Complete the U.S. Census.

Stand Up and Be Counted!

Census 2020

IN THIS ISSUE: Profile • Calendar • Book Review
Commit to Encourage

With the Census right around the corner, we each need to do our part to make certain everyone gets counted. It is vital to our cities, counties, states, and nation. However, there are groups of people in the United States that are considered “hard to count” as it relates to the Census. As you read the list of “hard to count” or undercounted groups you will likely understand why. I ask you to consider anyone you know who may fit into one of these categories. Commit to encourage them to complete their Census.

Historically, these undercounted groups include:

• Rural communities
• Minority communities
• Low-income households
• People who didn’t participate in previous Censuses
• Immigrants
• Non-native English speakers
• Single-parent households
• Large or “overcrowded” households
• Renters
• Those receiving public assistance (SSI, disability)
• Grandparents raising grandchildren
• Adults without a high school diploma
• Young children
• Those living in high-crime areas.

This year with the emphasis on completing the Census online the library system intends to do our part to increase the response rate in Marion County. We intend to do our part to make certain that lack of Internet access is not one more reason for a group to be considered “hard to count.” To that end, the library will increase awareness about the Census by sending out this issue of WORDS, dedicated to the Census, to over 72,000 individuals, conducting special Census-related programming and posting flyers inside libraries. Most importantly, the Marion County Public Library System will offer easy access to public computers to enable citizens to fully complete the Census online. And, our libraries will have trained staff to assist individuals in completing the Census. Did you know that you will receive a postcard in the mail with a code on it and will need that code to complete the Census online? If you know someone who you think will need a helpful guide, information to help them fill out the Census questions and easy access to a computer, please, send them to the library. Commit to encourage a complete count!
The Census Makes $ense for Marion County

BY TAYLOR BENSON

In 1790, just one year after President George Washington was inaugurated, the very first United States Census took place, with less than four million people counted as living in the young nation. At the time, Florida was a colony of Spain and would not become part of the United States for another 31 years. The first United States Census to include Florida, or what is now known as the Sunshine State, as a territory occurred in 1830 and counted a total of approximately 35,000 people. By comparison, Marion County alone had 10 times that number during the 2010 Census. Florida was first included in an official United States Census as a state in 1850, six years after Marion County was created. The state’s population at that time was less than 90,000.

Fast forward 170 years and the time has arrived for Florida citizens to once again stand up and be counted: The 2020 United States Census is here. The results, counted once every 10 years, help determine two major things: The apportionment of hundreds of billions (that is “billions” with a “b”) of dollars of federal funds to all the U.S. states and territories, and the realignment of legislative seats, both for the United States House of Representatives and the many state houses, including Florida’s. Additionally, Electoral College votes are distributed among the states based on the census, with each state being allocated a number of votes equal to the number of senators and representatives in its U.S. Congressional delegation—two votes for its senators in the U.S. Senate plus a number of votes...
equal to the number of its members in the U. S. House of Representatives. It is estimated that Florida will pick up an additional two seats and delegates after the 2020 census thanks to its fast-growing population. By comparison, some other states will be losing congressional seats and delegates due to their slower rate of population growth. For example, some states in the Midwest are expected to each lose a congressional seat and electoral vote based on the results of the 2020 census.

It is very important that the population of Florida is accurately counted, as just a 2 percent undercount in a state with approximately 22 million residents could result in up to almost half a million people being uncounted, having the effect of the state possibly being underrepresented in Congress and national elections. The state could also receive less federal funding due to an undercount. Equally important is that the population of Marion County is accurately counted, as Marion County benefits from many federal programs that distribute funding based on census-derived data. For example, the construction of Marion County Public Library’s Forest Branch was funded in part with a U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Community Development Block Grant, which uses census data, among other factors, to determine the allocation of resources.

More than 100 federal programs that distribute funding across the nation are calculated using census numbers. In addition to Community Development Block Grants, other programs and grants that receive funding based on census data include:

- Highway Planning and Construction
- National School Lunch Program
- Unemployment Insurance
- Wildlife Restoration
- Adult Education
- Assistance to Firefighters Grant
- Disabled Veteran’s Outreach Program
- Historic Preservation
- Hunter Education and Safety
- And Many More Programs and Grants

Ultimately, accurate census numbers help city planners, private businesses, government service providers and others who make decisions on housing needs, infrastructure and business growth. Accurate results are critical because census data help many groups to make difficult decisions. Census-derived data can help inform whether a community needs a new fire department, more funding for school lunches or new roads. It is important for every resident in Marion County to be counted.
More than a Number
BY ASA DRAKE

This winter, cozy up to tales about family, perseverance and the many generations of loved ones who make Americans who we are. Ours is a country where no one is just a number. We each celebrate a unique experience tied to our rich American history. In the words of Walt Whitman, you might find that the eras before us are willing to “stop somewhere waiting for you” to take part in their legacy.

Such is the case for the children in James McBride’s short story collection “Five-Carat Soul.” These middle schoolers are living in The Bottom. Like the name suggests, this neighborhood doesn’t get much attention, but for fans of Mark Twain, the community bears some resemblance to Tom Sawyer’s St. Petersburg, Missouri. Short for time? Start with “Blub,” the story of a “champion mumbler” whose innocent summer stints take a dark turn. Like Twain, McBride offers us the humor of a well-trained storyteller who wants to get to the bottom of a difficult matter.

McBride isn’t the only writer looking back on the traditions that inspire his work. With a bit of whimsy, Salman Rushdie recounts the classic Middle Eastern folktales from “One Thousand and One Nights” in his novel “Two Years Eight Months and Twenty-Eight Nights.” Under the skyscrapers in New York City, descendants of a jinn princess learn that every choice they’ve made is adding up. In a magical plot that hints at Rushdie’s real life experience telling an unwelcome tale, this novel conjures a modern fairyland, with monsters swallowing the Staten Island Ferry and protagonists who have to decide how much they’ll sacrifice to tell their story.

