

## October is Domestic Violence and Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Meet Breast Cancer Survivor Stephanie Hamilton



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***Losing My Job May Have  
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***Surviving a Domestic  
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to sign up for Holiday  
Assistance this year with  
Brother's Keeper and  
the Salvation Army***

The 37th Annual Light Up Ocala will be held on Saturday, November 20, throughout downtown Ocala, from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m.

The event includes performances, a Junior Sunshine holiday parade, more than 100 vendors, many food options, a special appearance by Santa and much more.

Visit [ocalafl.org](http://ocalafl.org) for details and updates, including parking options. Admission is FREE

The 54th annual Ocala Arts Festival will be held on Saturday, October 23 through Sunday, October 24, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in downtown Ocala.



The event will feature more than 150 artists and emerging artists, food vendors, children's activities, live entertainment, vendor booths and much more.

Visit [fao.org](http://fao.org) for more details.

*Our mission is to record the rich history of the people, places and events in the community and share information that impacts the lives of residents in Marion County.*



# TOWN Talk MAGAZINE

Sharing the good news happening  
in our community.

### Founders

Monica Bryant & Cynthia Wilson-Graham

### Editor

Monica Bryant

### Photography/Editor

Cynthia Wilson-Graham

### Contributors

Amy K. Roberts, LCWS

Scott Hackmyer

### 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.

### Policy Statement

All submissions become the sole  
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The opinions expressed in this  
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announcements and advertisements  
submitted are subject to refusal and  
editing at the editor's discretion.

### Contact Us:

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## EDITOR'S DESK

### Monica Bryant



For the last year, all we talk or hear about is Covid-19! I don't know about you, but I'm tired of it because everything else has taken a back seat, been forgotten or put on hold due to this pandemic, which has consumed and affected every area of our lives.

Like some of you, I've personally lost several family members, friends and loved ones recently until I have no reaction when I hear that someone else has died. I've become numb and lack emotion. I don't feel anything. I just wait to see who will be next because it's becoming all too common and something I expect to happen.

Something else that has become all too common is our reaction to the hundreds of people in our community that are affected by Domestic Violence each year. We don't have one!

I teach domestic violence classes in the community and whenever I ask what month is set aside to raise awareness about domestic violence, most people never guess October, the same month we raise awareness about Breast Cancer. Most people know the pink ribbon represents Breast Cancer, but few know the purple ribbon represents domestic violence. Last year there were more than 3,700 reported cases in the city and the county and four homicides.

We must do better. Domestic violence is a silent killer, and just like Covid-19, it often leaves a path of death and destruction behind in communities that refuse to take steps to address it. We won't even talk about it. It's sad because Domestic Violence is preventable, and the lives of so many women, children and men depend on us addressing this issue.

As we continue to address Covid-19 and find a cure for Breast Cancer, let's look for ways to not only end domestic violence in our community, but support those that are living in abusive situations and those affected by Breast Cancer.

Our community is Stronger Together!

Let's Talk!

*Monica*

Monica T. Bryant, Editor



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Annual subscription (printed copy) via mail: \$50

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**Business card: \$35 ~ Quarter-page: \$65 ~ Half-page: \$100**

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Payments can be made via Cash App (**\$Towntalkmarion**)  
or make check payable to Town Talk Magazine  
and mail to P.O. Box 6212, Ocala, FL 34478



# PROCLAMATION FOR LUNG CANCER AWARENESS

*Submitted by Amy K. Roberts, LCWS, Chair of Cancer Alliance*

Many people hear the term "breast cancer" and immediately see pink and think mammogram, early detection and survivor walks. Sadly, when we hear "lung cancer," we aren't nearly as optimistic. In Marion County most lung cancers are discovered at Stage IV, when 5-year survival drops significantly to merely 10 percent.

The Cancer Alliance of Marion County is excited because we finally see a way to improve this statistic! New screening standards that include low-dose CT imaging help us detect potential lung cancers very early. For instance, with an early stage 1 lung cancer, sometimes a tumor can simply be removed without the need for chemo or radiation therapy in order to survive. Let that sink in a minute. Screening for lung cancer can SAVE A LIFE. Of course you would make this decision with your physician's guidance.

