Swamp Fox Festival returns
Last Weekend in September
Marion Re-Designated as Iowa Great Place  page 7
The City of Marion was among 20 cities to be honored at the 2018 City Livability Awards Program during The U.S. Conference of Mayors’ 86th Annual Meeting in Boston. Marion was recognized for its Uptown Artway placemaking project.

The award recognizes programs that improve the quality of life in America’s cities. This year’s winning cities were selected by former mayors from a pool of over 150 applicants.

“Our City Livability Awards Program gives us the chance to express our pride in cities’ mayoral leadership in making urban areas cleaner, safer and more livable,” said Tom Cochran, CEO and Executive Director of the Conference of Mayors. “We are grateful for the opportunity to showcase the innovation and commitment of mayors and city governments across the country.”

This is the 39th year in which cities have competed for the award. Susan Moulton, Waste Management’s Senior Corporate Director of Public Sector Solutions, presented the City Livability awards on June 9 during the annual luncheon in Boston, MA.

“It was truly an honor to accept this award on behalf of our community and the many people responsible for making the Uptown Artway a reality,” said Mayor Nicolas AbouAssaly. “Marion is creating a legacy for the future founded in high-quality, relevant and engaging public spaces.”

The ImaginArt in the Alley project, now referred to as Uptown Artway, has given Marion’s Main Street District new life. The space features nine, permanent public art installations and serves as a pedestrian destination and community “living room,” with new restaurants, pubs, gathering spaces and lighting to illuminate the night scene. The business district has experienced a rebirth with new businesses and residents recognizing the lure of this unique gathering space. Since the project began, more than $5 million in private investment has been injected in the area, with additional projects in the pipeline.

For the second consecutive year, the City of Marion was named an All-Star Community by the Iowa League of Cities. The 2018 award was given for the Uptown Artway project. The city will be recognized at an awards banquet at the League’s Annual Conference & Exhibit, held in Council Bluffs from September 12-14.

The All-Star Community Award is the most prestigious honor given by the League to cities. Entries are judged by a panel of former city officials and others familiar with municipal government. Judges determine winners based on innovative efforts in areas such as urban renewal, development, preservation, collaborative efforts or quality of life improvements. Marion was among three of Iowa’s 945 cities to garner such recognition.

Marion has transformed an alley in the Uptown shopping district and defined it with nine permanent pieces of art, turning the alleyway between 10th and 11th Streets, behind the shops facing 7th and 8th Avenues, into a destination of its own.

The end product has enhanced economic development in the area. More than 10 properties near the Artway are now home to new businesses or in the process of being renovated. In addition, mixed-use developers are interested in the area and may triple the current number of available housing units. The City and Chamber of Commerce, who partnered to make this project possible, are even considering an expansion to the Uptown Artway to create more public space in the alleys to the east or west.

“The Uptown Artway demonstrates our commitment to creating amazing public spaces that enhance the quality of life we enjoy,” said Marion Mayor Nicolas AbouAssaly.

This year’s other All-Star Community Award winners are Bondurant and Lisbon.
On Friday, make your way to the Klopfenstein Amphitheater at Lowe Park and enjoy the movie, *The Sandlot*, under the stars and on the big screen. The Shriners will be popping popcorn and limited concessions will be available for purchase. Pack a cooler and bring a blanket or lawn chairs. The show is expected to start at 7:30 p.m.

On Saturday, a variety of events will take place in and around City Square Park including a 5K and kids 1 mile race—and for the first time a 10K race is being organized by Corridor Running. Also enjoy a pancake breakfast, the Swamp Fox parade and a steel drum band performance in the Uptown Artway.

The festival is proud to again coincide with the Fall Marion Market in City Square Park, coordinated by the Marion Chamber of Commerce. The market features more than 50 market vendors with seasonal produce, artisan items and food options along with children’s activities and musical entertainment.

In line with this year’s parade theme, “Sports through the Years,” organizers have added several new opportunities to get out and get active. Consider participating in the Grass Volleyball Tournament or Pickleball Clinic. A Hot Shots Basketball Competition is being planned for youth at Thomas Park.

Saturday afternoon the fun moves to Lowe Park for more food, live music and various family activities including BINGO, life-size games, tethered hot air balloon rides (weather permitting) and garden events. The evening entertainment will be provided by Chicago’s own Spazmatics. Dinner options will be available from the Linn County Cattlemen, the Kiwanis, Kettel House Bakery, Allen’s Apple Orchard and more. The grand fireworks finale will take place at 8:30 p.m.

On Sunday, check out a variety of classic cars on display at the Classic Car Cruise-in/Car Show at Thomas Park hosted by the Cedar Rapids Corvette Club.

Visit www.cityofmarion.org/swampfox for the full line-up of events and make plans now to take part in this community celebration.
The 29th annual Swamp Fox Festival would not be possible without the support of the following local businesses:

**Event Sponsors**
- Moonlit Movie – State Farm Insurance, Michelle Havener
- Family Breakfast – Network Computer Solutions
- 5k Run/Walk – Farmers State Bank
- Fall Marion Market – Marion Chamber Platinum Community Partners
- Parade – Linn County REC, Marion Hy-Vee and Hy-Vee Drugstore
- Children’s Activities at Lowe Park – Heritage Bank
- Music at Lowe Park – Veridian Credit Union
- Fireworks Display – Collins Community Credit Union & City of Marion Hotel/Motel Grant

**Gold Sponsors**
- Alliant Energy
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- Murdoch Funeral Homes & Cremation
- Next Generation Wireless
- Prestige Dance Studio
- Rathje Construction
- Rockwell Collins
- University of Iowa Community Credit Union

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- State Farm Insurance, Chuck Kent
- Zio Johno’s Spaghetti House

**In-Kind Sponsorship**
- Culver’s Garden Center & Greenhouse
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- Huk Printing
- LWF Enterprises
- Lamar Advertising
- Marion Times
- iHeartRadio
- OnMedia
- Wilbert Burial Vault

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**Participate!**

**10K, 5K & Little Fox Mile**

The Swamp Fox Festival 10K/5K and Little Fox Mile races are set for Sept. 29 at 7:30 a.m. lining-up on 5th Avenue between Marion City Hall and Vernon Middle School. Prizes awarded to the first overall male and female finishers. Active or former military service men and women receive a discount. Race shirts are provided for those who pre-register. Late registration does not guarantee a shirt. Find course maps and online registration at www.cityofmarion.org/swampfox. Registration forms are also available at Marion City Hall, Lowe Park or Thomas Park.