Looking for a story closer to home? Lillian Li’s darkly funny “Number One Chinese Restaurant” starts in the backroom of the Beijing Duck House in Rockville, Maryland, and pulls us into decades of family drama finally set loose by disaster. This fast-paced, delicious tale makes every restaurant worker, every overbearing parent and every lovesick teenager count! Read with a full belly and an open heart. W
By April 1, 2020, every home will receive a postcard invitation to participate in the 2020 Census. Upon receipt of the invitation, you should respond on behalf of everyone in your home in one of the following three ways: online, by phone, or by mail.

The Census will count everyone living in the United States and five U.S. territories. Making certain that every person living in the United States is counted is a massive effort to be completed within a specific timeframe. Here are some important dates to remember.

**JANUARY 2020**
The Census Bureau kickoff.

**APRIL 1, 2020**
The official observance of Census Day nationwide. By this date, every home will have received an invitation to participate and should do so online, by phone or by mail.

**APRIL 2020**
Trained Census takers begin visiting college students who live on campus, people living in senior centers, and others who live among large groups of people. Census takers also begin conducting additional quality check interviews to help ensure an accurate count.

**MAY 2020**
The Census takers begin visiting homes that have not yet responded to the 2020 Census to make sure everyone is counted.

**DECEMBER 2020**
The Census Bureau delivers apportionment counts to the President and Congress as is required by law.

**MARCH 31, 2021**
By this date, the Census Bureau will send redistricting counts to states. This information is used to redraw legislative districts based on population changes.

*If you are filling out the Census for your home, you should count everyone living there as of April 1, 2020. This includes anyone living there most of the time. If someone is staying in your home on April 1 and has no usual home elsewhere, count them in your response to the 2020 Census.
All library programs are free and open to the public. Registration/tickets may be required.

Read-a-Palooza!
Join in on the reading fun! Visit any Marion County Public Library site every week for a special surprise! Grand prize drawings at the March Seuss-a-Palooza events.
Co-sponsored by the Early Learning Coalition of Marion County.
Feb. 9-March 7 All library facilities

Florida SpringsFest
Student Art Show
Stop in and vote for your favorite piece.
Friday-Sunday, Feb. 21-23
Headquarters-Ocala
Saturday, Feb. 29
Dunnellon Public Library

HOLIDAY PROGRAMS

Polar Express
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.
Wednesday, Dec. 4, 5:30 p.m.
Headquarters-Ocala

Arctic Blast
Enjoy stories and book giveaways from United Way’s Reading Pals, games, crafts and that delicious arctic treat—ice cream!
Co-sponsored by Publix Supermarkets.
Saturday, Dec. 7, 2 p.m.
Forest Public Library

Heart of Oak Music
A concert of holiday songs and stories for the whole family.
Friday, Dec. 13, 4 p.m.
Forest Public Library

Polar Paradise in a Galaxy Far, Far Away
Blast off and spend a day among the heroes and villains of Star Wars!
Saturday, Dec. 14, 10:30 a.m.
Belleview Public Library

A Very Jazzy Holiday Concert
Smooth tones abound with trombonist Dave Smith.
Sunday, Dec. 15, 2 p.m.
Headquarters-Ocala

Reindeer Romp Holiday Party
Enjoy the magic of the holiday season with games, giveaways, fun, food and United Way’s Reading Pals. Entertainer and Deejay Elio Piedra brings the fiesta to all of us. The party is on!
Saturday, Dec. 21, noon-3 p.m.
Reddick Public Library

New Year Snowball Smash
It’s a Florida-friendly snow party! No shovels needed!
Saturday, Jan. 4, 2 p.m.
Dunnellon Public Library

SPECIAL EVENTS

Preschool Expo
Learn about local preschools, activities and family-friendly businesses in Marion County.
Co-sponsored by Fun 4 Ocala Kids.
Saturday, Jan. 11, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
Headquarters-Ocala

African American Read-In
Celebrate a rich heritage in literature, film, music and art at the 30th National African American Read-In! Readers, performers and listeners of all ages welcome! Contact the library if you are interested in performing or reading.
Saturday, Feb. 8, noon
Fort McCoy Public Library
Sunday, Feb. 9, 2 p.m.
Headquarters-Ocala
Monday, Feb. 17, 3 p.m.
Belleview Public Library
Tuesday, Feb. 18, 2 p.m.
Marion Oaks Public Library
Tuesday, Feb. 18, 4 p.m.
Forest Public Library
Tuesday, Feb. 18, 4 p.m.
Reddick Public Library
Saturday, Feb. 22, 11 a.m.
Dunnellon Public Library
Tuesday, Feb. 25, 4 p.m.
Dunnellon Public Library

CREATE Studio: Fine Arts Workshop
Tap into your creative side with Patrick Grigsby, artist and art education lecturer from the University of Florida’s School of Art + Art History. Ages 13-18. Registration required. Call 352-671-8551.
Saturday, Feb. 8, 2 p.m.
Headquarters-Ocala
Elder Options Savvy Caregiver Training Series
Elder Options trainer Renee Horne provides instruction to increase knowledge, develop skills and get you on your way to be a successful caregiver. Certificates awarded by Elder Options to those who register and complete the training.
Tuesdays, Jan. 14-Feb. 25, 2 p.m.
Dunnellon Public Library

SPECIAL SPEAKERS

Sue Ann Jaffarian
The Novel RV: One Writer, Many Roads
On the road full time in her Winnebago Novella, Jaffarian is stopping to talk to readers. Don’t miss this popular mystery novelist as she shares some of her on-road adventures.
Wednesday, Dec. 11, 1 p.m.
Freedom Public Library

Mark Raisch
Sinatra & Friends Tribute
Bring your bag lunch and swoon and swing to the smooth sounds of past crooners. It’s a tribute not to be missed! Call 352-438-2500 to reserve dessert.
Thursday, Jan. 16, noon
Bellevue Public Library

