



APRIL IS NATIONAL MINORITY HEALTH MONTH "YOUR HEALTH DEPENDS ON YOU!"



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Loving Bridges, Inc. Empowering Domestic Violence Survivors

April is Minority Health Month: Black Girls Run/Walk Ocala

All About You Angels: Supporting Breast Cancer Survivors

Connecting the Pieces of Mental Wellness ([Register now](#))

NAACP's 41st Freedom Fund and Awards Banquet



April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Tips for Stopping Child Abuse:

- Try to understand your children. Learn how kids behave and what they can and can't do at different ages. Have realistic expectations and be reasonable if children fall short.
- Keep your children healthy. Denying children food, sleep, or healthcare is abuse by neglect.
- Get help with alcohol or drug problems. Keep children away from anyone who abuses those substances.
- Watch your words. Angry or punishing language can leave emotional scars for a lifetime.
- Get control of yourself before disciplining a child. Set clear rules so the child knows what to expect. Avoid physical punishment.

Source: www.umc.rochester.edu/encyclopedia/content.aspx?contenttypeid=1&contentid=1565

OCALA MALL PLANS GRAND OPENING

The grand opening ceremony for the new Ocala Mall, 3711 E. Silver Springs Blvd., will be held on Saturday, April 8, at 9:30 a.m.

The event includes live music, face painting and the Empanada Factory and McFoodland food trucks are scheduled to be there.

For information, call (352) 794-1443 or go to <http://www.ocala-mall.net>.



TOWN Talk MAGAZINE

Sharing the good news happening
in our community.

Founders

Monica Bryant & Cynthia Wilson-Graham

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Let's Talk

We want to hear from you:

Email your submissions, events,
comments or questions to

Towntalkmagazine@yahoo.com.

Please include contact information
(name and phone number) on the
submission. Deadline is the first
Monday of each month for the
following month's publication.

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EDITOR'S DESK



A few days ago a friend of mine asked me when is it Okay not to be Ok?
At the time, I didn't have an answer because most of us, whether we are
OK or not, "will pretend" that we are, show no sign of weakness and keep
it moving. I'm guilty of it, maybe you are too.

I asked a colleague the same question. She told me it's *always* OK to not be OK, but it's
our actions and what we do after that matters. She went on to say that we can make
problems worse depending on our responses to not being Ok, but we need to take time
to process and consider our actions so they are not detrimental to our future and those
involved.

So many people in our community are NOT Ok. They seem to face one crisis after
another and can't catch a break. Our children are NOT Ok. Our community is NOT Ok.
Our homeless situation is out of control and there does not seem to be any light at the
end of that tunnel. Last week my office was bombarded with calls from mostly young
women who all had the same issue: I'm homeless with 2, 3, 5 and in one case 8 children
and have no where to go. The desperation in their voice would bring tears to anyone
who's been there, may be there or about to be in their shoes. The sad part is we,
meaning our community, lack the resources to adequately address this issue because
we have no place for them to go. How sad!

Even if we won't admit it, we all need help sometimes but are often too afraid to ask.
Protecting our mental health is critical! Too many people experience suicidal crisis or
mental health-related distress without having the support and care they need. If you
can't recognize the signs if you or your child may be experiencing a mental health crisis,
call or text 988, the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, formerly known as the National Suicide
Prevention Lifeline and be connected with mental health professionals that help
thousands of people overcome crisis situations every day. I also encourage you to
register to attend the Parent/Teen Workshop: *Connecting The Pieces of Mental
Wellness*, on Thursday, April 13, at the College of Central Florida. The keynote speaker
is Kevin Hines, a Mental Wellness and Suicide Prevention Activist. Dinner will be served
so preregistration is recommended. See page 8 for registration information.

The good news is, I did get an answer to the question. I actually looked it up. Yes, it is
Okay to not be Okay. We are allowed to change our mind, to take a break or leave a
situation we don't feel comfortable in. Don't blame yourself for any of those things or feel
bad about feeling bad. We should all be allowed to fall apart sometimes so that we can
find ourselves all over again.

