

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 7, Issue 1

June 2017

SUMMER TIME FUN!

The City of Marion will host a **FREE** Community Summer Camp beginning June 5, 2017 for children who reside in the City of Marion. The Camp will be both academic and fun oriented, with numerous activities for the kids. We are pleased to announce the Camp Director will be Ms. Ellen Baldwin.



The Camp will operate June 5, 2017 through August 11, 2017. Camps hours Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m.– 1:30 p.m.

(Ages 5-15)

Parents are encouraged to pick up an application form, fill out, and return as quickly as possible to any of the following:

Ainsley Sanders, Administrative Assistant- City Hall (843) 423-5961

Pansy Brown, Administrative Assistant– Shannon Wilkerson Gym (843) 423-5410

We are looking forward to an exciting summer! Hope to see your kids there!!!

Mayor Ashley Brady



CITY OF MARION PUBLIC NOTICE

2017-2018 BUSINESS LICENSE RENEWALS ARE NOW DUE

Section 1 of the Business and Professional License Ordinance for the City of Marion, South Carolina requires every person engaged in any calling, business, occupation or profession within the limits of the City of Marion to renew the annual Business License fee and obtain a license.

The City of Marion Business License Renewal Applications are being mailed on **May 19, 2017**. Current Business Licenses expire on **June 30, 2017**. To obtain a **2017-2018** Business License, a completed renewal application and/or remittance must be received in the City of Marion Business License Department by **July 31, 2017** to avoid a penalty. Penalties for late payment will be assessed on **August 1, 2017**, and will increase each month thereafter.

FAILURE TO RECEIVE A RENEWAL NOTICE DOES NOT RELIEVE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE LICENSEE FROM OBTAINING A BUSINESS LICENSE. If you have any questions please contact Lakesha Shannon in the Business License Department at 843-423-5961.

NO TIRES OR TELEVISIONS ON CURBSIDE



The City takes pride in keeping Historical Marion looking beautiful. With spring comes warmer weather and the grass-cutting season is quickly approaching. There are City Ordinances for over grown and vacant lots. If you have any questions or concerns, you can contact City Hall at (843) 423-5961. In case you didn't know, a **tire, tires or televisions** place curbside in the City of Marion is considered litter by city ordinance. For health and safety reasons and in accordance with DHEC regulations, city employees no longer pick up **tires** or **television** at curbside. The fine for littering is **\$1,092.50**. Homeowners are to dispose of unwanted tires and television at the **Palmetto Hardwood Recycle Center** located at **2631 Senator Gasque Rd,**

Marion SC. Call the **Palmetto Hardwood Recycle Center** at **(843) 423-8284** for hours of operation. If you have any questions about this reminder, please call the city administrator at Marion City Hall, (843) 423-5961. Property owners in the Historic District. Please be aware of the zoning ordinances and guidelines that are in place before any changes are made to historic properties. If you have any questions, please contact City Hall at (843) 423-5961.



Graduates Of 2017



Graduates, it must be a very proud moment for you. Chasing a dream requires your efforts and passion. Hard work isn't over when you graduate. It's just a break as you enter the new battlefields of life. In my message I encourage you to set your goals high, and don't stop until you get there! You will make mistakes and be wounded many times

in your life. Don't give in - it's just an experience. Remember the past, live in the present, and look forward to the future! May your graduation be just the beginning of a lifetime of fulfillment for you. And so... The adventure begins! Good luck and congratulations!

Mayor Ashley Brady, Marion City Council, City Administrator Alan Ammons.

Yard Sale Permits



With all the great weather, yard sales will be popping up all over town. Remember to purchase your permit (**\$5 per day at City Hall Monday thru 12:00 noon Thursday**). **YARD SALE PERMITS WILL NOT BE ISSUED AFTER 12:00 ON THURSDAY. "ABSOLUTELY" no Yard sale permits are issued on Fridays.**

If you have any questions please contact the City Clerk, Lakesha Shannon at (843) 423-5961.

CITY NEWS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Marion Chamber of Commerce announces Yard of the Month



Georgia Hamilton of 315 Arch Street has been awarded the Marion Chamber of Commerce Yard of the Month for May 2017. The Chamber is proud to recognize those in our community that work so diligently, and add so much to our community's unique character. Ms. Hamilton will receive a Marion Chamber of Commerce Chamber Check in recognition of her honor.

NEED HELP?

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

- Mayor Ashley Brady, (843) 992-3773
- Alan Ammons, City Administrator & Building Official, Ext. 19
- Lakesha Shannon, City Clerk, Ext. 10
- Patricia Brown, City Treasurer, Ext. 18
- Ainsley Sanders, Administrative Assistant, Ext. 11
- Elizabeth Ficik, Personnel & Purchasing Director, (843) 423-8614
- Vickie J. Nichols, Grant Writing & Publicist, Ext. 22
- Frank Page, Athletic Director, (843) 423-5410
- Dewayne Tennie, Police Chief, (843) 423-8616
- Cindy Barr, Training Officer (843) 423-8616
- Chris Smith, Captain (843) 423-8616
- Tony Flowers, Investigator (843) 423-8616
- Trey Cooper, Fire Chief, (843) 423-8602
- Chris McKenzie, Assistant Fire Chief (843) 423-8602
- Heather Evans, Municipal Court Clerk, (843) 423-8616
- Almeta Mullins, Secretary, (843) 423-8616

The Swamp Fox Scene is the City of Marion's Free monthly newspaper for citizens and visitor's 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.