**Parade**

The Swamp Fox Festival Parade, sponsored by Linn County REC, Marion Hy-Vee and Marion Hy-Vee Drugstore is a Marion tradition. It will travel north on 15th Street and then continue west down 6th Avenue ending at 9th Street. The parade starts at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 29. This year’s theme is “Sports through the Years” and floats are encouraged.

Registration forms and full details can be found at www.cityofmarion.org/swampfox or at City Hall, Lowe Park or Thomas Park. Cash prizes will be awarded in a number of categories. The parade is limited to 150 entries and the registration deadline is Sept. 14. Registrations will not be accepted the day of the parade.

**Volleyball Tournament**

Bump, set and spike your way into the Swamp Fox Festival’s first-ever Grass Volleyball Tournament. The tournament will begin at 11 a.m. on Sept. 29 and take place at the Lowe Park Sports Complex, accessible from 4901 Alburnett Road. Open to 4 person or 6 person teams. Free shirts for all participants and cash prizes awarded to the top finishers. Advance registration required by Friday, Sept. 14. Learn more at www.cityofmarion.org/swampfox.

Make plans now to take part in Marion’s 2018 Swamp Fox Festival.
**Friends of the Library Book Sale**
Marion Public Library, 1095 6th Avenue | 4-6 p.m.
*Hosted by the Friends of the Marion Public Library*
Best ever sale of gently used books, music and movies! Come today for the greatest deals. Sale is open only to Friends members, but you can get a membership at the door for just $10.

**Moonlit Movie - The Sandlot**
Klopfenstein Amphitheater, Lowe Park, 4500 N. 10th Street | 7:30 p.m. | Rated PG
*Sponsored by State Farm Insurance, Michelle Havener*
*The Sandlot* is a 1993 American coming-of-age baseball film which tells the story of a group of young baseball players during the summer of 1962. Scotty Smalls moves to a new neighborhood with his mom and stepdad, and wants to learn to play baseball. Rodriguez, the neighborhood baseball guru, takes Smalls under his wing - soon he becomes part of the local baseball buddies. They fall into adventures involving baseball, treehouse sleep-ins, the despicable lifeguard at the local pool, the snooty rival ball team and the travelling fair. Beyond the local pool, the snooty rival ball team and the travelling fair. Back by popular demand... the Little Fox Mile, a one-mile route specifically for kids starting at 8:30 a.m. Youth registration is only $10.

**Fall Marion Market**
City Square Park, 7th Avenue and 10th Street | 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
*Hosted by Marion Chamber of Commerce. Sponsored by Marion Chamber Platinum Community Partners – Farmers State Bank, Fosters Heating and Air Conditioning, ImOn Communications, MercyCare Community Physicians and Townsquare Media.*
Pumpkins, gourds, and cornstalks, oh my! Don’t miss the Fall Market featuring vendors offering a wide variety of seasonal produce, artisan items and tasty treats. Take-and-eat food vendors will be on-site. Kids will enjoy Papa Balloon from 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 p.m. and live music by Bryce Janey from 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

**Swamp Fox Festival Parade**
Starts at the corner of 15th Street and 1st Avenue, heads north on 15th Street and turns west on 3rd Avenue, north on 14th Street, west on 6th Avenue and ends at 9th Street
*Sponsored by Linn County REC and Marion Hy-Vee*
A signature event of the Swamp Fox Festival, this parade is one you won’t want to miss. This year’s theme is “Sports through the Years.” Floats are encouraged and advance registration is required. Registration forms are available at www.cityofmarion.org/swampfox and due by Sept. 14.

**Friends of the Library Book Sale**
Marion Public Library | 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
*Hosted by the Friends of the Marion Public Library*
Best ever sale of gently used books, music and movies. Come today and explore!

**Shop Uptown Marion**
Uptown Marion, various retailers | 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
When you shop Uptown Marion, you experience a unique destination that’s Made for You. Home to a variety of locally owned restaurants and boutiques. Find original art, specialty clothing, personal accessories, antiques, sweet treats and gifts for anyone on your list.

**Swamp Fox Festival's first-ever Grass Volleyball Tournament**
Lowe Park Sports Complex, Access from 4901 Alburnett Road | Check-in at 10:30 a.m. | Play begins at 11 a.m.
Bump, set and spike your way into the Swamp Fox Festival’s first-ever Grass Volleyball Tournament. Open to 4 person teams, Level A or B or 6 person teams. Cost $20 per person - $80 for a team of 4, $120 for a team of 6. Free long-sleeved shirts for all participants and cash prizes awarded to the top finishers. Registration info is available at www.cityofmarion.org/swampfox and due by Friday, Sept. 14.

**Heritage Center Exhibition - 150 Years of Sports**
Marion Heritage Center & Museum, 590 10th Street | Opening after the parade
*Free admission sponsored by the McIntyre Foundation*
Join us again this fall for our new exhibition: 150 Years of Marion Sports. We’ll explore our passion for sports, its origins and many forms; its winners and losers, its heroes, villains and victims. We’ll introduce you to some of the sports crazes we’ve gone through like shuffleboard, pedestrian-ism, bicycling, horseshoes, duck pin bowling and pus ball, and try to explain our enduring love for football, baseball, basketball, and track. As the home of the city’s first large-scale YMCA, our building is singularly placed to present the story of the early days of Marion sports in this 150th year of the YMCA’s history in the area. The Heritage Center auditorium will be dressed for the occasion! Don’t miss this celebration of our heritage—and yours!

