

COUNTY CONNECTION



VOLUME 2 ISSUE 1 • JANUARY 2010

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LETTER FROM LEE

New Year, New Beginnings



A new year brings new beginnings and opportunities to reflect on the past and plan for the future. But unlike other resolutions to eat healthier, exercise more often and lose a few pounds, I resolve to keep our promises and continue positioning Marion County for great success. Indeed, we resolve to engage our citizens, count on our citizens, operate within our means and so much more.

Resolve to engage our citizens.

To engage our citizens, we are re-initiating our Citizens Academy, a hands-on, interactive program that offers citizens a behind-the-scenes look at many Marion County services and departments.

Participants will pound the gavel as a Marion County Commissioner, stare fear in the face as a Marion County firefighter and walk through freedom to see veterans' sacrifices first hand. They will also tour the Baseline Landfill and Animal Center as well as design a park.

The Citizens Academy is free, but space is limited to 25 candidates. The program lasts eight weeks starting March 4, 2010. To sign-up, simply fill out the application on Marion County's Web site, www.marioncountyfl.org, or contact Executive Administrative Manager Jeannie Rickman at 352-438-2300 or jeannie.rickman@marioncountyfl.org.

Resolve to count on our citizens.

This is no joke. The 2010 Census Day is April 1, 2010, and we're working closely with census representatives to ensure that our citizens are counted.

The U.S. Constitution mandates a census every 10 years to determine an accurate count of the population locally and across the country. Accurate census information ensures that Marion County is fairly and equitably represented in Congress. Census information also describes how our community is changing both in size and demographics.

These changes are important to federal and state decision makers because the federal government allocates approximately \$400 billion in federal funding to communities each year based on census data.

We have formed a Marion County Complete Count Committee to ensure Marion County is accurately represented. To get involved with Marion County's Complete Count Committee, contact Marion County Senior Planner Christopher Rison at 352-438-2600 or christopher.rison@marioncountyfl.org. Our site, www.marioncountyfl.org, also includes information about the census, including frequently asked questions and even job openings.

Resolve to operate within our means.

We just began our 2009-2010 fiscal year budget in October, and now we're starting to plan for the 2010-2011 fiscal year budget. At our Jan. 15, 2010, board workshop, we will focus our conversation on balancing our budget and living within our means. Of course, we are only in the initial phase of the new budget process, but I think we're more prepared than ever before. That's because we just completed business plans for all of our departments, and we will use the invaluable information in those plans to conduct our second bottom-up review.

The business plans include budget and benchmarking information for each of our departments. The plans also include an analysis of streamlining opportunities and evaluations of departmental performance measures, successes and pitfalls.

The word 'easy' certainly wouldn't describe the past year, but we're continuing to move forward. Indeed, our resolve is stronger than ever.

You may reach Dr. Lee A. Niblock at 352-438-2300 or lee.niblock@marioncountyfl.org.



Mission Statement

Marion County provides professional and resourceful public services for our citizens through strategic planning and cost-effective implementation of county initiatives, generating positive results that set the standard for quality local government.

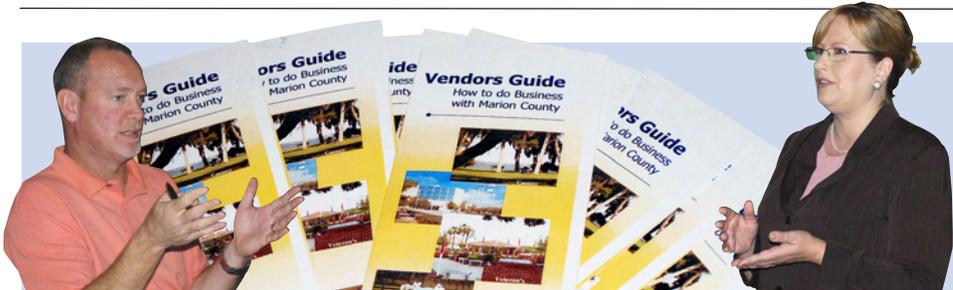
"Meeting Needs by Exceeding Expectations"

Behind the Scenes

MARION COUNTY PROCUREMENT SERVICES

Local Small Business Program

By Susan Olsen, Marion County Procurement Services and Heather Danenhow, Marion County Office of Public Information



Marion County Commissioners adopted a Local Small Business Program this summer as part of a "buy local" preference policy. The goal: stimulate the local economy and keep locals working.

Under the new ordinance, small businesses would register with Marion County Procurement Services to receive notification of opportunities to quote on smaller county projects that cost less than \$25,000.

As part of the Local Small Business Program, the Procurement Services Department offered small businesses training in September on how to participate in Marion County's bidding and quoting process. Those businesses can now become certified and better equipped to work with Marion County. However, getting involved is never too late.

As part of the Local Small Business Program, Marion County Procurement Services creates a directory of local commodities, including printing services, graphic design, mowing services and many other businesses. If those businesses meet the following criteria, they are notified of opportunities to quote on smaller dollar purchases that are less than \$25,000. To qualify for this program, a business must:

- Reside in Marion County for one year or more.
- Possess a net worth of \$1 million or less.
- Employ no more than 25 people.