November is officially Lung Cancer Awareness Month. Lung cancer has a survival rate of 15% and is currently the leading cause of cancer death. It is the second most common cancer among both men and women in the United States.

On November 2, Marion County's healthcare community and the Cancer Alliance will attend the Board of County commissioners' meeting as the board announces a proclamation highlighting lung cancer awareness. We encourage you to discover more about how you can save a family member, friend, loved one or your own self. Right now, only 20 percent of individuals who qualify for screening are actually getting screened.



The Cancer Alliance has partnered with the Suwanee River Area Health Education Center's tobacco cessation groups to further connect people with navigators in an effort to encourage screenings and eliminate barriers when possible.

Screenings are covered by most major health plans as long as you meet the criteria. Medicaid covers screenings. If you are uninsured or underinsured you can access primary care through the Heart of Florida or Langley Health. In addition, there are also payment plans/self-pay pricing available at Advanced Imaging (total cost is estimated at \$200.00).

The Cancer Alliance of Marion County is a committee that falls under the 501(c)(3) HUGS Charities. HUGS Charities offers financial assistance to people facing cancer who are struggling financially through programs that help them meet urgent non-medical expenses. HUGS/CAMC thanks Robert Boissoneault Oncology Institute for being a community partner for more than six years.

**Donate:** If you want to donate to help support people with cancer please visit:  
<https://www.hugscharities.org/>

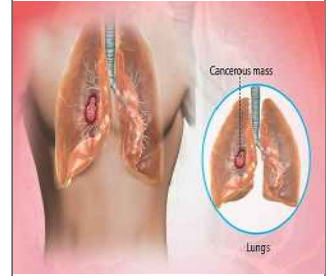
**Lung Screening:**  
<https://go2foundation.org/risk-early-detection/about-screening/>

**Tobacco Cessation:**  
<https://srahec.org/group-cessation/>

**Get Involved:**  
Register as a member at <https://canceralliancemc.org/>



## LUNG CANCER



Cancer which begins in the cells of the lung. It causes difficulty breathing, coughing up blood, chest pain, hoarseness, headache and weight loss.

- Common (More than 200,000 cases per year in US)
- Often requires lab test or imaging
- Treatable by a medical professional
- Can last several months

Uncontrolled multiplication and growth of the lung cells result in malignant tumor formation. The condition is characterized by an intense cough, the appearance of blood in cough and shortness of breath. Treatment involves surgery, chemotherapy and radiation therapy.

### Symptoms

The symptoms include:

- Chest pain that worsens when you breathe deeply, laugh, or a cough.
- Hoarseness
- A lingering or worsening cough
- Shortness of breath
- Wheezing
- Weakness and fatigue
- Loss of appetite and weight loss
- Coughing up phlegm or blood
- Muscle Weakness
- Nausea
- Vomiting
- High blood pressure
- High blood sugar
- Confusion
- Seizures
- Coma

### Treatments

Treatment involves surgery, chemotherapy and radiation therapy.

### Lung Cancer Statistics:

The American Cancer Society's estimates for lung cancer in the United States for 2021 are:

About 235,760 new cases of lung cancer (119,100 in men and 116,660 in women)

About 131,880 deaths from lung cancer (69,410 in men and 62,470 in women)

Source: [bing.com](http://bing.com) and [www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org)

# COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

A few weeks ago while visiting the Ed Croskey Center, Rachael Drayton crossed an item off her things to do list. Drayton, a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist, finally got a chance to stock the little library located outside the Center with books.

Drayton said she saw the library, located on the sidewalk on the east side of the Center leading to the main entrance of the building, in February while there for another reason.

"I didn't start this one," said Drayton. "I just wanted to keep it stocked."

According to William Rodriguez-Cayro, Parks Division Head, City of Ocala, the library at the Ed Croskey Center came from a private donor that built two of them for the City.

The Little Free Library project has been sweeping the nation for many years, encouraging anyone and everyone to put up a Little Free Library in their community. Anyone can take a book and leave a book so they can get something new to read and share books that they love with their neighbors, according to information at <https://www.thesprucecrafts.com>.