Are you Okay?

Let's Talk!

Monica

Monica T. Bryant, Editor



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COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

LOVING BRIDGES, INC. ~ EMPOWERING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SURVIVORS

When Yeralin Martinez went on her first mission trip to an orphanage in Monterrey, Mexico, she knew right then and there she was destined to serve.

"I always wanted to serve. Ever since I could remember, I wanted to be involved and care for the less fortunate," she said. "I always had a soft spot for children and abused women."

Martinez said being a domestic violence survivor fueled her fire to start Loving Bridges, Inc., a nonprofit organization created to serve victims of domestic violence in Marion County and surrounding rural areas. In January 2023, she received her 501 3c.

For the past three years, she said serving on the Board of Governors for the Continuum of Care of Marion County helped her learn more about the needs of those affected by domestic violence in our city. She knew it was time for her to step up.

Martinez said her logo depicts an abstract bridge that includes the three areas she wants to address: Purple for Domestic Violence; Orange for Homelessness; and Teal for Affordable Housing.

"The name came from a place of love. Domestic violence survivors need to feel loved and cared for," she said. "I wanted the name to resonate with them and be clear that we are going to provide a bridge for the services they need in a loving way."

The organization's mission is to prevent and end homelessness amongst domestic violence survivors who become homeless while fleeing from violence by increasing the supply of affordable housing, providing shelter and wrap around services.

Martinez said ideally, they would like to be available 24/7, but for now, they will start by providing wrap around services to survivors and assistance with basic and immediate needs. She plans to partner with law enforcement agencies, local nonprofit organizations and domestic violence shelters for referrals.

Although securing funding is their greatest challenge right now, Martinez said she plans to apply for federal and state funds as well as seek private donors for support. Currently they are accepting donations for basic need items and purses. Anyone who wants to help can go to their website, which will be live soon, and click the "Donate" button to make a donation. The funds will be used to help survivors with immediate needs.

"Our long-term goal is to be able to empower the survivors so that they can live a self-sufficient life independent of their abuser," she said.

So far, Martinez said, they've been able to provide shelter in a hotel for a week and assistance with finding an apartment for a family with a 2-year-old baby. She said they helped them with meals, transportation, translation and paperwork. Once the family moved in, they were able to provide some groceries and basic need items. They also assisted a young woman with the deposit needed to rent an apartment.



"This type of work is near and dear to my heart because I've been in their shoes. The difference I want to make is to leave them empowered," Martinez said. "I want survivors to know that they CAN do this. That they are STRONG enough, INTELLIGENT enough and above all WORTHY and DESERVING to be happy."

For more information about Loving Bridges or to make a donation, please call (352) 533-0122. You can also follow them on Facebook and Instagram at @lovingbridges or visit their website at www.lovingbridges.org.



Yeralin Martinez,
Executive Director/Founder
Loving Bridges, Inc.

The **Community Spotlight** highlights a person, place or event in our community. Tell us what's happening around town so we can share your **Good News** with others. Email submissions to Towntalkmagazine@yahoo.com.

@LEVITTAMPOCALA 10 FREE CONCERTS

FRIDAYS
APRIL 14 - JUNE 23*
7 - 9 P.M.
**excluding May 26*

Levitt AMP Ocala Music Series

WEBB FIELD
1510 NW 4TH ST.
RAIN LOCATION:
E.D. CROSKY RECREATION CENTER

2023 SERIES LINE-UP

- April 14 | Veronica Lewis
- April 21 | SambaDá
- April 28 | Bassel & the Supernaturals
- May 5 | Harlem Gospel Travelers
- May 12 | Shayna Steele
- May 19 | The Malpass Brothers
- June 2 | Chris Pierce
- June 9 | Vox Sambou
- June 16 | Yusa
Kicking off Juneteenth Celebration weekend
- June 23 | Shamarr Allen

