

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 8, Issue 4

September 2018

Lend a Helping Hand



Adopt-A-STREET

Citizens of the City of Marion: Let's all work together to keep our city

clean. If you see any debris around or near the catch basins near your house, please help the city out by cleaning it. You can also lend a helping hand by adopting a catch basin in your area, and checking it on a regular basis. Additional ways you can help this effort is by clearing any surrounding curbs, streets and sidewalks areas of litter, leaves, and grass which could eventually end up in the catch basins. Let's all work together to keep Historic Marion the great place to visit, shop and live. To report issues involving storm drains, please contact City Hall at (843) 423-5961.

City of Marion Recycling Center

Residential Guide to Zero-Sort Recycling

NO NEED TO REMOVE: Paper clips, stamps, address labels, staples, metal fasteners, cellophane address windows, rubber bands, spiral bindings, plastic tabs

Please flatten all cardboard boxes. Empty and rinse all containers.

AMERICAN WASTE SYSTEMS

AIM FOR MAXIMIZED RECYCLING

The City of Marion Recycling Center is located on Railroad Avenue near the City Maintenance Shop.

NO This drop off site is for residential use only.

Recycling saves time and money! We can all help reduce garbage in our landfills and control our solid waste fees!

QUESTIONS? AMERICAN WASTE SYSTEMS
200 S. MAIN ST.
MARION, SC 29571
(843) 765-3390
MARION@AWSINC.NET

If you have any questions, please contact the City of Marion, 843-423-5961.

Thanks for your cooperation with this matter!!

Downtown Merchants!!!

The City of Marion sweeps Main Street each Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning around 5:00 a.m. To keep downtown Marion looking beautiful please sweep your sidewalk and storefront areas on Tuesday and Thursday afternoon.

Thank you for supporting the City of Marion!



ATTENTION: Illegal Parking on Main Street

Attention...You are parked illegally! This causes a tremendous inconvenience to those patronizing businesses on Main Street. There is a two-hour limit for parking on Main Street. Continued failure to adhere to the downtown parking rules will result in your vehicle being towed at your expense.

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, **tires** or **televisions** placed curbside in the City of Marion are considered litter by City Ordinance. For health and safety reasons and in accordance with DHEC regulations, city employees no longer pick up **tires** or **televisions** at curbside. The fine for littering is **\$1,092.50**.



Homeowners are to dispose of unwanted tires and televisions 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.

SAVE THE DATE

Marion Chamber of Commerce Annual Golf Tournament
Wednesday, September 12, 2018
Dusty Hills County Club
Shotgun start at 1:00 p.m.
For details contact Cindy Rogers (843) 423-3561.

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

Marion Chamber of Commerce announces Yard of the Month



Mrs. Brenda Vereen of 706 Lipscomb Street has been awarded the Marion Chamber of Commerce Yard of the Month for September 2018. The Chamber is proud to recognize those in our community that work so diligently, and add so much to our community's unique character. Mrs. Vereen will receive a Marion Chamber of Commerce Chamber Check in recognition of this honor.



Join us for our 2nd Anniversary Celebration!

Join other Senior Circle members as we celebrate another year of health and wellness together.

Age Ain't Nothing But a Number

Dr. Macie P. Smith is an award-winning educator with more than 18 years of experience working with aging and vulnerable populations in South Carolina. She'll talk about "aging on purpose" – the importance of the mindset of being only as old as you feel.



Thursday, September 13

Health Fair: 11 a.m.

Lunch begins at Noon

Woodhaven • 1963 E. Hwy 76, Marion

\$10 per person

Lunch • Door prizes

Seating is limited.

Purchase your tickets beginning August 10 by calling 843-431-2079 or in the marketing office.



A TEAM MARION SC NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

"We Are Our Neighbors' Keepers"

