

Swamp Fox Scene



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

“Our Town” going live from Marion!

The City of Marion will be featured on WBTW TV13’s 5 and 6 p.m. newscasts on Nov. 3rd. Stay tuned to be a part of this exciting evening! We will need background and crowd participants for the televised newscast at the Courthouse. Several business owners, along with Main Street Marion, the Marion Chamber of Commerce and the City of Marion made this event possible.

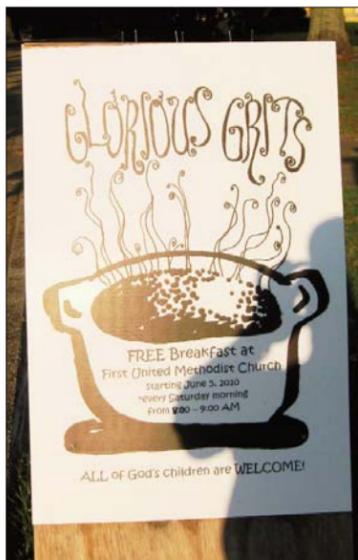
Other things to look forward to:

RENAMING OF MILL STREET: City Council voted to rename Mill Street to honor long-time City Council member Bobby L. Davis. It will be named Bobby L. Davis Boulevard. That renaming, and the renaming of other city streets, will begin soon. Additionally the last unpaved road in the city limits, Byrd Street, is set for paving.

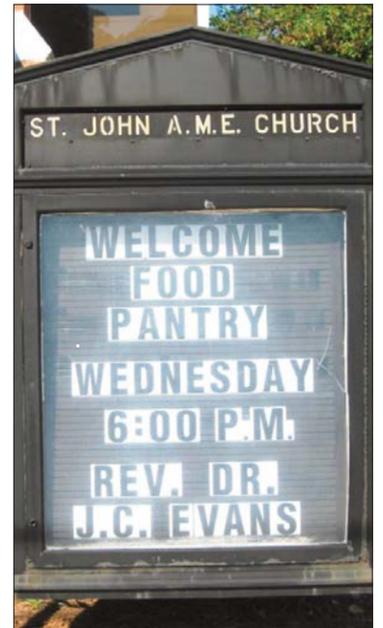
CENTER OF HIGHER EDUCATION: City of Marion officials have announced that a Center of Higher Education will move into the city in the coming months. *Stay tuned for details.*

NEW TENNIS COURTS: Our new tennis courts will include new lines for QuickStart play for the 10 and under crowd! Reconstruction of the four courts is underway! *For news about upcoming events, see page 2!*

Marion churches helping to feed anyone needing food, or fellowship



Several Marion churches are helping to feed those needing a good meal or just seeking fellowship. Some churches are involved in food banks and food pantries for routine or emergency needs. Among those offering food pantries are the Marion Church of God at 1404 North Main Street. Call 423-2071 for details.



Also, St. John A.M.E. Church at 702 Mill Street has a food pantry each Wednesday. Call 423-2221 for details. The First United Methodist Church, 307 E. Godbold Street in Marion, features a Saturday morning “Glorious Grits.” This free breakfast is from 8-9 a.m. Call 423-3533 for more information. Hands of Faith Community Soup Kitchen, at the Marion Baptist Church (106 S. Main Street), offers free homemade soup, sandwich, fruit and a beverage every Monday from 11 a.m.-noon. Call 423-3111 for information.



City street make-overs

At left, work has started on the city’s long-awaited Streetscape. The project will update several blocks of Main Street and bring an updated look to downtown. Before the work can begin in earnest, work is done below the surface. At right, city employees put the finishing touches on the clean up of a toppled tree that brought up roots and the sidewalk.



Coming up

November 2nd

Tuesday: 7 a.m.-7 p.m., *VOTE!*

November 3rd

Wednesday: 8:30 a.m., *Main Street Marion's Rise & Shine*, Bridgers.

November 6th

Saturday, 11 a.m.: *Veterans Day Parade* (Main Street Marion)

November 8th

Monday, 5:30 p.m.: *Citizens Advisory Committee meeting* (Second Monday each month), Fire Station, Bond St.