Why did the board implement this program as part of its recent Procurement Ordinance update? A committee composed of several governmental agencies and local businesses brainstormed ways to simplify the procurement process to engage local businesses in governmental purchasing. The idea: to reach out to local vendors, save tax dollars and stimulate the local economy. Commissioners approved the Local Small Business Program in the ordinance update on July 21, 2009. The revised ordinance went into effect on Aug. 1, 2009.

Straight talk: what is the long-term goal of the program, and how will it benefit Marion County and local businesses? The Local Small Business Program will help businesses become larger, more profitable businesses. What's more: Marion County taxpayers will benefit in the process. Once the local business starts to grow, it will continue to seek work with Marion County for larger scale projects, resulting in more local jobs and more dollars flowing through the community. The program will also keep small businesses operating locally instead of seeking other communities to establish their operation.

Does the program discourage competition from out-of-town vendors? Why or why not? The Local Small Business Program supplements the quoting process already in place. When a department seeks out quotes for a commodity or service, they will always notify the businesses under the applicable categories in the local small business directory. This doesn't prevent a department from also requesting quotes from other vendors (both local and non-local), but it will ensure that all local small businesses listed in this directory are given the opportunity to quote.

How is this program different from the "buy local" preference policy? The local preference policy will only come into play during a formal bid process where the low bid vendor is from outside the county and the second low bid vendor is local and within five percent of the out-of-county vendor's bid. The Local Small Business Program is geared more towards the low-dollar purchases made every day by county departments.

While participating in the Local Small Business Program may sound complicated, it's not. But if you're still not convinced or feel intimidated by the process, you can contact Marion County Procurement Services at 352-438-8444. A department representative will happily assist you.

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

By Christy Jergens, Marion County Office of Public Information

Safety first – Byrd Wilcox



Byrd Wilcox is a one-man safety show. Toxic chemicals in the workplace? He knows how to handle (and not handle them). A hurricane eyes Marion County? Wilcox knows what governmental support is necessary to handle that too. Someone injures himself or herself at work? Wilcox teaches people appropriate first aid techniques. Wilcox is Marion County's go-to person for protecting staff who engages in or responds to potentially dangerous situations.

Wilcox's career has always involved protecting others. He spent more than 28 years in the U.S. Army, where he retired as a Lieutenant Colonel. He then came to Marion County in 2007 to serve as the county's Safety Hazard Coordinator. In 2009 he became the director of Marion County's Safety and Training Emergency Support Department where he trains staff in CPR, first aid, blood-borne pathogens, OSHA, FEMA and Homeland Security protocol.

In addition to protecting staff while they work, though, Wilcox will soon help staff excel at work, too. Wilcox has joined a team of county professionals learning about the Florida Sterling process, a program that enables organizations to assess themselves and better provide for their customers and stakeholders.

Marion County is taking the first step in working through the Florida Sterling process by qualifying a Marion County team to serve as Florida Sterling examiners. As examiners, Wilcox, along with fellow county staffers Shari Hall and Jeannie Rickman, will evaluate other organizations and determine whether they meet the different sterling award criteria. Organizations can apply for the Sterling Navigator, Sterling Challenge or Governor's Sterling Award.

Best-kept Secret Cozy cabins to keep you warm this winter

By Gina Peebles, Marion County Parks and Recreation Department



You just survived the 2009 holiday season. I'd like to offer you congratulations, but if you're anything like me, your nerves are still a bit frayed, and your shoulder muscles are still tense. I know what you need: a nice dose of Marion County Parks and Recreation. We have a treat that will calm your spirit.

Marion County's Horseshoe Lake Park and Retreat offers the perfect cozy cabin to get away from it all. The park features furnished, rustic cabins that sleep six to 10 people. The cost: \$200 for the weekend or \$300 for the week.

Located in Orange Springs in northeast Marion County, each cabin is equipped with a four-burner gas

stove, microwave, mini-fridge and wireless internet service providing guests with basic necessities while allowing them to get back to nature. The conference room is also outfitted with bumper pool, foosball and board games for indoor family time.

Whether you're coming for the day or for the week, whether you're bringing a few friends or the whole neighborhood, the park can fit the needs of almost everyone. The park can even accommodate family reunions, corporate functions, church outings and weddings.

The day use fee for non-overnight guests is \$3 per vehicle. Visitors can also purchase an annual park pass for \$35 for Marion County residents or \$70 for non-residents.

For more information about Horseshoe Lake Park and Retreat, or to make your reservation today, contact the Marion County Parks and Recreation Department at 352-671-8560.

Fishing Limits

- Fish caught at Horseshoe Lake must be released or consumed on the premises.
- Largemouth Bass - catch and release only.
- Black Crappie - 15 fish per day limit.
- Blue Gill, Sunfish and Warmouth - 10 fish per day limit.
- Catfish (all species) - 10 fish per day limit.

