



COUNTY CONNECTION

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Marion County Commissioners
David Moore, District 1
Kathy Bryant, District 2
Stan McClain, Vice Chair, District 3
Carl Zalak III, Chairman, District 4
Earl Arnett, District 5

Marion County Administrator
Dr. Lee A. Niblock

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Scan the QR code with your smartphone to visit Marion County online.

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.

A decade to remember

Headquarters-Ocala Public Library bookmarks 10th anniversary

By Stacie Causey

It was an early morning in July 2004 when families, businesses and civic groups met in front of the former downtown Ocala Public Library to “move” books two miles over to their new library home. The “Moving the Library: Book by Book, Block by Block” parade marked the transition of the downtown library to a new, renovated location on East Silver Springs Boulevard.

“It represented many years and thousands of hours of work on the part of hundreds of individuals, many of whom were volunteers who worked with great vision, conviction, commitment, passion and forward-thinking ideas,” recalls Public Library System Director Julie Sieg of the final move and grand opening experience.

Ten years later, the same commitment and drive is evident in every corner of the 59,700-square-foot Headquarters-Ocala Public Library. A facility like no other in Marion County, the library houses a wealth of resources, services and features. These include: a children’s area, computer training lab, public access computers, genealogy/local history room, large reading areas, a Friends of the Library bookstore, ample public parking and fully-equipped public meeting rooms. Additionally, 16 mosaic art panels featuring original artwork from local artists adorn the building’s exterior and offer an inspiring example of art in public places.

These features come alive every day as hundreds of new and frequent library patrons step in – whether to read a book, use a computer to find a new job, search databases for their business research or partake in one of the library’s numerous award-winning programs.

Another plus? Patrons can still find 18 of the original Ocala Public Library staff dedicated to helping residents of all ages experience the benefits of their public library.

JOIN THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION EVENT!

from 4-6 p.m. on **Oct. 21** at the Headquarters-Ocala Public Library, hosted by the Friends of the Ocala Public Library. For more information, call 352-671-8551.