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www.ocalafi.org/levittamp | artinfo@ocalafi.org | 352-629-8447

PLEASE SAVE-THE-DATE FOR AN UPCOMING TOWN HALL MEETING

The Governor's West Ocala Neighborhood Revitalization Council Inc. in conjunction with the City of Ocala's Community Programs Department and Councilman Ire Bethea, will hold a Town Hall meeting on Tuesday April 25, 2023 at 6 p.m. at the Mary Sue Rich Community Center at Reed Place, 1812 NW 21st Ave., Ocala, FL 34475

Since April is Fair Housing Month and May is Affordable Housing Month, Community Programs and Governor's West will offer presentations on Fair Housing by Community Legal Services; the Office of Homeless Prevention will provide an update on the Homeless, Community Programs will give a presentation on the City's Annual Action Plan, and there will be a discussion on a potential housing development in West Ocala.

Sponsored by



SAT APRIL 8TH
FROM 11AM TO 4PM

MARION COUNTY REDHAWKS AND CERTIFIED PROMO PRESENTS

EASTER ON A SATURDAY FUNDAY

FREE FOOD AND DRINKS- EASTER EGG HUNT FUN AND GAMES FOR ALL AGES PAVILLION @ WEBB FIELD

1501 W. SILVER SPRINGS BLVD
FOR MORE INFO CERTIFIED PROMO 352-361-9863

FREE event for families!

Family Fun Wellness Fair
Celebrates
Minority Health Month

10 a.m.-2 p.m., Saturday, April 22
Mary Sue Rich Community Center
1821 NW 21st Ave, Ocala, FL 34475

Bring the whole family as the Florida Department of Health in Marion County hosts this **free** event to promote health and wellness during Minority Health Month.

This event will feature many activities and information presented by our community partners that can improve your health and well-being, including:

- Food & music
- Games & facepainting
- Wellness screenings
- Community resources
- Adult & youth immunizations
- Health Education
- and much more!

To learn more, contact Monica DaSilva at Monica.DaSilva@FLHealth.gov or 352-644-2679.

ALL ABOUT YOU ANGELS ~ SUPPORTING BREAST CANCER SURVIVORS

Lori Timmreck wanted to help women who were fighting Breast Cancer and provide a place for survivors to come together to further the cause and feel good about themselves again after their own treatments.



Timmreck, owner of All About You Women’s Boutique, thought of these women as Angels because when you’re in the fight, it is All About You. She combined the two and in 2012 started the nonprofit organization All About You Angels (AAYA).

“The Angels help women through and after their fight with breast cancer. During their fight, we offer financial assistance to help them purchase things that are not covered by insurance or just too costly after they’ve paid their medical bills,” said Missy Ridgeway, secretary and event coordinator for AAYA. “These items include such things as wigs, breast prosthesis, bras, special clothing, lymphedema sleeves, surgical camisoles, skin healing and hair growth products and much more.”

Ridgeway said she became active with the group in 2017 after her personal fight with Breast Cancer in 2016. Since its inception, they have helped approximately 100 women with supplies. She said they are funded by donations and grants, but the community can assist by making financial donations to help them continue their mission. Their greatest challenge is finding volunteers to help with their events and fundraisers. All funds raised by the Angels benefit survivors in Marion County.

Since Covid put a hold on many of their events for the past few years, Ridgeway said they’re gradually starting to hold them again. They plan to host their famous Bunco parties in 2024 and participate in the Ocala Jeep Club Jeeptoberfest in October and other local events. Their Celebration of Survivors Fashion Show is scheduled for October 1. The 2024 Angels Calendar will be revealed. The calendar consists of 12 new survivors chosen to be models that are highlighted in it for the upcoming year. Local businesses are needed to purchase ads. They also need donations to create raffle baskets for the Fashion Show.

