

# MARION COUNTY CHILDREN'S ALLIANCE

Volume 22, Issue 8 ~ August 2022



Governor's West Ocala Neighborhood
Revitalization Council [GWONRC] is hosting a

# **CANDIDATES FORUM**

# **MEETYOUR CANDIDATES!**

Tuesday, August 9, 2022 6:00 p. m. - 8:00 p.m.

MLK First Responder Campus 515 SW Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue, Ocala, FL 34471

#### SPEAKERS:

CHERRIETTA PRINCE, DIRECTOR OF IMPACT INITIATIVE, OCALA METRO CHAMBER & ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP

BETH MCCALL, DIRECTOR OF TALENT DEVELOPMENT, OCALA METRO CEP
"YES FOR MARION SCHOOLS: RENEWAL OF 1 MIL AD VALOREM TAX"

This meeting is free and open to the public. Residents will have the opportunity to ask questions and engage with the candidates running for office in the City of Ocala 2022 Primary Election.

**YOUR VOTE MATTERS!** 

# **MARION COUNTY CHILDREN'S ALLIANCE**

3482 N.W. 10th St. Ocala, FL 34475 Phone: **(352) 438-5990** Fax: **(352) 438-5994 www.mcchildrensalliance.org** 

#### **Board of Directors**

Mike Balken Lori Boring John Cooper Craig Curry Pastor John Delcamp Michael Greiner Dr. Diane Gullett Scott Hackmyer Mark Lander Adam Lombardo Rep. Stan McClain Kevin McDonald Jim McCune Pamela Michell Scot Quintel Randy Reynolds **Brad Rogers** Charles Scherer **Billy Woods** 

#### **Our Vision**

For all of Marion County's Children to have a safe, healthy and nurturing environment in which to grow.

#### **Our Mission**

"To improve the lives of Marion County Children"

#### ~ Partners in Excellence ~

Barrett, Liner & Company; City of Ocala, Community Coalition Alliance;
Cox Communication; Dept. of Children and Families; Dept. of Juvenile
Justice; Drug Free Communities; Duke Energy; Florida Blue; Florida
Department of Health in Marion County; Friends Recycling, LLC; Jenkins
Auto Group; Kids Central, Inc.; Macy's; Marion County Board of County
Commissioners; Marion County Hospital District; Marion County Public
Schools; Marion County Sheriff's Office; Ocala Police Department; Paddock
Mall; Palmer Family Foundation; Radiology Associates of Ocala;
Renasant Bank; Signature Brands; Tri-Eagle Sales; United Way of Marion

Staff	E-mail: mcca@mcchildrensalliance.org
Executive Director Beth	McCall executivedirector@mcchildrensalliance.org
Family Violence Prevention Coordinator	Monica Bryant Monica@breakthesilenceonviolence.org
Prevention Coordinator	. Hilary Jackson Hilary@mcchildrensalliance.org
Supporting Kids, Involving Parents Coordinate	ator (S.K.I.P) Kelley Windham Kelley@mcchildrensalliance.org
Outreach Specialist Ta	nya Ousley Tanya@mcchildrensalliance.org

Notice: The Children's Alliance informs readers of current events in the nonprofit and social service fields. Opinions expressed by the writers are not necessarily those of the Marion County Children's Alliance. Inclusion or exclusion of any agency does not imply either endorsement or disapproval by the Alliance. MCCA reserves the right to edit **ALL** submissions. Information should be e-mailed to **Monica@breakthesilenceonviolence.org** by the **FIRST** Friday of each month for the following months publication.



