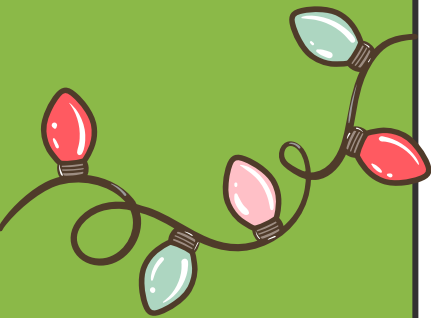


HABITAT NEWS



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Got News?

Send an email to Sophia at
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December Edition

Bowl2Build 2025

Heroes, villains, and everyday champions laced up their bowling shoes on October 30, 2025 as Habitat for Humanity of Marion County hosted our 15th Annual Bowl2Build: Legends Strike Back at Bowlero West Ocala.



The comic book-themed fundraiser transformed the lanes into a battleground for good — where every strike, spare, and smile helped build strength, stability, and self-reliance for local families in need of safe, affordable housing.

Approximately 200 community members came together for an unforgettable evening filled with bowling, raffle prizes, a silent auction, and live painting by local artist Andres Garcia, who brought the night's heroic spirit to life through art. Guests were also joined by cosplayers (Storm and Penguin) — who energized the crowd and brought joy to families and fans alike.

One of the event's standout moments came from Joel Hickman, whose Strike Match Challenge raised over \$2,500 in strikes alone, inspiring bowlers to give their all in support of Habitat's mission.

Legends Strike Back would not be possible without the generosity and commitment of our sponsors, who are investing directly in stronger families and a stronger Marion County. We are proud to recognize the following sponsors:

MULTIVERSE CHAMPIONS



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ATLANTIC
BANK



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& TREE SERVICE
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JNS PRESSURE
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LLC
We don't just paint, We Protect.



MAINSTREET
COMMUNITY BANK
OF FLORIDA





Mission, Vision, and Values

OUR MISSION:

Seeking to put God’s love into action, Habitat for Humanity brings people together to build homes, communities and hope.

OUR VISION:

A world where everyone has a decent place to live.



"We lead by serving."

SERVANT LEADERSHIP

We are committed through our actions to uplift individuals, families, and communities and to inspire others to join us in our mission.

"We take responsibility for our actions and commitments."

ACCOUNTABILITY

We are dedicated to upholding the highest standards of reliability and transparency, honoring our promises, and continuously learning from our experiences.

"We act with empathy and kindness."

COMPASSION

We honor, respect and value every person we serve by fostering a culture of care and belonging.

"We build together for generations to come."

LEGACY

We are focused on building a sustainable future where our community grows stronger, and families thrive for generations to come.



A Message from Our CEO

Dear friends,

At Habitat for Humanity of Marion County, our four core values — Servant Leadership, Accountability, Compassion, and Legacy — guide every decision we make and every relationship we build. As we enter this holiday season, I want to pause and reflect on the value that I believe most fully captures who we are year-round: **compassion**.

This year has reminded us that success isn't defined solely by the number of homes we complete, the funds we raise, or the volunteers we bring alongside us. True success is found in the way we show up — how we stand in the gap for individuals and families seeking affordable housing, how we remain present and supportive, and how we advocate for those who need a voice. It is also reflected in the kindness we extend to one another and the empathy we bring into our work and our community.

The holidays offer a meaningful opportunity to slow down, reconnect, and remember that behind every email, meeting, and project is a person with their own hopes, dreams, and challenges. Let's continue to lead with compassion in every interaction — not just during this season, but throughout the year.

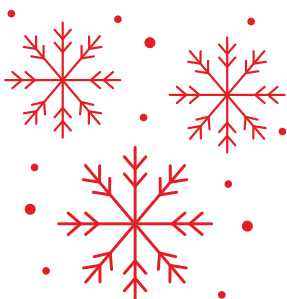
This month, we're moving full steam ahead as we plan two exciting events: the Elvis & The Legends of Country Concert and the Habitat Strawberry Festival. Looking ahead to 2026, we are honored to welcome Gettel Automotive Group of Ocala as the presenting sponsor for the Habitat Strawberry Festival. Sponsorship opportunities are still available for both events, and you can learn more about them in this newsletter.