CREWS TO RESURFACE COUNTY ROAD 318 AS PART OF THE STIMULUS PROJECT

By Barbra Hernández, Marion County Office of the County Engineer

Marion County Commissioners have entered into a Local Agency Program Agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation to resurface and widen a portion of County Road 318 as part of an economic stimulus project.

Work covered under this agreement calls for an asphalt overlay of County Road 318 starting at the intersection of County Road 315 and extending west for a distance of 1.75 miles. The project will consist of two 12-foot travel lanes, two paved two-foot shoulders and two unpaved four-foot shoulders. Additional work will include striping, sod, signage and drainage culvert work to accommodate the widening.

The county engineer estimates that the project will cost approximately \$700,000. Marion County leaders will seek reimbursement by the federal government through the Florida Department of Transportation for 100 percent of the construction costs up to this amount.



Elementary school students "Always Ready"

Marion County Fire Rescue leaders and Marion County Commissioners recognized six students at a December commission meeting for their creative submissions in MCFR's 2009 Fire Prevention Month "Always Ready" poster contest. From left to right the winners included: Christian Hernandez, South Ocala Elementary School; Katelynn Robison, College Park Elementary School; Angelina Bigi, Hammett Bowen, Jr. Elementary School; Bethany Reffner, Ocala Christian Academy; Brandon Parker, Dr. N.H. Jones Elementary School and Emory Nottke, Stanton - Weirsdale Elementary School.

COMMISSION CORNER

By Heather Danenhower, Marion County Office of Public Information, Natasha Masciarelli, Marion County Extension Service and Christy Jergens, Marion County Office of Public Information



Commissioners From L to R: Mike Amsden, Vice Chair Stan McClain, Chair Barbara Fitos, Charlie Stone and Jim Payton

Board Takes Action on Land Use Changes

More than 150 citizens packed the Marion County Commission Auditorium on Dec. 9 to tell commissioners what they thought about two high-profile land use changes to the Marion County Comprehensive Plan. The public hearing took about three hours; in the end, commissioners took action on proposals involving the John Rudniansyn and McGinley family properties.

In a 5-0 vote, Marion County Commissioners rejected a plan to change Rudniansyn's 368-acres from "Rural Land" to "Urban Commerce District." The change would have allowed Rudniansyn to potentially develop the area for a variety of commercial, industrial and residential uses. However, future development was contingent on the construction of an I-75 interchange.

On July 30, 2009, the majority of commissioners voted to send the proposal to the Florida Department of Community Affairs, known as DCA, for review. In October, the Marion County Growth Management Department received DCA's comments, which noted that the proposed Rudniansyn land use change was premature. In their Objectives, Recommendations and Comments Report, known as ORC, DCA officials recommended that the board not adopt the amendment due to urban sprawl as well as the lack of public facilities and transportation infrastructure.

Staff with Marion County Growth Management agreed with DCA's objections and recommended that the board reject the Rudniansyn land use proposal. The board agreed with a unanimous vote, thereby keeping Rudniansyn's property as "Rural Land." The 368-acre property is located east of I-75 and south of Southwest 90th Street.

Meanwhile, the board voted 5-0 to move forward with proposed land use changes to the McGinley family property located in the Marion Oaks area. The proposal would change 390 acres from "Urban Reserve" to "Specialized Commerce District." This change would allow a variety of commercial and industrial uses. The property is located on the south side of County Road 484 and 2.75 miles west of I-75. According to the Wilson-Miller "Economic Model for Sustainable County Wide Land Use Plan," the change could generate 31,853 jobs

at an average rate of 1,061 jobs a year over the next 30 years.

The DCA had also objected to the McGinley family land use change, expressing concern about the lack of transportation and utilities infrastructure. However, Marion County staff has provided additional details that will address those concerns. Commissioners will also require the developer to fund transportation and utilities infrastructure over next five years.

Board Names Massey New Growth Management Director



Marion County Commissioners named Jimmy Massey, 55, Marion County's Growth Management Department Director at a December board meeting. Massey has served in the acting role since May 2009, when Marion County Administrator Dr. Lee A. Niblock consolidated the planning, code enforcement, zoning and building departments into one Marion County Growth Management Department.

Massey will manage 65 employees and oversee the activities of all four divisions. While serving as the acting director, he said he is most proud of enhancing the building permit process and completing the Evaluation and Appraisal Report, known as EAR. His goals for the future include changing perceptions about the growth management process, re-writing the Marion County Comprehensive Plan and updating the land development regulations.

Marion County Extension Service to open doors on new facility



Marion County's Extension Service will have a new home for many of its programs soon. The department will conduct a ribbon-cutting ceremony for its new auditorium on Friday, Jan. 8 at 11 a.m. at the Marion County Agricultural Complex (2232 NE Jacksonville Road, Ocala).

