

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 2016

Annual Foxtrot Festival - Theme "Mardi Gras Celebration"

This year events are scheduled for Thursday, Friday and Saturday. **Thursday, May 19th**, 6:00 p.m. Doors open at The Opera House "**Sam The Magic Man Show**". Show-Time: 6:30 p.m. everyone is invited to come out and enjoy, light refreshments will be served after the show. **Friday, May 20th**, 9:30 p.m. - **Firework Show** at Withlacoochee Park. **Saturday, May 21st**, 10:00 a.m. - Foxtrot Parade, 11:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. **Entertainment on the Stage**, 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.- **Street Dance - D. Myers Band, Myrtle Beach SC.**



This year's festival activities include marching bands, a bagpipe band, cartoon/storybook characters, food pavilion, arts & crafts, electric bull, Inflatables, Trackless Train, Orbitron, Cruizin 4 Christ Car Club Show, petting zoo, pony rides, mime performance, Jinx the Robot, pig racing, Department of Natural Resource Exhibit, video game truck and much more!!

Upcoming COMMUNITY EVENTS

May 1st-7th
National Travel & Tourism Week

May 3rd
7:00-9:00 p.m. **Marion County Museum Art and Wine Stroll**. \$15.00. Featuring Local Artists. Heavy Hors d'oeuvres will be served.

May 4th
8:30 a.m. **Rise and Shine** hosted by the Foxtrot Festival, at the HMRA Business Center, 103 E. Dozier Street.

May 5th
7:00 p.m. - **National Day of Prayer**. First Baptist Church, 106 S. Main St. Marion SC.

May 8th
Mother's Day

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

May 10th
7:00 p.m. **Marion Lion Club**, Open House, Marion Chinese Restaurant.

May 13th
5:30 p.m. **HMRA Annual Meeting and Incredible Edible Fun Stuff Auction**. Rosewood Manor. 6:30 p.m. Annual meeting, 7:00 p.m. reception and auction starts.

May 16th
5:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m. **Business after Hours**, Marion Opera House. Sponsored by the Foxtrot Festival and Pee Dee Electric Coop.

May 19th-21st
24th Annual Foxtrot Festival - Theme "Mardi Gras Celebration"

May 30th
Memorial Day - City and County offices Closed. City of Marion Reopen on Tuesday, May 31st 8:00 a.m.

Elizabeth Fick is city's employee of the Month



Personnel and Purchasing Director Elizabeth Fick has been honored with the City of Marion's Employee of the Month Award for March 2016.

Elizabeth joined the City of Marion in 2007. She is responsible for assisting the Mayor and City Administrator in planning and coordinating the City's human resource management programs and is the authorized purchasing agent for the City, overseeing the procurement of a variety of supplies, materials, equipment and other services.

Elizabeth administers the City's employee wellness program. She has organized a number of employee health fairs that include awareness, education, motivation and intervention activities. Elizabeth also coordinates employee weight loss competitions and physical fitness training.

"I can always count on Elizabeth", said City Administrator Alan Ammons. "She gives 100 percent every day and always strives to do what is best for our employees and the City."

Elizabeth lives in Marion County with her two daughters, Jenny and Catherine. She is an active member of her church and enjoys exercise, running and watching her children play sports.

Mayor Bobby Davis and City Council recognized Elizabeth Fick for her service and dedication to the City of Marion at the April 12th Council Meeting.

Marion First Baptist Church
will host the celebration of
National Day of Prayer on Thursday, May 5th

Rev. Stan Gibson 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 Marion First Baptist Church. 106 S. Main St. Marion, 7:00 p.m. **Organizing committee members are Bishop Michael Blue, Karen Christmas, Rev. Chip Scruggs, Morris Ward & Stan Gibson.**

For more information call Karen at 843-229-0260. This year's theme is "Wake Up America". Scripture - Isaiah 58:1. "Cry aloud, lift up thy voice like a trumpet and show my people their transgression."

Membership Campaign

The Month of May: HMRA 2016-2017 Membership Campaign in Progress. Be on the lookout for correspondence in your mail or visit www.theswampfox.org.

