone younger than age 13 must be accompanied by adult.
Stop by in costume and pick up free limited edition comics and candy!
Courtesy of Diamond Comics and Bearded Browncoat Comics and Games.
Thursday, Oct. 31, 5 p.m.
Headquarters-Ocala

CREATIVE Studio: Library Video-Making Workshop
Celebrate Library Card Sign-Up Month, brush up on your filmmaking skills and create videos to promote the value of a library card. For ages 13-18. Registration required. Call 352-671-8551.
Saturday, Sept. 7, 10 a.m.
Headquarters-Ocala

CREATIVE Studio: Memoir Writing with Dr. Kevin McCarthy
Tell your story using techniques from world-renowned historian and writer Dr. Kevin McCarthy, professor emeritus from the University of Florida and former executive

library.marioncountyfl.org
Program Spotlight

**Storytelling 101**
*With Kaye Byrnes*
Love those spooky stories? Master storyteller Kaye Byrnes provides the tips for weaving and spinning those yarns into spellbinding tales. Lunch provided. Registration required. Call 352-438-2500 to register.

**Cooking With Chef Warren**
Award-winning cookbook author Chef Warren returns! Learn the pros and cons about the Instant-Pot kitchen sensation and how best to utilize it.

**Brown Bag Luncheon**
*With Steve Burt*
"The Bookseller’s Daughter"
Suspense abounds in Wells, Maine! Bring your bag lunch and enjoy meeting the author of this page-turner. Beverage and dessert provided. Contact the library to reserve a piece of pie!

**Amy Mangan**
"This Side Up: The Road to a Renovated Life"
Life is a jumble of unexpected turns and twists. Handling these unforeseen experiences requires courage and endurance. Using her personal story as background, Mangan discusses how to turn a crisis into an opportunity for personal growth.

**Special Programs**

**Mark Muncy**
"Eerie Florida," "Freaky Florida" and "Creepy Florida"
Get set for some spine-chilling, hair-raising and altogether unsettling tales of Florida.

**Brown Bag Luncheon**
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**Devon’s Hurt**
Sunday, Oct. 6, 2 p.m.
For all ages.
Eight-year-old Devon has had a terrible day and, to top it all off, his feelings are hurt. Find out how he handles this in this fun-filled, action-packed story.

**Camp Read S’More**
Friday, Nov 8, 5:30-7 p.m.
Ages 5-12 with caregivers.
ADULTS AND TEENS
Ages 13 and older
Escape Rooms: Can You Get Out?
Thursdays, 6 p.m.
Use your wits and deductive skills to solve puzzles and decipher clues!
Sept. 12 The Infection
Oct. 10 Haunted Library

Whodunit at Downton Abbey?
Saturday, Sept. 14, 2 p.m.
Can you solve the mystery and clear the Crawley family name?

Poems Talk
Mondays, 6 p.m., Sept. 16, Oct. 21, Nov. 18
Bring a poem you’ve penned or loved and join the conversation!

Fortnite: Loot Library
Saturday, Oct. 12, 3 p.m.
It’s a Fortnite celebration! Bring in mobile devices for gaming while enjoying themed snacks, crafts and a Fortnite emote dance-off.

ADULTS
Wired Wednesdays
Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.
Learn about computers and databases. Space is limited.
Computers for Beginners
Sept. 4 I Turned on My Computer, Now What?
Sept. 11 Basic Keyboarding
Sept. 18 Basic Internet
Sept. 25 Basic Internet Safety
Online Potpouri
Oct. 2 Spooky Tales Of The World
Oct. 9 Don’t Let That Story Die: Online Publishing
Oct. 16 Genealogy Ghosts
Oct. 23 Frights And Delights
With Novelist Plus

Genealogy Help Center
Wednesdays, 12:30-3:30 p.m.
Sept. 4, Oct. 2, Nov. 6
Genealogy gurus from the Marion County Genealogical Society assist with your search.

Technology Help Center
Wednesdays, 2-3:30 p.m.
Sept. 4-Oct. 23
Bring your device and drop in!

CREATE Studio
Ages 13-18.
See Program Spotlight.
Registration required. Call 352-671-8551 to register.
Saturday, Sept. 7, 10 a.m.
Library Video-Making Workshop
Saturday, Oct. 26, 2 p.m.
Memoir Writing With Dr. Kevin McCarthy
Show and Sketch
Mondays, 4:30 p.m., Sept. 9, Oct. 21, Nov. 18
Share your talents. All skill levels welcome.

