

The City of Marion, South Carolina

SWAMP FOX SCENE



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

Volume 4, Issue 14

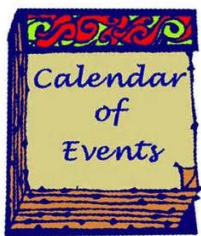
July 2014

Marion Chamber Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony

The Marion Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting for City of Marion's newly renovated swimming pool at Grice's Recreation Center on Friday May 30th located at 603 Gurley Street. Marion Chamber Executive Vice- President, Cindy Rogers and City of Mayor Bobby L. Davis, City Administrator Alan Ammons, Council Members, Michael Baker, Odessa Gregg, Joseph Frazier and Sellers Mayor Barbara Hopkins, along with other Chamber Board members, friends and family members were present for the ribbon cutting ceremony.

Susanna Shiels, Project Architect and Eddie Rodelsperger, Project Manager from Pike McFarland Hall Architects also attended the ribbon cutting ceremony. Ms. Shields and Mr. Rodelsperger complimented the City on their willingness to provide such a wonderful a facility for children to have a safe place to lean to swim and play. Additionally the two thanked everyone for allowing PMH to be a part of the Capital Sales Tax successes and play a role in improving the quality of life for the residents of Marion County.

Lifeguard Ethan Allen was the first to take a dip in the newly renovated swimming pool.



9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Every Saturday in the month of July, HMRA Farmers' Market at the Market Place on Main Street will be open.

July 4th - Friday

City offices closed to observe Independence Day! Offices reopen at 8:00 a.m. on July 7th.

July 4th - Friday

The Annual Marion County Independence Day Celebration, 100 W. Buck Street., Mullins. For more details contact Ms. Ogleretta White at (843) 423-8208 ext. 120

July 8th - Tuesday

6:30 p.m. City Council Meeting, Council Chambers.

July 6th- 11th - Sunday - Friday

Wildlife Action Adventure Camp. **Session 4:** Pathfinder Overnight Camp. Co-Ed, ages 9-12. Deadline for application, 7/01/2014. Fee \$300.

July 17th- Thursday

The Arts Council of Marion County (ACMC) and Sobiepan Productions, L.L.C., are pleased to present the following performance :
"Shakespeare: Queens, Witches, and Wenches", Historic Marion Opera House, 100 W. Court St. Marion. Ticket \$10.00. For more details contact Janie Jordan at (843) 289-5054 or email artcounciljj@att.net

July 20th - 25th - Sunday - Friday

Wildlife Action Adventure Camp. **Session 5:** Teen Overnight Camp. Co -Ed, ages 13-16. Deadline for application, 7/15/2014. Fee \$300.

****NOTICE** Marion Senior Council - NO MEETING FOR JULY**

National Garden Week Proclamation



Standing (left to right)

Linda Gasque, Ellen Davis - Azalea Garden Club President, Elizabeth Wallace, Mayor Bobby L. Davis, Glenda Burch - Daphne Garden Club President.

Floral arrangement donated by Azalea Club.

City of Marion Mayor Bobby L. Davis with officers of the Azalea Garden Club and Daphne Garden Club to sign a proclamation designation June 1 - 7, 2014 as National Garden Week. This year floral designs were placed in two public facilities, City Hall and the Police Department, by the Azalea Club. The club serves Marion by working to improve and maintain our community, striving to make it a beautiful place in which to live.



The City of Marion approves 2014-2015 budget

The City of Marion approved a **\$5,502,381** General Fund budget for the fiscal year 2014-2015 at the City's June Council Meeting. The balanced budget does require a **4** millage increase. The four mills increase was used to increase the police base salary which hasn't been raised since 2005. Council also approved the Hospitality Tax budget **\$315,000** for the City of Marion.

*******BUSINESS OF IMPORTANCE*******

City of Marion Business License Renewals are due!

All City of Marion business licenses expired on June 30. To avoid paying a penalty, renewals are due by 5:00 p.m. July 31st. Renewal business licenses will be issued once the application and payment is received in City Hall. Anyone receiving the business license renewal form and no longer doing business in the City of Marion, should write **'No Longer Doing Business'** on the application. For help or questions concerning your business license, contact Pam Jones at (843) 423-5961 ext. 10 or email pjones@marionsc.gov.

