

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 12

May 2015

Councilman Joseph Frazier re-elected to 2nd Term

Joseph Frazier was re-elected as City Councilman for District 4 for another term on April 14th, defeating Lisa Seabrook, Freddy McEachern, and Doris Gerrald. **Mr. Frazier received 183 votes, Seabrook -76, McEachern -12 and Gerrald -11.** Frazier is a Marion native. He retired from the State of Connecticut Department of Corrections and Marion School District 1 Transportation Department. He believes his experience makes him familiar with their operations and well suited for the position. Frazier said he is concerns for of all residents in District 4. His motto is "I am a man who gets the job done". Also re-elected during the voting were Councilmembers Ralph Atkinson (District 1) and Ronald Atkinson (District 2) .



Upcoming COMMUNITY EVENTS

May 1st

5:30 p.m. **HMRA Annual Meeting and Incredible Edible Fun Stuff Auction.** Opera House. 6:30 p.m. Annual meeting /reception and auction starts.

May 2nd-10th

National Travel & Tourism Week

May 6th

8:30 a.m. **Rise and Shine** hosted by the FoxTrot Festival, at the HMRA Business Center, 103 E. Dozier Street.

May 7th

7:00 p.m. - **National Day of Prayer.** Door of Hope Christian Church on Martin Luther King Drive.

May 10th

Mother's Day

May 11th

5:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m. **Business after Hours,** Marion Opera House. Sponsored by the FoxTrot Festival and Pee Dee Electric

May 12th

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

May 13th

10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Arts Council of Marion County will be having their annual **Chalk Walk.** Marion Hike Bike Trail, Bobby Gerald Parkway. **RAIN DATE, THURSDAY MAY 14TH.** For more information contact Janine Jordan 289-5054.

May 14th-16th

23rd Annual FoxTrot Festival - Thursday, May 14th, 6:00 p.m. @ The Opera House -"Sip & Shag" - everyone is invited to come out and "Shag dance" and enjoy light refreshments. Music will be provided by Carl Brunson. 7 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. - Amusement Rides open on C. D. Joyner parking lot. **Friday, May 15th,** 6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. - Amusement Rides at CD Joyner. 9:30 p.m. - Firework Show **Saturday, May 16th,** 10:00 a.m. - Foxtrot Parade. 11:30 a.m. - Entertainment on the Stage Begins. 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. - Carl Brunson to perform on stage. This year's festival activities include the food court, arts & crafts, bull-ride, antique car show, petting zoo, pony rides, mime, stilt walker, clown, face painting, video game truck and much more!!

May 25th

Memorial Day - City and County offices Closed. City of Marion Reopen on Tuesday, May 26th, 8:00 a.m.

Come and enjoy the 23rd Anniversary of the Foxtrot Festival

This year events are scheduled for Thursday, Friday and Saturday. **Thursday, May 14th,** 6:00 p.m. @The Opera House "Sip & Shag" - everyone is invited to come out and "Shag dance" and enjoy light refreshments. Music will be provided by Carl Brunson. 7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. -Amusement Rides open on C. D. Joyner parking lot. **Friday, May 15th,** 6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. - Amusement Rides at CD Joyner. 9:30 p.m. - Firework Show. **Saturday, May 16th,** 10:00 a.m. - Foxtrot Parade, 11:30 a.m. - Entertainment on the Stage Begins. 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. - Carl Brunson to perform on stage.



This year's festival activities include the food court, arts & crafts, bull-ride, antique car show, petting zoo, pony rides, mime, stilt walker, clown, face painting, video game truck and much more!!

The Arts Council of Marion County presents
the 2nd Annual

CHALK WALK

Wednesday, May 13th
(rain date Thursday, May 14th)
10:00 a.m. - Noon

**Marion Hike and Bike Trail
Bobby Gerald Parkway
Marion, SC**

FREE EVENT for Aspiring Artists of all ages!
Snacks - Refreshments - Face Painting
Family and Community Sidewalk Chalk Art Event

CALL TO REGISTER
843 289-5054 or email artcounciljj@att.net

Will the city's regain Playful City USA?

KaBOOM!, the organization that recognizes Playful City USA communities is poised to announce its latest "Playful City USA" cities. This year nearly 500 cities and towns expressed interest in the status. For years Marion has been selected because of the city's commitment to the cause of play and to creating opportunities to increase the quantity, quality, and access to play. Ka-BOOM! will announce the 2015 recipients of the award in May, but have not yet selected a date. Stay tuned to learn if we have again achieved this recognition.