# Proud Supporter of the Marion County Children's Alliance



2022 Back-to-School Sales Tax Holiday – Continues through August 7, 2022

During the sales tax holiday period, tax is not due on the retail sale of:

- Clothing, footwear, and certain accessories with a sales price of \$100 or less per item\*
- Certain school supplies with a sales price of \$50 or less per item
- Learning aids and jigsaw puzzles with a sales price of \$30 or less\*
- Personal computers and certain computer-related accessories with a sales price of \$1,500 or less, when purchased for noncommercial home or personal use

#### This sales tax holiday does not apply to:

- Any item of clothing with a sales price of more than \$100
- Any school supply item with a sales price of more than \$50
- Books that are not otherwise exempt\*
- Computers and computer-related accessories with a sales price of more than \$1,500
- Computers and computer-related accessories purchased for commercial purposes
- Rentals of any eligible items
- Repairs or alterations of any eligible items
- Sales of any eligible items within a theme park, entertainment complex, public lodging establishment or airport



## IMPORTANT ELECTION INFORMATION

# 2022 Primary Election\*

#### **Early Voting:**

August 13 to August 20, 2022, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

# **Mail Ballot Request Deadline:**

August 13, 2022 by 5 p.m.

Mail ballots must be received by the Supervisor of Elections office by 7 p.m. on Election Day to be counted

#### **Election Day:**

August 23, 2022: Polls open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

# 2022 General Election\*

# **Voter Registration Deadline:** October 11, 2022

## **Early Voting**

October 27 to November 5, 2022, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

## **Mail Ballot Request Deadline:**

October 29, 2022 by 5 p.m.

Mail ballots must be received by the Supervisor of Elections office by 7 p.m. on Election Day to be counted.

### **Election Day:**

November 8, 2022 - Polls open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

#### WANT TO VOTE EARLY?

Early voting for Marion County is August 13 - August 20, 2022 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the following locations:

Marion County Elections Center, 981 NE 16th St., Ocala

Belleview Public Library, 13145 SE Highway 484, Belleview

Deputy Brian Litz Building, 9048 SW Highway 200, Ocala

Dunnellon Public Library, 20351 Robinson Road, Dunnellon

Forest Public Library, 905 South Highway 314A, Ocklawaha

Freedom Public Library, 5870 SW 95th St., Ocala

Mulberry Center, 8445 SE 165th Mulberry Lane, The Villages

Reddick Community Center, 4345 NW 152nd St., Reddick

> Silver Springs Shores Community Center, 590 Silver Road, Ocala

You must show a photo and signature identification before you can vote in person, either early or on Election Day.



# **AUGUST ALLIANCE MEETING IS IN PERSON**





for the

# Alliance Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, August 3, 2022 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the MCSO Multi-purpose Room 3300 N.W. 10th St., Ocala, FL 34475

# **Agency Spotlight:**

# Jessica McCune, RN, LMHC

Community Awareness Manager for Hospice of Marion County and Board Member of Opus Peace "Opus Peace Soul Injury LAUNCH of MasterPEACE"

# **Guest Speaker: Dennis McFatten**

Safe Schools Coordinator, Marion County Public Schools



# **Virtual Parent Educational Workshops**

Thursdays, Sept. 1 - Oct. 6, 2022 6 to 7:30 p.m.

**FREE** weekly Parents as Teachers Virtual Workshops, fun activities that promote early learning, plus **GIFT CARDS** and **EDUCATIONAL TOYS** for participants!





# **GRAND PRIZE GIVEAWAY!**

Families who attend **ALL SIX** virtual workshops will receive a \$250 Gift Card!

Limited spots. Register today at elc-marion.org/parents/succes-by-6/parents-training-scheduling/

For more information, contact Success by 6 Coordinator Chrissy Vickers at (352) 369-2315, Ext. 213 or cvickers@elc-marion.org.











# SAVE THE DATE

GIVE TO LOCAL NONPROFITS ON MARION COUNTY'S EXCLUSIVE GIVING DAY

September 20th-21st 2022



FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF OCALA/MARION
352-622-5020
ASHLEY@OCALAFOUNDATION.ORG



# **DEADLINE COMING SOON! APPLY IF YOU NEED HELP**





# UTILITY BILL ASSISTANCE NOW

**UP TO \$5000** 

NOW UNTIL 9/30/2022

**How to Apply** 

(1) Online at https://www.cfcaa.org/liheap/

(2) If you are elderly, have a learning disability, and/or your household does not have internet access, you can obtain a utility assistance (phone) appointment by calling 1-352-373-7667