I am deeply grateful for the way our community and staff consistently show up and make a meaningful difference. Your compassion is what makes Habitat for Humanity of Marion County — and all who partner with us — truly extraordinary.

Thanks much,



Rob Peters
CEO/President
Habitat for Humanity of Marion County



Family Partner News

A Season of Hope: Upcoming House Blessings

This holiday season, Habitat for Humanity of Marion County will mark a joyful milestone by blessing not one, but **two homes** for two hardworking families. On Friday, December 19, 2025, beginning at 8:30 AM, the community is invited to gather on NW 14th Street as the Mann and Jones families receive the keys to their new homes — each built with love, sweat equity, and extraordinary community support.



SPONSORS



\$50,000 ANONYMOUS DONATION FROM LOCAL FOUNDATION

Britney Mann, born and raised in Ocala, is a devoted mother of three children — two boys and one girl — who has worked steadily through her sweat equity hours while preparing her family for the stability and security of homeownership. Her home represents the revival of **Women Build** in Marion County, a movement empowering women to step forward as leaders, builders, and champions for affordable housing. The walls of her home were raised by volunteers, teams, and sponsors who poured their hearts into creating a future where Britney’s children can grow, dream, and thrive.

For the last twelve years, Britney and her children lived in a two-bedroom one-bathroom apartment that was crowded for the four of them. With this new home, Britney’s daughter will have her own room guaranteeing her privacy and a space away from her brothers. They also dealt with mold in the apartment which caused regular sinus infections. In the twelve years they have been in this apartment, the appliances and carpets were never changed or updated. Britney is looking forward to placing a kitchen table in her new home for her family to sit and have dinner together.

WOMEN BUILD TEAMS

- Ladies on a Ladder - BNI Power Players
- Ferrentino’s Fierce Females
- Brick by Brick Sisters
- Hard Hats & Handcuffs
- Badge-Worthy Builders
- Bold Ladies Build





Realtor Build

Immediately following Britney's Women Build House Blessing, Christina and Curtis Jones will gather with supporters for the blessing of their **Realtor Build** home. The Jones family has shown deep commitment through their Habitat journey, contributing their own sweat equity and partnering alongside volunteers. Their home was made possible through the dedication of Ocala/Marion County Association of Realtors, whose members united this year to invest directly in solutions to the county's housing challenges. Their work reflects a shared belief that every family deserves the chance to build a safe and stable future.

Christina and Curtis first met in Gainesville in 2007 at Curtis' daughter's job. At the time, Curtis had told Christina that he was an R&B singer, then *wow*-ed her by singing a couple of songs from his CDs. Little did he know, he had just sung for the love of his life. Curtis had told Christina when he proposed that he wasn't a rich man and may not be able to give her everything she wanted, but he promised to love her no matter what and make her the happiest woman alive.

Fast forward to 2011 where Christina and Curtis moved to Ocala and began a Street Outreach program for the homeless and needy. It was always a deep heartfelt desire for them to own their own home one day. They were turned down numerous times and most of their hope was gone for home ownership. That is until one day Christina heard all the wonderful things about Habitat for Humanity and reached out. On their second application, Habitat for Humanity worked with them to enter the program officially. Habitat gave the Jones family a home that they can share with their family for generations to come.



Community Involvement

Give4Marion 2025

Habitat for Humanity of Marion County participated in the Give4Marion campaign again this year! The campaign consisted of coming together for 33 hours nonstop to unite neighbors across the county to support causes close to home.

Although we had a goal of raising \$50,000, thanks to your generosity, that goal was not just met but exceeded. On November 10, we received a check of \$60,200 from all the matches during the Give4Marion campaign at the Final Check Presentation. That's more than just a number — it's walls framed, foundations poured, and families stepping into a future filled with possibility.



80's Dance-A-Thon & Fitness Event

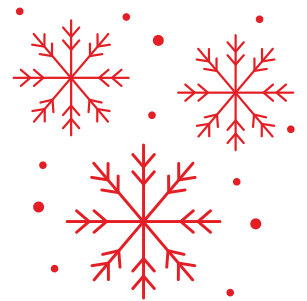
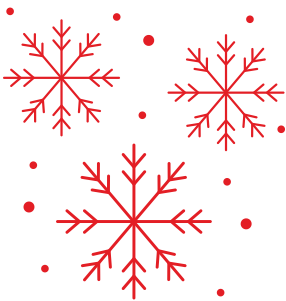
On October 11, in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, we joined the fight for a great cause!