The Marion Lions Club wishes to announce that our yearly community calendar will not be available this year in July. We anticipate that it will be available in January for the regular calendar year. Any changes should still be submitted to Charlotte Hollandsworth at 843-275-9959. This is our main fundraiser to help pay for eye exams, eyeglasses and hearing aids for the less fortunate.

Thank you, Charlotte Hollandsworth, Secretary

Brown Bag Lunch Seminar

The Marion and Chamber of Commerce, in conjunction with the Center for Entrepreneurship at Francis Marion University, will continue their summer brown bag lunch seminar. Take your lunch hour and come learn valuable skills to help your business. There is no fee for the classes but registration is required. The Chamber office is taking reservations for the classes at 423-3561 or email marionsc@bellsouth.net. Call to reserve your spot. This year session will focus on Small Business. Each class is from 1:00-2:00 p.m. in the Swamp Fox Education Center on Elizabeth Street. Call Bring Zhang at 843-661-1112 or Cindy Rogers at 843-423-3561 for more information.

July 29th – Small Business Marketing Workshop
August 26th – Small Business Resources

The Swamp Fox Scene is the City of Marion's Free monthly newspaper for citizens and visitors of the Swamp Fox City, Marion, South Carolina. Printed by Herald Multiforms in Dillon, city employees produce and distribute the newspaper.

The Marion Chamber and HMRA help pay printing costs.

A PDF version is available by e-mail or online. For more information about the newspaper, call Mayor Bobby L. Davis or City Administrator Alan Ammons at (843) 423-5961.

Computer lab open for all

Need to use a computer to apply for a job or conduct research? The Swamp Fox Computer Lab has 13 computers for public use, free of charge and is in the Swamp Fox Higher Ed Center in the C. D. Joyner Fine Arts building on Elizabeth Street. Hours are 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. and after lunch 2:00-5:45 p.m. For more information, contact Marion Recreation Department at, 423-5410.

Want to Share!!!

Questions or to share information for the Swamp Fox Scene, please email vnichols@marionsc.gov.

Historic Marion Revitalization Association Membership Drive Continues....

The Historic Marion Revitalization Association membership drive continues! We encourage you to become a member for 2014-2015. Funds that are raised through our membership campaign **support the purpose and goals to:** (1) *grow Marion's business and retail base*, (2) *cultivate tourism to revitalize downtown*, (3) *support overall city improvement initiatives* and (4) *create, manage and support promotional events*.

Your membership will support activities for your town to create the buzz needed to attract new businesses while sustaining and supporting your veteran businesses in the Downtown District through seasonal promotions and upcoming training opportunities. We urge you to participate in our events, shop local, as well as volunteer to help with our ongoing projects. We are always looking for new ideas on how we can better serve our community. Download a membership application at www.theswampfox.com, stop by the HMRA Business Center at 103 E. Dozier Street or give us a call at 843.423.9918. Let us hear from you and thank you for your support!!!

Downtown property owners, let HMRA help you in filling your empty buildings. We'll be glad to retain information about your properties to share with potential buyers or renters. Find the information on the HMRA website at www.theswampfox.com under Establishments/Available Properties.



Independents Week is an annual campaign to engage local independent businesses and citizens in celebrating entrepreneurial spirit and the freedom our local businesses embody. Independents Week also is an occasion to recognize small businesses' contributions to the community--and to affirm citizens' role in shaping their community's future. Show your support the week of July 1 thru 7 and everyday by visiting and shopping with our local independent downtown merchants!!!

Look for special things happening in downtown Marion, Thursday, July 24th!

Marion Diversity Committee Meeting Scheduled

The Marion County Diversity Committee is comprised of a group of citizens who are dedicated to finding ways to create harmony and understanding among the people of our fair city. Through its efforts, this group hopes for greater acknowledgement that, while we are all flawed to some extent, we also have a great well of strength to offer one another. Our goal is for all of us to look past our differences and disagreements to those strengths that reside within our hearts and minds so that our community might prosper. If you desire to be part of a move towards a Marion that celebrates and honors our cultural differences, please join us for our meeting on July 15, 2014 at 6:00 P.M in the conference room at the City of Marion Fire Department. We hope to see you there.