**Event details subject to change, for the latest updates at www.cityofmarion.org/swampfox**
Explore Uptown Artway
Alley between 7th and 8th Ave and 10th and 11th St | Entertainment from noon-2 p.m.
Take a stroll through Uptown Artway, the re-imagined gathering space that runs behind 7th Avenue. What was once an under-utilized alley, now features nine permanent art installations by local and national artists. Visit the Artway between noon - 2 p.m. enjoy the sounds of the steel drum band Pandelirium.

Pedal Marion!
Depart from City Square Park | 1 p.m.-2:30 pm
Hosted by the Marion Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee
If you love to bike, this event is for you! Marion’s Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee will host an 8-mile bike tour of Marion. We’ll ride bike lanes, bicycle boulevards and trails – ultimately returning to City Square Park at the end of the excursion. Participants should bring their bikes, helmets and sense of adventure.

New! Pickleball Clinic
Marion High School Tennis Courts, 675 S. 15th Street | 2 p.m.
Hosted by USA Pickleball
Pickleball is among the fastest growing sports, particularly for people over the age of 60. It is a paddle sport that blends tennis, badminton and ping pong. Join us on the new courts at Marion High School that are lined for pickleball. This is an opportunity to learn more about the game for both beginners and intermediates of all ages. Join us and hone your skills for this fun game that even has an AAU club starting in our area for youth.

New! Hot Shots Basketball Competition
Thomas Park Basketball Courts, 343 Marion Boulevard | For youth entering grades 3-8, 1-3 p.m.
Hosted by Marion Parks & Recreation
Pick a partner and test your shooting skills and teamwork in this new basketball competition. Teams will have 60 seconds to make as many baskets as they can from pre-determined spots on the court worth varying amount of points. Teams will be divided into 3 separate divisions: 3rd/4th, 5th/6th, 7th/8th. Top scoring teams will advance to playoff round where a champion from each division will be crowned. $15, per team of two. Register with Marion Parks & Rec by Sept. 14.

Seed Saving Workshop
Lowe Park | 4500 N. 10th Street | 4:30 p.m.
Hosted by Linn County Master Gardeners
Participants will receive instructions on collecting and storing seeds and then have the opportunity to roam the demonstration gardens to collect seeds from plants. Master Gardeners will be available to assist and answer questions about the various plants and containers will be provided.

Food Vendors
Lowe Park | 5-8 p.m.
Grab some cash and enjoy dinner or a sweet treat from one of these local favorites: Linn County Cattlemen, The Freeze, Kettel House Bakery, Allen’s Apple Orchard, Kona Ice and Zio Johnho’s.

Activities for Children
Lowe Park | 5-8 p.m.
Sponsored by Heritage Bank
Painted faces, balloon creations, big bubbles and more! Kids will also enjoy fun with corn and life-size games.

BINGO
Lowe Park Arts & Environment Center | 5-7 p.m.
Hosted by Marion Parks & Recreation
Join the fun and a chance to win some cash during the Swamp Fox Festival at Lowe Park! Games of BINGO will be played for $0.25 per card, per game and we will pay back cash prizes to the winner(s) of each game. There will also be a few bonus games in which larger payouts are awarded. The night will conclude with a winner-take-all game of blackout BINGO. We have a limited amount of seating space and cards, so once they are gone, they are gone! Come early to ensure yourself a seat. BINGO will be played inside the Oaks Room.

BINGO
Lowe Park | 5-8 p.m.
Sponsored by Heritage Bank
Painted faces, balloon creations, big bubbles and more! Kids will also enjoy fun with corn and life-size games.

The Spazmatics
Klopfenstein Amphitheater, Lowe Park | 5:30-8:30 p.m.
Sponsored by Veridian Credit Union
Coming to us all the way from Chicago... meet The Spazmatics. All the awesome sounds, styles, and way cool dance steps from the 1980’s decade we’d love to forget. Complete with skinny ties, slicked-back hair and horn-rimmed glasses, The Spazmatics recapture all the best of the worst. Outstanding musicianship combined with creative flair and style makes for an evening of pure energy and entertainment. So tonight we’re gonna party like it’s 1999; only it’s not!

Tomato, Apple & Pepper Tasting
Lowe Park Greenhouse | 5:30 p.m.
Hosted by Linn County Master Gardeners
Try some of the different types of tomatoes, apples and peppers that the Master Gardeners have been growing this season. The apple tasting is a precursor to the production of the orchard located just to the west of the greenhouse at Lowe Park. Tasters can vote for their favorite varieties.

New! Tethered Hot Air Balloon Rides
Behind the Lowe Park Greenhouse | 6-8 p.m.
Hosted by Summit Pointe Senior Living
Reaching Higher? Yes we are! Come see the new Summit Pointe Senior Living hot air balloon up close and if you’re brave enough, enjoy a tethered ride. Wind and weather conditions permitting.

Fireworks Display
Lowe Park | 8:30 p.m.
Sponsored by Collins Community Credit Union & City of Marion Hotel/ Motel Grant Program
Bigger and better in 2018, this fireworks display will be out of this world. Prime viewing locations at Lowe Park or Oak Ridge School. Please note: no alcohol or tobacco products are permitted on school property.

Sunday, Sept. 30
Swamp Fox Car Cruise-In & Car Show
Thomas Park, 343 Marion Boulevard | 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m.
Hosted by Cedar Rapids Corvette Club
Sponsored by Sheets Forrest Draper Insurance Agency
Join us for an all car cruise-in at Marion’s Thomas Park. Suggested donation to benefit Eastern Iowa Honor Flights. Trophies will be awarded and Big Daddy Dogs will be available onsite. If it rains, the show will be cancelled.

Friends of the Library Book Sale
Marion Public Library | 1095 6th Avenue | 2-4 p.m.
Hosted by the Friends of the Marion Public Library
Best ever sale of gently used books, music, and movies! Come today to get the deals everyone else has missed. Nab a bag of books for just $3.