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

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

Marion Chamber of Commerce announces Yard of the Month



Byron and Maggie Beck of 904 Lombardy Street have been awarded the Marion Chamber of Commerce Yard of the Month for April 2016. 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. & Mrs. Beck will receive a Marion Chamber of Commerce Chamber Check in recognition of this honor.

Marion Lion Club Open House

"The Marion Lions Club will hold an Open House for persons interested in becoming a Lion. This meeting will be at the Marion Chinese Restaurant on May 10th, 2016. Buffet dinner will start at 6:00 p.m. and an informational meeting will be at 7:00 p.m. with a power point presentation. The Marion Lions Club does not discriminate on the basis of race or sex. Couples are welcome. The Lions Clubs are the largest service organization in the world and serve the less fortunate in the community."



Signing of Proclamation

The Blue Savannah-Swamp Fox Chapter of DAR has partnered with the Department of Defense to honor Vietnam veterans. The Blue Savannah-Swamp Fox Chapter of DAR have done several things including having a program by a Vietnam POW, AL Agnew, and sending cards to veterans. The Proclamation and the raising of the Vietnam Commemorative flag on March 29 commemorates the last day that US troops

were on the ground in Vietnam.

Join the Marion County Museum for their Annual Art & Wine Stroll.

Tuesday, May 3rd
7:00-9:00 p.m.

Marion County Museum – 101 Wilcox Ave, Marion SC
\$15.00 per person. Come stroll by to see local artist work on display and enjoy. Heavy Hors d'oeuvres will be served.

SHRED DAY—2016

The Chamber of Commerce held Shred Day on Thursday, April 21st. We would like to thank First Charter Company and Swamp Fox Investments for sponsoring this event. Citizens brought approximately 3000 pounds to be shredded. Shred Day will be held again in April 2017.

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 Fick**, 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**, 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

“Preparing our Children to be healthy and ready to succeed in school”

The Marion County First Steps is planning to implement the 1000 Books before Kindergarten Program. This program provides literacy experiences for birth to 4 year old programs in public and private centers. This literacy initiative focuses on encouraging parents to read to their children. Books will be placed at physician offices, barbershops, salons, automotive repair shops, car dealerships, etc. Parents are also encouraged to visit the library to get books to read. Marion County First Steps is dedicated to helping children through literacy.

If you are interested in volunteering or partnering with us, please do not hesitate to contact Beryl Collington, Marion County First Steps Literacy Coordinator, at 843.629.0202.

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.

Voter Registration and Election Commission polling location change

The Marion County Voter Registration and Election Commission would like to announce a new polling location for all registered voters in the Sellers precinct. All future elections will now be polled at Sellers Library and Resource Center, located at 2635 Main Street, Sellers. The new location is less than a mile from previous location (Sellers Town Hall). All voters in this precinct will be mailed new voter cards along with a map to show new location. For more information call (843) 423-8268.

the incredible edible and fun stuff

AUCTION

FRIDAY | 13 | MAY

and 2016-17 Membership Drive
*** This is Your Lucky Day!**

Senior Citizen: \$15
 Individual: \$20
 Family: \$40

Includes admission to event, reception plus 1 yr. membership
 Admission only with no membership purchase - \$10

AUCTION SITE
ROSEWOOD MANOR HOUSE
 900 N. Main Street
 Marion, South Carolina

ABOUT US
 The City of Marion's Historic Marion Revitalization Association is committed to leading the revitalization of downtown Marion, making it a desirable place to live, work and play. Our future depends on building a community that provides a higher quality of life for its citizens, one that respects the past and looks forward to the future.

Meeting/Reception: 6:30P
 Auction: 7:00P

Historic Marion Revitalization Association

* Discounted Membership ONE DAY Only

HMRA Annual Meeting and Incredible Edible Fun Stuff Auction. Rosewood Manor. 6:30 p.m. Annual meeting, 7:00 p.m. reception and auction starts.

Hope to see you there Friday May 13th. This is your Lucky Day!!!

Membership Campaign

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Arbor Day Names Marion Tree City USA

Marion, was named a 2015 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.

Good Morning...Baxley Hardware!