Grass, weeds and overgrown vegetation Ordinances

According to the City's CODE OF ORDINANCES : **Section 6-1009.1 through Section 6-1009.6**, grass, weeds, or other overgrown vegetation higher than one foot on average is declared to be a nuisance. The ordinance also states that any property owner or occupant of the property that allows the property to serve as a breeding place for trash and litter or as a fire hazard is to be declared a nuisance. Any individual who fails to resolve the issue within 10 days of notice of non-compliance will be guilty of a misdemeanor. The City may remove weeds, overgrown vegetation either by the use of a city crew or designated contractor and the cost will become a lien upon the property and collected in the same manner as municipal taxes. The cost of such action by the city is as follows: \$100 per lot, 1/2 acre or less; \$175 per lot, 1/2 acre to 2 acres; \$250 per lot, 2 acres to 5 acres; \$250 per lot, 5 acres and over, plus \$100 per hour; or any contractor costs incurred by the city to correct the nuisance lot in addition to the cost of mailings. If an owner or occupant of a property believes they are unable to pay to have the grass, weeds, or overgrown vegetation removed, he or she may ask the City of Marion for assistance.

A voucher program, administered by a seven-member committee, is available for reviewing requests for assistance by low-income persons.

For information about the voucher program, contact City Administrator Alan Ammons at 843-423-5961.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 1st
1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Healthy Woman Event, Wildberry Farm, 2815 Grady Rd, Marion. \$10 per person.

June 5th
8:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. - **Summer Camp Begins**. Grice's Recreation Center.

June 6th
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Book Signing Event: **Marion County Museum**. 101 Willcox Ave, Marion. Come learn more Mr. Bill Walker's new book "**Alaska Highway Flight Log**". For more information contact Rosanne Black (843) 423-8299.

June 7th
8:30 a.m.- **Rise and Shine** hosted by Raspberries & Thyme, located at 329 N. Main Street.

June 13th
6:30 p.m. **City Council Meeting**, Council Chambers, 107 S. Main St.

June 23rd
5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Celebrating 20th Anniversary. **Carolinas Hospital Systems**, 2829 E. Hwy 76, Mullins SC.

Bobby Jones city's employee of the Month



Officer Bobby Jones was selected as the April 2017 Employee of the Month. Officer Jones has been employed with the City of Marion Police Department since November 2016 and has over fifteen years of law enforcement experience. He consistently spends his time doing the right things and focusing enforcement action on the crimes and people that directly impact the safety of our community.

"Jones is a dedicated officer and shining example for other officers to follow," said Marion Police Chief Dewayne Tennie. "He would be a wonderful addition to any law enforcement agency, and I am proud to say that he is a City of Marion Police Officer".

Mayor Ashley Brady and City Council recognized Officer Bobby Jones for his service and dedication to the City of Marion at the May 9th Council Meeting.

Marion Chamber Ribbon Cutting Ceremony



The Marion Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting for Magnolias on Main Antiques on Tuesday, May 16th at 10:00 a.m. Located at 400 North Main Street, this antique shop is owned by Linda Treadway-King. Linda along with her daughter Paula and other sellers offer a wide array of beautiful furniture, china, jewelry, art, and many

other antique "finds". Marion Chamber of Commerce President Darrell Jameson and Mayor Ashley Brady along with family and friends welcomed this new business to Marion. You can contact Magnolias on Main Antiques at (843) 616-1188. The hours of business are Tuesday-Friday, 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. and Saturday 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Photo Courtesy Marion Chamber of Commerce

City of Marion capture Playful City USA for 2017

City of Marion is one of six South Carolina cities to make Non-Profit Organization KaBoom!'s 2017 list of 258 "Playful City USA Communities. These cities are, Greenville (7), Columbia (4), Rock Hill (7), Spartanburg (11), North Charleston (7) and Marion (5).

On May 17, 2017 the City of Marion was honored with the 2017 Playful City USA designation for the fifth time. In partnership with the Humana Foundation, KaBoom! is honoring cities, town and counties across the country for making their communities more payable. In its 10th year, Playful City USA is a national recognition program that honors cities and towns for taking bold steps to create more play opportunities for all kids.

KaBoom! Selected Marion for its outstanding dedication to play, among others things. Come play with us and "get out, get moving and get fit" to the "be playful and live it" mindset is the City of Marion mission. We want to promote ourselves as fun, friendly, walkable community that offers varied and exciting opportunities for play through sports, programs and better play areas to all citizens and visitors of all ages.