>>> Please remember, pets are not allowed at large events held in City Square Park or Lowe Park. Thank you! <<<
The Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs announced in July that Marion is among eight other existing Iowa Great Places to be re-designated.

The Iowa Great Places program celebrates communities with a bold vision for the future. The program supports the development of new and existing infrastructure intended to cultivate the unique and authentic qualities of neighborhoods, communities and regions in Iowa.

“The Great Places designation is an endorsement of Marion’s continuing progress and the amazing potential that lies ahead,” said Marion Mayor Nicolas AbouAssaly. “The ImagiNEXT visioning process is giving thousands of residents a role in building the community they desire and helping to increase the opportunities for all people to enjoy a great quality of life.”

According to the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs, the re-designation enables Marion to apply for funding this fall for projects that are tied to their community’s vision plan. Funding comes from an annual appropriation from the Rebuild Iowa Infrastructure Fund to the Iowa Great Places program by the Iowa Legislature. Currently, Iowa has 45 Great Places with 13 projects in progress. The average Iowa Great Places grant award from 2014 to 2018 was $204,000.

“This announcement is a huge win for our community,” said Jill Ackerman, Marion Chamber President. “The original designation played a vital role in completing the Imagine8 projects over the past 10 years and re-designation accelerates the Future Four projects identified through ImagiNEXT. We’ve got a heavy lift ahead of us, but with a dedicated group of civic-minded leaders and volunteers I know we will be successful.”

The Future Four ImagiNEXT ideas include:

1. **The Heart Of It All** - Marion’s historic district has always served as the city’s hub of civic and community life. Residents would like to see creative updates to Marion’s historic district that will enhance the year-round curb appeal and functionality of this special area. They understand that dramatic changes will be occurring here over the next few years and have offered a wide range of ideas for improvements.

2. **Just Keep Swimming...** - Since Marion’s population is growing and the municipal pool is aging, new aquatics options need to be considered. In fact, a pool with cool waterpark features is the number one idea offered by residents. Marion’s national ranking as a top 10 place for families should be supported by outstanding public amenities that meet or exceed expectations for recreation, education, fitness and fun!

3. **Creekside Pride** - As one of Marion’s most significant natural features, Indian Creek offers both challenges and opportunities. Since most residents live within the creek’s watershed, they are well positioned and motivated to help prevent regional flooding. Marion citizens are also keenly interested in recreational and educational ideas that embrace their creek. An innovative project that combines these concepts would enjoy widespread support by the community.

4. **It’s the Little Things** - Marion residents have expressed the desire to collaborate with city leaders in the creation of policies that can be put into place relatively quickly. Small ideas can have a big impact, and citizens who are informed and empowered become good stewards of the place they call home.

Full descriptions of the ideas and an opportunity to volunteer can be found at marionimaginext.org.
Help Create a Stronger Community Workforce

The local and regional business community's number one challenge is finding qualified and skilled talent. With a low unemployment rate, businesses aggressively compete for top talent. Do you feel your student(s) are connected to future career opportunities in our community? Do you know where to begin?

In 2017, the Marion Economic Development Corporation (MEDCO) partnered with Linn-Mar and the Marion Independent School District to design an initiative called Community Promise. Community Promise connects students with real jobs by capitalizing on exposure and experiences that lead to an authentic career.

Students and parents can learn more by visiting CommunityPromise.org. Here you will find several resources to learn about our business partners future workforce needs and unique careers that you might not even know exist in our community. You’ll also find tools that illustrate career training and education opportunities, wages and benefits, and future employment trends within various careers. Check it out and tell us how we can help you take the next step.

Send the same email to all members at: council@cityofmarion.org

Marion's City Council meets in work session (no action taken, just discussion) on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month at 4 p.m. Regular session meetings are held the Thursday following the Tuesday work session at 5:30 p.m. All meetings are held at Marion City Hall.

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**Upcoming Uptown Events**

**UPTOWN RESTAURANT WEEK**
**SEPT. 14-23**
**UPTOWN MARION**
Taste for $20 in Uptown Marion! Dine out at the 11 participating restaurants for a chance to win prizes and sample cuisine throughout the Uptown District.

**CHOCOLATE WALK**
**FRIDAY, OCT. 5**
**8-10:30 P.M. UPTOWN MARION**
What could be more delightful than shopping and chocolate? Spending a fall night in Uptown Marion! Enjoy strolling historic Uptown Marion at this after hours, adult-only shopping event. Visit your favorite stores, discover what’s new just around the corner and savor a sweet treat from participating businesses. Follow the Facebook event at bit.ly/MarionChocolateWalk for the latest information!

The Chocolate Walk, hosted by the Marion Chamber of Commerce and Uptown Marion, is held the first Friday in October each year and is a free event thanks to our Platinum Community Partners: Farmers State Bank, Fosters Heating and Air Conditioning, ImOn Communications, Mercy Cedar Rapids, and Townsquare Media.

**SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY**
**SATURDAY, NOV. 24**
**10 A.M.-2 P.M.**

**CHRISTMAS IN THE PARK & PEPPERMINT WALK**
**FRIDAY, DEC. 7**
**4-8 P.M.**
Marion Police Department Rolls Out Strategic Plan

For the last 6 months the Marion Police Department has been developing its 5-year strategic plan. It is designed to help set priorities, focus energy and resources and strengthen operations. Through employee engagement and community feedback, the department adopted new mission and vision statements:

*The mission of the Marion Police Department is to effectively use resources to respond, investigate and prevent crime in order to enhance the quality of life and strengthen economic prosperity for our community.***

*Its vision is to be a metro leader among law enforcement agencies by growing with excellence through an emphasis on employee development and strategic, collaborative partnerships with their community, other city departments and other law enforcement agencies.***

In the coming months, members of the Police Department will make presentations to the City Council to outline the strategies and measures associated with each goal. The plan is a document that will evolve along with its progression.

