Summer Reading Program Begins June 1
page 14

Bike Marion this Summer
page 7

Marion Arts Festival Returns May 18
page 3
MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

With the arrival of spring, our community can expect to see significant activity and exciting projects taking shape.

On May 18, Marion will host visitors from near and far for the nationally-acclaimed Marion Arts Festival. This is our opportunity to enjoy a day of community and civic pride as we welcome thousands of visitors to our town.

On May 23, we will celebrate the completion and opening of the first phase of Prospect Meadows Sports Complex. This world-class baseball and softball facility is expected to attract an estimated 60,000 out-of-area visitors annually. In addition to national and regional tournaments, Prospect Meadows will also program local tournaments, leagues and instructional camps; providing our local youth and their families with great opportunities.

In the coming weeks, we will celebrate the groundbreaking and long-awaited construction of Marion's new YMCA and community recreation center. Marion residents placed high importance on the need for such a facility to better serve their health and wellness needs. The City responded by partnering with the YMCA to construct a multi-purpose, multi-generational, regional facility that will give Marion residents even greater opportunities to enjoy an amazing quality of life.

This summer we will see the relocation of two brick houses currently located in the 1100 block of 5th Avenue. In a win for historic preservation, the City Council unanimously supported the relocation of these buildings, believed to have been constructed in the mid-1800's with bricks made in Marion. They will have new life as anchors in a multi-family housing development near Uptown.

You’ve likely seen the Marion Public Library project in the headlines lately. Several state legislative changes created challenges to the financial feasibility of this project. The City is not able to support both the construction of a new library as part of a mixed-use development and the parking structure necessary to accommodate both residential and public uses. The Library Board and City Council have come together to determine next steps. One thing on which we can all agree is the need for a new space that recognizes the important role of our library as an active community, education and resource center and better serves the needs of the nearly 1,000 people who use the current facility each day.

As it seems with everything we do, so much of our success is rooted in partnerships. We are fortunate to have so many partners who believe in the potential of Marion. Together, we continue to reach higher as we shape our community's future and provide better opportunities for all Marion residents to enjoy life and achieve their goals.

Don't miss Marion's new Fireworks and Fireflies event happening on Wednesday, July 3. This free event will take place on the eve of the holiday at the beautiful Klopfenstein Amphitheater at Lowe Park. Enjoy live music by The Bamboozlers before the fireworks show. Family-friendly activities, including patriotic face painting, a balloon artist and life-size games will be located throughout the park. The fun begins at 6 p.m. leading up to the fireworks at dusk. Bring your own lawn chairs, blankets and coolers. Food will also be available for purchase through local food trucks. Attendees are asked to leave sparklers, fireworks and other flammable items at home. Please, no dogs or other pets.

Shuttle service will be available from the Linn-Mar High School parking lot. Learn more at www.cityofmarion.org/fireworks.

Special Thanks to Our Sponsors:

PRESIDENTING SPONSOR:

STARS & STRIPES SPONSORS:

RED SPONSORS:


No Bands, No Beer – It’s About the Art

The Marion Arts Festival is a free, family-friendly, come-as-you-are culture. Whether browsing or buying, an estimated 10,000 festival attendees will experience a wide range of one-of-a-kind objects, with the additional opportunity of getting to know the artists behind the art.

The 2019 exhibitor line-up will arrive from 17 states, with 22 artists being brand-new to the event. Exhibitors were selected from 316 artist applications, representing 28 states, Canada and Belgium.

Empty Bowls Donations to Food Banks Top $100,000!

The Marion Arts Festival believes art helps make a community. Each year, all K-12 students in the Grant Wood Area Education Agency service footprint are invited to create contributions for one of the Marion Arts Festival’s most beloved programs, the Empty Bowls project.

In their art classes, students from 15 schools work to create ceramic bowls to be donated and sold at the Marion Arts Festival, raising funds to benefit local food banks. Area artists also contribute ceramic bowls, along with wooden bowls masterfully crafted by the American Association of Wood Turners, Corridor Chapter.

Approximately 400 area students will become involved by making bowls. Most bowls carry a $5 price tag. Over the program’s 21-year history, the festival has donated more than $100,000 to area food banks!