Contributed by: Dolly Boyer

On August 7th, A-Team hosted our fourth annual National Night Out. We had the privilege of having many of our police officers join us. It gives our citizens an opportunity to visit with them and each other. We were joined by Mayor Ashley Brady and City Administrator, Alan Ammons and Sherriff Brian Wallace. All of our guests enjoyed hotdogs, ice cream, games, live music and fellowship. NNO sends a symbolic message that our neighborhood belongs to us, not the criminal element. It is important that we show the criminals that we are strong and united in our mission to preserve peace and keep our streets safe. We are fortunate to have a police department and city administration that see the value of neighborhood watch and value our contributions to the safety of our town. Each of us have the opportunity to be a part of the problem or part of the solution. If you sit at home and complain about your neighborhood's problems but refuse to come to a meeting and join the efforts to aid law enforcement, you are part of the problem. It does not require a huge commitment of your time. We meet once monthly for about an hour. We have informative speakers and get to know our neighbors and officials. We each have an obligation as citizens to help make our part of Marion the best it can be. The hour spent at a neighborhood watch meeting is time well spent. All the effort that goes into NNO is also time well spent. I would like to thank A-Teamers Linda Gasque, Elizabeth Wallace, Earl Sawyer and Greg Corson for all their help setting up. I would also like to thank the Fire Department as well as the Police Department for all their support. And once again Thanks to Carl Brunson and our Assistant Fire Chief, Jackie Yates for providing the musical entertainment. This was Chief Tony Flowers first NNO and he was a great help, he just needs a little training for next year! Mark your calendar, for the 1st Tuesday in August 2019. A Team and the police department will do it all again!! A Team will meet September 4th due to the Labor Day holiday. Our meetings are @ 6:30 in the Firehouse on E Bond St. Come out and join us. For more information, call Dolly @ 843-433-0941.

Who Should I call for city information?

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
- Gwendolyn Davis**, City Clerk, Ext. 10
- Patricia Brown**, City Treasurer, Ext. 18
- Ainsley Sanders**, Administrative Assistant, Ext. 11
- Elizabeth Gray**, Personnel & Purchasing Director, (843) 423-8614
- Vickie J. Nichols**, Grant Writing & Publicist, Ext. 22
- Frank Page**, Athletic Director, (843) 423-5410
- Randy Brown**, Maintenance Superintendent (843) 423-5961
- Winky Fore**, Public Works Superintendent (843) 423-8648
- Tony Flowers**, Police Chief (843) 423-8616
- Chris Smith**, Captain (843) 423-8616
- Lt. Marilyn Rogers**, Investigator (843) 423-8616
- Sgt. Derrick Smith**, Investigator (843) 423-8616
- Trey Cooper**, Fire Chief, (843) 423-8602
- Jackie Yates**, Assistant Fire Chief (843) 423-8602
- Heather Evans**, Municipal Court Clerk, (843) 423-8616
- Almeta Mullins**, Victim Advocate / Administrative Assistant, (843) 423-8616

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 Multi-forms 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 Ashley Brady or City Administrator Alan Ammons at (843) 423-5961.

Marion County Library

September is National Library Card Sign-Up Month. To celebrate, all Marion County library branches are reducing the price of replacement cards to only 50 cents—that's half off! The names of everyone who signs up for their first free card or gets a replacement card will be entered into a raffle for a picnic basket. If you have any questions, please contact Holly Evans at (843) 423-8000.

Historic Marion is a great place to visit, shop, dine and live. Visit the City of Marion online at www.marionsc.gov and on Facebook under City of Marion, South Carolina.



September 3rd - Monday, Labor Day Holiday.
City offices closed.

September 5th - Wednesday
8:30 a.m. Rise and Shine. **TBD**

September 11th - Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. City Council Meeting, Council Chambers.

September 11th - Tuesday, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Booking Signing for Mr. Bill Walker "The Farmer and the Dolphin". Marion County Museum. Program and Dinner \$15. For details contact Ms. Rosanne Black at (943) 423-8299 or by email at marioncountymuseum@att.net.

September 12th - Wednesday, 1:00 p.m. Marion Chamber of Commerce, **Annual Golf Tournament.** Dusty Hills Country Club. For more information contact Cindy Rogers at (843) 423-3561.

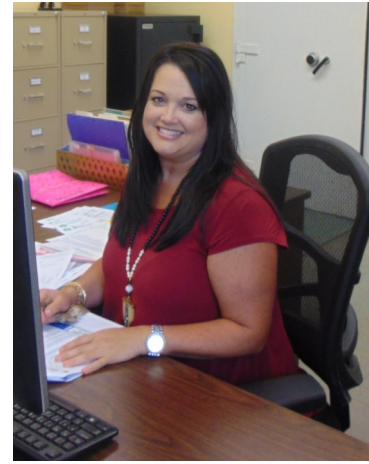
September 13th - Thursday, 11:00 a.m., Carolinas Hospital System, **Health Fair!!** For more information contact the Marketing office at (843) 431-2079.

September 13th - Thursday, 9:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m. CPR classes. Marion Fire Department located on 109 E. Bond Street, Marion.

September 14th & 15th - Friday & Saturday, 3rd Annual Golden Leaf Festival BBQ Cook-off. Anderson Brothers Bank parking lot, Mullins SC. Friday from 7:00-10:00 p.m. and Saturday from 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. For more information email Holly Jackson at hjackson@mullinssc.us; (843) 464-9583 or Jim Bain at jebain202@gmail.com; (843) 340-3410.