#### To Qualify

When applying for assistance, you must submit the following documents with your application:

<ul> <li>Photo ID (not expired) for Applicant</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Social Security Cards for all Household Members</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>ID or birth certificate to document the age of any person 60 years and older or 5 years and under.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Food Stamp Letter showing amount received for current month (if applicable to your household).</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Two most recent, separate itemized electric bills for your residence. (No Final or Disconnect Notice).</li> <li>If service is turned off, bring a letter from</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>ALL household Income for 30 days prior to your appointment, including anything received on the day of your appointment. This includes wages, self-employment income, social security, retirement, pensions, SSI, SSD, VA</li> </ul>
the utility company showing the amount needed to restore service. This letter must be signed, dated and show the service address.	benefits, TANF, child support, unemployment, workers compensation, financial aid, subsidies. (No bank statements).
<ul> <li>Section 8 or HUD Housing; Rental Form 50059 (if applicable to your household).</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Valid Signed Lease (if applying to start new electric service)</li> </ul>

All of the above documentation is REQUIRED to process applications for LIHEAP services.

An application submission is not a guarantee of service.

# Pirate-Themed Literacy Program

Contact us today and invite us to your school, library, fair, festival, or special event. Let Captain Kidd Carson share the fun and joy of reading with the children, and hand out piratical goodies to each one for participating.

# "Books are Treasure for the Mind"



(561) 770-3363 www.bookaneers.org





# It's The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Women's Equality Day Celebration

# EQUALI - TEA

"The Audacity to lead: Fighting the barriers

to

FEMALE EMPOWERMENT!"

Saturday, August 20, 2022 12:30-300PM Precious Oaks 13552 N. US.27 Ocala, Fl 34482



FEATURING: Attorney Amaris Ayala – Candidate running for Florida State Attorney General

Plus Special Guests TBA

Donation: \$50 can be made thru: ActBlue:https://secure.actblue.com/ donate/democratic-women-s-club-of marion-county/. Candidates financial support is encouraged.



FI 34478

Attire (Suffragist) White

Silent Auction
Limited Seating
Contact to Table Sponsor:
Dwcmcpres2016@gmail.com

Mong wollen

Mail check to DWCMC PO Box 5837 Ocala

# SHOW OUR SURVIVORS WE CARE SPONSOR A BASKET TO GIVE THEM



for Victims and
Survivors of
Domestic Violence
attending the 2020
Night of Hope
September 29, 2022









Choose from one of our themes (Personal Pampering, Italian Dinner, Movie Night, Board Game, A Night Out, Gardening, Summer Time, Scrap Book/Memories, Music, Healthy Living) or

Choose Your Own Theme or Donate Items to Make a Basket.

Baskets or supplies can be dropped off at the Alliance Office, located at 3482 N.W. 10th St., Ocala by August 26, 2022. Donations to sponsor a basket can also be made online at https://2022noh.eventbrite.com

Call (352) 438-5993 for information, to sign up to sponsor a basket or to have a workgroup member pick up your basket or supplies.



# NIGHT OF HOPE

HONORING THE VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Dinner  $\sim$  Music  $\sim$  Giveaways  $\sim$  Survivor Testimonies  $\sim$  Vendors

# SAVE THE DATE

Thursday, September 29, 2022 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. College of Central Florida, 3001 S.W. College Rd. Ocala, FL 34474

Tickets: \$35 per person

To purchase tickets, sponsor a survivor or make a donation, go to <a href="https://2022noh.eventbrite.com">https://2022noh.eventbrite.com</a>

or at the Alliance office, 3482 N.W. 10th St., Ocala, FL 34475.

FREE childcare available for children 2 years old or older. Call (352) 438-5993 to reserve a space.