November 9th

Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.: *City Council* (Second Tuesday each month), City Hall, 107 S. Main St.

November 11th

Veterans Day

November 13th

Saturday, 10 a.m.: *Marion's March for Babies*, Withlacoochee Park.

November 15th

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

November 17th

Wednesday, 8:00 p.m.: *City of Marion's Employee only Health Fair*, Watsonia Recreation Center.

November 19th

Friday, 1-5 p.m., FREE Health screenings, Monument of Faith Christian Ministries, 702 Georgetown St.

November 25th-26th

City Hall closed to observe *Thanksgiving!* Enjoy!

Christmas Prelude, Dec. 4 & 5, includes "Polar Express"

Christmas will be here before you know it and now's the time to begin making your celebration plans.

Main Street Marion will have

Santa available for pictures at Carolina Furniture Company and **FREE hay rides** through the Historic District on Dec. 4 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Come join the old-fashioned fun!

The MSM office will have an **Open House** from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., where they will be displaying some of Bonita McLaurin's original paintings and introducing their new Francis Marion logo. Come enjoy punch and cookies!

Invite your friends to join in the enjoyment of our annual Downtown Christmas Prelude! At 1:30 p.m., in CD Joyner, there will be a showing of **The Polar Express**, then, the Marion Chamber of Commerce's **Christmas Parade** will begin at 4:30 p.m.

The annual Christmas Tree Lighting will be on Sunday, Dec. 5, at 6 p.m. on the Courthouse Square with a program and refreshments. Fireworks follow! Additionally, gather your family and friends and join everyone in the Historic District, downtown Marion, on Main Street on Thursday, Dec. 9, from 5-9 p.m. for the **Sights, Sounds and Tastes of Christmas!** More details to come!

On Saturday, Dec. 11, at 7 p.m. in the CD Joyner Fine Arts Center, the **Parris Island Marine Band** will return for another wonderful performance of a holiday concert.

CITY NEWS



Harps is the city's latest Employee of the Month

The City of Marion selected Jeneral Harps, seen at left with Mayor Rodney Berry, as the September 2010 Employee of the Month.

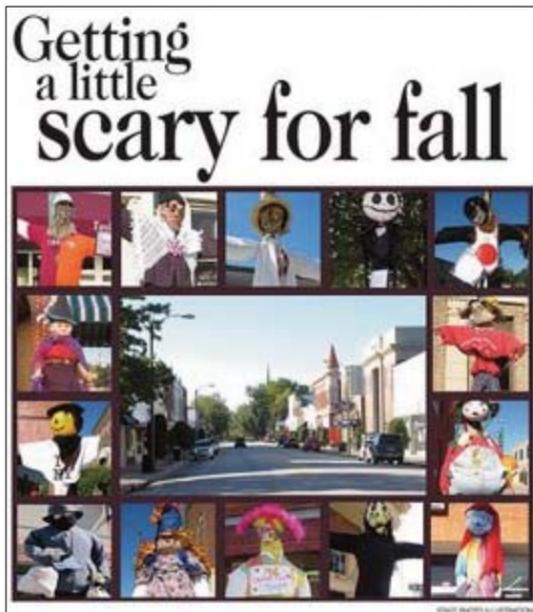
Jeneral has been working in the Street Department since November 2004.

He is a dedicated employee who takes great pride in his work, which ranges from mowing grass in the summer to decorating the City for the Christmas season.

His friendly smile and positive attitude are infectious. Jeneral also serves the city as a volunteer firefighter.

The Mayor and Council recognized Jeneral for his positive attitude and significant contributions to the City of Marion during the Oct. 12 City Council meeting.

Main Street Marion announces Scarecrow winners, accreditation



Andrew Golden with the *Star & Enterprise* took photos of the Main Street Scarecrows for an illustration for the newspaper.

And the Scarecrow winners are...

Main Street Marion's 2010 Scarecrow winners, all of whom received a \$50 gift certificate from Main Street Marion to be used at any of our members' establishments, are:

Most Creative: First Charter Co.