FABLAB: Duct Tape Crafts
Saturday, Oct. 5, 2 p.m.
What can’t duct tape do?
Materials provided.

YALLA!
Tuesdays, 5 p.m.
Be a part of the library experience!
Earn volunteer hours for service.
Sept. 24 Social Media Dream Team
Oct. 22 Spooky Displays
Nov. 26 Deck the Halls

Geekfest! Fandoms and Comic Club
Wednesdays, 4:30 p.m.
Sept. 25, Oct. 23, Nov. 27
Explore pop culture and comics with fellow fans.

Comics and Movies: Mythology and Storytelling
Saturday, Oct. 12, 2 p.m.
Join librarian Taylor Benson for a discussion about the life lessons to be found in modern entertainment.

CHILDREN
Kids Code
Ages 7-12
Learn computer programming through games. Space is limited.
Registration is required and begins Monday, Sept. 9. Call 352-671-8551 to register.
Kids Code 1
Thursdays, Sept. 5-Oct. 8, 4 p.m.
Thursdays, Sept. 26-Oct. 10, 4 p.m.
Kids Code 2
Thursdays, Oct. 17-31, 4 p.m.
Requires completion of Kids Code 1.

Innovation Station
Wednesday, Sept. 25, 2 p.m.
Ages 5-12 with caregivers.
Tinker, design and create!
Master the Arts!
Wednesdays, 4 p.m., Oct. 2-Nov. 6
Ages 8-12.
Create art in the styles of the great masters.

Spooktacular Crafts
Saturday, Oct. 12, 2 p.m.
Ages 5-12 with caregivers.
Have a spooky good time making spiders, ghosts and more.

Spook-a-licious
Gingerbread Manors
Saturday, Nov. 16, 2 p.m.
Ages 5-12 with caregivers.
Switch it up and make a spooky gingerbread house. Registration is required and will begin on Friday, Nov. 1. Call 352-671-8551 to register.

SPECIAL STORY TIMES

Family Story Time
Saturdays, 10:30 a.m.
Sept. 7, Oct. 5, Nov. 2
Ages 3 and younger with caregivers.

Weekly Story Times
Sept. 10-Nov. 14
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.

EVENT

Community Job Fair
Wednesday, Oct. 16, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.
See Program Spotlight
Sponsored by the City of Belleview.

FALL FESTIVITIES

Zombie Salon
Saturday, Oct. 26, 2 p.m.
Prepare for Zombie Prom! Get help looking your worst with makeup and special effects!

Zombie Prom
Saturday, Oct. 26, 3 p.m. All ages.
Dance 'til you drop, enjoy finger foods and take a classically gloomy prom photo.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

It’s Sew Fun!
Saturdays, 10 a.m.-noon
Sept. 7, 21, 28, Oct. 5
Ages 10-18.
Master the basics of sewing and complete simple projects with the American Sewing Guild, Lady Lake Chapter. Registration required. Call 352-438-2500 to register.

Storytelling 101
With Kaye Byrnes
Friday, Sept. 13, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
Registration required. Call 352-438-2500 to register.
See Program Spotlight.

SPECIAL SPEAKERS

Brown Bag Luncheon
Thursdays, noon
Drinks and dessert provided.
Sept. 19 Gerard Krebs, Professor Emeritus, Ohio University
Oct. 17 Tracy Robinson, Ghost Hunter

ADULTS

Tuesday Movie Matinée
Tuesdays, 1 p.m.
Movies for adults. Anyone younger than age 13 must be accompanied by an adult.
Sept. 3
Sept. 10
Sept. 17
Sept. 24
Oct. 1
Oct. 8
Oct. 15
Oct. 22
Oct. 29

Tech Help Center
Wednesdays, 2-4 p.m.
Sept. 4-Oct. 30
Bring your device and drop in.

Master Gardener Plant Clinic
Fridays, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
Sept. 6, 20, Oct. 4, 18, Nov. 1, 15
The plant doctors are in!
Presented by UF/IFAS Extension Marion County.