**THE OVERARCHING GOALS OF THE PLAN INCLUDE:**

1. Using technology, data analysis, research and strategies to appropriately staff the agency to respond, investigate and prevent crime.
2. Having personnel who are highly trained, engaged and committed to ethical service.
3. Maintaining a department that engages in community and business partnerships.
4. Working together with other City departments to advance public safety and fiscal responsibility.
5. Developing collaborative partnerships with area criminal justice agencies.
6. Establishing a Marion Public Safety Communications Center; continued exploration of public safety answering points (PSAP) consolidation.

**National Night Out** is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, better places to live.

The Marion Police Department partnered with the Marion Fire Department and Marion Parks & Recreation to organize a community-wide event to mark the occasion at **Thomas Park on Aug. 7**. More than 450 attendees enjoyed K9 demonstrations, police and fire equipment on display, games, activities and giveaways. Special thanks to Marion Hy-Vee for providing food and refreshments.

Last month, Marion’s former fire engine, E-91, was dedicated as the first pink fire engine for the Iowa Chapter of the Pink Heals Organization.

The program repurposes firetrucks and other public safety vehicles to make home visits to those in need. Its mission is to provide communities with a program that supports people in need on a personal level in partnership with public safety and local businesses.

To learn more about the local chapter, visit [www.facebook.com/PinkHealsEasternIA](http://www.facebook.com/PinkHealsEasternIA).
Why do I need a Permit to Replace Windows?

Cooking Fires

Did you know that cooking fires are the most common type of fire in the United States, accounting for 46 percent of all fires? The vast majority of fires in Marion are cooking fires, with a large percentage occurring in multi-family dwellings/apartment complexes. Most cooking fires occur because someone started cooking on the stove or oven and then walked away. Unattended cooking is the leading cause of cooking fires, therefore almost every cooking fire can be prevented.

There is now a product, known as automatic fire suppression for your home, to help combat this common type of fire. It is a can with a fire extinguishing powder inside that hangs above the stove and is always ready to activate. If a cooking fire occurs, the can opens up and the powder contains the fire. These are an inexpensive way to prevent a cooking fire from becoming a large house fire, especially since they work even if no one is around.

The Arbors located at 1362 Blairs Ferry Road recognized the dangers of cooking fires and voluntarily installed these devices above the stoves in all of their apartments. (Pictured below). The extinguishers are available from several manufacturers and the Marion Fire Department does not endorse one company over another.

Installing these devices can save property but most importantly keep a fire contained, which will save lives! Consider installing these types of devices for additional peace of mind, but always stay in the kitchen whenever you are cooking.
The City of Marion is the latest community to discover the presence of the highly destructive insect known as the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB).

Emerald Ash Borer found in Marion

The EAB is a small, metallic green, non-native invasive pest. The larvae feast on the trunks of Ash trees, ultimately disrupting their ability to transport nutrients and causing the tree’s eventual decline and death.

The infestation in Marion was discovered on private property along 44th Street and north of Business Hwy. 151. Ash trees in the immediate area will be assessed for EAB activity. If additional EAB detection is found, an expanded survey will be initiated.

The City has been preparing for the eventual arrival of the Emerald Ash Borer by formulating an EAB Response Plan. The plan includes actively removing low value, poor conditioned public Ash trees, or utilizing insecticide treatments on trees determined to be of high value by the Marion Tree Board and Forestry Staff.

Currently, Ash trees make up approximately 15 percent of Marion’s public tree canopy, or 991 trees. Ash trees in the infested area will be scheduled for removal; dead or poor conditioned trees will be given priority.

Home owners are responsible for Ash trees on their personal property and are encouraged to contact a professional tree service to assist with a treatment or removal plan. Residents concerned about their privately-owned Ash trees can check for the following symptoms, since these symptoms are usually apparent before the borer is spotted:

- Canopy/crown dieback
- 1/8” D-shaped exit holes on trunk or branches
- Irregular branching with suckers sprouting at the base of the trunk
- Woodpecker flecking activity on tree branches

Residents may also contact the Marion Parks and Recreation Department at (319) 447-3580 for confirmation of suspected EAB or additional information.
**UPCOMING PROGRAMS**

**LIL’ CHEFS & KID CRAFTERS COMBO**
*Children Ages 3-5*
*FEE: $40*

**DAYS/DATES:** Mondays AND Thursdays, Oct. 22-Nov. 8
**TIME(S):** 10-10:30 a.m. OR 5:30-6 p.m. (select one)
**LOCATION:** Lowe Park
**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:** Oct. 5, 2018

**PUTT-PUTT INDOOR GOLF**
*Children Ages 3-6*
*FEE: $25*

**DAYS/DATES:** Tuesdays, Nov. 6-27
**TIME(S):** 3/4 Year Olds: 5:30-6 p.m.
5/6 Year Olds: 6:15-6:45 p.m.
**LOCATION:** Lowe Park
**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:** Oct. 5, 2018

**YOUTH 5 ON 5 BASKETBALL**
*Children Grades 2nd-6th*
*FEE: $39*, includes team shirt*

**DAYS/DATES:** Practices: Begin the week of Nov. 1. Games: Saturday mornings beginning Dec. 1
**TIME(S):** Practice times vary during the week. Game times will vary on Saturday mornings
**LOCATION:** Echo Hill Elementary School, Bowman Woods and Excelsior Schools
**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:** Oct. 19, 2018

**LITTLE STARS BASKETBALL**
*Children Age 4*
*FEE: $39*, includes camp shirt*

**DAYS/DATES:** Saturdays, Feb. 2-Mar. 2
**TIME(S):** Saturday morning times may vary
**LOCATION:** Echo Hill Elementary School
**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:** Dec. 14, 2018

**SHOOTING STARS BASKETBALL**
*Children Grades K-1st*
*FEE: $39*, includes team shirt*

**DAYS/DATES:** Saturdays, Feb. 2-Mar. 2
**TIME(S):** Saturday morning times may vary and rotate
**LOCATION:** Echo Hill and Bowman Woods Elementary Schools
**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:** Dec. 14, 2018

