

# 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 5, Issue 10

March 2015

### Marion Recreation to host District and State Championship Basketball

The City of Marion Recreation will host the District Division II, 10 and under Boys Basketball tournament on March 7th and the Girls Division I, 12 and under. The games will be played at the newly renovated Marion Elementary Gym, 719 N. Main Street and A. C. Tollison Gym, 701 Wilcox Ave. The newly renovated top of the line facility has six basketball goals, concessions stand and elevator lift for handicap accessibility. The first game will be begin at 9:00 a.m. with Marion –vs- Mullins. For complete details or more information on games, time and schedule, contact the Marion Recreation Director Ann Jackson, (843) 423-5410.



Also March 13th & 14th Marion Recreation will host the District II State Basketball Championship for Girls and Boys 12 and under. For details or more information, contact the Marion Recreation Director Ann Jackson, (843) 423-5410.

### Gerber Daisy Sale



Marion County 4-H is taking orders until April 3, 2015: Mixture of colors, Cost: \$30 per flat of 18 plants; all

checks are made payable to Marion County 4-H. Call Sharon Grice at 423-8285, Ext. 114 to place your order. Pick-up will be: Friday, April 10, 2015 from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Airport Court (off of Hwy 76) (behind Marion County Law Enforcement Center).

### City's Logos

The City of Marion has flags and umbrellas with the City's logos available at City Hall. Anyone who wishes to purchase one of these items, please contact City Hall at (843) 423-5961. Prices are: Small flags (garden) \$15.00, Large flag (3x5) \$75.00, umbrellas (stadium) \$20.00.

### VOTE!! Election Set for April 14th

The City of Marion General Election for Council seats in Districts 1, 2, and 4 will be April 14th.

Running unopposed and seeking reelection are Ralph Atkinson, District 1, Ronald Atkinson, District 2. Lisa Seabrook, Doris J. Gerrald, Freddie McEachern are running against incumbent Joseph Frazier for the District 4 seat.

Precincts will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. To see where you will need to vote, visit the Marion County Voter Registration and Election Commission located at 137 Airport Court off East U.S. Highway 76 or call Teresa Moody 423-8268.

Candidates should remember that political signs may only be displayed on private property. City ordinances prohibit the placement of signs on public property, including right of ways. Signs picked up for being improperly posted can be claimed by candidates at the Marion Fire Department on Bond Street.

### Taste of Marion County

The Arts Council of Marion County invites you to attend the **TASTE OF MARION COUNTY "A Date With A Plate"** Tuesday, March 24th, 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the Academy for Career & Technology (ACT), 2697 E. Highway 76, Mullins, SC. Ticket prices: \$15.00 - Adults, \$10.00 - Children Ages 7-12, and Free - Children 6 and under. Tickets are available at: ACMC Office, Marion Opera House, Marion Emporium 405 N. Marion Street, and HMRA Office - 103 E. Dozier Street.

Come sample foods from over 15 of our local restaurants and caterers of Marion County. Enjoy Live Entertainment, 50/50 Raffle and Prizes!!

For additional information contact: 289-5054 or email [artcounciljj@att.net](mailto:artcounciljj@att.net).

### Spring ahead

Set your clocks an hour  
ahead before you go  
to bed tonight.  
Daylight-saving  
time starts  
tomorrow.  
March 8th



Questions or to share information  
for the Swamp Fox Scene, please  
email [vnichols@marionsc.gov](mailto:vnichols@marionsc.gov).

### Relay for Life



We are gearing up for the 2015 Relay for Life. Special events and fundraising will begin on March 6th with a chicken bog, sponsored by Woodmen of the World #122. T-Shirts also will be sold. Contact Mary Christmas for shirts at (843) 621-7422. Save the date for the Relay for Life 2015, **Saturday April 11th**. Time and location TBA. For questions or information, contact Debbie Erwin, (843) 260-4483.

**Mark your Calendar  
Look what's on the  
way in Marion.....**

**March 4th** - 8:30 a.m. Rise and Shine at B & S Creations and Consignment, 330 N. Main Street.

**March 4th** - 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 .m. **Lenten Lunch** at First Untied Methodist, Marion Opera House

**March 6th** - 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Woodmen of the World #122 (Highway 76) will be sponsoring a Chicken Bog. Plates are \$6.00 each and orders over 4 plates can be delivered within a 10 mile radius. For tickets contact Betty Tindall 843-230-0802.

**March 8th** - Daylight Saving Time Begins/Spring Forward. **Also remember to change smoke alarm batteries**

**March 10th** - 6:30 p.m. City Council Meeting, Council Chambers.

**March 11th** - 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 .m. **Lenten Lunch** at Shiloh United Methodist - Marion, Marion Opera House

**March 17th** - 6:15 p.m. Monthly Team Meeting at Carolinas Hospital Systems in Marion. Everyone welcome to attend. Wear Green.