September 22th - Saturday, 10:00 A.M. Golden Leaf Festival, Mullins' Smith Haven Park, Parade is on Main Street, with crafts, food vendors and more. A day filled with family and fun. For more information email scpumpkin@aol.com or vmspyce12@aol.com.

Ashley Allison is City's Employee of the Month



Ashley Allison was selected as the July 2018 Employee of the Month. Ashley has been employed with the City of Marion since February 2016.

As the City's bookkeeper at City Hall, Ashley performs a diverse range of accounting and administrative duties including accounts payable, payroll processing, cash collection, various account reconciliations and daily financial reporting.

Ashley has a strong work ethic and a positive attitude towards her job responsibilities. The Mayor and Council recognized Ashley for her service and dedication to the City of Marion at the August 14th City Council Meeting.

Department new hire



The City of Marion Police Department would like to introduce Patrolman Stephen Sutton as the newest member of their family. Sutton is a lifelong resident of Marion County. He has been in law enforcement for approximately 20 years, while serving 10 years in the National Guard. He attended Florence Darlington Technical College majoring in Criminal Justice. Sutton says he wants to work for the Marion Police Department because this is his home, and what better way of giving back to the community than by serving it. The City of Marion welcomes you Patrolman Stephen Sutton!

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT: Swamp Fox Farms of Marion

Written by Promotions Team of Historic Marion Revitalization Association

Swamp Fox Farms of Marion (SFF) is an equestrian facility located at 266 Ebbie Road, Marion, South Carolina, and owned and operated by Johnny and Patricia Atkinson. After Hurricane Hugo and utilizing downed timber from Hob Caw Planation in Kingstree, SC, the stable was erected in 1991. It was established as a private resource for the Atkinson family allowing their only daughter, Parrish, a place to prepare for competitive hunter/jumping equitation. (Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation is a division judged on the ability and style of the rider and horse. Riders can be judged both over fences and on the flat.) The stable began to expand by offering hunter lessons, summer clinics, long term boarding facilities, horse breeding and sales, etc. to anyone interested. Soon the farm was fully engaged.

Riding a pony to first grade in Brittons Neck was the beginning of a lifelong love of horses for Johnny. His love has spilled over to family and friends. Their daughter spent as much time at SFF as at home. "SFF has been a meeting place for many a young child interested in the world of equestrian sport and leisure and is still offering this opportunity to any interested person in the Pee Dee area," shared Johnny Atkinson. "To become a good rider, it takes a lot of hard work and discipline, and we want our farm to be a place



where that can happen for others. It certainly helped Parrish to set and meet her goals."

SFF has been blessed to have many to assist with the development of this facility. Martin Vidal of Buenos Aires, Argentina and Aiken, South Carolina (www.Facebook.com.Rancho-Pampa), Parrish Atkinson, Angel Rogers, and, their newest member to SFF, Ashley Bazen, who is currently SFF barn manager and trainer. Ashley is committed to offering private, group, and year round clinics and camps. "Each service we offer is carefully chosen and developed, so the rider gets the most out of their time at the barn," Ashley explained. "We are the only farm within an hour radius that has experience showing and training on A and AA circuit." Ashley is also devoted to promotion and sales for SFF. Ashley delights in having visitors to stop by and visit. Let her introduce you to the equestrian world. You might find yourself wanting to ride a horse too.

South Carolina, as well as surrounding states, offer huge opportunities for the equestrian realm. Marion County is a wonderful area to extend what Aiken and Camden, SC, already offer. Hopefully, SFF can help expand opportuni-

ties and knowledge. The photograph of the horse jumping is Elliana SF. This horse is owned by the Atkinsons and was given birth, raised, and trained at SSF, and is now being campaigned by Swamp Fox Farms.

SFF encourages all to stop by and watch the horses, whether they are at work or grazing. It doesn't take long to catch the fever. Horse love is quite contagious at any age. If you are interested in further information, please feel free to contact Ashley Bazen at (843) 319-2879 or Johnny Atkinson at (843) 430-2492. Please follow us at Swamp Fox Farms of Marion on Facebook.

.....Marion Happenings

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.

Aerobics at CD Joyner

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.

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 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.

See you there!

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 Pansy Brown, 423-5410 for availability.

Thank you

The City of Marion sincerely thanks the Marion County Healthcare Foundation Board for approving a grant to fund educational trips to Wildlife Action for our local children who attended this year's summer camp. We truly appreciate your involvement within our community.