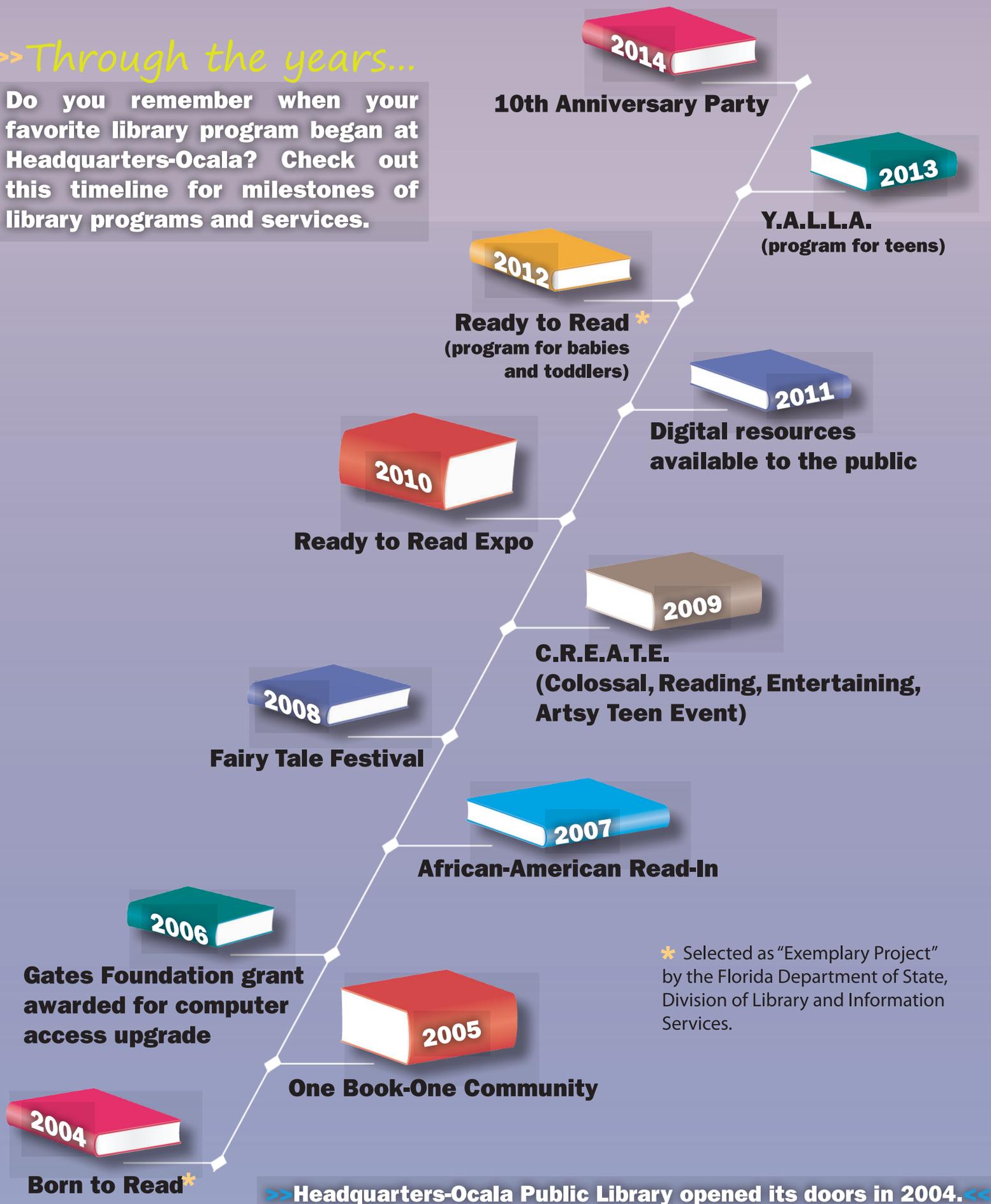
TOP STORY



Headquarters-Ocala Public Library

>>Through the years...

Do you remember when your favorite library program began at Headquarters-Ocala? Check out this timeline for milestones of library programs and services.



NEWSFLASH

Babe Ruth World Series: *By the numbers*

By Elaine Delorio McClain

All season, they practiced and played. They swung and pitched. They lost, but mostly won. And in August, youth baseball teams from across the country traveled to Marion County to compete in the 14U Babe Ruth World Series. Ocala's team, the Ocala Speed, made it to the championship game – an uncommon feat since the host teams rarely have such success. Though they didn't end up with the final win, the Marion County players, coaches and families have a lot to be proud of – and so does the Marion County community. Read through the numbers below to see why hosting the World Series here at the Rotary Sportsplex was a homerun for everyone in Marion County.

10 teams of 14-year-olds competed in the 14U Babe Ruth World Series.

4,686 miles was how far the team from Oahu, Hawaii traveled to get to Marion County for the championship. That team traveled farthest, but seven of the other teams hailed from outside Florida as well.

8 days of ball games made up the tournament.

4 games the Ocala Speed won to make it to the World Championship game.

2,700 unique visitors were welcomed to the Rotary Sportsplex for the World Series games.*