Feathers, Nature, Wildlife and Conservation
Friday, Sept. 6, 10:30 a.m.
Learn all about our winged friends from the experts at the Marion Audubon Society

Wednesday Morning Book Club
Wednesdays, 10 a.m.
Make new friends and talk about books.
Sept. 11 “The Clan of the Cave Bear” by Jean Auel
Oct. 9 “The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time” by Mark Haddon
Nov. 13 “A Gentleman in Moscow” by Amor Towles

Tuesday Evening Book Club
Tuesdays, 5 p.m.
Make new friends and talk about books.
Sept. 17 “The Library Book” by Susan Orlean
Nov. 19 “Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine” by Gail Honeyman

Writer’s Studio
Wednesdays, noon
Sept. 18, Oct. 16, Nov. 20
Writers of all levels share information and encouragement.
Native Plant Society
Mondays, 6 p.m.
Guest presenters discuss native plant life in Florida.
Sept. 30 Backyard Mini-Wildlife Preserve
Oct. 28 Edible Plants
Nov. 25 Tuscaloosa Park

TEENS & TWEENS

YALLA South!
Tuesdays, 5 p.m.
Sept. 3, Oct. 1, Nov. 5
Be a part of the library experience. Teens, earn volunteer hours for service.

MANGAlicious Teen Club!
Tuesdays, 5:30 p.m.
Sept. 24, Oct. 22, Nov. 26
Watch favorite anime and discuss manga while enjoying Japanese snacks.

FAMILIES

Knights of the Chess Club
Tuesdays, 4 p.m.
Sept. 3-Oct. 29
Learn and play chess!

Games on a Table
Tuesdays, 4 p.m., Sept. 3-Oct. 22
Play classic and contemporary tabletop games!

Knotty Knitters
Wednesdays, 4:30 p.m.
Sept. 4-Oct. 30
Learn to knit or crochet.

Just Another Mah-Jongg Monday!
Mondays, 1 p.m.
Sept. 9-Oct. 28
Learn and play with other enthusiasts.

Spooky Stories
Tuesday, Oct. 15, 10 a.m.
Lend an ear to the creepy and mysterious tales of the season.

STORY TIMES

Sept. 4-Oct. 24
A variety of stories, songs and activities for young children with caregivers.

Preschool Adventures
Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.
For ages 3-5.

Toddler Time
Thursdays, 10:30 a.m.
For 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

Who Gets Grandma’s Pie Plate?
Tuesday, Sept. 10, 2 p.m.
Extension agent Lynda Spence provides guidance in managing the difficult decisions involved with transferring ownership of cherished items.
P.I.S. NOTE: This class will be cancelled without notice if there are too few registrants. Registration required to receive take home materials. To register, call 352-671-8400. Presented by UF/IFAS Extension Marion County.

Waxy Wonders
Saturday, Nov. 9, 1 p.m.
Make wonderful beeswax candles fit for gift giving!
Presented by the Marion County Beekeepers Association.

SPECIAL SPEAKERS

See Program Spotlight.

Mark Muncy
“Eerie Florida”, “Freaky Florida” and “Creepy Florida”
Saturday, Oct. 5, 3 p.m.

Amy Mangan
“This Side Up: The Road to a Renovated Life”
Saturday, Nov. 2, 3 p.m.

ADULTS

Friday Matinee
Fridays, 2 p.m.
Movies for adults and teens. Anyone younger than age 13 must be accompanied by an adult.
Sept. 3
Sept. 13
Sept. 20
Sept. 27
Oct. 4
Oct. 11
Oct. 18

Senior Support Education Series
Thursdays, noon
Educational information for seniors, caregivers or family members who want or need to know more about resources available.
Sept. 5 Hospice Transitions With Beverly Crumpler
Oct. 3 Facts From Marion Senior Services With Glenda Thomas
Nov. 7 Handling Grief During The Holidays

Fly-Tyers Club
Mondays, 1 p.m.
Sept. 9-Nov. 18
Learn the art of creating special fishing lures!

Needle-Nuts Club
Wednesdays, 10 a.m.
Sept. 11-Nov. 20
Share crafts, fun and yards of yarn!

The Silver Social
Wednesdays, 2 p.m.
Sept. 11, Oct. 9
Celebrate the sights and sounds of times gone by.