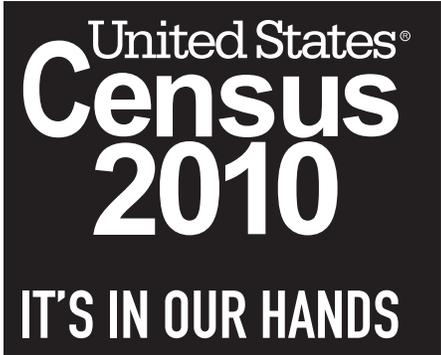


Crews completed construction of the facility on Nov. 20. The new 12,000 sq. foot auditorium is more than double the size of the previous auditorium with a seating capacity of 500. The department chose to build a larger and updated facility to accommodate current and future Marion County growth. Extension Services agents and staff will use the new facility to host educational classes, special events and workshops.

The new auditorium comes equipped with a fully-functional teaching and catering kitchen as well as storage and restroom facilities. More than just an asset for county government use, though, the public can also rent the facility. Staff plans to renovate the old auditorium to create additional office space and a new customer service center.

NEWSFLASH

You Count!



MARION COUNTY LAUNCHES 2010 CENSUS AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

By Christy Jergens, Marion County Office of Public Information

The time has arrived for Marion County citizens to stand up and be counted. The 2010 Census is coming soon, and Marion County's Complete Count Committee has launched a public awareness campaign to educate residents about the importance of completing their census questionnaires. The goal: increase Marion County's participation in the census.

Committee members are working closely with representatives throughout the community to spread the word about the importance of the census.

Subcommittees are also reaching out through businesses, faith-based groups and community organizations.

Millions of dollars in federal and state funding depend on the numbers Marion County gives to the census, which makes it vitally important. During the 2000 Census, 62 percent of the county's residents completed and returned their forms. Marion County wants to do better this year, but we need your help. You can help ensure an accurate count by completing your census form by April 1, 2010.

What is the census?

The census is a count of everyone living in the United States. The U.S. Constitution mandates the census every 10 years, and everyone living in the U.S. is supposed to participate in it.

How does the government collect census data?

The U.S. Census Bureau mails census questionnaires to every U.S. household in March 2010. Residents are required to return them by April 1. The questionnaire contains only 10 questions and takes fewer than 10 minutes to complete. Census data is used only for the official count; federal law protects the personal information you share during the census. You can read more about how the Census Bureau protects your privacy and information [here](#).

If the Census Bureau doesn't receive a mailed census form back from a residence, census

employees will follow up in person. All census workers will carry official identification.

Census workers will only ask the questions that are listed on the census form. The census is not conducted by e-mail or the internet, and no one associated with the census will ask for private information, such as social security numbers or banking information. Visit the [2010 Census Web site](#) for more information.

Census results help pave the path of your community.

State and federal governmental agencies will use census data for the next 10 years to determine the number of legislative seats each community receives. The numbers also dictate the distribution of \$400 billion in federal funds to local governments each year.

Want to find out more?

If you would like to schedule a census presentation at your organization's next meeting, please contact Christopher Rison of Marion County Growth Management at christopher.rison@marioncountyfl.org or 352-438-2400.

Census job opportunities

The U.S. Census Bureau is recruiting temporary, part-time census takers for the 2010 Census. For information about job availability, call the toll-free job line at 866-861-2010 or visit <http://www.2010censusjobs.gov/>.

FLORIDA TREND MAGAZINE RECOGNIZES Marion's Sustainable Growth Initiatives

By Heather Danenhower, Marion County Office of Public Information

Florida Trend magazine has named Marion County government one of the Fla. Newsmakers of 2009 as part of its January Floridian of the Year edition. Marion County was the only local governmental agency in Florida to make the list. Florida Trend is recognizing Marion County for establishing the sustainable growth manager position held by Lucienne

Gauffillet, calling this hire a creative and unique response to the economic crisis.

"We looked for a local government that had responded in an effective way to the economic crisis in 2009," said Executive Editor Mark Howard. "We felt that Marion County's sustainable growth initiative was very worthy of



recognition. The county was particularly hard-hit by the economic downturn but responded in a creative way that didn't involve raising local taxes."

The most recent Workforce Connection subsidized employment program that will put more than two dozen people back to work also gained the attention of Florida Trend, which will feature a story on this topic as well as Gauffillet's contribution in the magazine's January edition. To preview the article, [click here](#).

Marion County Judicial Center SEEKING ART SPONSORS

By Kari Chiasson, Marion County Facilities Management and Christy Jergens, Marion County Office of Public Information

Marion County's \$42 million Judicial Center expansion is nearing completion. Now, officials are looking to decorate the facility. The art selection committee, known as MaCASSo, is asking for art donations and contributions for art purchases to adorn the four-story atrium, jury assembly suite and foyer.

For the foyers, committee members are interested in children's art relating to justice or Marion County. The group would like to bring the outdoors inside the jury assembly suites, focusing on Marion County's natural beauty and wildlife. Finally, in the atrium, the heart of the courthouse, the committee is looking for large, bold pieces.

Staff will place a plaque next to each piece of art to recognize the generosity of each piece's sponsor. To find out more information or to contribute, contact Craig Turner, President of the Marion County Bar Association, at 352-629-4442.

The Judicial Center expansion project is the Marion County Board of County Commissioners' largest construction project to date. The expansion includes a five story, 150,000 sq. foot addition, five new court rooms, judges chambers, a jury assembly room, court administration offices and new offices for the State Attorney. The project will accommodate both current and future growth.