Drayton said the process works the same for the library located at the Ed Croskey Center. People can take what they want and leave what they don't.

"If you have books at home that are no longer needed or being used, you can put them into the library for others," she said. "Eventually, it should be self-sufficient."

Drayton said people have volunteered to donate books, but she doesn't have anyone helping her keep it physically stocked. She said she uses word of mouth and Facebook to get the word out about the library, and her greatest need is books for children of all ages.

Anyone that wants to donate books or help Drayton keep the library restocked can contact her on Facebook Messenger, e-mail her at [rachael.drayton@yahoo.com](mailto:rachael.drayton@yahoo.com) or text a message to **(352) 509-6345**.

"My goal is once a week," she said about restocking it. "On my last visit to restock, there were some books missing, so I'm hoping that someone is getting good use out of it."

Drayton said she loves to read but unfortunately adulting gets in the way of her reading as much as she would like. She estimates she has read thousands of books and during her middle school years, she won the award every year for most books read for her grade level. While deployed in Iraq, with the help of her electronic reader, she said she read at least one book a day.

"I'm hoping that it will encourage a life-long love for reading. So many opportunities are opened for those who read," she said about the library. "I'm hoping that it will encourage parents to read to their children or have children read to their parents."

Roseann Fricks, CEO of the Early Learning Coalition of Marion County, Inc., said she knows about the Little Free Libraries and they



try to place them in the county where they have a Born Learning Trail, an interactive early learning trail designed for children to use with the help of an adult. The first Trail opened in 2012. Each trail is laid out uniquely and hand painted and consists of 10 signs that contain activities designed to promote parent-child interaction with early learning skills such as: letter naming, rhyming, using words and identifying numbers, shapes and colors as well as using their imaginations creating and telling stories.

Currently, there are 12 Born Learning Trails sprinkled throughout Marion County: Belleview Sports Complex; Early Learning Coalition; Marion County Public Library Headquarters; Coehadjoe Park; Childhood Development Services; Marion County Public Libraries in Reddick, Belleview, the Forest and Dunnellon; Jim Kirk Park, Liberty Community Park; and Brick City Adventure Park.

"The purpose is to get books into the hands of children," Fricks said. "Some of us will keep books in our cars and stop by when we see a Little Free Library any place in town, regardless of who donated it, and put books in if needed."

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](mailto:Towntalkmagazine@yahoo.com).





# Community Sen\$e

**Pleas plan to attend the FINAL meeting  
on Friday, October 8, at 6 p.m.**

## NEW MURAL PUBLIC ART GATHERINGS

**E.D. CROSKY RECREATION CENTER  
1510 NW FOURTH ST.**

Theses public art gatherings will allow the public to provide input into the new mural. Socially distanced stations will be spaced out for attendees to visit and provide their feedback. Muralist Cosby Hayes and literary artist Dr. Cynthia Graham will be on site to gather input and document the process.

The gatherings will take place at the E. D. Croskey Recreation Center. All meetings are free to attend and open to the public. Capacity will be limited to allow for social distancing and for attendees to have a chance to visit each station. There will be temperature checks upon entry and cleaning procedures will be in place. Per current CDC guidelines for public indoor settings in areas of substantial or high community transmission, all attendees are strongly encouraged to wear face coverings to cover the nose and mouth, maintain a proper social distance of six feet and frequently sanitize their hands.

- **Monday, August 16 | 6 PM**
- **Friday, August 27 | Noon**
- **Saturday, September 18 | 10 AM**
- **Friday, October 8 | 6 PM**

*Presentation of final design*



**MLK JR. COMMEMORATIVE COMMISSION**

## Business Spotlight



**Business Name:** Diversified Consulting Concepts, LLC

**No. of Employees:** 2

**Business Owner:** Cain Davis

**Business Address:** P.O. Box 770394, Ocala, FL 34477

**Business Phone:** (352) 871-4555

**What Year Did You Start Your Business?** 2017

**Hours of Operation:**

Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**Products and/or Services:** Training and Consulting (Leadership, De-escalation, Diversity, EEO, Civil Rights, Conflict Management and Supervisory Training)

**Email:** Caindavis03@yahoo.com

**Website:** www.dccteam.com

**Are you on Social Media?** No

**If yes, what platforms?** N/A

**What or Who Inspired you to start your business?**

I wanted to help private, governmental and nonprofit organizations that had problems that were not positively affecting their organizations, employees or those they serve and organizations that didn't have programs at all.