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

Marion Chamber of Commerce announces Yard of the Month



John and Sandra Wemesfelder of 410 Jones Avenue have been awarded the Marion Chamber of Commerce Yard of the Month for April 2015. The Chamber is proud to recognize those in our community that work so diligently, and add so much to our community's unique character. The Wemesfelder's will receive a Marion Chamber of Commerce Chamber Check in recognition of this honor.

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
- 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
- Dewayne Tennie, Police Chief, (843) 423-8616
- Cindy Barr, Captain (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

Community Service



Dr. Johnny Whittington, Community Service Recipient, presented Janice Lane, with the Hands of Faith Soup Kitchen, a check for \$250. Thank you to Pee Dee Federal Bank for their generosity in sponsoring this donation for the Chamber's Community Service Recipient. Pictured are Ralph Atkinson with Pee Dee Federal Bank, Dr. John Whittington, Community Service Recipient and Janice Lane with the Hands of Faith Soup Kitchen.

SHRED DAY—2015

The Chamber of Commerce held Shred Day on Monday, April 13th. We would like to thank First Charter Company and Swamp Fox Investments for sponsoring this event. Citizens brought approximately 4000 lbs. to be shredded. Shred Day will be held again in April 2016.

Annual Taste of Marion County

The Arts Council of Marion County 's encore presentation of the 12th Annual Taste of Marion County – "A Date With a Plate" proved to be a real crowd pleaser. This year's event held at the Academy for Career and Technology became the hub for more than 19 local restaurants, "foodies", and food service vendors who featured some of Marion Counties finest and creative dishes.

Over 200 food loving folks had the opportunity to sample items like chicken bog, pulled pork, barbeque, watermelon cupcakes, bacon wrapped scallops, grilled cheese sandwiches, hot wings, homemade tortilla chips, egg rolls, cinnamon rolls, breads, desserts, and subs were just a taste of what was on the menu. Music from Carl Brunson energized the crowd. An array of over 25 gift items were auctioned off and a 50/50 raffle was held. Winners of the "Best" of the Taste of Marion County included: 1st place – Big John's Grill, 2nd place – Shuler's Barbeque, and 3rd place went to Jordan Scrap Metal.

This year's event was a great way to stimulate the restaurant economy and to bring folks to the table. The Arts Council of Marion County is enormously grateful and thankful to have the support of the community, vendors, and sponsors who have been instrumental in making this event a repeat success.

The 6th Annual Taste of Mullins

The Greater Mullins Chamber of Commerce will be holding The Sixth Annual Taste of Mullins on Thursday, May 7 at Lions Club Park (located between Mullins City Hall and Mullins Fire Dept.) from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Taste of Mullins is a chance to help promote local businesses and the community such as schools, churches, organizations and individuals. It is not only a great time to enjoy some of the best tasting food in the southeast, but a chance for the community to unite and enjoy downtown Mullins. Tickets will be available in advance and the day of the event at \$10 per person. Ages 5 and under are free. There will be awards given in the following categories: Best Business, Best Church, Best Individual and Best Decoration.

Door of Hope will host the celebration of National Day of Prayer on Thursday, May 7th

Bishop Michael Blue extends a cordial invitation to all Pastors, Congregations, Elected Officials, Educators Protective Service and members of the public, to join in this special service at Door of Hope Christian Church. 401 Marin Luther King Drive Marion. 7:00 p.m. Organizing committee members are Bishop Michael Blue, Karen Christmas, Rev. Chip Scruggs, & Morris Ward.

For more information call Karen at 843-229-0260. This year theme "LORD, Hear Our Cry". Scripture – 1Kings 8:28.

Membership Campaign

The Month of May: HMRA 2015-16 Membership Campaign in Progress. Be on the lookout for correspondence in your mail or visit www.theswampfox.com.

Glenn Bridger is city's employee of the Month



The City of Marion selected Glenn Bridgers as the March 2015 Employee of the Month. Glenn has worked in the Street Department since May 2005 and was named the 2012 City Employee of the Year.

Glenn is known for his quiet demeanor and friendly smile. He is a hard worker who takes great pride in his work, which includes beautification projects such as planting trees and preparing flower beds, mowing grass in the summer and decorating the

City for the Christmas season.

This spring the City of Marion was missing one of its key employees, Street Superintendent Supervisor Ronnie Sanders, who was out of work on a medical leave of absence. Glenn did not allow the department to miss a beat.

Under his leadership the Street Department successfully prepared for the Easter holiday and Relay for Life, mowed grass and edged the sidewalks and fence lines across town, maintained the City landfill, and cleaned and repaired storm drains.

"Glenn has always been one of our most dedicated and dependable employees," said City Administrator Alan Ammons, adding that he really appreciated the efforts of Glenn and the other members of the department during Sanders' absence.