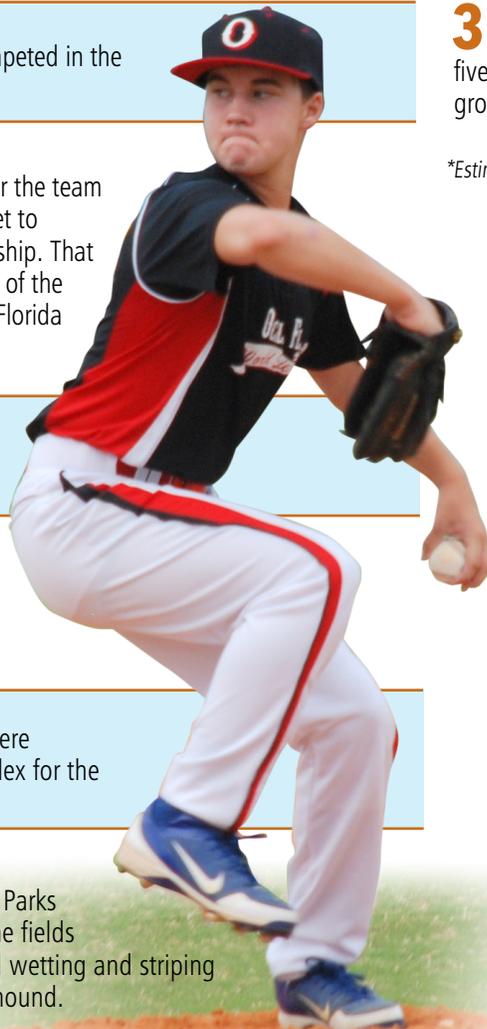
8 minutes is how long it took Parks and Recreation staff to groom the fields between games, which included wetting and striping the field and fixing the pitcher mound.

1,500 hotel room nights were booked by visitors to Marion County.*

\$1,903,600 was the total estimated economic impact for Marion County. That's because visitors here for the tournament shopped at our stores, ate meals at our restaurants and enjoyed activities and entertainment when they weren't playing or watching ball games.*

3 Marion County has hosted three world series tournaments in the last five years, and this one was one of nine tournaments that varied in age group and sport to be held in Marion this year.

**Estimations provided by Ocala-Marion County Visitors and Convention Bureau.*



Marion County Public Library System

create

Colossal, Reading, Entertaining, Artsy, Teen Event

Saturday, Nov. 15, 2014
Headquarters-Ocala Public Library
2720 E Silver Springs Blvd, Ocala

Applications for teens
ages 13-18
available online:
library.marioncountyfl.org

Questions?
Call 352-671-8551.

Entry deadline Monday, Oct. 27.

Get up, get ready, get smart about fire safety

By Jessica Greene



Since January, Marion County Fire Rescue has responded to more than 132 residential fires. While our firefighters hope no children ever have to experience this type of emergency, they know the importance of sharing life-saving tips to help prepare our young heroes about fire safety. This month, MCFR crews will visit 28 elementary schools to talk with students about when to call 911 and what to do if they're caught in a fire (get down, get out and get on the phone). Parents and guardians can take part in this effort by creating an [emergency escape plan](#) and going over this [Home Safety Checklist](#).

Want more? Here are some helpful fire safety tips:

- Dial 911 in an emergency.
- Install smoke alarms and change their batteries each time you change your clocks for Daylight Saving Time.
- Make and practice a fire escape plan with your family (use the fun activity sheet linked above).
- If your house is on fire remember: "Get down, get out and get on the phone."
- Never go back into a burning building.
- Never leave a burning candle or burning pot unattended.

Marion County Growth Services Fees

Changes effective Oct. 1
[Click for details.](#)

MORE JOBS coming to Marion

By Danielle Damato Doty

On Aug. 20, the Marion County Board of County Commissioners voted unanimously to support a manufacturing company set to create up to 25 new full-time jobs above Marion's average median salary. The commission awarded \$40,000 in Economic Development Financial Incentive Grant (EDFIG) funds to Just in Time Machining, LLC, a full-service, family-owned computer numerical control (CNC) shop based out of Rochester, New York.

"We are excited to officially welcome Just in Time Machining, LLC to our community," said Marion County Commission Chairman Carl Zalak III. "Our board's commitment of a \$40,000 grant shows our continued support of economic development among targeted industries. Knowing that Just in Time also considered Texas, Georgia and Alabama as possible locations, we are extremely pleased that they will be opening for business right here in Marion County."