For information on the KaBoom! Playful City USA program, including Let's Play grants and applications for 2017, visit www.kaboom.org/playfulcityusa.

Marion Chamber Ribbon Cutting Ceremony



The Marion Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting for The Swamp Fox Vape Shop on Tuesday, May 16th at 11:00 a.m. Located at 109 Harllee Place, this vape shop is owned by Dylan Forney. The Swamp Fox Vape shop offers electronic cigarettes and has a diverse selection of styles and e-liquids. Marion

Chamber of Commerce President Darrell Jameson and Mayor Ashley Brady along with family and friends welcomed this new business to Marion. The hours of operation are Monday-Saturday 10:00 a.m.- 8:00 p.m.

Photo Courtesy Marion Chamber of Commerce

Membership Campaign

The Month of May: HMRA 2017-18 Membership Campaign in Progress. Be on the lookout for correspondence in your mail or visit www.theswampfox.org. or email hmra@theswampfox.org.

Tree City USA Award

Ms. Lois Edwards of the National Forestry Commission, presented the City of Marion with its 25th



Tree City USA Award. She highlighted that in spite of an ice storm and two flooding events over the past 3 years, the

City of Marion had the knowledge and preparation to handle things and still remain a Tree City USA.

A TEAM-----MARION SC NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Contributed By: Dolly Boyer

I know I have written about car break-ins recently, but since they continue to plague our city, I thought I would cover the topic again. While referred to as break-ins, in many, cases, victims are making it easy for these perpetrators by leaving the car doors unlocked. It is imperative that we lock our car doors. It is also important not leave items in your car. When a thief sees a charger, they think a laptop, phone, tablet, GPS etc. may be in the car as well. Recently, thieves discovered a spare key while rummaging through a car and went on a joy ride. Can you imagine walking outside one morning and your car has disappeared? Please, do not send an invitation to a thief. On a positive note, our hard working police department has apprehended four suspects. As summer approaches, kids are going to have more time on their hands. This extra time often leads to wrong choices and mischief. Be aware of this as we go through the summer. The first step you can take to guard against being a victim of crime is joining a watch group.

A Team meets the first Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the meeting room of the Firehouse on East Bond Street. For more information, call Dolly @ 843-433-0941. Join us and learn that we are the group that truly believes "WE ARE OUR NEIGHBORS' KEEPERS."

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.

Let's play B-I-N-G-O!!

The Watsonia Recreation Center has FREE B-I-N-G-O games each month on the first and third Thursday. There are plenty of seats for old and new players to join in the fun. Refreshments are served and prizes are awarded to the winners. Come and bring friends! If you have any questions, call 843 423-5410.

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 (843) 423 -5410.

New Hire Kelly Sellers



Marion Fire Department welcomes Kelley Sellers as our newest career member. She has just graduated from the South Carolina Fire Academy as a Firefighter II. She was given the "Pride of the Battalion" award which is given by the instructors to the candidate that best exemplified the qualities of the fire service. Congratulations to Firefighter Sellers on this accomplishment and welcome to the Marion Fire Department.

Chief Cooper

Mark your Calendar for this event!!



Main Street Commons Market

Farm fresh produce and landscape plants each 4th Saturday from 9:00 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. For more information contact HMRA, (843) 423-9918 or email hmra@theswampfox.org.



Marion Foodie Meetings

Marion Foodie and Marion Film Club meetings are held each month by the Arts Council of Marion County. For more information call 843-992-1627 or email floydrandy@hotmail.com.

Films are showed at different locations. Come out of and see what the Arts Council has to offer. Hope to see you there!!!

POOL

The Pool is official open. Come and enjoyed the pool. Certified Lifeguards on duty at all times. Pools hour 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**.

City's Playgrounds

The following City of Marion playgrounds provide free fun and are open to the public:

Withlacoochee Park

Withlacoochee Ave - This park has a walking track and playground equipment. This site holds Marion's Tennis Courts.

Grice's Recreation Center

603 Gurley Street - The playground has been updated with new playground equipment. This site also has a basketball court behind the center and is near the walking track.

Tilghman Park

409 Montgomery Street - This location has slides, hobby horses, swings and a merry-go-round.

Visit the City of Marion online at www.marionsc.gov and on Facebook under City of Marion, South Carolina.

City rentals available

Need a place to have your class reunion, family reunion, church social, or to have a party? We have the perfect location for you. For an indoor venue, we have Watsonia, Grice's, Shannon Wilkes Recreation Center, fine arts center. For outdoor event we have Pop Dorsey Park with a picnic shelter. Anyone interested in these locations for their events should call Pansy Brown, 423-5410 for availability.

Check us out online!

The City of Marion Recreation Department is on Facebook and online. For information and updates on games scheduling, cancellation and pictures. Visit the www.marionsc.gov web site. Find us under "Residents" and then click on "Recreation". To Find us on Facebook, visit **Marion Recreation Department!**