Marion County Facilities Management staff helped construction crews complete the project at \$1 million under budget, a significant savings for taxpayers.



Be Prepared

WHEN SEVERE WEATHER HITS

By Miranda Iglesias, Marion County Fire Rescue

Jan. 24 - Jan. 30 marks Florida's Severe Weather Awareness Week. Are you equipped to survive a hurricane, tornado, severe thunderstorm or flood? Does your family have a disaster kit? If you answered no to either of those questions, now is the time to get ready. Arming yourself with information and preparing for worst case scenarios can mean the difference between life and death. For more information about Florida's 2010 Severe Weather Awareness Week, visit www.FloridaDisaster.org/SWAW2010.

Green Grant to Create Jobs

By Christy Jergens, Marion County Office of Public Information

Marion County will go green and move forward with energy-saving initiatives thanks to a recent \$2.45 million grant awarded to the county.

As part of the federal stimulus initiatives, the grant will help Marion County implement and improve energy efficiency strategies in various county facilities. Some projects include: installation of solar water heating panels, waterless urinals, thermal windows and a thermal storage system.

According to U.S. Department of Energy estimates, Marion's grant is expected to create approximately two dozen new jobs and retain more than 40 jobs. County officials slated the county jail, the Marion County Clerk of the Courts and multiple departments and locations to receive improvements.

"Taxpayers will save thousands of dollars each year through implementing these long-lasting, energy-saving programs, and money that would have been spent on water or energy costs can now instead be used to provide vital services," said Kari Chiasson, Project Coordinator for Marion County Facilities Management. "Through installation of the waterless urinals alone, the county will save approximately 1.6 million gallons of water each year."

Hot Hazards to Avoid this Winter

By Miranda Iglesias, Marion County Fire Rescue

I'm a stubborn, thin-blooded Floridian. Through my college years, my best friend on cool Florida nights was my trusty portable heater. Looking back, I'm embarrassed to admit that I left it on while in class and used it to heat up my blankets. However, once I started serving Marion County Fire Rescue, I knew I needed to change my ways. Now, I know; leaving space, portable and fixed heaters, including wood stoves, unattended, especially at night while sleeping, and keeping combustibles too close are some of the main causes of home heating fires.

Two related, and unfortunately more common, contributors to house fires are fireplace and chimney fires. Certain types of wood, especially pine, produce flammable materials that can stick to the sides of the chimney, causing a fire hazard. Be like Mary Poppins® and befriend, or hire, a chimney sweeper to avoid this heating hazard.

To prevent other heating source-related house fires this winter, hire a licensed professional to inspect and service heating devices at least once a year in addition to following the below safety tips:

Fireplace and Chimney Safety

- Use only seasonal woods.
- Build smaller, hotter fires that burn more evenly and cause less smoke.
- Never burn cardboard boxes, wrapping paper, Christmas trees or trash; these items can ignite chimney fires.
- Keep the area around the fireplace clean and free from flammables like stockings, rugs and other home furnishings.
- Hire a licensed and insured professional chimney sweeper to clean and inspect your chimney and fireplace.

Space Heater Safety

- Turn off space heaters when you are not in the room or when you go to sleep.
- Keep space heaters at least three feet away from combustibles, children and pets.
- Place space heaters on a flat, level surface where they can't fall, break open or ignite combustibles.

- Don't use extension cords unless absolutely necessary.
- Check cords and wires periodically to ensure that they have not frayed or eroded.
- Purchase space heaters that consumer safety watchdogs, such as Underwriters Laboratories (UL), have approved.
- Purchase space heaters that automatically shut off if the heater tips over.

Centralized Heating Systems Safety

- Hire a licensed and insured professional to inspect the system annually and service as needed.
- Keep units away from combustibles, especially when stored in a closet.
- When buying a new unit, make sure it carries the mark of an independent testing lab and hire a qualified technician to install the unit properly.
- Clean or replace furnace filters annually.