Just in Time Machining, LLC provides prototyping, CNC and CNC-turn mill machining, drilling, milling, turning and sawing, welding and metal fabrication. The company is proposing to occupy an existing facility and will invest a minimum of \$300,000 in capital funding for renovations and new equipment; it has also committed to create up to 25 new, full-time jobs with an average annual salary of \$37,000.



Point toward success.

*If you're a local vendor in Marion County,
opportunities may be closer than you think.*

Attend a **Local Vendor Training** and learn how to do business with Marion County.

Oct. 13, 2014, 9-11 a.m.

Marion County Procurement Services
(2631 SE Third St., Ocala)

[Call 352-671-8444 for more info.](#)

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



DOMINA DAUGHTREY
INFORMATION SERVICE
DIVISION MANAGER/
MARION COUNTY
PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM,
HEADQUARTERS-OCALA

Compiled by Stacie Causey

Marion County Utilities customer service center has new location, phone number

The new location is just off U.S. Highway 441 in Belleview (11800 SE U.S. Highway 441, Belleview). The phone number for customer service is now 352-307-6000. Customers should use this line for setting up or canceling accounts, making payments and requesting service. Residents can contact the department's administration office at 352-307-4630 for all other utility topics.

Educational background: A.A., Liberal Arts, Hillsborough Community College; B.A. English, University of Florida; M.L.S., Florida State University; A.S., graphic design, Santa Fe College.

When did you start with Marion County?
March 5, 2001.

What led you to your current career or position, and what made you interested in working in your field?

I was drawn to librarianship for several reasons. I have always placed great value in libraries and the vital public service they provide in communities: Libraries enhance quality of life. I enjoy working with people. I am innately curious. And I have a fondness for research. Librarianship seemed like a perfect match. And it is. My progression in the Marion County Public Library System is something that I desired and worked toward. As I gained knowledge and experience and felt that I was ready for new challenges and responsibilities, I sought out positions that would fulfill me professionally.

Are you from Marion County originally? If you've lived in other places, where have you lived?

I am from New York. I grew up in Rockland County, which is just outside of New York City and moved a bit upstate to Orange County when I went into high school. I moved to the Tampa Bay area from New York City in the early '90s. In 1998 I moved to Crystal River (Citrus County), which is where I still live.

What's your favorite or most rewarding part of your job? I find that working with people, in general, and finding solutions to be the most rewarding part of my job.

What is your typical day, week or month like?

Every day, I supervise a staff of 16 intelligent, creative, diverse individuals. I work closely with other supervisors and administrators in working towards the library's mission and in ensuring that the Information Services Division continues to provide quality resources and services to the community it serves.

What are some unique or interesting projects you've worked on while employed here?

CREATE (Colossal, Reading, Entertaining, Artsy, Teen Event) is a unique and interesting project that I continue

to work on. This fall event showcases the talents of Marion County teens ages 13-18 in fine arts, writing, filmmaking and performing arts. This event is one-of-a-kind in Marion County. The teens are remarkably talented and everyone who attends the event enjoys it. We are in the throes of getting ready for the 6th annual CREATE, which takes place on Saturday, Nov. 15 at the Headquarters-Ocala location.

What would you like for the average resident to know about your department or position?

The library, system-wide, is a wonderful community resource. The library's greatest resource is the friendly, helpful staff who help people to find what they are looking for. Aside from traditional print resources, the library offers amazing electronic resources – e-books, digital music, digital audiobooks. The library also offers terrific programs, system-wide, for people of all ages and backgrounds. The library is a community center, a great place where people connect and engage.

Tell us something interesting about you that most people wouldn't know.

Given my profession, most people don't know that I have an extensive background in cosmetology. I spent many, many years "doing" hair, with a specialty in hair color. When I lived in New York City I worked for a well-known hair colorist who had an impressive clientele including renowned photojournalist Mary Ellen Mark and artist Barbara Kreuger. To this day, I maintain my New York and Florida cosmetology licenses just because.

Calendar of Events

Find out what events are coming up in Marion County – check the online [calendar of events!](#)