**THE PAINTED PUMPKIN**
*Children Ages 3+
*FEE: $10*

**DAYS/DATES:** Tuesdays, Oct. 9
**TIME(S):** 3-4 p.m. OR 6-7 p.m. (select one)
**LOCATION:** Lowe Park Arts & Environment Center
**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:** Oct. 5, 2018

**HALLOWEEN BOO CAMP**
*Children grades K-5th*
*FEE: $25, includes a kid friendly dinner*

**DAYS/DATES:** Friday, Oct. 26
**TIME(S):** 3-4 p.m.
**LOCATION:** Lowe Park Arts & Environment Center
**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:** Oct. 5, 2018

**B-I-N-G-O NIGHT AT LOWE PARK**
*Open To All Ages*
*FEE: FREE to attend, but cards are $0.25 per card, per game*

**DAYS/DATES:** Friday, Nov. 16
**TIME(S):** 6-8 p.m.
**LOCATION:** Lowe Park Arts & Environment Center
**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:** No registration required, but seats and cards are limited and are first come, first serve.

**GREAT TREE DECORATING CONTEST**
*Children Ages 3+
*FEE: $10*

**DAYS/DATES:** Tuesday, Dec. 4
**TIME(S):** 10-11 a.m. OR 5:30-6:30 p.m. (select one)
**LOCATION:** Lowe Park Arts & Environment Center
**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:** Nov. 16, 2018

**CANDY CANE HUNT**
*Children Ages 3+
*FEE: $25*

**DAYS/DATES:** Saturday, Dec. 8
**TIME(S):** 12:30-5 p.m.
**LOCATION:** Lowe Park Arts & Environment Center
**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:** Nov. 16, 2018

**SANTA’S LITTLE WORKSHOP**
*Children grades K-5th*
*FEE: $25*

**DAYS/DATES:** Saturday, Dec. 8
**TIME(S):** 12:30-5 p.m.
**LOCATION:** Lowe Park Arts & Environment Center
**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:** Nov. 16, 2018

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**Pet Policy for City Parks and Trails**
Pets on leashes are welcome in City parks, as well as walking trails and Oak Shade Cemetery. It is the responsibility of pet owners to clean up after their pets.

- Due to public safety and health guidelines, pets are not allowed in pavilions or within 100 feet of food vendors, playgrounds, ball fields or swimming pools. Pets, other than service animals, should stay home during large events and community festivals.

Located just across Hwy 100 is a great regional resource where dogs can run free and socialize with their canine friends. Check out the K9 Acres Off-Leash Area at Squaw Creek Park. Learn more at k9cola.org.

**Coffeehouse Nights Return in October**
Between October and April, the Marion Arts Council is pleased to present Coffeehouse Nights at the Lowe Park Arts and Environment Center. These musical performances feature talented local acoustic artists in a relaxed coffeehouse type atmosphere. Admission is free and coffee, cocoa and pastries are available for purchase. Performances run from 7-8:30 p.m. and doors open open at 6:30 p.m.

Save the date and look for more information about performers to be announced soon:
- October 5
- November 2
- December 7

Construction has begun on the new all-inclusive playground at Lowe Park. Crews have been busy moving dirt and pouring the footings to the restroom facility. Construction is expected to begin in Sept.

Planning continues for the Butterfield Skate Park. The concept rendering is shown above. Construction is expected to begin in Sept.

Excelsior Schools
Center
REGISTRATION DEADLINE:
LOCATION:
TIME(S):
DAYS/DATES:
FEE:
Children Grades 2nd–6th
BASKETBALL
YOUTH 5 ON 5
REGISTRATION DEADLINE:
LOCATION:
TIME(S):
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FEE:
Children Ages 3–5
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REGISTRATION DEADLINE:
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TIME(S):
DAYS/DATES:
FEE:
Children grades K–5th
BOO CAMP
HALLOWEEN
REGISTRATION DEADLINE:
LOCATION:
TIME(S):
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FEE:
Children Grades K–1st
BASKETBALL
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Children Ages 3+
BASKETBALL
REGISTRATION DEADLINE:
Honoring our Veterans

Military tribute banners, sponsored by local residents and businesses, have been installed along Marion’s Central Corridor (6th/7th Avenues from 7th/31st Streets).

The banners will remain up through Veterans Day 2018. Fifty-one veterans and military personnel with ties to Marion are honored in the inaugural year of the program.

“This is a great opportunity for our community to honor the veterans and active duty servicemen and women with a connection to Marion in a very personal way,” said Mayor Nicolas AbouAssaly. “It is a visible, powerful reminder of the sacrifices they have made.”

Maps to help family members and visitors locate their banners can be found at Marion City Hall, the Marion Chamber of Commerce/Uptown offices or www.cityofmarion.org.

In addition to covering the cost of the banner, a portion of the sponsorship will be donated to local veteran affairs programs.

To be notified when 2019 banner sponsorship opportunities become available, sign up at tinyurl.com/marionmilitarybanners.

Wes Nelson retires after 29 years with the City of Marion

In August, Wes Nelson, longtime city clerk and finance director for the City of Marion retired.

Nelson joined the City of Marion in December 1989 and served as Marion’s city clerk/finance director/treasurer for the past 29 years. In this role, he managed all of the City’s cash and investments (currently around $60 million) as well as receipt processing, invoice payments, annual audit and budget filings. He was also the custodian of all of the City’s records, served as the election official and was responsible for maintaining the City Code.

When reflecting on his career, Nelson noted that he was most proud of the strong financial position the City maintains. Under his leadership, the A bond rating improved to an Aa1 rating, enabling the City to sell its bonds at lower interest rates and save thousands of dollars in interest costs.

“I am thankful to have had the opportunity to work with many dedicated city employees, all doing their best to make Marion a great place to live,” noted Nelson. “I’m also grateful for the opportunity to give back to the community through participation in the Marion Noon Lions Club and the Marion Turkey Trot organizing committee.”