LIBRARY CELEBRATES AFRICAN-AMERICAN READ-IN 2010

By Karen Jensen, Marion County Public Library System

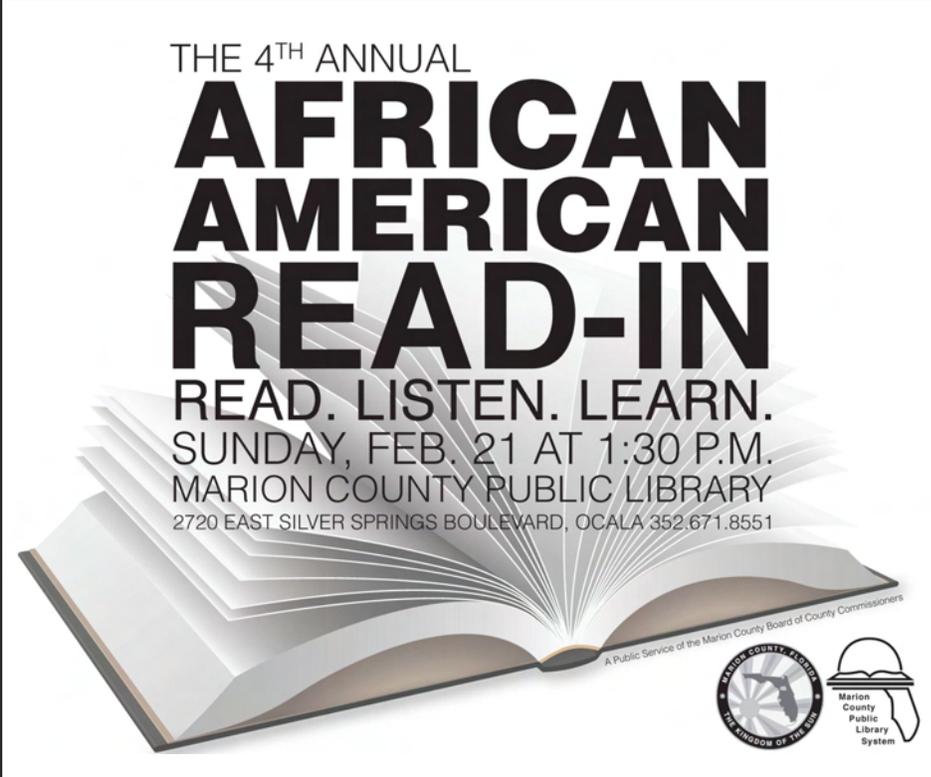
The Marion County Public Library System will host the Fourth Annual African-American Read-In to celebrate African-American authors and the importance of literacy as part of the 2010 Black History Month activities. This campaign is also part of the 21st National African-American Read-In.

To participate in any of the events listed below, contact your participating library location:

Headquarters – Ocala Library
Sunday, Feb. 21
1:30 p.m.
352-671-8551

Bellevue Library
Friday, Feb. 26
10:30 a.m.
352-438-2500

Freedom Library
Tuesday, Feb. 23
5 p.m.
352-438-2580



THE 4TH ANNUAL
AFRICAN AMERICAN READ-IN
READ. LISTEN. LEARN.
SUNDAY, FEB. 21 AT 1:30 P.M.
MARION COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
2720 EAST SILVER SPRINGS BOULEVARD, OCALA 352.671.8551

A Public Service of the Marion County Board of County Commissioners

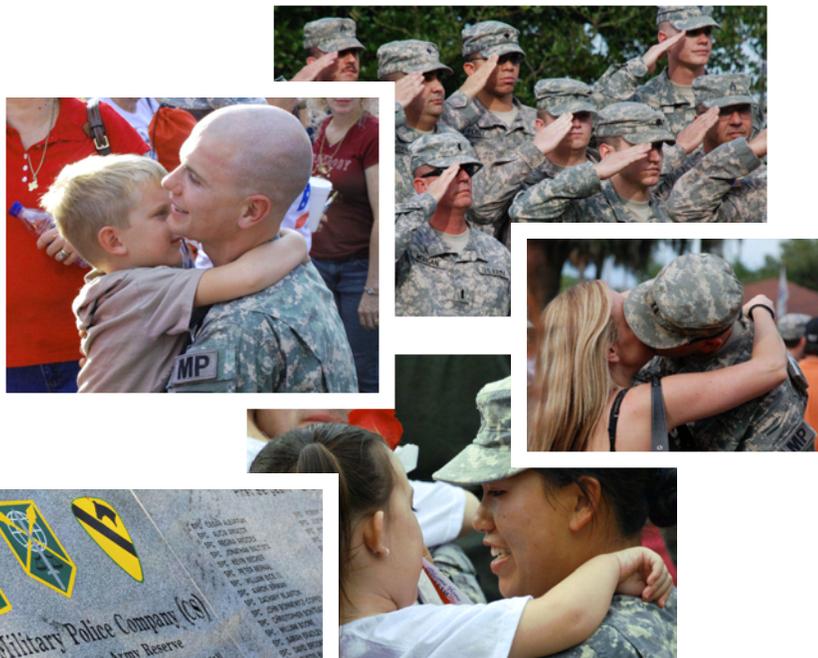
 

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT!

Compiled By Christy Jergens, Marion County Office of Public Information

351st returns from Iraq

More than 150 men and women from the 351st Military Police Company returned to Ocala on Nov. 23, after serving for nearly a year to support Operation Iraqi Freedom. The soldiers arrived at the Ocala-Marion County Veterans Memorial Park, where they took part in a short ceremony and reunited with their families and loved ones.



PETS OF THE MONTH

By Elaine Delorio, Marion County Animal Services



Cooper

Do you want a fun, furry friend with no stress or mess? **Cooper** (ID No. D-2009-7606), an approximately 7-year-old male purebred Cocker Spaniel, gets along with children and cats. He's also crate-trained, house-trained and leash-trained.



Jack

Jack (Id No. C-2009-10098), an approximately 12-week-old domestic shorthair male kitten is as sweet as can be. He gets along with other cats, and he knows he will get along with you. Will you give Jack a chance and a new home?

