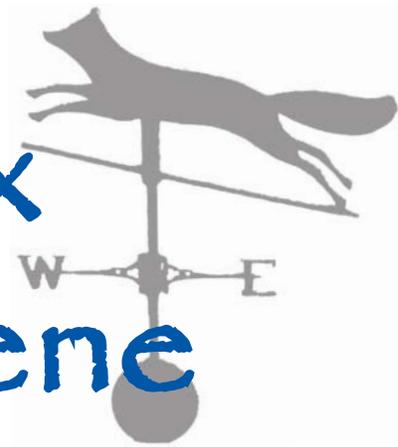


Swamp Fox Scene



A FREE monthly newspaper for the citizens and visitors of the Swamp Fox City



CCU Bands set to play concert

C.D. Joyner Fine Arts Center welcomes symphonic, winds groups

At 7 p.m. on April 10, two Coastal Carolina University bands, the Symphonic Band and Coastal Winds, will perform their spring concert.

Titled "Moons, Stars & Planets," the performance will feature "Mars" and "Jupiter" from Gustav Holst's landmark work *The Planets*, Sousa's *Looking Upward* suite, and Richard Saucedo's *Cambrian Explosion*. Additionally, other themed music will be performed. Seating is first come-first serve. For information about the bands, call Judy Dow at 843-349-6480.

The concert will be in the C.D. Joyner Fine Arts Center, Elizabeth Street, just off Main. For information about C.D. Joyner, call Frank Page at 843-423-5410.

New computer lab to be set up in city's Higher Ed Center

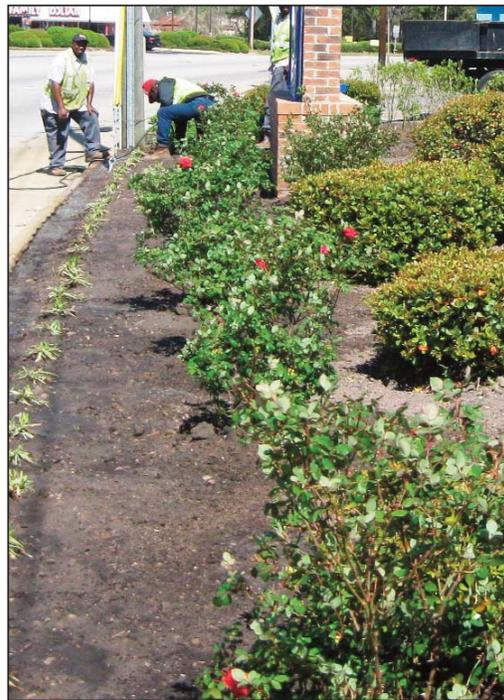
Thanks to a memorandum of agreement between the City of Marion and the Pee Dee Workforce Investment Board, approved by city council during its March meeting, several computers will be accepted for use in a computer lab.

The computers, loaded with workforce training software programs such as WorkKeys, were donated by a One-Stop, closed because of state budget shortfalls. The city will put the computers in a new lab in the Swamp Fox Higher Education Center on Elizabeth Street. Tentative hours for the lab are Monday -Friday, 2-6 p.m. Call Frank at 843-423-5410 for information.



Spring Frogmore Fest tickets available now

The second annual Frogmore Fest is set for Friday, April 15 from 5:30-8:30 p.m. The successful Main Street Marion fundraiser will feature the entertaining sounds of EZ Street Band. Tickets for the event are \$15 each and are available at the Main Street Office in the HMRA building on Main Street. The event will be on the grounds of the Rosewood Manor, Main Street. Call 843-423-9918 for details.



Keeping Marion as one of the 'Prettiest Little Towns'

... takes lots of hard work! Here, Street Department employees put the finishing touches on the improved flower bed at the base of the new city sign at the intersection of Godbold and Liberty Streets. These employees are often seen setting out flowers, weeding beds and working hard at keeping Marion as pretty as it can be!

THE CITY OF MARION needs your help in its competition against other towns across the nation! Reader's Digest, through its "We hear you America" campaign, is offering cities a chance to win from \$10,000 to a \$40,000 grand prize, plus promotional support. Marion needs people to go online to "Cheer" for the town. The town with the most "Cheers" win! The city previously competed in such a campaign, one that ended in early February. Response to the program was strong enough, however, for Reader's Digest to begin another give-away campaign. Visit www.rd.com, find the "We Hear You America" program and "cheer" for MARION! This contest runs through May 16 and at press time, we were 20th in the nation! Woo-hoo!