**What Makes Your Business Unique or What's Your Specialty?** We are unique because our CEO has

extensive knowledge and experience in the above areas as a professional and executive who has led a large federal organization with 1,300 employees and a private company with more than 100 employees.

**What Advice would you give someone starting a business:** Be proficient at your craft and value relationships.

**Additional Comments:** We believe training and consulting should positively change your organization, so our services are designed to meet your specific needs.

*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, request a form from [Towntalkmagazine@yahoo.com](mailto:Towntalkmagazine@yahoo.com).*

*Completed forms can be returned via email or mailed to P.O. Box 6212, Ocala, FL 34478.*

# LOSING MY JOB MAY HAVE SAVED MY LIFE



Stephanie Hamilton was between jobs when she found out she had breast cancer. Hamilton, who was a crisis counselor at a local domestic violence center at the time, said she decided to schedule an annual physical because she had not seen a physician for quite some time. Since she was not working, she reached out to Heart of Florida, but the earliest appointment available was three months away so she met with Dr. Rubio for her annual wellness checkup. While doing the breast exam, he found a lump and asked her how long the lump had been there. Hamilton, who did self-checks regularly and got a mammogram annually, told him that she had always had lumpy breasts, but he said that lump didn't feel right and he needed to send her for additional testing.

The month of October is designated nationally as Breast Cancer Awareness Month. The annual campaign increases awareness of the disease and people all over the world show their support for people like Hamilton who are affected by breast cancer.

## **Stephanie Hamilton**

Hamilton was scheduled to do a mammogram, ultrasound and a biopsy was ordered. As all this was going on, she was hosting her family's reunion and she wanted everything to be perfect because she did not know how much time she had. When she got the phone call to come in to discuss the findings of the test, she said that should have been a clue to her but she did not believe that she could have breast cancer.

But she did!

Hamilton said when she got to the office, her doctor reviewed her charts again to ensure that there were no errors with the diagnosis. She said her doctor told her that he got her results on Friday, but could not bring himself to tell her the horrible news so he waited until Monday.

Hamilton said her doctor told her she was stage 3 breast cancer positive. She said he used a lot of other adjectives to describe the type of cancer and the location, but it all seemed like a foreign language to her.

"At the moment I found out I had breast cancer, it seemed surreal, I may have been in shock," Hamilton said. "I told the doctor that I am a person of faith and I KNOW I am going to be okay."

She said she was referred to We Care as a stat case and the medical team assigned to her case were all volunteers who help people in need. She said she choose a mastectomy, chemotherapy and eventually reconstruction. Hamilton did chemotherapy every three weeks for six months and after that, she was given immunotherapy for an additional year.

"Up until this point, I had no idea how life altering a major illness can be to a person and their family. It seemed like everything settled around my recovery and beating cancer," she said. "My mom was my number one cheer leader. She accompanied me to all my appointments and procedures. I had a group of cousins that walked with me through the process as well."

Hamilton said she needed something else to focus on besides cancer so she went back to school and pursued a degree in biotechnology and later decided to earn an additional degree in Clinical Lab Science because the laboratory plays such a significant role in the diagnosis, treatment and recovery process when a person is going through a major illness like cancer.

On October 27, 2021, she will celebrate 12 years of being cancer free. She said she was released from her oncologist earlier this year which was a tremendous milestone.

Hamilton said this experience has changed her life, and she doesn't take life for granted.

"It taught me patience, compassion and the importance of gratitude," she said. "When I lost my job, I was devastated, but it really was God saving me because I would have never been able to afford the treatments as a counselor and the nonprofit did not offer health insurance.

"Please take care of yourself," Hamilton said. "You only get one you."

For support or more information on breast cancer resources, visit <https://www.nationalbreastcancer.org>.