For information or sponsorship opportunities, call Monica at (352) 438-5993 or go to

https://2022noh.eventbrite.com

# HELP US RECOGNIZE THOSE WHO ARE TRULY CONQUERORS!

# Conqueror Award Nomination Form

The Marion County Children's Alliance Family Violence Prevention Workgroup is pleased to present its annual Night of Hope on Thursday, September 29, 2022 honoring Victims and Survivors of Domestic Violence as well as advocates for the amazing work they do. We are now accepting nominations for the **2022 CONQUEROR AWARD** designed to recognize three outstanding survivors in our community that have overcome challenges and flourished despite their circumstances.

We need your help! If you work in the field of domestic violence, are a community supporter or know someone who is a survivor, please nominate those individuals for this award.

#### Recipients will be selected based on the following criteria:

- Nominee must be a Survivor and resident of Marion County
- Nominee must be making a positive impact by speaking out against domestic violence
- Nominee must have made a positive change in their lives
- How the nominee's actions influenced attitudes, policies or practices in the field of domestic violence

Conqueror Awardees receive two complimentary tickets to attend the Night of Hope, a special gift and highlights of their story and recognition at the event.

Nominee's Name:		# of years a survivor			
Address:	City:	State:	Zip code:		
Best Contact #:	Em	nail Address:			
Are you willing to have pa	rt of your story share	d at the Night of	f Hope? yes or no		
Nominator's Name:					
Address:	City:	State:	Zip code:		
Best Contact #:	Em	nail Address:			
What is your relationship	to the Nominee?				
Why do you believe this n	ominee should be no	minated for this	award?		

Call Monica at **(352) 438-5993** for more information or a Nomination Form. Nominations can be mailed to Marion County Children's Alliance, 3482 N.W. 10th St., Ocala, FL 34475 Attn: Monica Bryant. Forms can also be e-mailed to **Monica@breakthesilenceonviolence.org**. Put Conqueror Nomination in the Subject Line. Deadline to submit nominations is **Friday**, **August 26**, **2022** at 5 p.m.



#### Wednesday, August 3 at 10 A.M.

Learn about breastfeeding and community agencies that support breastfeeding families in Marion County. Light refreshments served and door prize drawings!

Auditorium 2, Florida Department of Health in Marion County 1801 SE 32nd Ave., Ocala

> Marion.FloridaHealth.gov 352-622-1161

Are you in Recovery from a Mental Health diagnosis? Or, are you a family member of someone with a Mental Health condition?

NAMI will offer two FREE 8-week classes starting in early August that can help you improve your knowledge of Mental Health issues, and through greater knowledge, improve your success in managing recovery both as a family member and someone living in recovery.

For more information check out these two sites:

#### -- For families and caregivers:

https://nami.org/Support-Education/Mental-Health-Education/NAMI-Family-to-Family

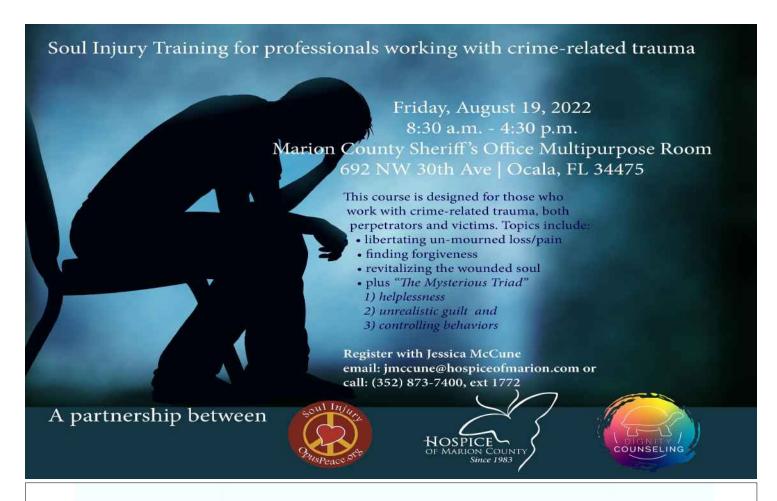
NAMI Family-to-Family is a free, 8-session educational program for family, significant others and friends of people with mental health conditions. It is a designated evidenced-based program. This means that research shows that the program significantly improves the coping and problem-solving abilities of the people closest to a person with a mental health condition. NAMI Family-to-Family is taught by NAMI-trained family members who have been there, and includes presentations, discussions and interactive exercises.