City event honors employees



Retiring City Police Crossing Guard Leona Painter gives Interim Police Chief Capt. Jim Gray a hug after being honored during the 2011 City of Marion Employee Recognition Banquet in the Marion Fire Station in March.

City officials thank all who donated generously to honor the city's employees. During the evening several employees were recognized for their hard work and dedication to the City of Marion and its citizens. Also featured as entertainment was the Marion Baptist Church's Men's Quartet.

Grand prize of an I-Pad, donated by American Waste Systems, went to Firefighter Steven Bullard. Winning \$50 in quarters after sinking the most free throws was Clifford Williams of the Street Department.

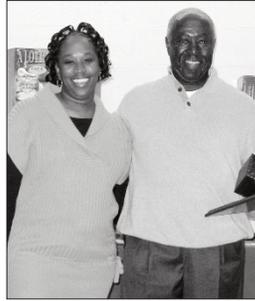
In the most prestigious award of the night, honored as the Employee of the Year by Mayor Rodney Berry and receiving the Chief's Award for 2011 was Police Lt. Walker Davis Sr.

Davis, shown above, center, was surprised with a visit from his daughter from Raleigh, who is shown in the picture with her father.

Employee of the Year is chosen by a secret committee of employees appointed by the Mayor. The committee receives recommendations from department heads and makes its choice.

Davis began working for the Police Department in 1991 and rose through the ranks, walking the downtown beat for five years, then becoming a patrolman, Berry said.

Shown in the photo at right are employees honored for their five years of service. From left are Glenn Bridges of the Street Department; Gary Cook, a volunteer fire-



fighter; Heather Evans of the Police Department; and Sanitation Department employees Larry Singetary and Anthony Mason. Mason is not pictured.



contained a story about his community service, which is above and beyond his firefighter duties, Ammons said. William Turner, shown in the photo below, far



Recognized for their 10 years of service to the city Police Department employees Cindy Barr, Aurelius Cribb, Almeta Mullins and Chris Smith.

Twenty-year service awards went to Billy Thompson of the Recreation Department and Clifford Williams of the Street Department. Williams is shown above, far right with City Council member Bobby Davis.

The city's Anonymous Committee chose to award Grant Writer and Publicist Dianne Owens with the Public Service Award for 2011, saying "This individual could be spotted all over town, always expounding on how great the city is and what we can do to improve our quality of life."

At right, city firefighter and resident Santa Claus, Jimmy Collins, was honored with the Outstanding Fireman Service Award.

Given the award by City Administrator Alan Ammons, Collins' plaque



Singetary is city's Employee of Month



The City of Marion selected Larry Singetary, shown above on left with Mayor Rodney Berry, as the Employee of the Month for February.

Larry is a Sanitation Department employee and came to work for the City in January 2005. He first worked for the Wastewater Department and was transferred to his current position with the Sanitation Department in July 2008.

Responsible for collecting large household items and yard debris from citizens and transporting these items to the landfill, Larry is a willing team member.

"Larry has continually been a hard worker for the City, always on time and always at work," said Sanitation Superintendent Winky Fore.

The Mayor and Council recognized Larry for his contributions and dedication to the City of Marion at the March 8 City Council Meeting. Employees receive a \$25 Chamber Check to be used at any participating Marion Chamber of Commerce business.



Anyone interested in volunteering with the Marion Fox Watch group can call 423-0847 for more information.

This number also serves as an anonymous tip line and is checked daily by volunteers. This is a telephone line established as a way for citizens to leave tips regarding suspected criminal activity.

The Fox Watch office is manned by volunteers three days a week, but more people are needed. The site can serve as a community meeting place, where members of the city's police department and neighborhood leaders can work together to improve the quality of life in the City of Marion.

Call today and get involved!

Chamber offers solution to problem of storing personal documents

'Shred Day' set in Marion

Once the April 15th tax day deadline has passed, along with the rush to gather receipts and documents, and the proper forms are completed and filed, comes the question of what to do with old tax forms and documentation.

The Marion Chamber of Commerce has a solution to any confidential

document storage problem, giving its members, the local business community and individuals an opportunity to clear out old paper files.

Bring old documents from your home or business to be securely disposed of on Wednesday, April 20, from noon until 3 p.m. when the Chamber conducts its first "Shred Day" in the parking lot behind Baxley Hardware. Cintas, a company

that oversees the shredding and disposal of all types of documents, will have a secure shredder set up in that location.