At Paddock Mall, we set out a table to share information and resources about our Homeownership Program so that attendees could learn about how Habitat for Humanity of Marion County is building affordable homes and stronger communities!

Building with Ocali Charter Students

In the spirit of leaving a legacy, Ocali Charter High School students came to one of our build sites to learn about our programs, experience the power of teamwork, and foster a meaningful connection with their community.

Witnessing these students engage in the project reminds us of why we build — to bring people together to build homes, communities, and hope. Thank you to Marion County Building Industry Association for partnering with us to make this project a reality and thank you to McLaughlin & Company for donating the hard hats and safety glasses. We also want to thank Ferrentino & Son for sponsoring this event.



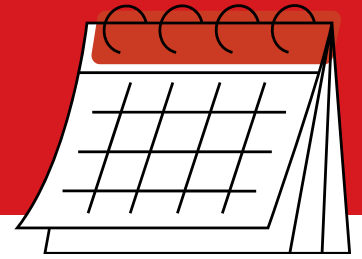
Community Event @ Revo Church

On November 15, we were able to connect with our community at Revo Church, in collaboration with Convoy of Hope!

At this community event, we were able to share information about homeownership, and families left with groceries, clothing, resources, and so much more. We are grateful for the chance to serve our community together.



Upcoming Events



ELVIS CONCERT - Elvis & The Legends of County - January 8th, 2026

STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL - March 7th, 2026

RODEO - March 20th & 21st, 2026

For more Information:
habitatocala.org/events/

Habitat for Humanity of Marion County PRESENTS

ELVIS & THE LEGENDS OF COUNTRY

Cote Deonath as Elvis Presley

Samantha Chambliss as Dolly Parton

Michael Collier as Johnny Cash

Alex Mitchell as Garth Brooks

THURS., JAN. 8, 2026

SHOW BEGINS AT **6:30 PM**
DOORS OPEN AT 5:30 PM

CIRCLE SQUARE CULTURAL CENTER
FROM THE HEART OF COUNTRY TO THE HEART OF OCALA,
JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE THE KING'S BIRTHDAY.

TICKETS START AT \$15 | SCAN THE QR CODE AND GET YOUR TICKETS NOW

HABITATOCALA.ORG/CONCERT

HABITAT OCALA STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

Want To Become A Sponsor at one of Marion County's largest festivals? Scan here!

March 7, 2026

9AM-5PM

McPherson Complex
601 SE 25th Ave, Ocala, FL

Sponsor Today To Help A Local Family In Need!

- 235+ Vendors
- 15k-20k in Attendance
- Supported by 700+ volunteers
- Car Show
- BMX Stunt Show
- Pie Eating Contest
- Live Music & Entertainment
- Kid Zone + Petting Zoo

@HFHMCstrawberryfestival

habitatocala.org/strawberry



ReStore® Updates

Habitat for Humanity of Marion County

ReStore
Habitat for Humanity of Marion County

FILL A BAG

Back Porch Sale

\$5 FILL A BAG



Every Friday - 9am-4pm
(weather permitting)

JOIN US FOR OUR PORCH SALE EVERY FRIDAY, WHERE EVERY BAG IS JUST \$5, AND YOU CAN FILL IT TO THE BRIM. IT'S THE ULTIMATE TREASURE HUNT.

Fill-A-Bag Sales: Every Friday!

Looking for a treasure hunt? Every Friday from 9am-4pm (weather permitting), shoppers can grab a bag and fill it to the brim for just \$5! You never know what gems you'll find — home decor, clothing, hidden treasures, and more! Please note that only items in the designated sale area are allowed to be filled.

Locations:

-  10800 SW 91st Ave, Ocala, FL 34481
-  926 NW 27th Ave, Ocala, FL



Make sure you follow our ReStore Facebook pages! We regularly post about treasures you don't want to miss out on...

 27th Ave ReStore: [Follow Here](#)

 200 ReStore: [Follow Here](#)