The adoption fee for either Cooper or Jack is only \$40 and includes the animal's spay/neuter surgery, county license, current vaccinations and microchip. Call Marion County Animal Services at 352-671-8700 for more information, or visit the department Tuesday – Friday from 10 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. or Saturday from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Did You? KNOW?

- The Dunnellon/Marion County Airport's main runway measures 4,941 feet long and 100 feet wide.
- In 2008, Marion County's Community Services Department assisted 49 homebuyers with purchasing their first home and 52 homeowners with housing repairs. The department also installed nine mobility ramps for disabled homeowners.
- 4,580 people applied for a job with one of Marion County's departments during the 2008-2009 Fiscal Year.

Calendar of Marion County Events

Compiled by Sharan Reif, Public Safety Communications and Elizabeth Leger, Public Safety Communications

January 2010

Marion County Board of County Commissioners

Jan. 1		COUNTY OFFICES CLOSED – NEW YEAR HOLIDAY	
Jan. 5	9 a.m.	County Commission Meeting	County Commission Auditorium
Jan. 5	10 a.m.	Public Hearing to Close Portion of Shasta Avenue (Bellevue Hills Estates)	County Commission Auditorium
Jan. 8	11 a.m.	Extension Service Auditorium Grand Opening	2232 NE Jacksonville Road, Ocala
Jan. 15	9 a.m. – 5 p.m.	Commission Strategic Planning Workshop	Horseshoe Lake
Jan. 18		COUNTY OFFICES CLOSED – MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. HOLIDAY	
Jan. 19	9 a.m.	County Commission Meeting	County Commission Auditorium
Jan. 19	10 a.m.	Public Hearing to Revise Animal Ordinances	County Commission Auditorium
Jan. 19	10 a.m.	Public Hearing to close portion of alley in Oak Hurst	County Commission Auditorium
Jan. 19	2 p.m.	County Commission Meeting (Zoning Portion)	County Commission Auditorium
Jan. 26	4 p.m.	Ocala/Marion County Transportation Organization Meeting	County Commission Auditorium

Marion County Animal Services

Jan. 2	10 a.m. – 2 p.m.	Cat Adoptions at PetSmart	534 N. U.S. Highway 441, Lady Lake
Jan. 8	12 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	WVWG Radio Station Dog Adoptions	1101 Main St., The Villages
Jan. 9	10 a.m. – 2 p.m.	Cat Adoptions at PetSmart	534 N. U.S. Highway 441, Lady Lake
Jan. 9	10 a.m. – 2 p.m.	Pet Adoptions at PetSmart	3500 SW College Road, Ocala
Jan. 15	12 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	WVWG Radio Station Dog Adoptions	1101 Main St., The Villages
Jan. 16	10 a.m. – 2 p.m.	Cat Adoptions at PetSmart	534 N. U.S. Highway 441, Lady Lake
Jan. 22	12 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	WVWG Radio Station Dog Adoptions	1101 Main St., The Villages
Jan. 23	10 a.m. – 2 p.m.	Cat Adoptions at PetSmart	534 N. U.S. Highway 441, Lady Lake
Jan. 29	12 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	WVWG Radio Station Dog Adoptions	1101 Main St., The Villages
Jan. 30	10 a.m. – 2 p.m.	Cat Adoptions at PetSmart	534 N. U.S. Highway 441, Lady Lake

Marion County Public Library System

Jan. 4	2 p.m.	Monday Movie Matinee	Headquarters – Ocala Library
Jan. 5	1 p.m.	Tuesday Movie Matinee	Bellevue Public Library
Jan. 5	4 p.m.	Teen Book Discussion (Ages 13-18)	Headquarters – Ocala Library
Jan. 6	10:30 a.m.	PC Basics 101	Headquarters – Ocala Library
Jan. 6	3:30 p.m.	Exploring the Library's Virtual Resources	Bellevue Public Library
Jan. 7	10:30 a.m.	Florida Yards and Neighborhoods – Master Gardeners	Bellevue Public Library
Jan. 7	1 p.m.	Introduction to the Computer	Bellevue Public Library
Jan. 7	2 p.m.	Computer Basics	Freedom Public Library
Jan. 7	3 p.m.	Family Game Day	Bellevue Public Library
Jan. 9	10 a.m. – 2 p.m.	Health Screenings for Adults	Fort McCoy Public Library
Jan. 9	2 p.m.	Construction Zone (Ages 3 – 12)	Headquarters – Ocala Library
Jan. 11	2 p.m.	Monday Movie Matinee	Headquarters – Ocala Library
Jan. 12	1 p.m.	Tuesday Movie Matinee	Bellevue Public Library
Jan. 12	2 p.m.	Master Gardeners	Freedom Public Library
Jan. 13	10:30 a.m.	Internet Basics 101	Headquarters – Ocala Library
Jan. 14	11 a.m.	Water Conservation and You	Headquarters – Ocala Library
Jan. 14	11 a.m.	Book Discussion Group	Dunnellon Public Library
Jan. 14	1 p.m.	Basic Internet	Bellevue Public Library
Jan. 14	2 p.m.	Introduction to the Internet	Freedom Public Library
Jan. 15	1 p.m.	Magic Show with Brian LaPalme	Bellevue Public Library
Jan. 15	3:30 p.m.	Card Trick Workshop for Tweens	Bellevue Public Library
Jan. 16	1 p.m.	Magic Show with Brian LaPalme (All ages)	Bellevue Public Library
Jan. 16	2 p.m.	Magic Show with Brian LaPalme (Tweens)	Bellevue Public Library
Jan. 19	1 p.m.	Tuesday Movie Matinee	Bellevue Public Library
Jan. 19	5 p.m.	Teen Tech: Fun with Photos	Bellevue Public Library
Jan. 20	10:30 a.m.	Word Basics 101	Headquarters – Ocala Library
Jan. 20	2 p.m.	Meet the Author: Art Adkins	Bellevue Public Library
Jan. 20	3:30 p.m.	Exploring the Library's Virtual Resources	Bellevue Public Library