#### -- For individuals living with conditions: https://nami.org/Support-Education/Mental-Health-Education/NAMI-Peer-to-Peer

NAMI Peer-to-Peer is a free, eight-session educational program for adults with mental health conditions who are looking to better understand themselves and their recovery. Taught by trained leaders with lived experience, this program includes activities, discussions and informative videos. However, as with all NAMI programs, it does not include recommendations for treatment approaches.

Call us at (352) 368-2405 for more information and to register for these FREE classes.

National Alliance on Mental Illness





Marion County Early Childhood Court works with families with children from birth to five who have been removed from the home and are in the care of the child welfare system.

Program Coordinator: Martha Firkins, 352-502-2228, mfirkins@circuit5.org

# **Urgent Appeal ~ We Need You!**

Next month marks our 9th anniversary since the Believe in Santa

Foundation was launched, with the sole purpose of helping children in need all year round. This included children living in poverty, crime victims, disaster survivors, hospitalized, terminally ill, or the child of a serviceman or woman.

Our first year we helped about 20 children. For the last several years, that number has grown to assisting more than 6,000 children a year.



We are a very lean operating 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. We have no paid staff and keep our expenses to a bare minimum. Even so, there are bills to pay. We still have a phone bill, electric, gasoline, legal renewals such as our Annual Report to the State of Florida, trademark renewals, insurance, and other various expenses. After nearly 9 years, we are about out of money that we need to survive.

In an effort to keep us afloat, we are seeking your support once again. We are launching our biggest fundraising campaign to date. We are asking you to please consider donating anything you can to help us keep operating. If a million people each gave just \$1, we'd be set forever. It shows you how it can add up quickly.

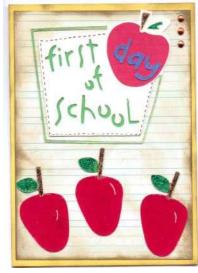
If you can help, our first preference is a donation through our Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/believeinsantafoundation

because we will receive 100% of every dollar contributed. You can also donate through our website https://believeinsanta.com/support-us/

Finally, you can send a check to us as well. Make check payable to Believe in Santa Foundation, Inc., and mail to 2665 NW 49th Ave., Suite 205-504 Ocala, FL 34482

Remember, your donation is tax deductible, and every dollar adds up.

# THINGS TO KNOW FOR BACK TO SCHOOL



#### First Day of School - Are You Ready?

August 10, 2022 is the first day of school for Marion County Public School students! Make sure your contact information is current in Family Access so you can receive up-to-date information as the school year begins. To learn more about Family Access go to https://www.marionschools.net/Page/52062.

#### Join Us for Our Next Parent Partnership Event

Parent Partnership is a collaboration of district schools, departments, and community organizations to provide families opportunities to assist their child(ren) with strategies to be used at home and link families with community resources.

The next Parent Partnership event will be held on **Saturday**, **August 27**, **2022** at Lake Weir High School from 9 a.m. to noon. Reach out to the Communications and Community Engagement office at **(352) 671-7759** if you would like any additional information.

#### Bell Times Change for Several Schools for the 2022 - 2023 School Year

School	Start Time	<b>End Time</b>	
Howard Middle	9:25 a.m.	3:40 p.m.	
Lake Weir Middle	9:30 a.m.	4 p.m.	
Liberty Middle	7:50 a.m.	2:10 p.m.	
North Marion Middle	9:20 a.m.	3:50 p.m.	
Osceola Middle	7:50 a.m.	2:05 p.m.	
Marion Technical Institute	7:30 a.m.	2:05 p.m.	

<sup>\*</sup>Start and Stop times at all other Marion County Public Schools will remain the same as they were the previous school year.

<sup>\*</sup>For Upcoming Orientation Dates and Times, Check the school's website that your child or children will be attending.



# BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF OCALA

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT CHRISSY VICKERS (352) 304-3908 OR AUTHORCHRISSYVICKERS@OUTLOOK.COM

## Marion County is hiring...

Healthcare benefits Florida Retirement System Optional dental, vision and savings plan



#### Join our TEAM!

Tuition Reimbursement Free employee wellness center Make a difference in your community

# Marion County Board of County Commissioners Current Job Postings July 18, 2022

#### Parks, Trades and Equipment Operator Careers

Title	Starting Pay	Title	<b>Starting Pay</b>
Animal Control Officer	\$15.93-\$20.88	Parks Services Worker-Seasonal	\$12.00-\$12.00
Emergency Medical Technician-PRN	\$20.00-\$20.00	Parks Svcs Worker-North District	\$15.54-\$20.58
Facility Trades Tech-Carpentry	\$15.00-\$23.60	Recreation Leader MSTU - Seasonal	\$11.80-\$18.21
Facility Trades Tech-HVAC	\$15.00-\$23.60	RLE Maint Tech Equip Operator	\$15.00-\$17.25
Facility Trades Tech-Electrician	\$15.00-\$23.60	Right of Way Maint Tech	\$15.00-\$17.25
Heavy Equipment Operator	\$19.58-\$25.92	Road Maintenance Manager	\$56,929-\$72,581
Maint Tech Equip Operator	\$15.54-\$17.87	Solid Waste Collections Driver	\$17.80-\$23.66
Litter Crew Leader-On Call	\$16.91-\$16.91	Solid Waste Litter Specialist	\$16.91-\$19.44
OCE Medium Equipment Operator	\$16.08-\$20.47	Survey Technician	\$15.00-\$16.08
Paramedic	\$48,089-\$51,130	Transportation Service Tech	\$16.91-\$22.51
Paramedic - PRN	\$30.00-\$30.00	Utilities Field Technician	\$15.54-\$21.42

#### **Administrative and Library Careers**

Title	Starting Pay	Title	Starting Pay
Budget Administrative Coordinator	\$40,580-\$51,740	Public Service Assistant	\$18.24-\$18.24
Circulation Assistant-Part Time	\$15.00-\$15.00	Public Services Librarian II	\$49,732-\$63,408
Emergency Telecommunicator I	\$18.24-\$23.26	Public Services Librarian III	\$53,206-\$67,839
Engineering Technician III	\$20.88-\$24.01	Zoning Technician	\$17.05-\$17.05
Legal Assistant-Public Records Spec	\$15.00-\$17.25		

#### **Executive, Professional and IT Careers**

Title	Starting Pay	litle	Starting Pay
Administrative Manager	\$56,929-\$88,233	Inspector Plans Examiner	\$46,467-\$72,581
Animal Center Veterinarian	\$91,416-\$116,552	Solid Waste Fiscal Manager	\$56,929-\$88,233
Deputy County Engineer	\$91,416-\$116.552	TPO Transportation Planner	\$56,929-\$72,581
Engineering Project Manager-OCE	\$53,206-\$67,839	TPO Sr Transportation Planner	\$65,187-\$83,116
Engineering Project Manager I	\$25.58-\$29.41	Trial Court Staff Attorney	\$56,929-\$72,581
GIS Coordinator	\$60,923-\$77,677	1	

### Apply Online: MarionFL.org/Careers

Veteran's Preference • Equal Employment Opportunity • Age 18+ and H.S. Diploma/GED required for most positions • Assessment Testing • Background Check • Driver License Check • Drug Screen

# 5th Annual - Save The Date!



# September 10, 2022 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

# Join us at Tuscawilla Park

To celebrate recovery and increase awareness for those struggling with mental or substance use disorders.

Listen to great music, taste local food share your story and learn about services available to help recovery.



Now accepting nominations for the Chief Greg Graham Recovery Champion Award

Sponsorship, exhibitor, volunteer and donation opportunities are available. Please email ccasa@mcchildrensalliance.org for more information.