“As an Angel Survivor it is a wonderful feeling to be in the Fashion Show and have hundreds of attendees cheering you on and making you feel beautiful for the person you are,” she said. “The feeling is not something you can really put into words but when I try, it brings tears to my eyes every time.”

Ridgeway said they’ve received grants from the Florida Breast Cancer Foundation which has allowed them to be able to assist women with living expenses by providing Publix gift cards for food and gift cards for gas. They are in the process of distributing a \$10,000 grant to 40 women living in Marion County currently receiving radiation and/or chemo. Each recipient receives a \$250 gift card.

“As an Angel, to be able to pay it forward and help other women going through the fight of their life, whether it is being a friend an answering questions they may have, sending them encouraging words via email, text or cards, or supporting women with financial /assistance to purchase items they may need, the overall feeling is heart warming,” Ridgeway said.

To be referred for services, send email to aayangels@gmail.com, visit the All About You Women’s Boutique, located at 4901 E. Silver Springs Blvd., or call Timmreck at (352) 208-0467 or Ridgeway, the secretary and event coordinator for the organization, at (352) 216-7305.



The organization meets the second Monday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at Holder Insurance Agency, 1635 S,W, 1st Ave., Ocala. The meetings, which are used to plan upcoming events, are open to the Angels and any volunteers that want to help out.

For more information, visit www.AllAboutAngels.org or follow them on Facebook at **All About You Angels**. Donations can be mailed to P.O. Box 4996, Ocala, FL 34478.

SANKOFA PUBLIC LIBRARY

1812 NW 21st Ave., Ocala, FL 34475
(352) 438-2550

Programs sponsored by the Friends of the Ocala Public Library.

For more information about programs and library resources at all nine Marion County Public Library System locations, visit the library's website at library.marionfl.org.

ADULTS

Tech Help

Thursdays, 2-4 p.m.
April 6-27

Have a technology question? We'll try to find the answer!

Sankofa Time

Thursdays, 10:30 a.m.
April 6 - 27 ~ Gather with friends and neighbors for a delightful mix of stories and fun!

Book Club

See Program Spotlight for more book clubs.

Second Story Readers

Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m.
April 11 "Small Great Things" by Jodi Picoult

TEENS

MANGALicious Teen Club!

Tuesdays, 4:30 p.m.
April 4 ~ Anime and manga fans, unite!

YALLA!

Wednesdays, 4:30 p.m. April 19
Be a part of the library experience! Earn volunteer hours for service.

FAMILIES

Family Story Time

Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.
April 5 - 26 ~ Stories, songs and activities for children.

Mancala and More!

Mondays, 4 p.m.
April 3 - 24 ~ Play mancala & other classic tabletop games.



Calling all budding Poets and poetry lovers!

April is Poetry month and to celebrate, Barnes & Noble, 4414 S.W. College Road Ste 500, Ocala, is hosting

its first ever Open Mic Poetry Night!

The event, hosted by local poet K.D. Gates, features a selection of local published poetry authors reading, the mic will also be open to any customer wanting to read their own or their favorite poems! Be sure to join us!

PINWHEELS for prevention

ELCMC Early Learning Coalition of Marion County, Inc.
United Way
SUCCESS BY 6

SAT. APRIL 15, 2023
11 A.M. - 2 P.M.
PADDOCK MALL

FREE:

- Live Entertainment
- Kids Activity Area
- Face Painting
- Children's Books
- Giveaways and More...

For more information, call (352) 369-2315
Visit www.ELC-MARION.org

PADDOCK MALL 3100 SW College Road
Ocala, Florida 34474

Dominic and Friends 7th Annual Sellers Funeral Home

GREG GOOD EATS **OPALICIOUS**
Amp'd Up Stereo **Fresh Force Djs**
Ocala Parks and Recreation

Easter Hunt

APRIL 9TH 2PM
ED CROSKEY PAVILLION
1510 NW 4TH ST, OCALA, FL 34475
Free food, games, and more
For questions or donations, contact
Dominic (352-274-1260)
A Natural High Event

TAKE CHARGE OF YOUR HEALTH! START YOUR OWN HEALTH JOURNEY

When Keya Chalk Walker started having stomach pains In December 2021, she went to see a health provider and found out her blood pressure was high. She got some lab work done and her results revealed prediabetes.