This project is sponsored by Ashley Brady at First Charter Company and Stacy Smith at Wheeler Street Package. There is no fee for the service, but the Chamber will accept donations for its 2011 Education Programs, Executive Director Judy Johnson said.

City honors Rev. Campbell for community service

During the March City Council meeting, Marion County native and resident Rev. Curtis Campbell was honored with a Resolution of Appreciation and a Key to the City of Marion. Campbell was honored for his more than 40 years service to the City and County, according to the resolution, read during the meeting.

The son of Mildred Campbell and the late Mr. Levon Campbell Sr. of Zion, Campbell graduated from Mullins High School in 1972 and went into the ministry. Shown at right with Mayor Rodney Berry, Campbell, General Manager at WJAY-1280 radio station in Marion County, is married to Wanda Verner Campbell. He has two children.

Among other things, Campbell is a member of the Nazarene Union of Pee Dee Association, Little Pee Dee and South Carolina Baptist E&M Association, National Baptist Convention USA, Inc. Everbee Lodge #331 Free & Accepted Masons (Smithboro) and the Rising Star Chapter #221 Order of the Eastern Star. He is also founder and past president of Share Unlimited, Inc.

He is a commissioner for the Voter's Election Commission of South Carolina



and serves as Vice President for the Council on Aging (Marion County), among other things.

Campbell has been the pastor at Oak Grove Missionary (Nichols), Mt. Carmel Missionary (Mullins), Macedonia (Benettsville) and Mill Creek Missionary (Mullins). He is the current pastor at Fork Chapel Baptist Church in Lake View.

Keep Up With What's Going on!

April 4th

Monday, 5:30 p.m.: Citizens Advisory Committee meeting (Second Monday of the Month), Fire Station, Bond St.

April 6th

Wednesday, 8:30 a.m.: Main Street Marion's Rise & Shine, First Citizens Bank; Come & Bring a friend!

April 9th

Saturday, Opening Day for Recreation Baseball! See information on Page 4.

April 10th

Sunday, 7 p.m.: Coastal Carolina Bands concerts, C.D. Joyner Fine Arts Center; Free. Seating is first-come, first-served.

April 12th

Tuesday, 7 a.m.-7 p.m., City Council elections. To see where to vote, visit the Marion County Voter Registration and Election Commission at 137 Airport Court off East U.S. Highway 76 or call Teresa Moody or Tammy Barr at 423-8268.

April 12th

Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.: City Council (Second Tuesday of the Month), Council Chambers, City Hall, Main St.

April 15th

Friday, 5:30-8:30 p.m.: Fun for the family at the 2nd annual Frogmore Fest, Rosewood Manor on Main Street. Call 423-9918 for information.

April 18th

Monday, 6:30 p.m.: Marion's Fox Watch meeting, 332 N. Main Street.

April 20th

Wednesday, noon- 3 p.m.: Marion Chamber of Commerce sponsored "Shred Day," Baxley Hardware's parking lot; Call 423-3561 for information.

April 21st

Thursday, 10 a.m., Community Easter Walk on Main Street; rain date is Friday, April 22. For details, call Chuck at 423-9918.

April 24th

Sunday, 7 a.m., Easter Sunrise Service in the Old City Cemetery, behind the Methodist Church off Oak Street.

Coming up in May

May 14th

Marion County Relay for Life, Withlacoochee Park, 6 p.m.-7 a.m.

May 14th

Saturday, Tour of Marion Gardens. See story on Page 4.

May 20th-21st

Friday & Saturday, Plan now to stay in town for the annual FoxTrot Festival activities. More information in your May *Swamp Fox Scene*.



Visit the
City of Marion
online
at www.marionsc.gov



on Facebook
under
City of Marion,
South Carolina.

The *Swamp Fox Scene* is the City of Marion's free monthly news magazine for the citizens and visitors of the Swamp Fox City, Marion, South Carolina. The staff consists of City of Marion employees Cheryl Askins, Elizabeth Fick, Pam Jones, Winky Fore and Dianne Owens. Call Pam Jones if you are interested in sponsoring an issue.

The newspaper is distributed by city employee Dennis Brown and may be found in City Hall, in the Marion Chamber of Commerce's office in the Historic Train Depot, in the Main Street Marion office on Main Street and in other spots around town.