# THERE IS LIFE AFTER AN ABUSIVE RELATIONSHIP

If you ask Drumeka Rollerson how many times she tried to leave the abusive relationship she was in for five years while dating a young man in high school, she'll tell you too many times to count.

"I dated someone that was nice, but also very jealous and possessive, Rollerson said, who never thought she would ever be in an abusive relationship.

But Rollerson is not alone. On average, a battered woman will leave her abuser an average of seven times before leaving him for good, if she ever does.

"I would leave or try to leave but would end up letting him back in," she said. "One day he saw my car and started ramming it with his car trying to make me stop. Thankfully the police got involved and I didn't get hurt."

October, which is recognized nationally as Domestic Violence Awareness Month, initially was just one day devoted to activities on the local, state and national levels. Increasing it to a month originated from an idea in the early 1980s designed to connect advocates across the country who wanted to end domestic violence against women and children. The month is set aside to mourn victims, celebrate survivors and network for change.

Rollerson, who was a banker at the time, said the abuse started out verbally. She said at first she didn't tell anyone what was going on but eventually had to because others saw bruises and questioned her.

"He stated that if I left him, he would kill me and kill himself," she said. "Whenever I'd try to leave him, he would get violent. This would occur over and over until one day I had enough and knew I had to get out so that my son wouldn't think that this lifestyle was the norm," she said.

Rollerson, who's now a nurse and entrepreneur, is one of the lucky ones. She survived! Many do not. Since 2018, there have been 32 domestic violence homicides in the City of Ocala and Marion County combined, which includes 4 so far this year. The city and the county averages more than 3,000 reported cases of domestic violence each year., but research shows that 4 out of 10 incidents of domestic violence are never reported to law enforcement.

"When I finally left it and healed, I was able to realize my worth and vowed to never allow myself to get into another situation like that," she said.



**Drumeka Rollerson**

## Are You in an Abusive Relationship?

Here are 10 of the most common indications that a relationship is abusive:

- 1. Physical abuse Any use of force or physical harm.**
- 2. Mental or emotional abuse** A regular pattern of verbal offense, threatening, bullying and constant criticism or more subtle tactics like intimidation, shaming and manipulation.
- 3. Controlling money Your partner should not have financial secrets, keep money from you or control how you spend your money.**
- 4. Checking phone, email or social media without your permission** Looking through your email, phone or internet history without your knowledge or permission.
- 5. Isolation Keeping you from seeing friends or loved ones.**
- 6. Cruelty to animals or children** Violent behavior toward animals or children.
- 7. Threats or intimidation This may include your partner breaking things on purpose that are sentimental or valuable to you.**
- 8. Threats of suicide** Using threats of suicide as a way to control a partner and/or keep them from leaving.
- 9. Drug or alcohol abuse, which can lead to other abusive behaviors.**
- 10. Extreme jealousy or possessiveness** Calling or checking up on you excessively or insisting on knowing where you are at every moment.

Source: UK Healthcare: The Power of Advanced Medicine



Rollerson said there were resources and services available to help her and the state also had a victim advocate assist her.

Rollerson's advice to anyone in an abusive relationship: "I would tell them to find the strength to leave," she said. "Abusers usually don't change so we have to."

If you or someone you know is in an abusive relationship, help is available, go to [www.breakthesilenceonviolence.org](http://www.breakthesilenceonviolence.org) for resources and services available in our community





# A Breeze Through Fertile Gardens: Paintings and Drawings by Andrew M. Grant

On View Through November 7

## Appleton Museum, Artspace and Store

Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday, noon-5 p.m.  
4333 E. Silver Springs Blvd. | AppletonMuseum.org



## ANNUAL CHILI COOK-OFF SET TO RETURN THIS YEAR



Dozens of businesses and organizations will compete for the title of "best chili" at the 40th Annual Marion County Chili Cook-Off, hosted by Cornerstone School

of Ocala and sponsored by RealTruck.com, on Saturday, November 6, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Southeastern Livestock Pavilion, 2232 N.E. Jacksonville Rd., Ocala, FL 34470.

The event will include a car show, inflatables, games for children, a bake sale and Big Lee's Serious About BBQ, the 2019 Grand Champion, will be back to defend its first place title.