The sale is planned and managed by a team of Marion High School art club students, with the assistance of teachers Jen Thilges and Josh Gerber. If you are an educator whose classroom would still like to donate bowls to the 2019 event, please contact the festival for information.

At the Marion Arts Festival, Everyone’s an Artist

The Art in the Depot experience offers every community member the opportunity to work side-by-side with professional artists. The festival will again feature guest artists from The Ceramics Center, a Cedar Rapids-based ceramics collective offering a range of programming, including classes for all skill levels.

Pottery wheels will spin, hands will get dirty and participants are invited to create a bowl to be donated to the Marion Arts Festival’s 2020 Empty Bowls sale!

It’s Not Easy, Becoming an Artist

Investing in the future of festivals, the Marion Arts Festival’s Emerging Artists program is designed to create a real-world selling experience for students considering a career in art. Five emerging artists were selected through a jury process, and then mentored by the festival to maximize the potential of their experience. These artists will be offering work in four media, and selling alongside the festival’s slate of professional exhibitors. Find your new favorite artists!

More Fun

The festivities also include a slate of specialty food vendors and creative family activities. Uptown Marion welcomes all, with the Marion Public Library, Marion Heritage Center and other community staples offering adjunct art experiences. Visit Uptown Marion’s website at www.uptownmarion.com for details on the day’s events.

Experience collaborative, creative merrymaking at its finest! Join friends old and new Saturday, May 18 from 9 a.m.–5 p.m. in Marion’s City Square Park for the 27th annual Marion Arts Festival.

Named among the Top 50 fine art festivals in the nation in 2018, the Marion Arts Festival features 50 nationally sourced visual artists, along with specialty foods and a range of hands-on art experiences.

Look for the return of the Half Marathon and 5K in 2020

There won’t be any racing this year, but put Saturday, May 16 on your calendar and look for the return of the Half Marathon and 5K in 2020.

Presenting sponsor of the Marion Arts Festival is Farmers State Bank, with major sponsor support from The Gazette, City of Marion, KCRG-TV9, MidAmerican Energy, ITC Holdings Corp. and Collins Aerospace.

Find full program information at www.marionartsfestival.com.
Uptown Marion Market will welcome over 50 local and regional vendors the second Saturday, June through August (June 8, July 13, and Aug. 10) from 8 a.m. to noon. Vendors will offer fresh produce, baked goods, honey, organic meats, Iowa wines, salsa and a wide selection of artisan items. Live music, community demonstrations and children’s entertainment will also be a part of the activities in the park.

Save the date for Fall Market in conjunction with the Swamp Fox Festival on Sept. 28, 2019!

Eat. Drink. & Be Marion. Pub Crawl Fundraiser Uptown Marion will host its fifth annual Eat. Drink. & Be Marion. Pub Crawl Fundraiser on Thursday, July 11. Enjoy a night out on the town for a good cause! With your ticket, you will receive a free glass that will get you $1 drink samples and exclusive deals from participating businesses in the Uptown Marion Main Street District. Enjoy live entertainment and extended shopping hours as you walk to each participating establishment. All proceeds benefit the ongoing revitalization and beautification effort of Uptown Marion – A Main Street Iowa District. Register at www.UptownMarion.com.

Uptown Getdown has another great lineup for this year’s event happening each Thursday in August from 6 to 9 p.m. This year’s entertainment schedule will feature some area favorites!

Aug. 1 – The Flaming Camaros (Rock through the decades)
Aug. 8 – Lonesome Road (Country)
Aug. 15 – Dogs On Skis (Rock)
Aug. 22 – Airwaves (Classic Rock)

Food and dessert vendors will also be onsite with a variety of items. Visit www.marioncc.org for more details.

Thank you to the Marion Chamber and Platinum Community Partners: Farmers State Bank, Fosters Heating and Air Conditioning, ImOn Communications, MercyCare Community Physicians and Townsquare Media for making these events possible.

Want to Keep Up on Events?

During ImagiNEXT community visioning, residents voiced their desire to be “in the know” with events and happenings in Marion. This idea was added to the It's The Little Things initiative.