NEED HELP?

Call City Hall, 843-423-5961, unless otherwise noted, and one of the following will be able to help you.

Mayor Bobby L. Davis, (843) 423-5961, Ext. 21
Alan Ammons, City Administrator & Building Official, Ext. 19
Pam Jones, City Clerk, Ext. 10
Patricia Brown, City Treasurer, Ext. 18
Elizabeth Sanders, Administrative Assistant, Ext. 11
Elizabeth Fidik, Personnel & Purchasing Director, (843) 423-8614
Vickie J. Nichols, Grant Writing & Publicist, Ext. 22
Ann Jackson, Recreation Director, (843) 423-5410
Jim Gray, Police Chief, (843) 423-8616
Trey Cooper, Fire Chief, (843) 423-8602
Heather Evans, Municipal Court Clerk, (843) 423-8616
Almeta Mullins, Secretary, (843) 423-8616

Community Summer Camp Program

The City of Marion began to seek a program for the children of Marion when the Boys & Girls Club decided not to renew their contact. The Mayor came up with the idea for a Summer Camp that would benefit all the children of Marion at no cost to the kids. With the help of volunteers the camp would begin on June 9th. And Mr. Mike Tiesing will direct the Community Summer Camp Program at Grice's Recreation Center. We have over 300 signed applications from parents and still getting calls from parents about signing up their kids. We have to put them on a waiting list. The program is free to all children. Breakfast, lunch and snack will be served. The program will run from June 9th and ends August 15th 2014. Some of the activities for the program include; swimming, arts & crafts, fishing, games & races, Foreign Languages: Spanish, German, French, Music; Piano, drums, woodwind & singing, Fieldtrips and etc. We are very thankful for all of our volunteers and we are looking at the possibility of an after school program during the school year for our children. The program like anything new had some bumps in the road, little quirks, but after weaning some out, the program is running great. We are very excited about our summer program.

Certificate of Appreciation to Troy Watson

The City of Marion is proud to have you as serving the community as a lifeguard at the City Pool at Grice's Recreation Center. On June 5, Opening Day 2014, a child who could not swim jumped into the pool and was in distress. Because of your immediate response and action, the child was removed from the water to safety. City Council, the Marion Recreation Department and I want to express our gratitude to you for being alert and reacting quickly. Keep up the good work.

Bobby L. Davis
Mayor, City of Marion

Remember to look us up on the City's Face Book or the website
@marionsc.gov.

Questions about your water or sewer bill? Call Grand Strand Water and Sewer Authority at (843) 765-4539 or Visit them in City Hall at 107 S. Main Street, Marion SC.

Fireworks Ordinance Be safe for the 4th of July

The City of Marion's Fireworks Ordinance states that it is unlawful that for anyone to possess, sell, offer for sale, store, transport, or use within the city, any fireworks that are not classified as ICC Class C "common Fireworks." It is also unlawful to explode or ignite fireworks within 600 feet of a church, hospital, asylum, or public school to explode or ignite fireworks within 75 feet of where fireworks are stored, sold. Or offered for sale; to ignite or discharge any permissible fireworks within or throw the same from any motor vehicle; and to place or throw any ignited fireworks into or at any motor vehicle. No fireworks of any kind shall be used, fired, shot or discharged except; (1) from 5:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. on New Year's Day, (2) 5:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. during the 4th of July Holidays – July 1st thru July 6th, (3) 5:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. on Memorial Day, (4) 5:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. on Labor Day, (5) 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. during the Christmas Holidays – December 23rd thru December 30th and (6) 5:00 p.m. – 1:00 a.m. on New Year's Eve.

Be Careful this 4th of July and all Holidays when handling fireworks!!

If you have any questions pertaining to the City Ordinance, contact the Building Official at 843-423-5961.

CITY POOL

The Pool is officially open. Come and enjoy the newly renovated pool. Certified Lifeguards on duty at all times. Pools hours are Monday – Friday 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. & 2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. & 2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Price is only \$1.00. Pool is closed on Thursday and Friday morning ONLY from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. for summer camp students only.