Nelson’s future plans include spending more time with his family and grandchildren, visiting National Parks and tending to his acreage and vineyard.

Going forward, the duties of Nelson’s position are being separated. Lianne Cairy, finance manager, will oversee the financial matters for the City and Rachel Bolender will assume the City Clerk responsibilities.

Private Snow Plow Licensing Requirements

City ordinance requires that all private snow removal contractors need to obtain a snow removal permit for any work within the city right of way. The cost for the permit is $25. Permit applications will be accepted now through Dec. 14, 2018. Applications may be obtained at the Public Services Department located at 195 35th Street between 7 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Please call the Public Services Department at 319-377-6367 with any questions.

Winter Parking Permits Available

If you do not have any off street parking, you may apply for a winter parking permit that would allow you to leave your vehicle on the street during a snow emergency. The permits will be issued only when driveways or off street parking are not available at the residence. To apply for this permit, call the Public Services Department at 319-377-6367 with your name and address. Each application/location will be reviewed by staff. Permits will not be issued when a driveway is available.

2018 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Pick Up Schedule</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thanksgiving Day</td>
<td>Nov. 22 – Thursday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Day After Thanksgiving</td>
<td>Nov. 23 – Friday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Christmas Day</td>
<td>Dec. 25 – Tuesday</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Year’s Day</td>
<td>Jan. 1, 2019 – Tuesday</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Trenary to be Next Marion Public Library Director

The City of Marion is pleased to announce that Hollie Trenary will serve as Marion Public Library’s 12th director.

Trenary comes to Marion from the Cedar Rapids Public Library, where she has been operations manager for the past three years.

In her new position, Ms. Trenary will manage the human resources, physical facilities, collection development and financial operations of the library in accordance with the policies established by the Library Board of Trustees and City administration.

“We are pleased to have Hollie join our staff as director,” said Susan Kling, president of the Library Board of Trustees. “Her experience with libraries, her passion for service and her far-reaching community connections will help her fit into this new role quickly.”

Trenary has worked in the library industry for nearly 20 years, including seven years at SirsiDynix, the library automation company that provides service to the libraries in the Metro Library Network. She has served as a principal Lean consultant, has a deep knowledge of IT and automation and has a history of volunteer work for community non-profits.

“I am humbled every day to work in an industry that plays such an essential and impactful role in society,” said Trenary. “I cannot imagine a greater responsibility than leading the team that provides library services in Marion every day.”

Trenary assumed her responsibilities on Tuesday, Sept. 4. She follows immediate past library director, Elsworth Carman, who was recently named Director of Administrative Services for the City of Marion.

Circulation and Outreach News

Now it’s easier than ever to sign up for a library card. Stop in the library and fill out an online application or apply online at marionpubliclibrary.org/newcard from the comfort of your home.

Once you’ve applied online, just stop into the library within the next 30 days to get your permanent card. No paperwork to fill out!

We’ve also moved our indoor book drop to make it easier for patrons dropping off materials. The new book drop is just inside the lobby doors, to the left as you enter.

For your convenience, we still have our drive-up book drop located on the south side of the library; you don’t even need to leave your car. All local Hy-Vee grocery stores have Metro Library Network book drops, so you can shop for groceries and return your library materials all in one spot.

Did you know that having a library card is one of the best school supplies that your child can have? We’re excited to partner with St. Joseph’s School and the Marion Independent School District to include library cards on all school supply lists for the 2018-2019 school year.

Of course, your library card can be used to check out books, movies, or magazines, and for getting onto a computer. But did you know your library card also gives you access to the many online resources that the library has available, all FREE to any Marion resident?

Tumblebooks is just one example. This resource includes audio books for children, picture books, chapter books and some non-fiction books with activities that go along with each.

The library offers resources to help get a driver’s license or to prepare for the ACT, SAT or PSAT tests.

Are you or your kids interested in your family’s history? We have Ancestry.com (for in-library use only), Heritagequest, and Fold3 (for military records), as well as historical newspapers.

Did you know we have two streaming services available for all cardholders? Hoopla is sort of like the library’s version of Netflix, but it also has ebooks, audiobooks, music, and comic books. Kanopy is a fabulous streaming service with access to an endless variety of documentaries, short films, animation, and more — including The Great Courses!

Make sure everyone in your family has a library card; we have great resources for all ages and we look forward to helping you explore.

STORY TIME SCHEDULE

Toddler Time | Tuesdays & Fridays | 10 a.m.
18 months to 3 years — Each session is 20 minutes long and includes stories, music, and activities.

Preschool Story Time | Tuesdays & Wednesdays | 10:45 a.m.
3 years to 5 years — Each session is 30 minutes long and includes stories, music, and activities.

Baby Time | Thursdays | 10:30 a.m.
Birth to 18 months — Each session is 15 minutes of books, music, bounces, and rhymes followed by 15 minutes of play.

Family Time | Mondays | 6:30 p.m.*
All ages welcome — Start your week off right by coming to Family Time! Each week will feature a different activity appropriate for all ages. We’ll have crafts, movies, games, and seasonal fun to get the whole family geared up for the week.

PEC Parenting Class will take the place of Family Time from Oct. 8-Nov. 12

*PEC Parenting Class will take the place of Family Time from Oct. 8-Nov. 12

Marion Public Library
ENCORE CAFÉ | Mondays & Fridays | Noon-1 p.m.
This new and innovative café features a menu with dishes ranging from turkey and mashed potatoes to pasta and tacos. You are bound to find something to satisfy your taste buds! Programming will be included following lunch (e.g., chronic disease self-management workshops, Tai Chi, stopping on, water aerobics, nutrition counseling, games, socialization and much more).

Encore Cafe’ is your one-stop shop for nutrition, health education, and socialization time with friends!

In addition to the library’s Cafe’ on Mondays and Fridays, lunch is served at Lowe Park on Wednesdays and Thursdays, along with a full salad bar; Lowe Park also provides programming. Special thanks to the Heritage Agency on Aging and Hy-Vee.