“I was upset because both of my parents are diabetic, and I was adamant I did not want to go down that same road,” said Walker, a Family Nurse Practitioner at Heart of Florida Health Center. “I was also disappointed that I educate my patients daily about lifestyle changes I had not committed to myself.”

Walker started her journey to be healthier a month later. She didn’t want to start a fad diet or a New Year’s Resolution to lose a certain amount since she quickly quit those options in the past, so she chose one goal, to run a half marathon.



Members of Black Girls Run/Walk Ocala: Keya Chalk Walker, Courtney Smith, LaBridgette L. Rawls, Shaqwana McCottry



Keya Chalk Walker

“I realized if I do something every day to get me closer to my goal, all of the benefits would include weight loss, lowering my blood pressure and reversing prediabetes,” she said. “I had never seen an overweight prediabetic runner with high blood pressure, but I was going to be the first.”

The Florida Department of Health in Marion County wants others to take charge of their health too.

On Saturday, April 22, they are hosting a Family Fun Wellness Fair in partnership with nonprofits, private providers, private sectors, hospitals and businesses, to promote health and wellness during National Minority Health Month. The event is free and includes food, music, games, face painting, wellness screenings, adult and youth immunizations, community resources, health education and much more. *See flyer on page 4 for more information.*

“We’re focusing on minorities – not just to improve their health and wellbeing, but to improve their opportunities for socioeconomic advancement, Monica DaSilva, Health Educator Program Consultant and Minority Health Liaison, Florida Department of Health in Marion County, said in an email! “We believe the myriad of services offered would help in breaking barriers to the underserved/minorities and to gain community trust. We are stronger together.

Celebrated each year in April, National Minority Health Month builds awareness about the disproportionate burden of premature death and illness in people from racial and ethnic minority groups, and encourages action through health education, early detection and control of disease complications.

“First, find a primary care provider. You should have regular check ups for preventative screenings yearly,” Walker said. “Exercise helps decrease your risk of most chronic conditions and it should be a part of every lifestyle. If you smoke STOP! No soda. Eat the majority of your food from home.”

LaBridgette L. Rawls started her health journey in November 2021. During that time, she was experiencing extreme grief due to the deaths of several loved ones back to back including her biological father, and she wasn’t taking care of herself due to sadness. One day, she said, she got up and started running.

“It has helped me have an outlet of coping with my grief, improved my mental health,” she said. “I want to remain physically active and maintain proper nutrition so I can hopefully experience a good quality of life over the years. My family has a lot of issues with high blood pressure and diabetes, so I want to break that cycle.”

In September 2022, Walker and Rawls started Black Girls Run/Walk Ocala because there was no place they could go to ask questions and get support during their runs and fitness journey. It may change in the future, but for now it’s a resource, support and accountability group for black and brown women only.

“We looked for groups, and though there is a known national group for black women, there was nothing local in Ocala or Gainesville, so this group was started to be that for women who looked like us and wanted a healthier lifestyle,” Rawls said. “They enjoy the accountability and motivation we provide to each other.”

Walker is now a half marathon runner. She has lost 40 pounds, is no longer prediabetic or has to take medication for hypertension. Rawls, who runs at least 3 times per week and attends an Xtreme Hip Hop Step Class 1 to 2 times a week, has lost 15 pounds, has more energy each day and has increased her confidence. The group has 72 members and does not have any strict requirements, but they want people who join to have a desire to improve their health and fitness, post their walks, runs or exercises, engage with other members in the group, and be ready to have fun with them. Send a request to their Facebook page to be added to the group

“Either you will make time for health, or you will make time for illness,” Walker said. “Being unhealthy is hard, and being healthy is hard. Which hard will you choose?”