Drop-In Book Club
Wednesdays, 2:30 p.m.
Make new friends and talk about books.
Sept. 18 “The Ocean At The End Of The Lane” by Neil Gaiman
Oct. 16 “Crisis” by Robin Cook
Nov. 20 “Coldheart Canyon” by Clive Barker

Circle of Support
Thursdays, noon
Sept. 19, Oct. 17, Nov. 21
Join us for a caregiver supporting caregiver program.

Song Farmers
Saturdays, 3 p.m.
Sept. 28, Oct. 26, Nov. 3
Come and share your love of music with other home town musicians. All experience levels are welcome!

TEENS

YALLA West!
Saturdays, noon
Sept. 7, Oct. 19, Nov. 16
Be a part of the library experience! Earn volunteer hours for service.

Zombie Makeup
Tuesday, Oct. 29, 4 p.m.
The zombie apocalypse has arrived and it helps to blend in.
**FAMILIES**

**DIY Tuesday**  
Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m., Sept. 3-Oct. 29  
Make-and-take fun for the family!

**Story Time!**  
Wednesdays, 11 a.m., Sept. 4-Oct. 30  
A variety of stories, songs, and activities for children and caregivers.

**Stuffed Animal Sleepover**  
Friday, Oct. 11, 4 p.m.  
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 at the Teddy Bears Picnic and catch a glimpse of the night they had!

**Teddy Bears Picnic!**  
Saturday, Oct. 12, 11 a.m.  
You’re sure to get a big surprise! Fun, games and picnic frolics for all. If your buddy didn’t get to spend the night, bring him to the picnic. Lots of friends will be there.

**FOREST PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
905 S. Highway 314A  
Ocklawaha, FL 32179  
352-438-2540  
Programs are sponsored by the Friends of the Forest Public Library.

**FALL FESTIVITY**

**Trunk or Treat!**  
Saturday, Oct. 26, 4 p.m.  
See Program Spotlight.

**SPECIAL PROGRAM**

**Beekeeping 101**  
Saturday, Sept. 28, 10:30 a.m.  
Master Beekeeper Chappie McChesney provides a fun and factual look into what bees do for the community, what beekeepers do for bees and what we can all do to help them both.

**Community Conversation**  
Tuesday, Oct. 5, 10:30 a.m.  
**Topic: Supernatural Encounters**  
Have you ever had an incident that you can’t explain? All are welcome (even skeptics!) to share thoughts in this open environment.

**ADULTS**

**Rock Art!**  
Saturdays, 4 p.m., Sept. 14, Oct. 12  
Paint miniature masterpieces on river rocks.

**Forest Coloring Club**  
Thursdays, 10:30 a.m.  
Sept. 5, Oct. 3, Nov. 14  
Seek serenity through coloring!

**Forest Writers Studio**  
Thursdays, 5:30 p.m.  
Sept. 12, 10, Nov. 14  
Writers of all levels share work and encouragement.

**Forest Readers Book Club**  
Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.  
Make new friends and talk about books!  
Sept. 11 “Before the Fall” by Noah Hawley  
Sept. 25 “Moonlight Becomes You” by Mary Higgins Clark  
Oct. 9 “Point of Origin” by Patricia Cornwell  
Oct. 23 “Girl with a Pearl Earring” by Tracy Chevalier  
Nov. 13 “Small Great Things” by Jodi Picoult

**Ask Your Master Gardener**  
Saturdays, 10:30 a.m.  
Get your garden growing!  
Presented by UF/IFAS Extension Marion County.  
Sept. 21 What’s Eating My Plants?  
Oct. 19 Gardening Problems

**DIY Art**  
Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.  
Express yourself through art!  
Sept. 4 Sharpies on Tiles  
Oct. 2 Paper Flowers

**Thursday Cinema**  
Thursdays, 2 p.m.  
Movies for adults! Anyone younger than age 13 must be accompanied by an adult.  
Sept. 26 “Crazy Rich Asians”  
Oct. 24 “Girl with a Pearl Earring”

**TEENS & TWEENS**

**Tuesday Flicks**  
Tuesdays, 5:30 p.m.  
Movies for teens! Anyone younger than age 13 must be accompanied by an adult.  
Sept. 10 “Captain Marvel”  
Oct. 8 “Aladdin”

**Creations!**  
Thursdays, 4 p.m.  
Let your creative side out!  
Sept. 19 Canvas Art  
Oct. 17 CD Fish

**YALLA East!**  
Thursdays, 5 p.m., Sept. 19, Oct. 17, Nov. 21  
Be part of the library experience. Teens, earn volunteer service hours.