Lu Vickers
“Remembering Paradise Park”
Paradise Park, a place of delight and leisure for the African-American community, was the “colored only” counterpart to Silver Springs during the painful era of Jim Crow. Vickers details the history of the park with vivid photographs, vintage advertisements and interviews with employees and patrons.
Saturday, Feb. 1, 2 p.m.
Dunnellon Public Library

Staff Sergeant Irving Locker
A War Remembered: Recollections of WWII
Bring your bag lunch and listen as American veteran Irving Locker recounts his experiences in combat. Call 352-438-2500 to reserve dessert.
Thursday, Feb. 13, noon
Bellevue Public Library

Stand Up and Be Counted
Community Conversation
Topic: What is your Marion County story? What brought you or your family to Marion County? Come together with others for a casual and considerate exchange of ideas.
Tuesday, Jan. 7, 10:30 a.m.
Bellevue Public Library
Saturday, Jan. 18, 2 p.m.
Fort McCoy Public Library
Friday, Jan. 24, 3 p.m.
Freedom Public Library
Friday, Jan. 31, 3 p.m.
Dunnellon Public Library
Saturday, Feb. 1, 10:30 a.m.
Forest Public Library
Monday, Feb. 10, 10:30 a.m.
Reddick Public Library
Tuesday, Feb. 11, 4 p.m.
Marion Oaks Public Library

Stand Up and Be Counted
Teen Photo Display Reception
What is important to youth? The teens of the Forest Public Library have focused their camera lenses on their world and have put their photos on display for all to see. Enjoy a bit of refreshment and meet the artists.
Thursday, Jan. 16, 5 p.m.
Forest Public Library

2020 Census and You
The U.S. Census, conducted every 10 years since 1790, is vital to the structure and workings of our government. The 2020 Census will be the 24th in our history and has many design changes. Bring your questions and chat with U.S. Census Partnership Specialist Channa Lloyd.
Wednesday, Jan. 29, 2 p.m.
Freedom Public Library
Thursday, Jan. 30, noon
Reddick Public Library
(Brown Bag Luncheon)
Thursday, Feb. 27, noon
Headquarters-Ocala
(Brown Bag Luncheon)
ADULTS

Novels at Night Book Club
Tuesdays, 6 p.m.
Enjoy a lively book discussion, treats and coffee.
Dec. 10  “Then She Was Gone”  by Lisa Jewell
Jan. 14  “The Library Book”  by Susan Orlean
Feb. 11  “Shelter in Place”  by Nora Roberts

The Monday Matinée
Mondays, 2 p.m.
Movies for adults. Anyone younger than age 13 must be accompanied by an adult.
Jan. 6
Jan. 13
Jan. 27
Feb. 3
Feb. 10
Feb. 17
Feb. 24

Wired Wednesdays
Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.
Learn about computers and databases. Space is limited.
• Computers for Beginners
  Jan. 8  I Turned on My Computer, Now What?
  Jan. 15  Basic Keyboarding
  Jan. 22  Basic Internet
  Jan. 29  Basic Internet Safety
• Online Potpourri
  Feb. 5  Helpful Government Websites
  Feb. 12  Online Genealogy Tools
  Feb. 19  All About History Online
  Feb. 26  Historic Digital Collections

Genealogy Help Center
Wednesdays, 12:30-3:30 p.m. Jan. 8, Feb. 5
Genealogy gurus from the Marion County Genealogical Society assist with your search.

Technology Help Center
Wednesdays, 2-3:30 p.m., Jan. 8-Feb. 26
Bring your device and drop in!

Crafternoons
Wednesdays, 5:30 p.m.
Get in touch with the right side of your brain! Registration required. Call 352-671-8551.
Jan. 8  Pull String Painting
Feb. 5  DIY Bath Bombs

Feathers, Nature, Wildlife and Conservation
Saturdays, 10:30 a.m. Jan. 18, Feb. 15
Learn all about our winged friends from the experts at the Marion Audubon Society.

All About Cord-Cutting
Tuesday, Jan. 28, 2 p.m.
Looking for television and video streaming alternatives? Start here.

ADULTS AND TEENS

Poems Talk
Mondays, 6 p.m., Dec. 16, Feb. 17
Bring a poem you’ve penned or a poem you love to join the conversation!

Escape Rooms: Can You Get Out?
Thursdays, 6 p.m.
Use your wits and deductive skills to solve puzzles and decipher clues!
Jan. 9  The Waiting Room
Feb. 6  Totally Radical ’80s Time Travel Adventure

TEENS

MANGAlicious Teen Club!
Thursdays, 4:30 p.m., Dec. 5, Jan. 2, Feb. 6
Watch favorite anime and discuss manga while enjoying Japanese snacks.

Show and Sketch
Mondays, 4:30 p.m., Dec. 9, Jan. 13, Feb. 10
Share your talents. All skill levels welcome.

Geekfest! Fandoms and Comic Club
Wednesdays, 4:30 p.m., Jan. 22, Feb. 26
Explore pop culture and comics with fellow fans.

YALLA!
Tuesdays, 5 p.m., Jan. 28, Feb. 25
Be a part of the library experience! Earn volunteer hours for service.

Harley Quinn and Birds of Prey
Saturday, Feb. 15, 2 p.m.
Celebrate the clown princess of crime! Pick up swag and watch the TV series on the big screen before you see the movie. Cosplay encouraged!

Zelda Day
Saturday, Feb. 22, 2 p.m.
Citizens of Hyrule, rejoice in the anniversary of The Legend of Zelda! Enjoy themed crafts and gaming. Cosplay encouraged.

CHILDREN

Family Story Time
Saturdays, 10:30 a.m., Dec. 7, Jan. 4, Feb. 1
Ages 5 and younger with caregiver.