LaBridgette L. Rawls

CONNECTING THE PIECES OF MENTAL WELLNESS

FREE EVENT FOR ADULTS & YOUTH 10 YRS & UP!

5:15–8:30 p.m., Thursday, April 13
College of Central Florida
Klein Conference Center
3001 SW College Rd
Ocala, FL 34474

Mental wellness has many parts. Youth and adults can learn to put them together through our discussion of the following topics:

- What You Don't Know Can Hurt You
- Digital Dangers
- Hidden in Plain Sight
- Love Shouldn't Hurt

Event is **free** and includes dinner & separate workshops for parents and youth. Preregistration recommended but not required. To learn more, call Valerie at **352-438-5990**



FEATURED SPEAKER

Kevin Hines

Mental Wellness & Suicide Prevention Activist



SISTER CIRCLE — M O M E N T —

Let's talk about
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

APRIL 15, 2023 / 8AM - 10AM



Featuring
GUEST SPEAKERS
AND TESTIMONIALS
AN IMPACTFUL GATHERING
FOR WOMEN.

LOCATION: IMMERSE CHURCH / 5105 N US HWY 441 / OCALA 34475

Business Spotlight



Business Name:
Silhouette Body Sculpting

No. of Employees: 1

Business Owner: Clarenca Wheaton

Business Address: 2841 S.W. 20th St., Ocala 34474

Business Phone: (352) 239-7494

What Year Did You Start Your Business? 2021

Hours of Operation: Monday - Friday, 9:30 am to 5 pm
Saturday, 9 am to 2 pm

Products and/or Services: Body Sculpting, Body Fat Removal, Body Enhancement, Skin Tightening, Cellulite Reduction and Post Op and Lymphatic Massages

Email: Silhouette352@gmail.com

Website: <https://sculptmenow.as.me/>

Are you on Social Media? Yes

Facebook: Silhouette Body Sculpting Ocala

Instagram: Silhouette_body_Sculpting

Tik Tok: Silhouettebodysculpting5

What or Who Inspired you to start your business?

I was inspired to start my business to have a healthier option for women and men desiring help to lose stubborn fat and tighten skin. My business also encourages fitness.

What Makes Your Business Unique or What's Your Specialty? I am located inside a gym, therefore, I can assist my clients to enhance and maintain their results and encourage a healthier lifestyle.

What Advice Would You Give Someone Starting A Business? You don't build a house in one day. You make a plan and work each brick and one day you step back and see the finished work.

Additional Comments: Grow organically and above all and anything, I say seek God, Submit your plans to him; Surrender your business to God; and continue to Partner with God. Always sow tithes and offerings from your business!

The **Small Business Profile** is **FREE** and open to small businesses located in Marion County with less than 25 employees or solo entrepreneurs.

To have your business featured in an upcoming edition, please request a form by emailing Towntalkmagazine@yahoo.com. Completed forms can be returned via email or mailed to P.O. Box 6212, Ocala, FL 34478.



What has organized labor done for you?

- *Breaks*
- *Raises*
- *Holiday Pay*
- *Overtime Pay*
- *Paid Vacation*
- *Workers Comp*
- *Social Security*
- *Paid Sick Leave*
- *Minimum Wage*
- *40 Hour Work Week*
- *Collective Bargaining*
- *And so much more...*

**Better pay,
better benefits!**

Join your UNION!

aflcio.org/formaunion



MONEY SMART

By Scott Hackmyer

IF IT SOUNDS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE, IT PROBABLY IS!

I was in Dollar General last Saturday as I am on many Saturday mornings. There is a reason. If you download their app they have been offering a digital coupon to save \$5 off a \$25 purchase every week for months now that is only good on Saturdays. Dollar General has the dog food and treats my dog eats at an already good price but with the \$5 off coupon it makes it a great deal. Just enter your phone number when you download the app and then when you check out, punch your number into the card reader. Before you shop, open the app to Activate that coupon and others that they offer. This week I also “clipped” a digital coupon for \$2 off dishwasher soap that I needed. To maximize your savings, you want to spend as little over the \$25 as possible. \$5 off of \$25 is a 20% savings. If you take \$5 off a \$50 purchase you have only saved 10%.