*Event dates and times are subject to change without notice.

Calendar of Events

Marion County
(Continued)

January 2010

Jan. 21	3 p.m.	Family Game Day	Bellevue Public Library
Jan. 22	10:30 a.m.	How to Improve Your Memory	Dunnellon Public Library
Jan. 22	2 p.m.	Be Safe Online for Kids (Grades 2 - 4)	Dunnellon Public Library
Jan. 24	2 p.m.	Ocala Youth Symphony Presents "Soloists' Performances"	Headquarters – Ocala Library
Jan. 24	2 p.m.	Teen/Parent Book Club	Headquarters – Ocala Library
Jan. 25	2 p.m.	Monday Movie Matinee	Headquarters – Ocala Library
Jan. 25	2 p.m.	Family Flix	Bellevue Public Library
Jan. 26	10 a.m.	Read to Your Baby Story time	Freedom Public Library
Jan. 26	10:30 a.m.	Baby Songs and Nursery Rhymes (Birth - 12 mos.)	Dunnellon Public Library
Jan. 26	1 p.m.	Tuesday Movie Matinee	Bellevue Public Library
Jan. 27	10:30 a.m.	eGovernment Forms 101	Headquarters – Ocala Library
Jan. 27	4 p.m.	Crafty Kids: Arts and Crafts – (Grades K-5)	Dunnellon Public Library
Jan. 28	1 p.m.	Basic Word	Bellevue Public Library
Jan. 28	2 p.m.	Computer Basics	Freedom Public Library
Jan. 30	2 p.m.	Percy Jackson Party (Grades 3-6)	Headquarters – Ocala Library

Marion County's public libraries also offer many story time opportunities. Please contact your local library for dates and times.

Marion County Parks and Recreation

(Programs may require pre-registration and a small fee; please call 352- 671-8560 for more information.)

Jan. 2	10 a.m.	Art Van-Go	Baseline Road Trailhead
Jan. 2	12 p.m.	Art Van-Go	Liberty Community Park
Jan. 2	2 p.m.	Art Van-Go	Wrigley Fields Park
Jan. 6	9 – 9:30 a.m.	Preschool P.E.	Brick City Adventure Park
Jan. 6	10 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	Home School Art and P.E. Program	Brick City Adventure Park
Jan. 7	10 a.m.	Kayak and Koffee	KP Hole Park
Jan. 9	9:30 a.m.	Bird and Nature Walk	Sunnyhill Restoration Area
Jan. 9	9 a.m. – 2 p.m.	Basic Wild Caving Experience	Brick City Adventure Park
Jan. 13	9 – 9:30 a.m.	Preschool P.E.	Brick City Adventure Park
Jan. 13	10 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	Home School Art and P.E. Program	Brick City Adventure Park
Jan. 15	9:30 a.m.	Adult Kayak Outing	Ray Wayside Park
Jan. 20	9 – 9:30 a.m.	Preschool P.E.	Brick City Adventure Park
Jan. 20	10 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	Home School Art and P.E. Program	Brick City Adventure Park
Jan. 21	10 a.m.	Kayak and Koffee	Ray Wayside Park
Jan. 22	8 a.m. – 5 p.m.	Park Explorers (Ages 10-15)	Brick City Adventure Park
Jan. 23	9:30 a.m.	Adult Kayak Outing	Gores Landing Park
Jan. 25	8 a.m. – 5 p.m.	Park Explorers (Ages 10-15)	Brick City Adventure Park
Jan. 27	9 – 9:30 a.m.	Preschool P.E.	Brick City Adventure Park
Jan. 27	10 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	Home School Art and P.E. Program	Brick City Adventure Park
Jan. 30	9 a.m. – 12 p.m.	Birding Class	Brick City Adventure Park
Jan. 31	9:30 a.m.	Adult Kayak Outing	Ray Wayside Park

Marion County Veterans Services

Jan. 9	10 a.m.	Quarterly Memorial	Veterans Memorial Park
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All Marion County offices will be closed on Friday, Jan. 1 for the New Year holiday and on Monday, Jan. 18 for the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday.

*Event dates and times are subject to change without notice.