Submitted by Kathy Stedman for HMRA

Baxley Hardware opened its doors to the public in 1986, at the same site previously known as McIntrye Hardware Store. When Roy Baxley was afforded the opportunity to buy the business where he had worked while in high school, he capitalized on “what he knows and is most interested in doing”. What started as a business more oriented to farming and agriculture, has now become a business more oriented to home, garden and lawn care, in keeping with changing times and lifestyles.



As a general hardware store, Baxley’s offers the “usual” nuts, bolts, nails, washers, fittings, etc.; however, you will also find pool supplies and water testing services, chemicals and fertilizers, gardening implements, bath and tile cleansers , and a variety of everyday household products as well as seasonal bedding plants. Thinking about painting your house (inside or out) or an outdoor piece of furniture? Baxley Hardware can help you with choosing more than just a color. Determining the sheen (gloss or matte), base (oil or water) and texture of paint, as well as whether for use indoors or outdoors, makes a significant impact on your purchase. With his expertise and years of mixing paint “by eye” and with computer assistance, Roy can magically produce that perfect color you have in mind for the purpose you have in mind.



On any given day, Monday through Friday from 7:30-5:30, and Saturday 8-12, Roy, Scott and their fellow employees welcome you to come shop at Baxley Hardware at 417 N. Main Street (843 423-3371) in historic downtown Marion. They take great pride in knowing their customers by name, offering personal attention and assistance as well as advice, if needed, and conducting business with honesty and integrity. You may enter the store as a stranger, but you will leave as a friend. And nothing suits Roy Baxley and his employees more than being of service to their “friends”.

**A TEAM MARION SC NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH
 "WE ARE OUR NEIGHBORS KEEPERS"**

Contributed by: Dolly Boyer

In neighborhood watch, we talk a lot about being the eyes and ears of law enforcement. We cover safety tips, security systems and crime statistics. All of this is meant to make our neighborhood and homes safer. However the key to a safe neighborhood and successful watch group is one attribute: HEART. When neighbors bond together in friendship and develop even looser acquaintanceship ties, studies show crime rates go down. Having spent forty plus years in the neighborhood covered by A Team, I am in a unique position to speak about the heart of our neighborhood. In those forty years, the faces have changed but the heart has stayed the same. Over the last three years, a health crisis has put me on the receiving end of my neighborhood's heart. I have been the recipient of my neighbors' prayers, flowers, cards, meals, visits, offers of help and simple hugs. For all these gifts, I am extremely grateful. However like everything in life, nothing is perfect and we have challenges ahead. Life has taught me perseverance. A Team will continue to live our motto " WE ARE OUR NEIGHBORS KEEPERS". As long as we are guided by HEART, we will win in our battle to have a safe happy place to live. Community spirit and pride are our best weapons against crime and HEART is the source of that spirit and pride.

A Team meets the first Monday of each month at 6:30 PM at the firehouse on E Bond St. For more information call 843-433-0941.

Lost Pet

The Marion County Animal Shelter encourages all pet owners seeking their lost or stolen pet to call 843-423-8370.

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 floydandy@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!!!

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.

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

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!**

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.

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 is the City's location for T-ball and coach-pitched baseball. It also has slides, hobby horses, swings and a merry-go-round.

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.

Summer Time Fun!



The City of Marion will host a **FREE** Community Summer Camp beginning June 6, 2016 for children who reside in the City of Marion. The Camp will be both academic and fun oriented, with numerous activities for the kids.



THE CAMP WILL OPERATE JUNE 6, 2016 THROUGH AUGUST 12, 2016
CAMP HOURS ARE MONDAY-FRIDAY, 8:00 A.M. - 5:00 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**
- Vickie Nichols, City Publicist-City Hall (843) 423-5961**
- Pansy Brown, Administrative Assistant- Watsonia Recreation Center (843) 423-5410**
- Pam Jones, City Clerk- City Hall (843) 423-5961**

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

The City of Marion would like to thank Marion County Health Care Foundation, Wal-Mart Foundation, Marion City Council along with City Administrator, Marion Citizens and all the volunteers for all they do to make it possible for this summer camp to run successfully.

Mayor Bobby L. Davis