Most Original: City of Marion

Scariest: Johnakin Middle School (Bob)

Executive Director Chuck Wiegert thanked everyone who took part in the contest.

"We had 17 scarecrows hanging around town."

Main Street Marion (Historic Marion Revitalization Association) recently received its 2010 National Trust Main Street Accreditation.

Such a designation means that MSM meets the commercial district revitalization performance standards set by the National Trust Main Street Center.

The program is recognized for using the Main Street Four-Point Approach methodology for strengthening the local economy and protecting its historic

buildings. We congratulate this year's nationally accredited Main Street programs for meeting our standards, Doug Loescher, director the National Trust Main Street Center, said in a press release.

"Accredited Main Street programs are meeting the challenges of the recession head on and are successfully using a focused, comprehensive revitalization strategy to keep their communities vibrant and sustainable."

Main Street Main is annually evaluated on such criteria as building comprehensive and sustainable revitalization efforts, fostering strong public-private partnerships, securing an operating budget, tracking economic progress and preserving historic buildings.

The National Trust Main Street Center helps communities revitalize their older and historic commercial districts.

Keep up with the City of Marion on Facebook by searching City of Marion, South Carolina; on the Internet at www.marionsc.gov; and on HomeTown TV8, when the Swamp Fox Country, a 30-minute television show airs on Saturdays at 7 p.m.

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 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.

Call Mayor Rodney Berry or the City Administrator at 843-423-5961 with questions, concerns and comments.

Reminder:

Chamber checks are a great way to keep your money in Marion!

With the holidays just ahead, the Marion Chamber of Commerce is reminding everyone that its Gift Certificate Program promotes "Shop Marion and Marion County First!"

The Chamber has Chamber Checks on sale in \$10 to \$50 denominations in \$5 increments. These are redeemable at any participating Chamber member location.

There is a wide variety of merchants participating in the program and we're certain this offers an opportunity to give a gift that is perfect for anyone. For information on becoming a Chamber Check merchant or to purchase a Chamber Check, call Judy Johnson at 843-423-3561 or visit her in the chamber office at 209 East Bobby Gerald Parkway, The Historic Train Depot.

Chamber Checks can be redeemed at these fine business locations:

Accent Signs And Printing
Aire Mechanical Contractors
Amoco Express, Marion
Baxley Hardware, Inc.
Bridgers Drug
Candlelight Gifts
Carolina Bay Clothing Company
charlin's shed
Clarks, Inc.
Classy's Boutique
Clearvue Orchid Nursery
Dry Dock
Dusty Hills Country Club
DW Outdoors
Eagle Eye Security
Farmers Home Furniture
Flower In Pot
Food Lion, Marion
FUNdamentals
Gordon Service Co.
Gore's Tire Service
The Grove - the Inn on Harlee
Hidden Acres Cabin
Home Therapy, Inc.
Hooter Ray Spirits
Hulon Jewelers
Jimmy B's
Joye One Hour Cleaners
Judy's Flowers
Main Street Cleaners
Marion County Supply
Marion Regional Hospital
Martin's Service Center
The Mediterranean Restaurant
Merle Norman Cosmetic Studio, Marion
Millie's Flower Shop
Ohkayshuns
Parmars IGA, Marion
Pee Dee Office Solutions, Inc.
Piggly Wiggly #154,
Highway 76, Marion
Professional Pharmacy
Rosewood Manor
Southern Outfitters
Subway of Marion
Subway of Mullins
Susie's Beauty Shoppe
Tio's
T-Roy's
Theodosia's
Tru Green Nursery and Florist
WalMart, Marion
Webster Manor
White's Mini Storage/Supply
Williamson Printing
Zeman Electric & Refrigeration



Main Street Marion introduces "new face" of Gen. Francis Marion

Main Street Marion is launching its new logo, with an updated artist's interpretation of Gen. Francis Marion, the city's namesake.

"We are in the process of copy-righting our new symbol of MSM, (formerly Historic Marion Revitalization Association) and adding it to all of our products," Executive Director Chuck Wiegert said.