**FAMILIES**

**Family Story Time**  
Fridays, 10:30 a.m., Sept. 6-Oct. 25  
A variety of stories, songs, and activities for children and caregivers.

**Imagination Station**  
Wednesdays, 2:30 p.m., Sept. 25, Oct. 30  
Imagine, create, construct!

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

**SPECIAL EVENT**

**Library Block Party**  
Saturday, Nov. 2, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.  
See Program Spotlight.

**ADULTS**

**Monday Morning Book Club**  
Mondays, 10:30 a.m.  
Make new friends and talk about books!  
Sept. 9 “The Great Alone” by Kristen Hannah  
Oct. 7 “Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine” by Gail Honeyman  
Nov. 4 “Snow Flower and the Secret Fan” by Lisa See

**ADULTS & TEENS**

**Saturday Movie Matinée**  
Saturdays, 1 p.m.  
Anyone younger than age 13 must be accompanied by an adult.  
Sept. 7  
Sept. 14  
Sept. 21  
Sept. 28  
Oct. 5  
Oct. 12  
Oct. 19  
Oct. 26
**FAMILIES**

**Innovation Station**  
Tuesday, Sept. 10, 3 p.m.  
Ages 5-12 with caregivers.  
Tinker, design and create!

**Spooktacular Crafts**  
Tuesday, Oct. 15, 3 p.m.  
Ages 5-12 with caregivers.  
Have a spooky good time making spiders, ghosts and more.

**Master the Arts!**  
Tuesday, Nov. 19, 3 p.m.  
Ages 8-12 with caregivers.  
Create art in the styles of the great masters.

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

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**SPECIAL SPEAKER**

**Cooking With Chef Warren**  
Tuesday, Sept. 24, 2 p.m.  
See Program Spotlight.

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**ADULTS**

**As the Page Turns Book Club**  
Tuesdays, 2:30 p.m.  
Join the club and turn the page!  
Everyone is welcome!  
Sept. 3  "The Stranger in the Woods” by Michael Finkel  
Oct. 1  “An American Marriage” by Tayari Jones  
Nov. 5  “Before the Fall” by Noah Hawley

**Ask Arnold! Comprehensive Computer Assistance**  
Thursdays, noon-2 p.m., Sept. 5-Nov. 21  
Staff and volunteers are available to help with all computer needs.

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**Basic Computer Classes**  
Mondays, 2 p.m.  
Learn something new.  
Space is limited.  
Sept. 9  Introduction to Computers  
Sept. 16  Basic Internet  
Sept. 23  Basic Word

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**The Tuesday Matinée**  
Tuesdays, 3 p.m.  
Movies for adults. Anyone younger than age 13 must be accompanied by an adult.  
Sept. 10  Oct. 8

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**TEENS & TWEENS**

**YALLA Free!**  
Thursdays, 5 p.m.  
Sept. 12, Oct. 10, Nov. 7  
Be part of the library experience. Teens, earn volunteer service hours.

**Gamers Unite!**  
Saturdays, 3 p.m., Sept. 14, Oct. 26, Nov. 9  
Are you up for a video game challenge?

**FAMILIES**

**Family Film Fest**  
Wednesday, Sept. 25, 3 p.m.  
“Goosebumps”  
Movie fun for the whole family!  
Anyone younger than age 13 must be accompanied by an adult.

**Bat Chats With Bat Belfrys, Inc.**  
Tuesday, Oct. 22, 3 p.m.  
Bats in the library! Shari Blissett-Clark and the Florida Bat Conservancy explain how to protect and preserve our native bat populations.

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**TEENS & TWEENS**

**Threadcraft Thursdays**  
Thursdays, 4 p.m.  
Sept. 12  Yarn Wall Art  
Oct. 10  Spooky String Art

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**Pumpkin Painting Party**  
Wednesday, Oct. 30, 2 p.m.  
Enjoy the fall weather in the pumpkin patch!