**March 18th** - Noon. Ash Service at First United Methodist Church.

**March 18th** - 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 .m. **Lenten Lunch** at Harvest Baptist, Marion Opera House

**March 20th** - 7:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m. **"Rolling for a Cause 80s style"** fundraiser at Martin's Skating Rink in Mullins. Admission is \$8.00. \$1 from each admission will go to Marion County Relay for Life. A fun night of games, food, music and door prizes

**March 20th** - Spring begins

**March 21st** -11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. **"A Hint of Relay"** fundraiser, Main Street Marion. This fundraiser will show you just a little bit about what Relay is about. Food, fun, music, games, t-shirts available.

**March 24th** - 5:30 p.m. Taste of Marion County at the Academy for Careers and Technology (former MCTEC), 2697 E. Highway 76, Mullins.

**March 25th** - 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 .m. **Lenten Lunch** at Marion Parrish, Marion Opera House

**March 26th** - Time & location TBA- **"Survivors Night of Elegance"**- This is the night we celebrate our Survivors. If you are a survivor or know someone, please contact Wanda Legette 843-433-5305. For any information in regards to these events, if you are interested in joining us as a Relay for Life Volunteer or to donate contact Debbie Erwin (Event Lead) at 843-260-4483. You can find more information at [www.relayforlife.org/marionsc](http://www.relayforlife.org/marionsc) or join our Facebook Group Relay for Life of Marion County, SC.

**March 28th** - Marion Recreation Department will have Opening Day Ceremonies for spring sports on Saturday, March 28th at Green Street Park. Times will be announced later.

#### Chamber Book Project

The Marion Chamber of Commerce will be continuing their Book Project this year which is to give all Marion County and Pee Dee Academy 3rd graders a copy of "Francis Marion and the Legend of the Swamp Fox" by Kate Salley Palmer for their personal library. The Chamber is proud of this project to expand our student's knowledge and the history of General Francis Marion. Over the last three years we have placed over 1200 books in the third graders hands - every third grader in Marion County. We estimate the number of third graders for this school year will be approximately the same. A contribution of \$100 will help us place 10 books but any amount is appreciated. A book plate inside each book will identify the sponsors of this project. We hope that you will consider being a part of this program. Your support and assistance is appreciated. For information how to donate please contact Cindy Rogers at the Marion Chamber of Commerce, 843-423-3561.

## Employee of the Month



The City of Marion is pleased to announce Poette "Boo" Lewis as its January 2015 Employee of the Month.

Boo Lewis has been employed with the City of Marion Recreation Department since September 2001. He is responsible for building and grounds maintenance at the City's many recreation centers, gyms and parks. "Boo is a great employee and asset to the City of Marion Recreation Department," said Director Ann Jackson, adding that he "works hard to help us provide the best and most enjoyable recreation facilities for our children and their families."

The Mayor and Council recognized Boo Lewis for his dedication to the Marion Recreation Department at the February 10<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting.

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.

## Who Do I call for 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  
**Ainsley Sanders**, Administrative Assistant, Ext. 11  
**Elizabeth Ficik**, 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  
**Dewayne Tennie**, Assistant Police Chief, (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  
**Alemeta Mullins**, Secretary, (843) 423-8616



### Marion Chamber Annual Meeting

The Marion Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting was held on Monday, January 26, 2015 at Woodhaven. This year's meeting included a silent and live auction.



This year's recipient of the Community Service Award was Dr. Johnny Whittington. An outstanding member of our community, he has served in many civic positions and worked very hard to help make Marion and Marion County a great place to live, work, raise a family and do business. Pee Dee Federal Savings Bank will make a contribution in Johnny's name to his charity of choice in recognition of this honor.

The Chamber recognized Teddy Zeman and Zeman Electric as the Small Business of the Year. This business was started in 1938 and has been in its present location since 1958. Teddy and his sons Alan and Rick continue to be an asset to our community.

In other business of the Chamber, President Carroll Atkinson shared upcoming plans for 2015, and recognized outgoing board members for their service to the Chamber. Members rotating off of the

Chamber board were Anne Burroughs, Scott Baxley, Matt Moody and Jason Hulon. Laura White was commended for her service as the President of the Marion Chamber for 2014.

Members and officers of the Marion Chamber 2015 Board are: President, T. Carroll Atkinson, III; Vice President, Kelli Nolan; Treasurer, Craig Martin; and Board Members, Sabrina Davis, Jim Gray, Karen Grice, Johnson Atkinson, Ashley Brady, Lina Rice, Laura White, Rosanne Black, Al Blake, Darrell Jameson, Jamon Jordan, and Jason Richardson.

For more information on the Marion Chamber of Commerce please contact the Marion Chamber of Commerce, the Depot, 209 E. Bobby Gerald Parkway or call 423-3561.



### Marion Police Officers Outreach in Community

On January 22, 2015 Assistant Chief Dewayne Tennie, along with fellow officers from the Marion Police Department, paid a visit to the Marion-Dillon County Board of Disabilities and Special Needs shelter workshop, located on Martin Luther King Blvd. The purpose for the officers' visit is to allow the officers to meet with them, to

put a face and a name with the officer. They were able to interact with the officers and show them that the officers are approachable and care about them; and are their friends; not their enemies. The visit was so enlightening for everyone.