"We thank local artist Linda Wiegert for giving of her time and talents to help put together what we believe and understand to be a very good likeness and interpretation of 'the Swamp Fox.'"

Wiegert, and others, conducted research to get the feel for this intelligent, thoughtful, compassionate leader.

More will be said about the new image in the days to come.



File photo

The Marion High Marching Band performs each year in parades in the city.

Congratulations! Marion High teams bring home honors from competitions

Marion High School students and staff members recently brought home First Place honors in their Band, Flag Team and Cheer Squad competitions.

The MHS Band and Flag Teams participated in competitions resulting in two First Place wins in Division 1 competition at the Hartsville Tournament of Bands in October.

The MHS Competitive Cheering Squad received First Place honors in the 2A Division at the Jacket Cheer Classic at Aynor High School, also in October. Keep up the good work!

After first full week, AWS thanks citizens for warm, 'pink' welcome

Dear Marion Friends:

AWS has completed its first full weeks of "start-up" and the situation seems to be well in hand from most observations.

We are all excited about the overwhelming success of the "Pink Carts" and just know that folks will continue to "switch out" the green ones for the new Pink Ones when they continue see how many residents and small businesses already have their Pink Carts.

Inasmuch as October was "Breast Cancer Awareness Month," the timing of our startup

probably proved to be an additional impetus for getting more of the "Pink Cans" out and in use in the City.

My brother from Myrtle Beach called me to say he heard about a "copy-cat" to Marion's use of "pink" over in Tabor City, N.C. He said he heard the city ordered a pink fire truck. Also, other cities are using the "Paint it Pink" idea. The more the merrier! Especially if using PINK helps to promote and educate about this deadly disease.

I thank you for your support of AWS and I look forward to building an ex-

cellent "public-private partnership." Don't hesitate to share with us the good and bad! We will resolve the problems as expeditiously as possible.

We will be diligent in performing our job responsibilities and AWS will continue to work to make Marion the cleanest, prettiest and most livable City in the entire Southeast. That's a large goal, but one that together we can reach!

Most sincerely,
Jim, Leann, David,
Ken, Tish, Jason, Leland,
Lucas and all our other
AWS associates

Distribution points for your Swamp Fox Scene

The Swamp Fox Scene is delivered by City Employee Dennis Brown to the following locations for pick up. We thank these folks, and any others who have been added since this distribution list was made, for distributing the City's newspaper.

Let us know if you want copies of the newspaper in your business.

Marion City Hall
 Marion Police Department
 Watsonia Recreation Center

Grice's Recreation Center
 Marion Chamber of Commerce
 Main Street Marion
 Marion County Library
 Marion County Administration
 Marion County Medical Center
 Marion Medical
 IGA
 Tiger Mart
 Earl's Grocery
 Burger King
 Blackmon's Piggly Wiggly
 Pizza Hut
 Jimmy B's
 McDonald's
 Wendy's

Breakers BP
 Marion Chinese Restaurant
 Ming Wah's
 Sunoco
 Southern Exposure
 Zapatas
 Mental Health Center
 Fred's Barber Shop
 Emerson's Barber Shop
 Sparky's
 The Shell Station
 The Kangaroo
 Sav Way
 Myer's Podiatry
 Crescendo Music

SPORTS & RECREATION

Things to do

Stay tuned for movies! The Recreation Department will be showing movies in Grice's and Watsonia Recreation Centers. Next movie is set for Dec. 4 in CD Joyner, 1:30 p.m., *Polar Express!* For information about those and the following activities, call Cheryl at 423-5410 or stop by to see her in the Watsonia Recreation Center.

Let the games begin, again!

Basketball sign-ups are Nov. 1-18. Are you ready to play some hoops? Sign ups for basketball are underway.



Remember, you must have a copy of the child's birth certificate with you when you sign-up to play, even if your child has played sports for the City of Marion before. Registration fees are due at sign up and are \$16 for residents of the city and \$30 for out of city participants.