To register or for more information, go to:

<https://www.marioncountychilicookoff.com>

## WATER AND SEWER INCREASE COMING FOR CITY RESIDENTS

To the City of Ocala Water and Sewer Customers:



A water/sewer rate increase of 8.0% was approved at the January 19, 2021 City Council meeting in City Council Chambers.

The rate increase is effective October 1, 2021 and will cost the average residential user of 6,000 gallons approximately \$5.08 per month.

## BACK AGAIN THIS YEAR -- SAVE-THE-DATE



The Ocala Christmas parade will be held on Saturday, December 11, 2021, at 5:30 p.m.

The theme for the 2021 Parade is "A Heroes' Christmas"

The parade is hosted by the Friends of the Christmas Parade.



# Things You Need to Know:

**FAMILY FUN**      **FRIENDS OF MARION COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION**      **FREE ADMISSION**

**BRICK CITY CARNIVAL**

Saturday, October 9, 2021  
5p.m. – 8p.m.  
Brick City Adventure Park  
1211 SE 22nd Rd. Ocala

**GAMES • CANDY • PRIZES**  
**MUSIC • FOOD**  
**ENTERTAINMENT**  
**COSTUME CONTEST**  
**FACE PAINTING**  
**SILENT AUCTION**

For more information please contact:  
Marion County Parks and Recreation (352)-671-8560

## COMMUNITY MEETINGS: GET INVOLVED

The Governor's West Ocala Neighborhood Revitalization Council invites you to attend its monthly meeting on October 12, at 9 a.m.

The Council meets the 2nd Tuesday of every month. Meetings are currently being held via Zoom.

For link to join the meeting, send e-mail to [gwonrc@outlook.com](mailto:gwonrc@outlook.com).

County Commission Meetings  
**October 5 and 19**, at 9 a.m.  
McPherson Governmental Campus  
Auditorium, 601 S.E. 25th Ave., Ocala.

Ocala City Council Meetings  
**October 5 and 19**, at 5 p.m.  
110 S.E. Watula Ave., Ocala

Marion County School Board  
**October 12 and 26**, at 5:30 p.m.  
School Board Meeting Room  
512 S.E. 3rd St., Ocala

Marion County Historical Commission  
Advisory Meeting  
Monday, October 11, 2021 at 6 p.m.  
Growth Services  
2710 E. Silver Springs Blvd., Ocala

Marion County Chapter FAMU NAA  
and the City of Ocala Parks and Recreation  
Sponsors:

**GET  
FAMU  
READY!**



**Sunday, October 10, 2021**  
4 p.m., Ed Croskey Center,  
1510 N.W. 4th St. Ocala, FL 34475

### Take Aways:

- Writing and Essay Tips
- Scholarship Opportunities
- Resume Writing Tips
- College Preparation
- Application Process



**3RD ANNUAL HOWL-O-WEEEN PAW-TY**

**\$5 per Adult**  
**Kids**  
(12 and under)  
**& Pets FREE!**

Trunk or treat for the kids!  
Refreshments and Games.  
Costume contest for everyone!  
Vendors & tons of FUN.

SE Livestock Pavillion  
Wednesday, October 27th, 5-8 pm  
[www.thehsmc.org/howloveen](http://www.thehsmc.org/howloveen)  
352-873-7387 Austin Burnett ext. 212  
or Kirstin Tanner ext. 204



# HAPPENINGS IN THE COMMUNITY



*Happy Thanksgiving*

*Enter His gates with Thanksgiving and His courts with praise. Give Thanks to Him. Bless His name.*

Please join Kingdom Revival Church for a **FREE**

## *Drive Thru Community Thanksgiving Lunch*

*with Turkey and all the trimmings!*

**Saturday, November 13, 2021**

**10 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

**3318 E. Silver Springs Blvd., Ocala, FL 34470**



For information, please call Rose at (352)361-5044



# BOO BASH

**E.D. CROSKY CENTER  
1510 NW FOURTH ST.**

Join us for a scary good time at this family-friendly Halloween event! There will be spooky fun, creepy crafts, candy and more! All ages welcome.