SAVE THE DATE

Marion County Independence Day Barbecue Cook-off. Saturday
July 5th, 100 W. Buck Street Mullins

COMING UP

Marion City Wide "Worship Explosion".
Saturday August 23th, C. D. Joyner Auditorium. Sponsor by Pastor Joshua Nelson.

Marion Chamber Golf Tournament. Wednesday August 27th.

Marion County United Fund Gala. Tuesday, September 16th @ Woodhaven Restaurant, @6:30 p.m. Marion SC.

City of Marion Play Day Saturday September 20th.

Marion Recreation Debs

July 12th the debs 18-U will be playing in Lancaster in the State Tournament for Dixie Youth. Opening Ceremony starts July 11th.

Congratulations to the Marion 18-U Debs!!!

CITY NEWS

Yoga classes set

Yoga classes are offered each Tuesday and Thursday evening from 5:30-6:30 p.m. in the fire department sub-station on Senator Gasque Road. Taught by Judy Johnson and Frances Bethea, the classes are \$5 each or \$30 per month. For information or details, call the Recreation Department at 423-5410.

Ping Pong Club

Don't forget that Marion Recreation holds a Ping Pong Club every Monday & Wednesday from 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm. You can come by on one of these days and freshen up on your ping pong skills, watch some games or learn how to play. For details, call 423-5410.

Senior Aerobics at Watsonia Center

Senior Aerobics has resumed and there are still some spots for newcomers. Classes are on Monday and Thursday, from 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. The instructor is Mrs. Anna Boatwright. All classes are FREE, but donations are appreciated to help defer cost of the class. If you haven't participated before, please come out and register at the Marion Recreation Department.

Senior Bingo

We offer Senior Bingo the on first & third Thursday of each month. Bingo is FREE of charge and we welcome newcomers to come join in on the fun. We offer prizes for the winners and refreshments for you to enjoy while playing. We do have a 2 card playing limit. Come check us out and bring some friends to join in.

CDJ Aerobics

Aerobics classes are offered Monday thru Friday evening, from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. at CD Joyner. Taught by Ms. Lillie Ann Sanders, the classes are \$30 per month. For information or details, call Recreation Department at 423-5410.

Marion Recreation Fall Sports Round-Up

The City of Marion Recreation Department will start accepting youth sign-ups for **CHEERLEADERING**, (ages 4-12) **FLAG FOOTBALL**, (ages 4-12), **SOCCER**, (ages 5-15), & **TACKLE FOOTBALL**, (ages 9-12). Beginning July 7, 2014 through August 01, 2014. You may register at the Watsonia Recreation Department Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m-5:00 p.m. The registration fee for those residing inside the city limit is \$16 (must have proof of residency in your name); fees for those outside of city limit is \$30. All child must bring copy of birth certificate at the time of registration. **NO BIRTH CERTIFICATE, NO SIGN-UP!!** Cutoff date for all sports is September 1, 2014.

Marion Chamber of Commerce announces Yard of the Month



Dennis Mickey of 305 Northside Avenue has been awarded the Marion Chamber of Commerce Yard of the Month for June 2014. The Chamber is proud to recognize those in our community that work so diligently, and add so much to our community's unique character. Mr. Mickey will receive a gift certificate from Tru Green Nursery in recognition of this honor.

Youth Coaches and Officials

Anyone interested in coaching or officiating in the Marion Youth Leagues should contact Marion Recreation at 423-5410. All coaches must be **CERTIFIED** to coach at the recreation department.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO RESIDENTS

American Waste Systems (AWS) will be running on regular schedule on **July 4th**. All residents please pull your cart on your regular pickup day to the curb side for pickup. If you have any questions, please contact AWS at (843) 765-3390. Have a safe and enjoyable Fourth of July!!

American Waste Systems Office

Employee of the Month



Officer Bobby J. Davis was selected as the May 2014 Employee of the Month. Officer Davis has been employed with the City of Marion Police Department since March 2013 and graduated from the SC Criminal Justice Academy in June 2013. Davis is well respected by his peers and in the community. He is known for his warm smile and friendly demeanor.

The Mayor and Council recognized Officer Davis for his service and dedication to the City of Marion at the June 10th Council Meeting.

CITY OF MARION NEW FLAG

The Swamp Fox City



Shop and Dine Local...to keep YOUR town viable!!!