The officers met with the staff and Special Needs Students at the Marion High School after visiting with the Marion and Dillon Special Needs staff and consumers. The students at Marion High School were positive, intrigued, encouraged; and inquisitive about Law Enforcement and how the operation of Law Enforcement and how the operation of Law Enforcement operates within the community. The Marion Police Department will continue to build a rapport with everyone within the community. Our purpose is to respect everyone and encourage the citizens that we are approachable and we do care about the needs and welfare of all our citizens. The Marion Police department officers will continue to exploit positivity within the community.

Photos are on City's Facebook page!

### Carolinas Hospital System

Marion's Emergency Department will be getting a needed "face lift" and to accommodate the changes they will be temporarily making some moves and changes. After all surgeries are completed on Friday, February 20th, the Outpatient Surgery department will be moved to the 2nd Floor. This will allow for the current outpatient surgery department to be prepped to be used as the Emergency Department during renovations. On Saturday, February 28th, the Emergency Department will be moved to Outpatient Surgery. Construction will begin in the Emergency Department on Monday, March 2nd. The Emergency Department Renovations will take 60-90 days to complete. Thank you in advance for your understanding and patience during our "face lift".

### City of Marion Second Annual Black History Month Celebration

Article by Irene Dais

The City of Marion had a successful program on Saturday evening at the CD Joyner Auditorium in Marion, SC. The Program Theme was: **"Together we Stand, Together we can"**

We would like to personally thank everyone who participated in the program, including Small Business owners, community leaders and politicians and the general public for attending.

Several groups participated in the program, including: Marion Baptist Church Quartet, Rev. Stan Gibson, Pastor Marion Baptist Church, Rev. Larry Williams gave the Prayer, Ms. Barbara Jean Sellers, did a wonderful job in her portrayal of Phenomenal woman. "Four Colored Women was performed by Justine Roberts Performing Arts Academy, who did an excellent job. Rev. Curtis Campbell did an excellent job of performing Dr. Martin Luther King's I have a Dream Speech. Fred Gause performed excellent in his role as Champion Martial Arts and made people stop and take notice.

Several community leaders were recognized including, Bishop Michael Blue, Pastor of Door of Hope Church, Rev. Curtis Campbell, Councilman Milton Troy, Ms. Justine Roberts, Ms. Irene Dias, Dr. Willena Rembert, Ms. Julia Norman, Mayor Bobby L. Davis, Rev. Stan Gibson, Rev. Marvin Hemingway, Former Senator Maggie Glover and Representative Wayne George, Mayor Barbara Hopkins.

The Black History Program was wonderful and the audience enjoyed the program especially watching the young people and others celebrate Black History's Contributions to Society. To the young participants a very special thank you. What an awesome job!!



## RECREATIONAL CORNER

### Senior Bingo

We offer Senior Bingo the on first & third Thursday of each month from 8:30 a.m. –9:30 a.m. at Watsonia Recreation. 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.

### 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.

### 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.

## Announcements

As of December 1st, 2014 prices have changed for registration

**New City: \$21 (with proof of residency)**  
**New County: \$35**



### BASEBALL & SOFTBALL SEASON PASSES

4 passes for \$25.00

or

Pay at the Gate

**Adult: \$2.00**  
**12 & under : \$1.00**  
**4 & under: Free**

**ALL GAMES WILL BE HELD OVER AT OUR GREEN STREET SPORTS COMPLEX THIS YEAR !**

### Opening Day Ceremonies for Baseball and Softball have been set!!!



Marion Recreation Department is planning to have Opening Day Ceremonies for spring sports on Saturday, March 28th at Green Street Park. Times are still to be announced. Everyone please mark your calendars to come out and enjoy friends, families, food and some ball and don't forget to show your support for the players and coaches.

For more information, call Ann Jackson (843) 423-5410 or find them on Marion Recreation Department Face Book.

### State Championship Softball Tournament Coming to Marion

We are proud to announce that The Marion Recreation Department will host the 2015 Dixie Youth Girls Softball State Championship Tournaments the first of July 2015. The age groups include 6U, 10U, 14U and 18U. This will bring over 2,500 people into our area to purchase food, hotels and other travel expenses.

We are in the process of designing a program for the tournament. These programs will allow you to advertise your business to the people coming in for these tournaments. Below is a price list for the sponsorships. If you have a special image/graphic that you would like to use, please mail it in with your payment.

Full Page \$200  
1/2 Page \$100  
1/3 Page \$25

Please submit checks & logos no later than March 02, 2015.

We would like to thank you in advance for your sponsorship and support to these your athletes.

Ann Jackson  
Recreation Director



The staff at Marion Recreational Department would like to say congratulations to our Recreation Director Ann Jackson for making through her first year. And thanks for a job well done.

### 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, whether an outdoor or indoor event from our picnic shelter or our recreation and fine arts center. Anyone interested in these locations for their events should call Cheryl Askins, 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](http://www.marionsc.gov) web site. Find us under "Residents" and then click on "Recreation". To Find us on Facebook, visit **Marion Recreation Department!**

Congratulations to Marion Recreation Department and staff for bringing the District Division I & II and the District II State Championship Basketball Girls and Boys Tournaments to the City of Marion.