Arbor Day Names Marion Tree City USA

Marion, was named a 2014 Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation in honor of its commitment to effective urban forest management.

The Tree City USA program is sponsored the Arbor Day Foundation, in partnership with the U.S. Forest service and the National Association of State Foresters.

"Everyone benefits when elected officials, volunteers and committed citizens in communities like Marion make smart investments in urban forests," said Matt Harris, chief executive of the Arbor Day Foundation. "Trees bring shade to our homes and beauty to our neighborhoods, along with numerous economic, social and environmental benefits."

Cleaner air, improved storm water management, energy saving and increased property values and commercial activity are among the benefits enjoyed by Tree City USA communities.

The Arbor Day Foundation is a million member nonprofit conservation and education organization with the mission to inspire people to plant, nurture and celebrate trees.

6th Annual HMRA Frogmore Fest

HMRA hosted the 6th Annual Frogmore Fest April 18th on the Courthouse Square. Once again head-chef Jamon Jordan, along with Jimmy Trussell and T.J. Jordan, tickled the taste buds of all who enjoyed either Frogmore Stew or Chicken Bog. The HMRA Board was pleased with the event attendance of close to 200 either eating in or taking out their Frogmore Stew. And what better way to work off a few pounds after a meal than to play a round of Corn-hole! Only in Downtown Marion!

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.

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

Summer Time Fun!



The City of Marion will host a **FREE** Community Summer Camp beginning June 8, 2015 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. Betty Bryant, a retired educator.

THE CAMP WILL OPERATE JUNE 8M 2015 THROUGH AUGUST 14, 2015
CAMP HOURS ARE MONDAY-FRIDAY, 8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

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

- Pam Jones, City Clerk- City Hall (843) 423-5961
- Vickie Nichols, City Publicist-City Hall (843) 423-5961
- Ainsley Sanders, Administrative Assistant- City Hall (843) 423-5961
- Cheryl Askins, Administrative Assistant- Watsonia Recreation Center (843) 423-5410
- Robbie Johnson, Administrative Assistant-Grice Recreation Center (843) 423-6447

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



Keep Marion County Clean in the Annual Spring Cleanup! Join us May 4-8, 2015



Each Community is invited to participate in this year's Spring Cleanup! We are looking for volunteers to help. So organize your church, civic or youth group to come out and enjoy giving back. For more information on volunteering, supplies or having items picked up, call Environmental Services at 843-423-8234.

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you to Master of Ceremony Al Blake, Mayor Bobby L. Davis, Survivor Speaker – Mayor Barbara Hopkins, JMS Band, The Swamp Fox Quarter, Emmalyn Davis School of Dance, Champion of Arts, Jess-Fit Zumba, Taylor Richardson, M-Cast Step Team, Mass-Mullins All Star Sound, Justine Roberts Performing Arts Academy, New Generations Choral, Morris Ward and ACT, Marion Fire Department Puppet Show, MIS Flipping Foxes, Second Chance Ministries, Chaz Young, All the Relay Teams Volunteers, Alan Ammons, Mr. Frank and the City of Marion, Marion City Council, All the Local Businesses and Restaurants and to everyone who helped make the 2015 Relay for Life of Marion County a success. If anyone was missed on this list please accept our apologies. We are close to reaching our goal of \$29,000 for this year. Our year is not up until August 30, 2015. If anyone would like to make a donation but did not have a chance to get out to Relay please contact Debbie Erwin (843) 260-4483, or if you want to start a team and fundraiser with us until the end of August it is still not too late to start a team. Please contact Debbie.

Again we say THANKS!! Please stay tuned to our Facebook page "Relay for Life of Marion County". We will be updated our upcoming events for the remainder of our Relay season.

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 Mary Dunbar, the classes are \$5 each or \$30 per month. For information or details, call the Recreation Department at 423-5410.

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.

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.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS & COME PLAY WITH US!

We will celebrate on Saturday, September 19, 2015 in Withlacoochee Park with fun events our Annual Play Day. You don't want to miss the fun and excitement. So mark your calendar, call a friend and come out and play with us!



ANNOUNCEMENT!

The City of Marion is pleased to announce the newly renovated Elementary Gym is now open!

Hours:

Monday thru Friday

3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. during school day

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. during summer

(Play for FREE during these hours)

COME PLAY SOME BASKETBALL!

YOU KNOW YOU WANT TO!



Summer Basketball

We will be taking applications for our summer basketball league ages 6-18. Anyone interested in coaching or playing please sign up at Marion Recreation office.

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!**

City Pool

Come and enjoyed the newly renovated 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 student's admission only.