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**STORY TIMES**

**Sept. 4-Oct 30**  
Stories, songs and activities for young children with caregivers.

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

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**Toddler Time**  
Wednesdays, 11 a.m.  
Infants-age 2
YALLA Oaks!
Thursdays, 5 p.m.
Sept. 12, Oct. 10, Nov. 14
Be a part of the library experience. Teens, earn volunteer service hours.

MANGAlicious Teen Club!
Tuesdays, 4 p.m.
Sept. 17, Oct. 15, Nov. 19
Watch favorite anime and discuss manga while enjoying Japanese snacks.

FAMILIES

FUN-tasmagoria
Wednesdays, 3:30 p.m.
Sept. 4  Show Me the Money
Sept. 11  Crime Doesn’t Pay
Sept. 18  Costumes to Go
Sept. 25  Ceremonies and Celebrations
Oct. 2   Fractured Fairy Tales
Oct. 9   Say What?
Oct. 16  Extreme Science
Oct. 23  Numbers and Nachos
Oct. 30  Creepy Crafts and Stories

Family Story Time
Saturdays, 1 p.m.
Sept. 7-Oct. 26
A variety of stories and songs for young children and their caregivers.

ADULTS

Tech Tuesdays
Tuesdays, 4 p.m.
Learn about computers and databases. Space is limited.
Sept. 3  Basic Internet
Sept. 10  Basic Email
Sept. 17  Basic Word
Sept. 24  Surf the Library Databases

Watercolors 101
Wednesday, Sept. 11, 1 p.m.
Create something special with local artist Susan Starling. Materials provided.

Let’s Talk Books
Monday, Sept. 25, 10:30 a.m.
Make new friends and talk about books with Jim Stroup, a cup of coffee and a box of donuts!

TEENS

YALLA North!
Saturday, Oct. 26, 1 p.m.
Be a part of the library experience. Teens, earn volunteer hours for service. Come dressed in costume for even more fun!

FAMILIES

Toddler Time
Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m., Sept. 3-Oct. 22
A variety of stories and crafts for young children with caregivers.

Preschool Story Time
Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.
Sept. 4-Oct. 23
A variety of stories for young children with caregivers.

FUN-tasmagoria!
Tuesdays & Wednesdays, 3:30 p.m.
Sept. 3-Oct. 23
Explore the world with stories and fun-filled activities!

LIBRARY CLOSED DAYS AND HOLIDAYS

Labor Day
Monday, Sept. 2
All Marion County public libraries will be closed.

Maintenance Day (Columbus Day)
Monday, Oct. 14
Headquarters-Ocala, Bellevue and Dunnellon public libraries will be closed to the public.

Veterans Day
Monday, Nov. 11
All Marion County public libraries will be closed.

Thanksgiving
Wednesday, Nov. 27,
Headquarters-Ocala Public Library will close at 6 p.m.
Thursday, Nov. 28
All Marion County public libraries will be closed.
Friday, Nov. 29
All Marion County public libraries will be closed.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

Friends of the Belleview Public Library
Tuesdays, 10 a.m., Sept. 17, Oct. 15, Nov. 19

Friends of the Dunnellon Public Library
Tuesdays, 10 a.m., Sept. 3, Oct. 1, Nov. 5

Friends of the Forest Public Library
Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m., Sept. 18, Oct. 16, Nov. 20
Book Sale:
Thursday, Nov. 7, 4-8 p.m.
Friday, Nov. 8, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Saturday, Nov. 9, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Friends of the Fort McCoy Public Library
Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m., Sept. 11, Oct. 9, Nov. 13

Friends of Freedom Public Library
Sept. 3, Oct. 7, Nov. 4, 10 a.m.
Book Sale:
Thursday, Oct. 10, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 11, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 12, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Friends of the Marion Oaks Public Library
Fridays, 10 a.m., Sept. 20, Oct. 18, Nov. 15

Friends of the Ocala Public Library
Thursdays, 4 p.m., Sept. 19, Oct. 17, Nov. 21
Book Sale:
Saturday, Nov. 2, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Friday, Nov. 1, 2-5 p.m. FOL members only

STORY TIME

Family Story Time
Saturdays, 1 p.m.
Sept. 7-Oct. 26
A variety of stories and songs for young children and their caregivers.