People want to steal your money. I know that isn't a shock to you but the internet and cell phone scams are getting very good at making it hard to tell if the offer you are getting is really from a company you know or a scam. When you get an offer on your cell phone or computer telling you to click on a link to get a great buy or make an overdue payment, don't do it! Instead, go to that company's website and sign on and check their offers or messages they have for you. If you are overdue on a bill, make the payment this way, never give your credit card or bank account number out in response to a text or email you have received. To help protect your credit cards, put the name of your credit card and the phone number that is on the back of the card into your cell phone directory. This way if you notice a card is lost or stolen you can call the company immediately to freeze or cancel the card. Often that phone number is hard to find if we don't have the card in front of us.

Skimmers at gas stations are another way thieves try to get your money. They insert card readers into the self-service pumps and when you slide your card the skimmer steals your number. One way to minimize this risk is to never use the end pump. Some stations now have 20 pumps or more in a line. Those furthest away from the store are the hardest for the employees to keep an eye on to see if anyone is tampering with the pumps. A tidbit on saving money at the gas station is offered by GasBuddy. They studied gas prices for an entire year and concluded that Monday is the cheapest day of the week to buy gas. Surprisingly, Friday is the second cheapest day while Thursday is the most expensive. Remember to join the station's free fuel rewards program to save extra money on every gallon you buy. Those pennies do add up!

MARION COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS SPRING 2023 CAREER FAIR



Marion County Public Schools is excited to offer a *family-friendly* Career Fair event! The Career Fair will include multiple career opportunities with various departments ranging in minimum qualifications. A shuttle bus will run throughout the event to take candidates to free horse shows, shopping opportunities, and dining venues.



We offer a variety of career and growth opportunities for ALL skill sets and interests! Our full-time positions include:

- Full Benefits Package - Retirement, Free Life Insurance and Health Care Option
- Free Employee Assistance Program
- Paid Time Off (Personal and Sick)
- Family-Friendly Schedule
- Opportunity to Make a Difference!

Event Information
Saturday, April 15, 2023
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

The World Equestrian Center
Expo Center Two
1750 NW 80th Ave
Ocala, FL 34482

MCPS Employment Services Division
352-671-7787

How to Apply

- Go to MarionSchools.net
- Select the "Careers" Heading or the "Career Fair" Tab
- Select the Hyperlink for the [Skyward FastTrack](#) Application
- Apply to the Career Fair Posting within Skyward



Scan Here to Submit a "Contact Us Form" for Assistance or Text 352-263-1381



Join Our Team!

Find the Perfect Career For You!



High School Diploma Preferred, But Not Required
Bus Driver
Bus Aide
Custodian
Food Service Worker

Associate's Degree
Or 60 Hours of College Credit OR Passing Paraprofessional Exam Score
Classroom Substitute
Paraprofessional

High School Diploma or GED Required
Clerk
Marion Afterschool Program
Receptionist

Bachelor's Degree
Classroom Teacher
Content Area Specialist
Instructional Coach
Student Services Manager

MarionSchools.net

An Equal Opportunity School District



MARION COUNTY YOUTH JOB FAIR



16 - 24
YEARS
OLD

Thursday, April 27, 2023 | 3:30 - 5:30 p.m.
Southeastern Livestock Pavilion Auditorium
(2232 NE Jacksonville Road, Ocala, FL 34470)



SPLASH PADS ARE NOW OPEN

The City of Ocala splash pad at Citizens' Circle, 151 SE Osceola Ave., and Lily's Pad at 2200 N.W. 17th Pl., are open for the season.