Kids Code
Ages 7-12
• Kids Code 1
  Tuesdays, Jan. 14-28, 4 p.m.
  Thursdays, Jan. 16-30, 4 p.m.
• Kids Code 2
  Thursdays, Feb. 6-20, 4 p.m.
  Requires completion of Kids Code 1

LEGO® Engineers
Wednesdays, 2 p.m.
Jan. 22, Feb. 26
Ages 5-12 with caregivers. Test your wits and creativity with construction challenges.

Master the Arts!
Wednesdays, 4 p.m., Jan. 29-Feb. 19
Ages 8-12.
Explore famous artists and create art in the styles of these great masters.

STORY TIMES
Jan. 14-Feb. 20
A variety of stories, songs, and activities for children and caregivers.

Preschool Story Time
Tuesdays, 10:15 and 11 a.m.
Ages 3-5.

Toddling Twos
Wednesdays, 10:15 and 11 a.m.

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

Bouncing Babies
Thursdays, 10:15 and 11 a.m.
Infants-23 months.
HOLIDAY PROGRAM
See Program Spotlight.
Polar Paradise in a Galaxy Far, Far Away
Saturday, Dec. 14, 10:30 a.m.

SPECIAL EVENT
See Program Spotlight for more locations.
African American Read-In
Monday, Feb. 17, 3 p.m.
Contact the library if you are interested in performing or reading. All ages welcome.
See Program Spotlight for more locations.
Presented in partnership with the Santos Historical Committee, Inc.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS
Tale Spinners Storytelling Group
Thursdays, 3 p.m., Jan. 2, Feb. 6
Practice your storytelling skills and hone the craft of telling your tale.
Presented with Ocali Storytelling Guild, Inc.

It’s All Magic With Brian LaPalme
Saturday, Jan. 11, 2 p.m.
See Program Spotlight for more locations.

Brown Bag Lunch Series
Thursdays, noon
Bring your bag lunch and enjoy these special programs.
See Program Spotlight. Registration recommended. Call 352-438-2500 to reserve dessert.
Jan. 16 Mark Raisch presents a Sinatra & Friends Tribute
Feb. 13 Staff Sergeant Irving Locker and Recollections of WWII

STAND UP AND BE COUNTED
Community Conversation
Tuesday, Jan. 7, 10:30 a.m.
Topic: What is your Marion County story?
See Program Spotlight for more locations.

Great Backyard Bird Count
Friday, Feb. 7, 10 a.m.
The United States Census may occur every 10 years but we count birds every year! Learn about the Great Backyard Bird Count and participate in counting the birds around the library.

ADULTS
Plant Clinic
Fridays, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
Dec. 6, 20, Jan. 3, 17, Feb. 7, 21
The plant doctors are in!
Presented by UF/IFAS Extension Marion County.

Wednesday Morning Book Club
Wednesdays, 10 a.m.
Make new friends and talk about books.
Dec. 11 “The Art of Racing in the Rain” by Garth Stein
Jan. 8 “The Help” by Kathryn Stockett
Feb. 12 “Songs of Willow Frost” by Jamie Ford

Tuesday Evening Book Club
Tuesdays, 5 p.m.
Make new friends and talk about books.
Dec. 17 “A Christmas Carol” by Charles Dickens
Jan. 21 “Dear Haiti, Love Alaine” by Maika Moulite
Feb. 18 “Paper Valentine” by Brenna Yovanoff

Writers Studio
Wednesdays, noon, Dec. 18, Jan. 15, Feb. 19
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. 7
Jan. 14
Jan. 21
Jan. 28
Feb. 4
Feb. 11
Feb. 18
Feb. 25

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

Community Job Fair
Wednesday, Jan. 15, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.
Looking for a career opportunity? Sponsored by the City of Belleview.

Native Plant Society
Mondays, 6 p.m., Jan. 27, Feb. 24
Deborah Curry and guest presenters discuss the plant life of Florida.

TEENS & TWEENS
YALLA South!
Tuesdays, 5 p.m., Dec. 3, Jan. 7, Feb. 4
Be a part of the library experience. Teens, earn volunteer hours for service.

It’s Sew Fun!
Saturdays, 10 a.m.-noon, Jan. 4, 18, Feb. 1, 15
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.

MANGAlicious Teen Club!
Tuesdays, 5:30 p.m., Jan. 28, Feb. 25
Watch favorite anime and discuss manga while enjoying Japanese snacks.

FAMILIES
Just Another Mah-Jongg Monday!
Mondays, 1 p.m., Jan. 6-Feb. 24
Learn and play with other enthusiasts.

Knights of the Chess Club
Tuesdays, 4 p.m., Jan. 7-Feb. 25
Learn and play chess. All levels welcome.

Games on a Table
Tuesdays, 4 p.m., Jan. 7-Feb. 25
Play classic and contemporary tabletop games!

Knotty Knitters
Wednesdays, 4:30 p.m., Jan. 8-Feb. 26
Learn to knit or crochet.

STORY TIMES
Jan. 8-Feb. 27
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.
SPECIAL EVENT

African American Read-In
Saturday, Feb. 22, 11 a.m.
Contact the library if you are interested in performing or reading. All ages welcome. See Program Spotlight for more locations.

SPECIAL SPEAKER

Lu Vickers
“Remembering Paradise Park”
Saturday, Feb. 1, 2 p.m.
See Program Spotlight.

STAND UP AND BE COUNTED

Community Conversation
Friday, Jan. 31, 3 p.m.
Topic: What is your Marion County story? See Program Spotlight for more locations.

ALL AGES

Song Farmers
Saturdays, 2 p.m., Jan. 25, Feb. 29
See Program Spotlight.

ADULTS

Plant Clinic
Tuesdays, 10 a.m., Dec. 3, Jan. 7, Feb. 4
The plant doctors are in! Presented by UF/IFAS Extension Marion County.

Senior Support Education Series
Thursdays, noon
Help is on the way! Information for caregivers who want to know more about available resources.
Jan. 2 Music Therapy with Adele Jacobson
Feb. 6 Coping With Dementia with Debbie Selsavage

The Art of Luring Fish
Mondays, 1 p.m., Jan. 6-Feb. 24
Got your eye on a fish but he keeps getting away? Get that fish’s attention! Presented by The Fly-Tyers Club.