The Marion Chamber of Commerce and Main Street Marion help the city to offset printing costs. Call Mayor Rodney Berry or City Administrator Alan Ammons at 843-423-5961 for more information.

SPORTS & RECREATION

Opening Day ceremonies set for baseball season

Join the fun and support the coaches & players!

Marion Recreation Department is planning to have Opening Day Ceremonies for baseball season on April 9. The event will be open to the public and be conducted on the Green Street fields.

Plan now to come out and enjoy watching the players kick off the 2011 baseball season! At right, Recreation Department employee Robert Browder helps to get the fields ready for action.

Call 843-423-5410 for Opening Day details ... and catch up with the Recreation Department and its activities online! *The City of Marion Recreation Department can be accessed on the www.Marionsc.gov web site. Find us under "Residents" and then click on "Recreation."*

To find the department on Facebook, search Marion Recreation Department!

Tennis anyone?

The City of Marion Recreation Department will begin offering a 10-and-Under tennis program.

Volunteers are needed to coach and assist with the program, a new addition that seeks to use the Withlacoochee tennis courts as a way to promote lifelong healthy activities. The new tennis courts offer QuickStart lines for promoting tennis to our 10 and under age group, Recreation Director Frank Page said, adding that the QuickStart Tennis play format is an integral component in teaching children tennis skills.

Anyone interested in working with the city's youth tennis program is asked to call Page at (843) 423-5410.



Lewis & Clark Circus comes to Green Street

The Lewis & Clark Circus will be in town for one day only at the Green Street Park on Monday, April 4.

Shows are at 5 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Tickets may be purchased at the gate.

Centers open for after-school play!

Don't forget that the Watsonia Recreation Center and Grice's Recreation Center are open for after school fun from 2:30-4:30 p.m.

There are plenty of games for the kids to play with and to enjoy.

Children are under adult supervision and will be asked to follow rules. If you have any questions about the after school play centers, call 423-5410.

Senior aerobics offered two days a week

The Marion County Council on Aging has Senior Aerobics classes at Watsonia Recreation Center each Tuesday and Thursday from 9:30-10:30.

The class is free, although donations are appreciated. If you have any questions about the class, call 423-4391.

Twice a month BINGO! is offered to all citizens

Marion Recreation Department conducts Senior Bingo the first and third Thursday of every month at Watsonia Recreation Center. The games begin at 8:15 a.m. and run for an hour.

There is plenty of room for newcomers to come join us in the fun. Refreshments are available for everyone and prizes are available for the winners!

Bring friends and join the fun of an easy morning at BINGO!

Four gardens in the city of Marion to be highlighted in state Garden Club's 'Follow The Blooms' May tour

The Garden Club of South Carolina, Inc. invites the public to a Garden Party, one that will lead participants through garden gates in the Low Country and into the Foothills!

On May 14, the bloom trail begins in Camden and Marion. The Marion Garden Tour also features lunch, by reservation only, in the Marion County Museum at 101 Willcox Ave., from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. For luncheon reservations, call Ann Caughman at (843) 423-5220. Deadline for reservations is May 6 and cost is \$12.

The May 14 tour in Marion carries participants from The Grove Garden at 408 Harlee Street, through Gary & Charlene Marshall's Garden at 405 Harlee Street, to Ruth and William Brady's Garden at 924 Evans Road and to Elise Tollison's Garden



at 903 Willcox Street. For the additional donation of \$5 each, the Grove and Marshall houses may be toured. These donations will go to a local garden club.

Parking for the Harlee Street gardens is inside the gate at The Grove, and not along the street. The Grove Garden, at the Inn on Harlee Street, will continue to be open to tour ticket holders from May 14-19.

Other Follow the Bloom tour sites are on May 15 in Columbia; May 16 in North Augusta; May 17 in Greenville; May 18, Fort Motte-Saint Matthews; May 19, Winnsboro; May 20, Enoree and Woodruff; May 21, Sumter; and May 22, Simpsonville.

Purchase a \$50 Follow The Blooms™ tour ticket and visit any or all gardens from May 14-22, among them gardens in the City of Marion.

For details about tour offerings across the state, visit www.gardenclubofsc.org.

According to the Garden Club's web site, individuals may purchase tickets by credit card through Paypal or by sending a personal check, no cash, to Follow the Blooms Garden Tour, P.O. Box 2124, Camden, S.C., 29020. There will be no refunds or rain checks. For more tour details, send e-mails to followtheblooms@gmail.com.