SPECIAL SPEAKER

Brown Bag Luncheon
With Steve Burt
“The Bookseller’s Daughter”
Thursday, Oct. 31, noon
See Program Spotlight.
Exhibits & Displays

HEADQUARTERS-OCALA PUBLIC LIBRARY
Sept.  Daughters of the American Revolution
Oct.   General Francis Marion Stamp Club
Nov.   Ocala Calligraphy Guild

BELLEVIEW PUBLIC LIBRARY
Sept.  Wood Carvings by Dell Webb
       Woodcarving Club
Oct.   Oil Paintings by Lucy Pinkstaff
Nov.   Model Trains by John Menges
       Yarn Creations by the Knotty Knitters

DUNNELLON PUBLIC LIBRARY
Sept.  Fused Glass by Lynn Canary
Oct.   Crochet Dolls by Janice Edwards
Nov.   Antique Jewelry by Vicki Leonard

REDDICK PUBLIC LIBRARY
Sept.  Vintage Games by Reddick Staff
Oct.   Halloween Collectibles by Reddick Patrons
Nov.   Native American Stone Tools by Gary Walker

AT YOUR SERVICE

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

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 for 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.

GED and ESOL Classes
Earn your GED or learn to speak English at the library through Marion Technical College. It’s FREE.
Dunnellon Public Library, Mondays-Thursdays. Contact the Dunnellon Public Library for more information and times.

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.
For many of us, the changing seasons mean fewer hours of daylight and evenings spent indoors, curled up with a good book. On those dark, chilly nights, what better genre to enjoy than a spooky story? I remember one of the first spooky books I read, “Rosemary’s Baby,” by Ira Levin and can still see the dark foreboding cover, taunting me to pick it up and look inside. The tale of an unearthly cult determined to bring about the downfall of mankind fascinated me. The librarian at my local public library warned me, “It will scare you” and she was right, it did. But that was the point, wasn’t it? I was hooked and a forever fan of spine-tingling tales. I was eager to find my next scary literary adventure.

I devoured stories by Stephen King, Dean Koontz, Anne Rice and Bram Stoker. All of them names you’d expect to see on any good horror novel list. But when I’d pretty much read most of the spooky stories by the well-known authors, I found myself looking for something new and unique.

There is another list, a list filled with names you might not immediately recognize, one that must be gently unearthed to enjoy. A few of my favorite “off the grid” spooky stories, include Poppy Z. Brite’s gothic tale “Drawing Blood” or Martin Schenk’s “A Small Dark Place,” both inviting you to become immersed in the macabre. Or maybe Andrew Neiderman’s “Under Abduction,” a novel that is steeped in hidden truths is more to your taste. And for those who are not easily frightened or deterred by things that go bump in the night, Ania Ahlborn’s “The Bird Eater” and Jack Kilborn’s “Afraid” are great reads that will ignite those goosebumps.

It’s the time of year to celebrate the scary. Shiver, scream, read!
Your Smartest Card is Your Library Card

September is Library Card Sign Up month and a reminder that the smartest card is your library card! It’s free and opens up a world of discovery and information for all ages. What are you waiting for? Hurry over to your local Marion County Public Library System location today to sign up for your very own library card!

A time to say thank you to all of the Friends of the Library who generously support their local public library through used book sales, volunteering and more! In Marion County, there are seven Friends groups all looking for new members. Contact the Marion County Public Library System at 352-671-8551 or visit the website at library.marioncountyfl.org for information about a Friends group near you!
Enjoying Gentle Carousel miniature horses at HQ-Ocala Public Library

Kick off to Freedom Public Library’s Summer Reading Program

Song farmers at Dunnellon Public Library

Comic Connection characters at Headquarters-Ocala Public Library

Ventriloquist Mark Wade at Freedom Public Library
MEET THE AUTHOR

Jim Ross

Many of us know Jim Ross as the journalist who regularly writes enlightening essays for the Ocala Star-Banner. He is also the managing editor of the Banner and an adjunct instructor in the Department of Journalism at the University of Florida.

On Sept. 15, Ross will be presenting a program about “In Season: Stories of Discovery, Loss, Home, and Places in Between,” a book of essays to which he has contributed and also edited. In these stories, Florida is more than a setting—it’s a character of its own. It stores up hurricanes and rainstorms, enchants with natural springs and cypress forests, and endures in the face of pollution. For all of these writers, Florida is a force that brings about moments of personal insight and growth, a place where hard lessons are learned and true joy is experienced. The essays illustrate that the places we inhabit put a stamp on us, even if we only call them home for a season.