Yarns of Fun!
Wednesdays, 10 a.m., Jan. 8-Feb. 26
Learn to knit or crochet. It’s a stitch! Presented by the Needle-Nuts Club.

Lunch Bunch Book Club
Wednesdays, 1 p.m.
Bring your brown bag lunch and an appetite for good books. Lemonade and cookies provided!
Jan. 8 “If Beale Street Could Talk” by James Baldwin
Feb. 12 “The Sellout” by Paul Beatty

Friday Flicks
Fridays, 2 p.m.
Movies for adults. Anyone younger than age 13 must be accompanied by an adult.
Jan. 10
Jan. 24
Feb. 7
Feb. 21

Elder Options Savvy Caregiver Training Series
Tuesdays, 2 p.m., Jan. 14-Feb. 25
See Program Spotlight. Presented by Elder Options.

Circle of Support
Thursdays, noon, Jan. 16, Feb. 20
You are not alone. Join with other caregivers who support each other through understanding.

Novels at Night Book Club
Thursdays, 6 p.m.
Devour spine-tingling tales fit for a chilly winter’s eve.
Jan. 23 “The Winter People” by Jennifer McMahon
Feb. 20 “Slade House” by David Mitchell

TEENS

YALLA West!
Saturday, noon, Jan. 11, Feb. 8
Be a part of the library experience. Earn volunteer service hours.

Journal Your Journey
Monday, Feb. 17, 11 a.m.
Create a unique folded journal to hold the story of you!

FAMILIES

Number Hunt!
Monday, Jan. 6, 11 a.m.
Ages 2-5.
Can you find all the hidden numbers?

DIY Tuesday
Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m.
Jan. 7-Feb. 25
Make-and-take fun for the family!

Story Time!
Wednesdays, 11 a.m., Jan. 8-Feb. 26
A variety of stories, songs, and activities for children and caregivers.

Family Fun Day
Saturdays, Jan. 18, Feb. 15, 1 p.m.
Craft, sing and play together!

Rain in My Hands!
Saturday, Feb. 22, 2 p.m.
Gentle shower or thunderstorm? The options are yours when you make your own rainstick.

FOREST PUBLIC LIBRARY
905 S. Highway 314A
Ocklawaha, FL 32179 • 352-438-2540
Programs made possible by contributions from the Friends of the Forest Public Library.

HOLIDAY PROGRAMS
See Program Spotlight.

Arctic Blast
Saturday, Dec. 7, 2 p.m.

Heart of Oak Music
Friday, Dec. 13, 4 p.m.

SPECIAL EVENTS

African American Read-In
Tuesday, Feb. 18, 4 p.m.
Contact the library if you are interested in performing or reading. All ages welcome. See Program Spotlight for more locations.

Happy Birthday, Forest Public Library!
Saturday, Feb. 22, 11 a.m.
It’s a party! See Program Spotlight.

STAND UP AND BE COUNTED

Community Conversation
Saturday, Feb. 1, 10:30 a.m.
Topic: What is your Marion County story? See Program Spotlight for more locations.

Teen Photo Display Reception
Thursday, Jan. 16, 5 p.m.
See Program Spotlight.
ALL AGES

Starry Starry Night
Tuesday, Jan. 28, 6 p.m.
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.

ADULTS

Coloring Club
Thursdays, 10:30 a.m., Dec. 5, Jan. 2, Jan. 30
Color your world!

Forest Readers Book Club
Wednesday, 10:30 a.m.
Make new friends and talk about books!
Dec. 11 “Skipping Christmas” by John Grisham
Jan. 8 “Educated” by Tara Westover
Jan. 22 “The Silent Patient” by Alex Michaelides
Feb. 12 “Becoming” by Michelle Obama
Feb. 26 “An American Marriage” by Tayari Jones

Writers Studio
Thursdays, 5:30 p.m., Dec. 12, Jan. 9, Feb. 13
Writers of all levels share work and encouragement.

Ask Your Master Gardener
Saturdays, 10:30 a.m.
Get your garden growing!
Presented by UF/IFAS Extension Marion County.
Jan. 18 Improving Soil Health
Feb. 15 Spring and Summer Gardening

Thursday Cinema
Thursdays, 2 p.m.
Movies for adults. Anyone younger than age 13 must be accompanied by an adult.
Jan. 23
Feb. 27

DIY Art: Envelope Collage
Wednesday, Feb. 5, 10:30 a.m.
Express yourself through art!

TEENS & TWEENS

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

“Captain Marvel”
Thursday, Jan. 30, 5 p.m.
Movie for teens. Anyone younger than age 13 must be accompanied by an adult.

ADULTS

Monday Morning Book Club
Mondays, 10:30 a.m.
Make new friends and talk about books.
Dec. 2 “Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI” by David Grann
Jan. 6 “Memory Man” by David Baldacci
Feb. 3 “The Great Alone” by Kristin Hannah

ADULTS & TEENS

Saturday Movie Matinee
Saturdays, 1 p.m.
Anyone younger than age 13 must be accompanied by an adult.
Jan. 11
Jan. 25
Feb. 8
Feb. 15
Feb. 22
Feb. 29

FAMILIES

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

Imagination Station
Wednesday, Jan. 22, 2:30 p.m.
Imagine, create, construct!

Birdhouse Bonanza
Wednesday, Feb. 26, 2:30 p.m.
Decorate a home for our feathered friends.

SPECIAL EVENT

African American Read-In
Saturday, Feb. 8, noon
Contact the library if you are interested in performing or reading. All ages welcome.
See Program Spotlight for more locations.

COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

Saturday, Jan. 18, 2 p.m.
Topic: What is your Marion County story?
See Program Spotlight for more locations.