WRITERS’ WORKSHOP – MAKE TWO UNLIKE THINGS SHIMMER TOGETHER, WITH SAL MARICI | Saturday, Sept. 15 | 7-8 p.m.
In our everyday life when we see/read/hear unlike things compared (a metaphor) we need to try to make the connection. Poet Kim Addonizio says metaphors create an energy field she refers to as “the shimmer.” In this workshop, participants will look at different types of metaphors and get some instruction on crafting metaphors, writing with metaphors, and most importantly will have time to share. At the end of the workshop, writers and non-writers will learn to see how two things that on the surface may not seem alike have a common interest. Pre-registration required at marionpubliclibrary.org/shimmer.

HISTORY OF BLUES IN AMERICA | Thursday, Oct. 4 | 7-8 p.m.
This one-hour program led by music historian and acclaimed guitarist Joey Leone, along with two other musicians, covers the history, influence and impact of American blues music through songs, stories and historical facts. Over his long career, Joey has toured as a sideman guitar player for many high-profile artists including Etta James, The Coasters, Sam & Dave, Wilson Pickett, Chaka Khan and many more.

HOW CORN SHAPED THE US HEARTLAND | Wednesday, Oct. 17 | 7-8 p.m.
Food historian Cynthia Clampitt presents the epic story of what happened when Mesopotamian farmers bred a nondescript grass into a staff of life so prolific, so protean, that it represents nothing less than one of humankind’s greatest achievements. Blending history with expert reporting, she traces the disparate threads that have woven corn into the fabric of our diet, politics, economy, science and cuisine. At the same time, she explores its future as a source of energy and the foundation of seemingly limitless green technologies. The result is a bourbon-to-biofuels portrait of the astonishing plant that sustains Iowa and the world.

UFOs IN THE MIDWEST | Thursday, Oct. 18 | 7-8 p.m.
Humans have witnessed UFOs in the skies for thousands of years. Each year, on average, there are approximately 5,000 UFO sightings reported to the National UFO Reporting Center. About 95 percent of these can be easily explained as natural phenomena, which leaves 250 UFO encounters annually which cannot be explained by science or the known laws of physics. Terry Fisk discusses the top UFO sightings in Iowa, the Midwest, and the world. He will share photos, case histories, and eyewitness accounts, talk about some of the cases he has personally investigated and address some of the arguments typically offered by UFO skeptics and debunkers.

TRAINS ACROSS IOWA | Tuesday, Nov. 13 | 6:30-8 p.m.
Railroad expert Rudy Daniels describes the past, present and future of the Hawkeye State’s railroads. The program explores Iowa’s unique position in the construction of the first transcontinental railroad and Iowa’s great contribution to railroad safety. The talk also describes the famous streamliners that rode Iowa’s rails. All aboard for an Iowa rail adventure!

PEC Parenting Class and Workshop
One-Hour Parenting Class
Saturday, Sept. 22 | 10-11 a.m.
All parents need support, we are here to help! Join the Parent Education Consortium for a one-hour presentation about parenting young children ages 0-5 years!

Parenting Workshop
Monday Evenings | 6-7:30 p.m.
Oct. 8-Nov. 12
Join the Parent Education Consortium for a 6-week parent workshop for families with children ages 0-5 years! Workshops include a free family meal, childcare and a parent group meeting. (Pre-registration required. Registration opens Saturday, Sept. 22)

Save the Date: Thrill the World
Saturday, Oct. 27
Have you ever wanted to dress like a zombie and dance to Michael Jackson’s iconic “Thriller”? Thrill the World is an annual worldwide simultaneous dance of “Thriller” and we will be hosting Marion’s first ever Thrill the World event! Stay tuned for practice dates and event times.

Family Literacy Month:
#Know-vember
All of November
Pick up or download a Family Activity Calendar and get to know your family, friends, community, and world a little better this November. We will be hosting events throughout the month to encourage literacy and community including a Story Telling Festival on Saturday, Nov. 10 and a puzzle and board game exchange right before the holidays.
# Community Calendar

## September

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14-23</td>
<td><strong>Uptown Restaurant Week</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td><strong>Marion Farmers’ Market</strong></td>
<td>8-11:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Taube Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td><strong>Marion Farmers’ Market</strong></td>
<td>8-11:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Taube Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td><strong>Moonlit Movie</strong> featuring <em>The Sandlot</em></td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Klopfenstein Amphitheater at Lowe Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td><strong>Swamp Fox Festival</strong> and Fall Marion Market</td>
<td>All day</td>
<td>Uptown Marion and Lowe Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td><strong>Marion Farmers’ Market</strong></td>
<td>8-11:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Taube Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td><strong>Classic Car Cruise-in</strong></td>
<td>9:30 a.m.-3 p.m.</td>
<td>Thomas Park</td>
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## October

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<td>3</td>
<td><strong>Healthiest State Walk</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td><strong>Coffeehouse Night</strong> 7-8:30 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Lowe Park Arts &amp; Environment Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td><strong>Chocolate Walk</strong> 8-10:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Uptown Marion</td>
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<td>31</td>
<td><strong>Trick or Treat</strong> at City Hall</td>
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## November

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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td><strong>Coffeehouse Night</strong> 7-8:30 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Lowe Park Arts &amp; Environment Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td><strong>Election Day</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Polls open 7 a.m.-8 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td><strong>Veterans Day Observed</strong></td>
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<td>City Offices Closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>22/23</td>
<td><strong>Thanksgiving Holiday</strong></td>
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<td>City Offices Closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td><strong>Small Business Saturday</strong></td>
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## December

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td><strong>Christmas in the Park &amp; Peppermint Walk</strong></td>
<td>4-8 p.m.</td>
<td>Uptown Marion</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td><strong>Coffeehouse Night</strong> 7-8:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Lowe Park Arts &amp; Environment Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>24/25</td>
<td><strong>Christmas Holiday</strong></td>
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<td>City Offices Closed</td>
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