Daily hours of operation are sunrise to sunset. Both splash pads will close on Monday, November 13.

For more information, contact the City of Ocala Recreation and Parks Department at (352) 368-5517 or visit www.ocalafl.org/aquatics.



SAVE THE DATE

The Ocala Juneteenth Celebration Commission

JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION

**Saturday, June 17, 2023
10am to 3pm**

**Webb Field
1501 W. Silver Springs Blvd. - Ocala, FL 34475**

For more information, email
ocalajuneteenth2020@gmail.com

**FOOD ★ VENDORS ★ ENTERTAINMENT
& MORE!**

CITY OF OCALA HOSTS SPECIAL WASTE AMNESTY DAY ON SATURDAY, APRIL 22

The City of Ocala, in partnership with Green For Life (GFL), will hold a special waste amnesty day Saturday, April 22, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. The collection site is located at NE 14th Street and NE Eighth Avenue.

Special waste consists of household hazardous waste and electronics. Neither of these types of waste is permitted to be picked up with the regularly scheduled residential waste collection. Special waste from businesses will not be collected.

This annual collection day allows residents to safely dispose of items from their homes. Previous collection days for the city have resulted in approximately 20,000 pounds of materials remaining out of landfills and city water systems. GFL and the City are committed to protecting the environment through special waste amnesty days throughout the year.

Examples of hazardous waste items accepted:

- Lawn and garden chemicals
- Paint, paint thinners and gasoline
- Cleaning fluids
- Fluorescent bulbs
- Used oil and filters
- Auto batteries
- Pool chemicals
- Aerosol cans

Examples of electronic items accepted:

- Answering machines
- Battery chargers
- Computers, keyboards and monitors
- Small copiers, printers and fax machines
- CD/DVD/Blu-ray players
- Stereos and televisions
- Cell phones, PDAs and scanners

For more information, please call the City of Ocala Residential Sanitation Department at **(352) 351-6697**.



BARBERSHOP TALK

@ Urban Stylez Beauty & Barbershop

10 Free cuts for ages 5-17

Chop it up while getting chopped up

**Saturday April 29th
Noon-3pm**

2620 SW 17th Rd suite 100
Ocala, FL 34471



SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINES COMING SOON ~ APPLY NOW!

The application deadline for the Juneteenth Celebration Commission Scholarship for Marion County students is Friday, April 28, 2023. To apply, go to https://drive.google.com/file/d/1FUstnRRDvcxn0FCfg_Vs6rbnj5PiGKQ0/view

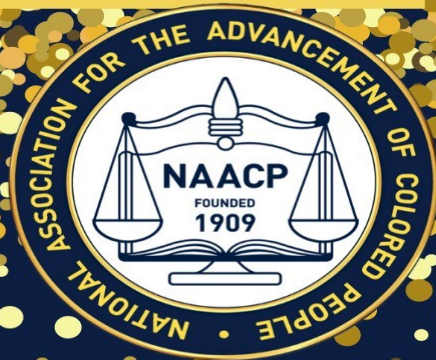
The Eunice Richardson Scholarship for African American Girls (Florida Students only) is Wednesday, May 17, 2023. Winners will be announced on Saturday, June 17, 2023. To apply, go to: <https://bold.org/scholarships/eunice-richardson-scholarship-for-girls/#application-to-good-education-financial-aid-funding-for-current-students-deadlines-approaching>.



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NAACP 5114 MARION COUNTY BRANCH



You are invited to attend

*49th Freedom Fund
and
Awards Banquet*

"ACTION REQUIRES PEOPLE: THE NAACP NEEDS YOU"

FRIDAY, APRIL 28TH 2023
7:00 PM TO 10:00 PM

The Klein Center
3001 SW COLLEGE ROAD,
OCALA, FL 34474

\$60.00 PER TICKET

MARIONCOUNTYFLNAACP@GMAIL.COM; FOR
SPONSORSHIPS, ADS, DONATIONS, AND TICKETS