SPECIAL PROGRAM

Dulcimer Jam
Saturday, Feb. 1, 2 p.m.
See Program Spotlight.

FORT MCCOY PUBLIC LIBRARY
14660 NE Hwy. 315, Fort McCoy, FL 32134
352-438-2560
Programs made possible by contributions from the Friends of the Fort McCoy Public Library.

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

SPECIAL EVENT

African American Read-In
Tuesday, Feb. 25, 4 p.m.
Contact the library if you are interested in performing or reading. All ages welcome.
See Program Spotlight for more locations.

SPECIAL PROGRAM

It’s All Magic With Brian LaPalme
Saturday, Feb. 15, 1 p.m.
See Program Spotlight for more locations.
CALENDAR

SPECIAL SPEAKER
Sue Ann Jaffarian
Wednesday, Dec. 11, 1 p.m.
See Program Spotlight.

STAND UP AND BE COUNTED
See Program Spotlight for more locations.

Community Conversation
Friday, Jan. 24, 3 p.m.
Topic: What is your Marion County story?

2020 Census and You
Wednesday, Jan. 29, 2 p.m.

ADULTS
Ask Arnold! Comprehensive Computer Assistance
Thursdays, noon-2 p.m., Dec. 5-Feb. 27
Staff and volunteers are available to help with all computer needs.

Time For Tech
Thursdays, 2 p.m.
Learn something new! Seating is limited.
Jan. 23 Basic Internet
Jan. 30 Basic Word

Introduction to Computers
Thursday, Jan. 16, 6 p.m.
Begin your computer know-how at the library.

As the Page Turns Book Club
Tuesdays, 2:30 p.m.
Join the club and turn the page!
Everyone is welcome!
Dec. 3 "Florida" by Lauren Groff
Jan. 7 Readers’ Choice
Feb. 4 "The Secret Life of Bees" by Sue Monk Kidd

The Tuesday Matinée
Tuesdays, 3 p.m.
Movies for adults. Anyone younger than age 15 must be accompanied by an adult.
Jan. 14
Feb. 11

TEENS & TWEENS
YALLA Free!
Thursdays, 5 p.m., Dec. 12, Jan. 9, Feb. 13
Be a part of the library experience. Teens, earn volunteer service hours.

MANGAlicious Teen Club!
Tuesdays, 4 p.m., Dec. 17, Jan. 21, Feb. 18
Watch favorite anime and discuss manga while enjoying Japanese snacks.

Art at the Oaks
Thursdays, 4 p.m.
Express yourself through art!
Jan. 9 Pokémon Fuse Beads
Feb. 13 Paint a Pot

FAMILIES
Family Film Fest
Wednesdays, 3 p.m.
Movie fun for the whole family!
Anyone younger than age 15 must be accompanied by an adult.
Jan. 22
Feb. 26

STORY TIMES
Jan 8-Feb. 26
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 made possible by contributions from the Friends of the Marion Oaks Public Library.

SPECIAL EVENT
African American Read-In
Tuesday, Feb. 18, 2 p.m.
Contact the library if you are interested in performing or reading. All ages welcome.
See Program Spotlight for more locations.

STAND UP AND BE COUNTED
Community Conversation
Tuesday, Feb. 11, 4 p.m.
Topic: What is your Marion County story?
See Program Spotlight for more locations.

ALL AGES
Escape Room:
The Mummy’s Tomb!
Saturday, Jan. 18, 2 p.m.
Break the ancient curse and escape the tomb before the mummy awakens!

Sweets for Your Sweetie
Saturday, Feb. 8, 2 p.m.
Learn cupcake-decorating techniques to surprise your Valentine.

ADULTS
Novels at Noon
Wednesdays, noon
Make new friends and talk about books!
Dec. 18 "A Man Called Ove" by Fredrik Backman
Jan. 15 "An American Marriage" by Tayari Jones
Feb. 19 "Before the Fall" by Noah Hawley

Technology Help Center
Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m., Jan. 8-Feb. 26
Bring your device and drop in!

TEENS & TWEENS
YALLA Oaks!
Thursdays, 5 p.m., Dec. 12, Jan. 9, Feb. 13
Be a part of the library experience. Teens, earn volunteer service hours.

FAMILIES
Family Story Time
Saturdays, 1 p.m., Jan. 4-Feb. 29
A variety of stories and songs for young children and their caregivers.

FUNtasmogoria
Wednesdays, 3:30 p.m.
Explore the world through stories and activities! It’s FUNtastic!
Jan. 8 Pop!
Jan. 15 Toy Lab
Jan. 22 Can You Hear Me Now?
Jan. 29 Color Me Happy
Feb. 5 Cool Chemistry
Feb. 12 Wild Weather
Feb. 19 I Dig Dinosaurs
Feb. 26 Wow! It’s Wildlife!

REDDICK PUBLIC LIBRARY
15150 NW Gainesville Road
Reddick, FL 32686 • 352-438-2566
Programs are made from contributions provided by the Friends of the Ocala Public Library.

HOLIDAY PROGRAMS
Reindeer Romp Holiday Party
Saturday, Dec. 21, noon-3 p.m.
See Program Spotlight.
MOVIE TIME: POLAR EXPRESS
Monday, Dec. 23, 2 p.m.
Enjoy an afternoon with an enchanting movie, a cup of cocoa and more!

SPECIAL EVENT
African American Read-In
Tuesday, Feb. 18, 4 p.m.
Contact the library if you are interested in performing or reading. All ages welcome.
See Program Spotlight for more locations.

STAND UP AND BE COUNTED
2020 Census Brown Bag Luncheon
Thursday, Jan. 30, noon
Bring your bag lunch and questions about the census for a chat with US Census Partnership Specialist Channa Lloyd. Beverage and dessert provided. Contact the library to reserve a piece of pie!
See Program Spotlight for other locations.

Let’s Talk Books
Monday, Jan. 13, 10:30 a.m.
Make new friends and talk about books with Jim Stroup! Donuts and coffee provided.