When is the next Uptown Marion Market? Who’s playing at Uptown Getdown? You can now have it all at your fingertips via text message to your phone. Visit marioncc.org/event-notifications to sign up today!
The annual budget provides the roadmap for how the City of Marion will deliver new and on-going services to its residents. It directs funding priorities and strategic direction in levying taxes, setting fees and appropriating expenditures for service delivery.

**General Fund** | The General Fund is the City's primary operating fund. It covers all basic services in public safety, parks, library, animal control, street lights, traffic signals, plus the support functions needed to allow those to operate. Nearly 83% of General Fund revenue is collected through property taxes.

**Property Taxes** | The 2020 property tax levy rate is $14.22 per $1,000 of taxable value which is a flat levy rate (same rate as 2019). Marion provides many different services through property tax revenue including public safety, culture/recreation, general government and community/economic development and public works.

**Franchise Fees** | The 2020 budget includes a 4% franchise fee on gas and electrical bills. A 1% local option sales tax will no longer be collected on utility bills, making the net fee 3%. This new revenue source is expected to generate $1 million in annual revenue for public safety expenses and property tax relief. Franchise fees diversify revenue collections in the General Fund:
- Reducing dependence on property tax collections.
- Collecting revenue from tax exempt properties.
- Being based upon usage, consumers can have some influence on fees.
- Resulting in real-time revenue collection.

Property tax receipts are on a two-year lag. If franchise fees were not implemented, an additional 62 cents would need to be added to the current property tax levy of $14.22 (per $1,000 of valuation) to raise the same amount of revenue. More than 165 cities in Iowa have a franchise agreement in place.

**City Staff** | Public safety is a central investment strategy in the 2020 budget; 7 of the 11 new positions (listed at the right) are in Fire and Police Departments. Additionally, the police civilian property and evidence clerk position will free up an additional uniformed officer to be deployed to patrol in the City.

The three new firefighters in the budget will complete the staffing needs for the new fire station, slated for completion in the summer of 2020.

**FORWARD THINKING**

**Initiatives Included in the 2020 Budget**

**Infrastructure Investment**
- **Fire Station Headquarters** | Marion’s third fire station and new headquarters is expected to be completed in summer of 2020. This new facility will serve the development growth into the northern district of the city.
- **Road Constructions Projects** | More than $3 million in continued improvements to the Central Corridor and Tower Terrace Road.
- **Trail Projects** | There are $6 million in trail construction projects underway in 2020. Federal grants will match 80% of permitted trail expenses.
- **Eco-Industrial Project** | The Eco-Industrial Park will be the new home for the Public Services Department. This project includes new equipment technology to reduce annual operational costs.

**Community Engagement**
- **Expansion of Free Community Events** | Expansion of annual community events in public spaces such as the Klopfenstein Amphitheater and Uptown Artway.
- **Citizen Engagement – Citizens Survey/Polling Software** | Another biannual National Citizens Survey will be administered to understand how residents value the services provided.

**Long-Term Planning**
- **Strategic Plan** | The City will develop a new strategic plan in 2020 to provide a roadmap for meeting resident needs over the next 3-5 years.
- **Five-Year Financial Forecast** | This long-term financial planning tool will set the foreground for policy and operational discussions needed to support services in a growing community.
- **Comprehensive Plan Update** | We will be asking for community feedback to integrate individual City plans into one comprehensive plan for long-term community development.
- **Compensation and Classification Study** | This study is part of a periodic review of salaries and benefits to ensure we are competitive and compensating accordingly with comparable markets.

**Efficient Government**
- **City Council Agenda Management System** | This new software/process will streamline the agenda building process and provide more efficiency and transparency to Council, staff and the public.
- **Content Management and Business Process Automation** | Staff will continue to develop electronic forms and new workflows to improve efficiencies and reduce the space needed for physical document storage.
- **Payroll Automation** | A web-based payroll solution will help modernize our current paper-manual process.

**New Staff in the 2020 Budget**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fire</td>
<td>Firefighters/Paramedics (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police</td>
<td>Police Officers (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police</td>
<td>Civilian Property &amp; Evidence Clerk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Safety</td>
<td>Lead 911 Communication Operator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications</td>
<td>Arborist Tech</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parks &amp; Recreation</td>
<td>Public Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>Accountant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>Human Resources Director</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Engineering Department prepares an annual work program. The projects are associated with maintaining existing infrastructure and supporting new development.