**SATURDAY,  
OCTOBER 30  
5 - 8 PM**



## BUILD A BRIGHTER FUTURE

FREE TRAINING, CERTIFICATIONS & WEEKLY PAY

### DO YOU QUALIFY?

You are eligible for the Phoenix Rising YouthBuild program if you are a US citizen age 18 - 24, in need of a high school diploma or GED and willing to work.

### LET'S TALK TODAY!

Build a Habitat for Humanity home, sharpen employability skills, earn certifications and diploma/GED, plus receive a participation allowance.

Contact us now:  
352-291-9550, ext. 2293  
hcolon@careersourceclm.com



## ANNUAL PRO BONO WALK-IN CLINIC

**-THIS IS A FULLY VIRTUAL EVENT-  
OCTOBER 27TH, 2021 | 3:00PM TO 7:00PM**

Receive legal advice at no cost\* from volunteer lawyers in the following areas of law:

- Sealing and Expungement
- Family
- Bankruptcy
- Landlord/Tenant
- Guardian Advocacy

Register early\*\* at  
<http://bit.ly/2021annualclinic>  
or by calling (321) 270-7711



\* Participants must be income and asset eligible in order to receive legal assistance. Eligibility will be determined at intake.

\*\* Limited intakes will be conducted on the day of the clinic, so pre-register to reserve your spot. Priority will be given to pre-registered clients.



Phoenix Rising YouthBuild is sponsored by a grant from the U.S. Department of Labor and Training Administration, Phoenix Rising, CareerSource Citrus Levy Marion and related community partners. CareerSource CLM is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary publications available upon request in Spanish and to those with disabilities. These telephone numbers may be reached using 711/TTY equipment via the Florida Relay Service at 711. For accommodations, call 352-480-3700, ext. 7879 or e-mail accommodations@careersourceclm.com at least three business days in advance. A proud partner of the American Job Center network and member of CareerSource Florida.



## TIME AND MONEY: A LOVE/HATE RELATIONSHIP

By Scott Hackmyer



Time  
=  
Money

Time and Money. A love/hate relationship if there ever was one. Time is what gives you the opportunity to build savings/wealth. A

simple example is my Shell Fuel Rewards card. I save five cents a gallon whenever I swipe my card at a Shell station before buying gas. A nickel doesn't sound like much but after doing this simple thing for a number of years, my last statement showed I have now saved \$195.18 with this two second action. I am lucky in that the Shell station close to my house also has the lowest price on gas anywhere around. You never want to pay an extra twenty cents in order to save a nickel so you also have to compare prices and locations. I know BP and Exxon/Mobil have similar programs and others might too.

Here is another example of how time adds up your savings. I have ironed my shirts for the last 40 years. Currently most cleaners charge \$3.59 to launder and iron a shirt. It didn't cost this much 40 or 30 or even 20 years ago, so let's use \$1.50 as a cost per shirt. I average ironing six shirts per week. At \$1.50 per shirt for six shirts per week, 52 weeks per year for 40 years comes out to my having saved \$18,720 by ironing my own shirts, usually while watching television. It's the time (40 years) that has made this so valuable. I know you don't care that much about my shirts, but the point is that a simple five cent a gallon swipe or shirt you iron yourself puts money in your wallet now and for the future.

When I was a young school principal a wise financial planner told me to just save \$25 per paycheck. He said I could increase the amount if I ever was able to and promised me that I would be shocked with the amount I saved in 30 years. He was right and I was able to retire at age 59.

No matter how small the amount the first thing you should do with every paycheck is find a credit union or investment plan where you can start saving with no fees. What makes this work so well is that the interest you earn then starts earning interest on its own. You have perhaps heard the saying let your money work for you. This is what earning interest does.

I am out of space for this month so next month I will write about the hate side of using time poorly and how that can destroy your finances.

## HOLIDAY ASSISTANCE HELP AVAILABLE NOW!



*"Do the good that presents itself to be done."*

- St. Vincent DePaul

### 2021 Holiday Help Drives

Information for Applicants

Each year, Blessed Trinity and Brother's Keeper helps hundreds of families during the holiday season. **Eligible families receive food for Thanksgiving and food & gifts for children 12 and under at Christmas.** This year we are partnering with Toys for Tots. It is only through the generosity of many others in our parish and community that we're able to provide this assistance each year.