Children 6 to 17 years old are eligible to play. The age cut off date is Feb. 28: however old the child is on this date is the child's playing age.

For information, call 423-5410. Remember: Support your local athletes!

Senior flexibility, aerobics class changes its meeting times

The senior flexibility class is off to a great start and has had many newcomers. The class is open to the public and is FREE. Donations to the Marion County council on Aging, however, are appreciated. New class dates are, beginning Nov. 1, every Monday and Thursday from 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. Come on over and bring some friends! We look forward to seeing you there ... For information, call the Marion Country Council on Aging at 423-4391.

Bingo is a great way to have some fun and catch up with friends

Don't forget that Watsonia Recreation has BINGO every first and third Thursday of each month from 8:30-9:30 a.m. Gather up your friends and come on over for a friendly outing and to play some bingo. It's a great time to have fun and catch up with your friends. There is always room for more. Don't be shy! For information, call 423-5410.

Plan now to book a center for your special event in 2011

Need a place to have your party? We have the perfect locations for you. Looking to have an outside event? We have Pop Dorsey picnic shelter. Looking for a cool or warm place inside to gather? We have Grice's Recreation & Watsonia Recreation Centers. We are also booking for 2011 rentals, so if you are interested in any of the rentable spaces, call Cheryl at 423-5410.

Aerobics for all is offered in CD Joyner

All residents, regardless of age, are invited to join the fun of an organized, group exercise class. For a mere \$30 a month you can enjoy an aerobics class several times a week. Classes run Monday-Friday from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Bring a friend and get fit! Call Cheryl at 423-5410 today!

Check us out online, anytime!

The City of Marion Recreation Department has a Facebook page and is on the Internet, on the www.marionsc.gov web site.

Find us under "Residents." Click on "Recreation." To find us on Facebook, search *Marion Recreation Department!* There are game times, photos and more!



Fall sports end; Basketball to begin!

The 2010 fall sports season at Marion Recreation Department has ended for another year.

We have enjoyed watching the kids have a



great time while learning the fundamentals of the sports, rec center employees said. "Thanks" to all the parents, coaches and sponsors who volunteer their time and money to help make these programs a success. We look forward to another great season with everyone next year. Call the Recreation Department at 423-5410 to find out how you can support your city's recreation programs. Sign up now for basketball!

If others can do it, well then, so can we!

According to the "Refresh Everything" web site, this grant program is looking for

Examples and voting are online at www.refresheverything.com. Anyone interested in helping start something for Marion, call Dianne at 843-423-5961, Ext 21.

the YMCA for six years when they learned about the Pepsi Refresh grant.

people, businesses and non-profits with ideas that will have a positive impact on their communities.

The challenge is to work together, look around our city and think about how we want to change it. Anyone can submit their idea through the web site. Pepsi accepts 1,000 new ideas each month and the public votes for the month. In the end, the project with the most votes wins.

Categories for possibilities include health, arts and culture, food & shelter, the planet, neighborhoods and education. What facet of life in Marion doesn't need a "refreshing?" And because Pepsi is giving away millions in grants to individuals and communities, shouldn't we at least try for one or two?

This summer the Florence Family YMCA earned a Pepsi Refresh playground grant through the Pepsi Refresh Project and its "refresheverything.com" web site. People there had been trying to get a playground at

After a month of voting, the public chose to fund the project. The project received \$5,000 from Pepsi Refresh and \$5,000 from Florence's Pepsi-Cola bottling company.

Pepsi Refresh funds up to 32 projects each month. To submit an idea for a service project or to vote for ideas seeking funding, visit <http://www.refresheverything.com>. For instance, anyone want to champion park improvements for the City's Tilghman Park? Another site?

Up to 10 grants of \$5,000 each are given, for "individuals who need to get an inspired idea off the ground." Up to 10 grants of \$25,000 each are given, "Best for individuals and small groups who can work lean and mean." Up to 10 grants of \$50,000 each are given, "for companies and organizations who can put time into it." And finally, up to two \$250,000 grants per month are awarded, for "organizations who can dedicate a lot of time and resources."