Join us as we welcome Jim Ross on Sunday, Sept. 15, at 2 p.m. in Meeting Room C at the Headquarters-Ocala Public Library. The program is free and light refreshments will be provided. Books will be available for purchase, or you may purchase from upf.com. There will be a brief annual meeting prior to the program.

BOOK SALE

SATURDAY, NOV. 2, 2019, 10 A.M.-4 P.M.
Held in Meeting Rooms, Headquarters-Ocala Public Library
(Friends members only: Friday, Nov. 1, 2-5 p.m.)

Buying Books Online!

There is now a way that you can buy books online and help your library too, thanks to the FRIENDS and the Book Market. It’s easy. To see our inventory on Amazon, do the following:

1. Go to amazon.com
2. In the Search Box, type Friends of the Ocala Public Library, and click “Search.” Our inventory of online books will then appear. Remember that there are many pages. Continue clicking “Next” at the bottom of each page to see the entire inventory. (Presently, it is not possible to search for specific titles within this list.)
3. When you find the book you would like, click on the book.
4. IF YOU ARE USING A DESKTOP OR LAPTOP COMPUTER (preferred method), do the following: If there are many formats or editions, it will say, “See all formats and editions.” Click this link first. In the line for the format (hardcover, paperback, etc.) that you would prefer, click on the price under “Used From.” This link will give you the number of used offers. Find “Seller information - Friends of the Ocala Public Library” and click on “Add to Cart.”
   IF YOU ARE USING A MOBILE PHONE, scroll down on this page until you see, “Used and New.” Click on this link and you will find a list of all offers. Look under each price listed and find “Friends of the Ocala Public Library.” Select this one and “Add to Cart.”

Thank you for supporting our library!
Literate legend Edgar Allan Poe died 170 years ago on Oct. 7, 1849. Poe is one of the first American writers who tried to earn a living by writing and is best known as the master of macabre tales. But horror stories actually make up only a small portion of Poe’s writings, which also includes poetry, comedies and mysteries. Poe’s tales and prose have profoundly influenced and inspired literature and the entertainment industry.

Poetry was Poe’s first love for writing and he was a prolific poet. He was unable to support himself by writing poems, so he learned to write stories that would appeal to the masses who craved the sensational. Poe’s first published tale of horror was submitted as an entry in a writing contest. The story did not win the contest, but was published because it was considered worthy of merit.

Poe is regarded as the inventor of detective fiction and a pioneer in the true crime genre. “The Murders in the Rue Morgue” was the first story to introduce a character who solved a mystery by analyzing the facts. This story was so popular with readers that Poe created two sequels, one based on a real-life crime was the first of its kind. Forty-five years after Poe’s death, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle popularized detective fiction when he created Sherlock Holmes.

Science fiction pioneers H.G. Wells and Jules Verne were heavily influenced by Poe’s writings. The mathematical descriptions of machines in several of Poe’s stories made a significant impact on Wells. Verne, a lifelong fan of Poe, grew up reading French translations of Poe’s sci-fi short stories, which had a great impression on his writings. Poe’s tales have also inspired the entertainment industry. In film and television, more than 250 titles have been based on Poe’s work. Probably best known are the eight low-budget adaptations created by filmmaker Roger Corman in the 1960s, in which Vincent Price stars in all but one. Poe can be seen on the cover of The Beatles’ 1967 “Sergeant Pepper’s Lonely Hearts Club Band” in the last row. The Alan Parsons Project’s 1976 album “Tales of Mystery and Imagination” is based entirely on Poe’s writings.

The genius of Poe was not fully realized until many years after he died. His reputation was soiled by Rufus Griswold, a literary rival, who wrote a scathing obituary about him. Poe’s reputation was eventually restored and he earned the recognition he deserved as one of the most brilliant writers of all time.

For more information about Edgar Allan Poe, be sure to check out Peter Ackroyd’s “Poe: A Life Cut Short” and “Edgar Allan Poe: The Strange Man Standing Deep in the Shadows,” by Charlotte Montague, which were used as references for this article.