Watercolors 101
Wednesday, Feb. 12, 1 p.m.
Create something special for Valentine’s Day with local artist Susan Starling. Materials provided.

TEENS

YALLA!

YALLA North!
Saturday, 1 p.m., Dec. 21, Feb. 8
Be a part of the library experience! Earn volunteer hours for service.

FAMILIES

FUNtasmagoria!
Tuesdays & Wednesdays, 4 p.m.
Jan. 7-Feb. 26
Explore the world with stories and fun-filled activities!

Saturday Matinée
Saturdays, 1 p.m.
Movies for the whole family! Anyone younger than age 13 must be accompanied by an adult.
Jan. 4
Feb. 1

Saturday Game Day
Saturdays, 10:30 a.m.
Jan. 18, Feb. 15
Bring a game or play one of ours! Play classic and contemporary board games with friends.

STORY TIMES

Jan. 7-Feb. 26
A variety of stories, songs, and activities for children and caregivers.

Toddler Time
Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m.

Preschool Story Time
Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.
AARP Tax Prep Assistance
Tax help is available at most libraries starting in February. Call your nearest library for times and locations.

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 your nearest library 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.

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**Libraries and Exhibits**

**Exhibits & Displays**

**Headquarters-Ocala Public Library**
- **Dec.** International Plastic Modelers’ Society
- **Jan.** Artwork by Warren Thompson
- **Feb.** “Hidden Freedom” Artwork by Charles Eady

**Bellevue Public Library**
- **Dec.** Vintage Toys of World Wars I & II by John Menges
  - Oil Paintings by Lucy Pinkstaff
- **Jan.** Yarn Creations by the Knotty Knitters
- **Feb.** Community Memorabilia by Santos Historical Committee, Inc.

**Dunnellon Public Library**
- **Dec.** Hand Woodturning by Henry Norwell
- **Jan.** Tea Time by Cate O’Brien
- **Feb.** African-American History by Rebecca Melton

**Forest Public Library**
- **Dec.** Holiday Village
- **Jan.** Envelope Collage Art by Sandra Sanders
- **Feb.** Envelope Collage Art by DIY Artists

**Reddick Public Library**
- **Dec.** Christmas Display by Reddick Patrons
- **Jan.** Stand Up and Be Counted
- **Feb.** Watercolor Display by Reddick Patrons

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**Library Closed Days and Holidays**

**Parade Day**
- **Saturday, Dec. 14**
  - Headquarters-Ocala Library closes at 4 p.m.

**Christmas Eve**
- **Tuesday, Dec. 24**
  - All Marion County Public Library System locations close at noon.

**Christmas Day**
- **Wednesday, Dec. 25**
  - All Marion County Public Library System locations closed.

**New Year’s Eve**
- **Tuesday, Dec. 31**
  - All Marion County Public Library System locations close at 4 p.m.

**New Year’s Day**
- **Wednesday, Jan. 1**
  - All Marion County Public Library System locations closed.

**Martin Luther King Jr. Day**
- **Monday, Jan. 20**
  - All Marion County Public Library System locations closed.
When it comes to the 2020 Census, everyone counts. Complete Count Committees (CCC) are being formed in an effort to raise awareness, as well as the response rates, and are comprised of community leaders and representatives from throughout Marion County.

CCC members use their knowledge and influence to educate communities and promote the census through targeted outreach efforts. In 2010 there were over 10,000 CCC programs formed nationwide, most of them through local governments.

Some activities that CCC’s perform to help raise awareness within a community are kickoff meetings, rallies, forums, interfaith breakfasts, newsletters and social media posts. Extra outreach efforts are taken in the hard-to-count areas. With the cooperation of the census takers, leaders of the community, local government and everyone in the community, the probability to reach and count everyone increases.

Marion County’s CCC, led by Marion County Board of County Commissioners immediate past chairman Michelle Stone, has many subcommittees representing a variety of areas of the community and all report to the main committee. The subcommittees are; Recruiting, Government, Education, Faith-based, Media, Community-based organizations, Veteran’s, Equine/Agriculture, Sports/Recreation, Healthcare, and Business.

It’s the goal of groups like the Marion County Complete Count Committee to make certain that everyone who resides here is counted. Let’s all do our part to make it count for Marion County! W

Photo by Rob Curran/UNSPALSH

Source: Information about the Complete Count Committee obtained from Census.gov.

2020 CENSUS COMPLETE COUNT COMMITTEE: MAKING IT COUNT FOR MARION COUNTY

By Scott Mason
Age /əˈj/ noun. Census Bureau programs define age as the length of time in completed years that a person has lived.

Birthplace /ˈbərTH.plās/ noun. Place of birth refers to the U.S. state, U.S. Island Area, or foreign country where a person was born.

Census Block /ˈsensəs bläk/ noun(s). A statistical area bounded by visible features, such as streets, roads, streams, and railroad tracks, and by nonvisible boundaries, such as selected property lines and city, township, school districts, and county boundaries.

Current Residence /ˈkərənt ˈrez(ə)dəns/ adjective, noun. Everyone who is currently living or staying at a sample address is considered a resident of that address, except people staying there for two months or less.

Decennial Census /dəˈsenēəl ˈsensəs/ adjective, noun. The census of population and housing, taken by the Census Bureau in years ending in 0 (zero). Article I of the Constitution requires that a census be taken every 10 years for the purpose of reapportioning the U.S. House of Representatives. Title 13 of the U. S. Code provides the authorization for conducting the census in Puerto Rico and the Island Areas.

Dependent Age Groups /daˈpendənt ɑ́j ˈgrō̅pəs/ adjective, noun(s). People under age 15 and people 65 years of age or older.

Family /ˈfam(ə)lē/ noun. A family includes a householder and one or more people living in the same household who are related to the household by birth, marriage, or adoption. All people in a household who are related to the householder are regarded as members of his or her family.