**Holiday Sign-Ups:** **Monday, October 11 through Friday, December 3\***  
Mon. & Fri. 9am -11:30am and Tues., Wed., Thurs. 9am-2:30pm  
\*Cut-Off for Thanksgiving food applications is Fri. November 12

**Who's Eligible:** THANKSGIVING & CHRISTMAS **FOOD:** Families with at least one child under the age of 18 residing in Marion County.



**CHRISTMAS TOYS:** Families with at least one child 12 and under living in one of the following zip codes  
34470, 34475, 34477, 34478, 34479, 34481, and 34482

**Applicants Need:** **Photo ID** with Marion County address,  
**Social Security cards** for adults and children,  
**Birth Certificates** for all children,  
**Lease and Utility Bill** to prove residency and zip code  
**Proof of food stamps qualification** (if eligible)



**Pick-Up Dates/Times:** Thanksgiving: **Tuesday, November 23** from 9:00am-4:00pm  
Christmas: **Tues., Dec. 21 or Wed., Dec. 22** from 9am-4pm  
\*Clients will be assigned a pick-up time/day

**Pick-Up Location:** **Knights of Columbus Hall** | 1510 SE 3rd Ave, Ocala, FL 34471  
Located at the north end of the Blessed Trinity parking lot  
**\*Bring Photo ID of the applicant when picking up**

Updated (01 OCT 21)

**EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE**  
320 NW 10<sup>th</sup> St., Ocala  
(352) 622-3846

**THRIFT STORE**  
320 NW 10<sup>th</sup> St., Ocala  
(352) 732-7988

**SOUP KITCHEN**  
435 NW 2<sup>nd</sup> St., Ocala  
(352) 789-8139

**MAIL TO**  
5 SE 17<sup>th</sup> St.,  
Ocala, FL 34471

Town Talk Magazine  
P.O. Box 6212  
Ocala, FL 34478

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## DON'T MISS THE DEADLINE, SIGN UP NOW IF YOU NEED HELP



### The Salvation Army THANKSGIVING AND CHRISTMAS APPLICATIONS 2021

**Sign Up Dates by Phone Only: September 7<sup>th</sup> – October 8<sup>th</sup>**  
**Monday – Friday, 9:00am – 12:00 pm and 1:00pm – 3:00pm**  
**(No weekends or Holidays).**

THE SALVATION ARMY will be accepting applications **by phone at 352-732-8326 or 352-629-2004** for Thanksgiving food assistance, Christmas toys and food assistance. Please have all necessary documents including Child's Wish List ready for the phone interview.

**We will not accept Walk-In interviews**

**This year will be a contactless season.** Once Applications are taken over the phone, applicants will show proof of all necessary documents listed below. You will receive a date and time to drive through and show all documents. **Once you provide necessary documents, you will receive confirmation dates and times for Thanksgiving and Christmas food/toys pickup.**

**APPLICATION DEADLINE IS**  
**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8<sup>th</sup>**  
**PLEASE NOTE: "DEADLINE SUBJECT TO CHANGE"**

**To apply you will need:**

1. Photo ID or driver's license
2. Proof of Income: Food Stamp and AFDC award letters, check stubs, Social Security, SSI award letter, pension, child support, unemployment, workman's compensation, retirement, alimony, Section 8 Public Housing letter etc.
3. Proof of Expenses: You need to be able to produce all current bills that are part of your monthly expenses.
4. **Children ages 0 – 12 yrs. only:** Birth Certificates, Court documents or school letter showing guardianship on each child. We will view Social Security cards or health cards on children. Children **MUST** live with you.
5. **Child's Wish List (3 items only) No Bicycles, iPads, Cell phones, Drones, or big-ticket items.**

***\*\*\*\*\*Please have child's clothing and shoe sizes readily available\*\*\*\*\****

Drive Through information only: **2901 NE 14<sup>th</sup> St., Ocala, FL 34470**