# SAVE-THE-DATE

2022 WEAR YOUR WINGS

# DOMESTIC VIOLENCE WALK



# SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2022



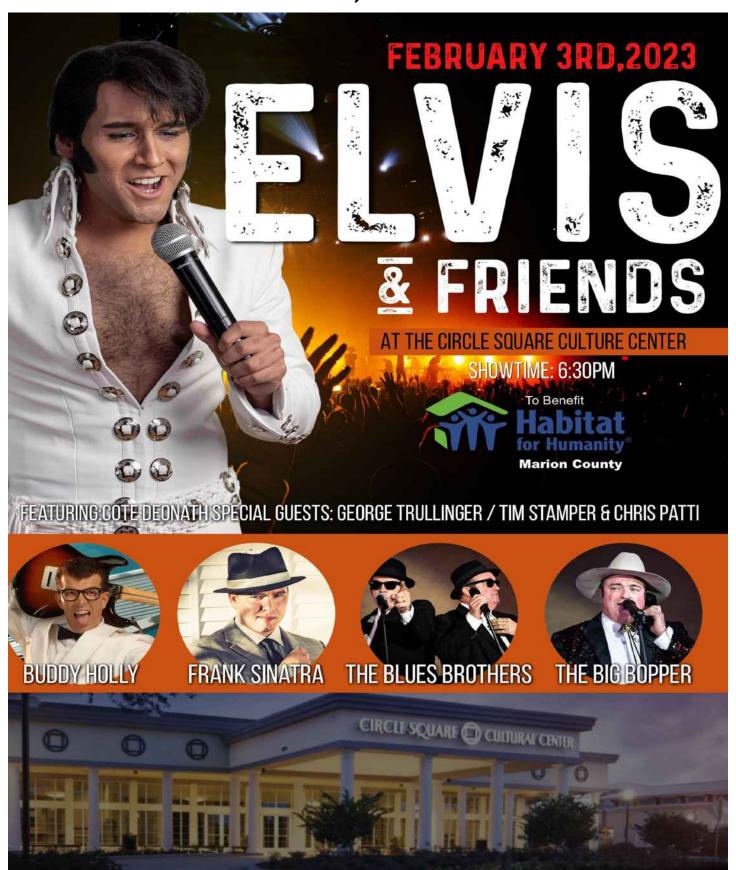




# IT'S NICE TO BE RECOGNIZED FOR THE WORK THAT YOU DO



# IT MIGHT SEEM FAR AWAY, BUT COTE IS COMING BACK!





# Marion County Children's Alliance

3482 N.W. 10th St., Ocala, FL 34475 Ph: (352) 438-5990 Fax: (352) 438-5994



### DID YOU KNOW?

**Women's Equality Day**, which celebrates the 1920 ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment and, with it, women's right to vote in the United States is celebrated on August 26!

Tickets available to attend the local celebration on Saturday, August 20. See page 10 for details.

#### **ALLIANCE WORKGROUP MEETINGS**

**August 8** Family Violence Prevention

Monday 11 a.m.

(Zoom Meeting)

**August 10** Safe Kids Marion

Wednesday 9 a.m.

Florida Dept. of Health

**August 15** CCASA

Monday 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

(Zoom Meeting)

**August 30** Substance Exposed Newborns

Tuesday 9 a.m.

Thursday

**OPD Community Room** 

**August 4** MC Opioid & Addiction Taskforce

3:30 p.m.

**OPD Community Room** 

#### Connect With Us, log on to ......

Mcca@mcchildrensalliance.org to view the Calendar to see what's going on in our community; to sign up to receive a free copy of this newsletter or to join a workgroup.

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter

#### **UPCOMING ALLIANCE DATES**

August 3 Alliance Monthly Meeting Wednesday 11:30 a.m.

MCSO Multi-purpose Room



# Agency Spotlight: Jessica McCune, RN, LMHC

Opus Peace Soul Injury LAUNCH of MasterPEACE

# **Guest Speaker:**Dennis McFatten

Safe Schools Coordinator Marion County Public Schools "Safe Schools"