The City of Marion also thanks Ms. Ellen Baldwin and all of the volunteers who gave time from their busy schedules to plan and operate the summer camp at Grice's Recreation Center. We are extremely grateful for your sacrifices!!

*Mayor Ashley Brady
City of Marion*

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT: Anderson Brothers Bank

Written by Promotions Team of Historic Marion Revitalization Association

Anderson Brothers Bank was founded during the Depression period, in a day of little money and even less confidence in banks. The founding brothers Ernest & Bishop Anderson did not have any intention of establishing a bank when they were beseeched by Mullins tobacco warehousemen to finance the 1932 crops for farmers. Nonetheless, the men had a desire to help the community, and Bishop Anderson moved back to Mullins out of retirement to establish a check cashing booth to aid local farmers. He set up a small office in a back room of a tobacco warehouse and offered to cash the checks farmers had received from the tobacco buyers for their harvest. Soon after Bishop convinced his brother Ernest to sell the successful finance company they owned, American Credit Company in Florence that specialized in auto loans, to C.I.T. and to join him in the cash depository business in Mullins. Through Bishop Anderson's heroic and selfless service in the check cashing booth and both men's consistent displays of integrity, the two brothers had established impeccable reputations. They were both held in high regard in Mullins and many citizens of Mullins, acting on their respect decided to forsake any previous distrust of banks to do business with the brothers. The brothers soon converted the cash depository to a full-time commercial bank in 1933 as Anderson Brothers Bankers. Many people brought their hard-earned money to deposit in accounts, an almost rare concept in the dark days of the Great Depression. In an example of the brothers' passion for the community, during a bank holiday declared by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1933, Anderson Brothers Bankers locked the front door but continued to conduct business out of the back door, proving Anderson's commitment to unwavering service and treatment of customers like family, a commitment that is as strong today as it was then. E.L. Anderson made a conscious decision to begin offering automobile loans to farmers and families shortly after converting to a full time bank. At the time, auto loans were discouraged in the banking industry, and an FDIC examiner forced E.L. Anderson to travel to Washington, DC to discuss his practicing of handling auto papers. E.L. Anderson was ordered not to offer any more auto loans through the bank. Anderson however cleverly began to utilize his past experience and reorganized the American Credit Company across the street to continue to offer automobile loans. The credit company was eventually acquired by Anderson Brother Bank and operates today as its Consumer Banking Center across the street from the corporate office. E.L. Anderson's practice of offering automobile loans through a bank was trailblazing to say the least. Despite initial misgivings by the FDIC and other banks, the practice was soon determined to be both acceptable, successful and began increasing in popularity. EL Anderson was quoted as saying, "In the 1930's, they just didn't realize what good collateral an auto made. A man will keep his car even if he loses his house. Now every bank is clamoring for an auto loan." Since the 1930's, Anderson Brothers Bank has continued to expand its reach in many other communities of eastern South Carolina, seeking to provide greater convenience of an overall better banking experience for those living pay check to pay check. The need for a bank that understands unfortunate events happen and are willing to help get them through difficult times is what the foundation of ABB is built on. Any history of the town of Mullins written after the 1930s would not be complete without extensive mention of the bank. Anderson Brothers Bank combines a firm grasp on the traditions and values with an ability to adapt and evolve to the changing demands consistent with technological transformation of modern life. Banking with Anderson Brothers Bank provides one the opportunity to feel the warmth, friendship, and handshake-style business of a small-town, 20th century bank while still enjoying the convenience of banking in the 21st century – online banking, mobile deposits, etc.



L-R Taylor, Neal, Tommy, David & Rivers Anderson with Bishop & EL overlooking in the background.

When asked, what sets ABB apart from all the other banks, David Anderson, Anderson Brothers Banks President & CEO was quick to answer. "It's our consumer loan program. We do loans other banks don't at rates finance companies can't touch." "Our consumer loans make up thirty percent of all our loans, while our peers have only around three percent." "That is what sets us apart from all other banks" he said. "Our consumer's credit scores on average are 550-680, which is lower than most banks will go and if you consume the majority of your paycheck week to week, we are your bank." Anderson Brothers Bank is much larger today than it was in the early days of its existence, with locations across the eastern half of South Carolina and an extensive range of services offered. Nonetheless, the bank continues to be owned and operated by the Anderson family and is headquartered in one of the original buildings in Mullins. Anderson Brothers Bank continues to offer unparalleled customer service with its main focus on community and "Treating You Like Family Since 1933."