Group Quarters /ˈgrō̅p kwɔrdərz/ noun(s). Group quarters are places where people live or stay in a group living arrangement. These places are owned or managed by an entity or organization providing housing and/or services to the residents.

Non-Relatives /ˌnän,ˈrelədivs/ prefix, noun. This category includes any household member, including foster children, not related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption. Can include roomer or boarder, housemate or roommate, or unmarried partner.

Race /rās/ noun. The U.S. Census Bureau collects race data in accordance with guidelines provided by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB), and these data are based on self-identification. OMB requires that race data be collected for a minimum of five groups: White, Black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, and Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander. OMB permits the Census Bureau to also use a sixth category—Some Other Race. Respondents may report more than one race.

Single-family House /siNGgalˌfam(ə)lē ˈhous/ adjective, noun. The single-family statistics include fully detached, semidetached (semiattached, side-by-side), row houses, and townhouses. In the case of attached units, each must be separated from the adjacent unit by a ground-to-roof wall in order to be classified as a single-family structure. Also, these units must not share heating/air-conditioning systems or utilities, such as water supply, power supply, or sewage disposal lines.

Type of School /ˈtīp əv skoəl/ noun, preposition. Schools can be either public or private institutions. Home school is considered private school. Schools are also separated by levels of education offered, including, nursery or pre-primary school, kindergarten, elementary school, high school, undergraduate college, and graduate school. Undergraduate colleges can be classified either as 2-year colleges, or as 4-year colleges.

Usual Residence /ˈyooəl ˈrez(ə)dəns/ adjective, noun. Usual residence is defined as the place where a person lives and sleeps most of the time. This place is not necessarily the same as a person’s voting residence or legal residence.

Year of Entry /ˈyir əv ˈentrə/ noun, preposition. All people born outside the United States were asked for the year in which they came to live in the U.S. This includes people born in Puerto Rico and U.S. Island Areas; people born abroad of a U.S. citizen parent(s); and the foreign born.
Photos and Events of the Marion County Public Library System

Star Wars® characters visit Marion Oaks Public Library

Batman® and friends at Freedom Public Library

Storytellers workshop at Belleview Public Library

Author Bob Lee at the Fort McCoy Public Library Community Celebration

Fort McCoy Public Library Community Celebration
MEET THE AUTHOR

John Dunn

Does Florida have enough fresh water? How badly is it polluted? Why are our springs in trouble? What’s behind the algal blooms and deadly red tides? What is being done to address these problems? Author and journalist John Dunn explores these issues and other Florida woes in his new book, “Drying Up: The Fresh Water Crisis in Florida.”

Join us for John’s lively book presentation and learn what you can do to help protect life’s most natural resource. The presentation takes place Sunday, January 12, at 2 p.m., in Meeting Room C at Headquarters-Ocala Public Library. Our “Meet the Author” programs are free, and light refreshments are provided.

READ-A-THON

The Friends are looking for people who are interested in participating in a Read-A-Thon on Saturday, April 25, 2020. Readers will read live at the library for 15 minutes, and obtain sponsors to help raise money in support of library programming for all ages. We are looking for readers of all ages. If you are interested in supporting the library in this way, and would like more information, please send an email to folbookmarketocala@gmail.com.

Welcome to our New Board Members!

Recently, the Friends of the Library welcomed three new Board members and one new officer/member: Theresa Baker, Don Raymond, and Chrissy Vickers are the new members, and Erin Quainton is a new member and our new Vice President. Theresa Baker is an attorney with a practice dedicated to estate planning and probate. She also serves on the Board of Hospice of Marion County, Inc. and the Fifth Circuit Public Guardian Corporation. Don Raymond is a retired educator with 45 years experience in education as teacher and as school and district level administrators. He also serves as an educational consultant and is a US Navy veteran. Chrissy Vickers is the Success By 6 Coordinator for Marion County. She is also the CEO of Women of Purpose & Destiny Inc. Erin Quainton is retired from the Marion County Public Schools where she was a principal at Greenway and Evergreen Elementary Schools. She now works as a University Supervisor for St. Leo University, coaching and evaluating teacher interns.

BOOK SALE

SATURDAY, JAN. 25, 2020, 10 A.M.-4 P.M.

Held in Meeting Rooms, Headquarters-Ocala Public Library
Don’t forget that EARLY ADMISSION is available for all current dues-paying Friends members the afternoon before the sale, on Friday, Jan. 24, 2-5 p.m.
The year was 1787. The United States, newly independent and struggling with a flawed government under the Articles of Confederation, sent delegates to Philadelphia to create a new Constitution for the country. The result was a document that needed two years and 10 amendments before it would be ratified by a majority of the states. Born from that document, nestled safely in Article 1, Section 2, was a process that would grow into a driving force for the nation. The census was designed to ensure equal representation of the people in the House of Representatives, but the data it collects affect everything from school lunches to health insurance.

The first census was performed in 1790, just one year after the Constitution took effect. The task was overseen by the Secretary of State, Thomas Jefferson, whose marshals attempted to visit every home in the country and record the names of the heads of household and the number of people living there. Their tally was just under 4 million people, or about half the population living in New York City today.

As the country grew, so too did the needs and complexity of the census. The Census Act of 1840 created a temporary central office for each census, which allowed the process to run more smoothly. Perhaps this is why the 1850 census, for the first time in the nation’s history, took down the name of each of the 23 million people in the United States.

By 1902 the census was handling an immense amount of data that was being used beyond the creation of voting districts. That year Congress created the United States Census Bureau as a permanent office within the Department of the Interior. The next year the Bureau was moved to the newly created Department of Commerce and Labor (now the Department of Commerce), where it has remained ever since.

Population and demographic data taken from the census are still used to determine the makeup of the House of Representatives, but now it helps define where billions of dollars in federal funds are distributed. Data on individual households, released 72 years after each census, are studied by genealogists and other historians for clues into the nation’s past. In essence, the census is a snapshot of the nation, showing how and where over 300 million people live. Be sure to smile!