This year’s program includes a number of large and small projects. The complete draft program, with estimated construction schedules, is available on the Engineering pages at www.cityofmarion.org.

### 3rd Avenue Rehabilitation Project
The project will include the rehabilitation of 3rd Avenue from 31st Street to 35th Street and includes full-depth patching and surface grinding. This will be very similar to what was done previously on 31st Street in 2017. Proposed letting will be in May 2019.

### Intersection Improvements – Highway 13/Hennessey Parkway
The City of Marion was selected for Traffic Safety Improvement Program (TSIP) funding for the installation of traffic signals and the reconstruction of left turn lanes at the intersection of Hennessey Parkway and Highway 13. The improvements are a reaction to commercial development adjacent to the intersection and safety concerns. Letting occurred on April 30.

### Culvert Installation - Central Avenue North of Indian Creek
The project includes the construction of a 12-foot by 10-foot reinforced box culvert and other associated work at a location just northwest of the Alburnett Road/Central Avenue Bridge. The project will provide a trail crossing under Alburnett Road for the future Indian Creek Trail project as well as provide flooding backwater relief of Indian Creek for the proposed Alburnett Road Extension. This project will be phased so that one-way traffic is maintained with temporary traffic signals. Proposed letting will be in May 2019.

### Tower Terrace Road - Winslow Road to Lennon Lane
Tower Terrace Road will be extended from Winslow Road to Lennon Lane. The developer, Morris Wood Enterprises, and their contractor will construct the project. Phase one includes the extension of Tower Terrace Road to Winslow Road. Phase two includes the reconstruction and realignment of Winslow Road, including connections to Oak Savannah Court and Vaughn Drive. Construction of this project includes the closure of Indian Creek Road from 35th Avenue to Lucore Road.

### Mini Roundabout – 10th Avenue/10th Street
In December, the City received notice of award of $293,000 from the Traffic Safety Improvement Program (TSIP) for the construction of a mini roundabout at the intersection of 10th Street and Central Avenue/10th Avenue. The funding will not be available or approved until July 2019 and an agreement will be developed in May between the City and the Iowa DOT. The remainder of the approved budget for the project construction and associated engineering services will be funded using City of Marion Local Option Sales Tax funds. Letting is proposed in July 2019 depending on final design. Construction may begin this construction season or be pushed to 2020.

### Central Corridor Project - 13th Street to 19th Street
A public/private project between the City and Genesis Equities, this segment of the Central Corridor Project includes the reconstruction of six blocks of 6th Avenue. Construction will occur in multiple phases. The roundabout is open to north/south traffic on 15th Street, construction of 6th Avenue from 13th Street and 15th Street is currently underway.

### Traffic Beacon Project
Recent Grant Wood Trail projects have created a need to provide safe mid-block street crossings. Locations include the Grant Wood Trail crossings at 31st Street, 35th Street and 44th Street. Bids for the traffic beacons were received in April and will be presented to City Council for approval.
The Neighborhood at Indian Creek encompasses the area between 35th Avenue and Tower Terrace Road extended and 35th Street and 44th Street extended. Community Development staff worked with RDG Planning and Design to revise the plan originally adopted in 2009. This will be a unique neighborhood for Marion, allowing for a variety of housing options and compatible neighborhood commercial and personal services in a concentrated area with a pedestrian focus.

Central Corridor Districts Plan – 2019
The Marion Central Corridor Master Plan was initially adopted in 2009. Since 2017, Community Development staff have worked with Stanley Consultants to further define zoning districts, establish design standards and identify permitted uses for the properties located between 2nd Street and 31st Street as well as 5th Avenue and 9th Avenue. For the area bounded by the 7th Avenue/7th Street and 6th Avenue/15th Street roundabouts, the built environment will not only encourage pedestrian activity, but expand options for living, working and shopping along the corridor.

Marion Amending Comprehensive Plan to Recognize Airport Use
Following the purchase of the Marion Airport, the City received a grant from the Iowa Department of Transportation to amend the Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinance to recognize the Marion Airport and overlay areas. The plan amendment includes the creation of an airport land use designation consistent with the adopted Airport Layout Plan. A second land use designation being created to include the airspace surrounding the existing and proposed airport runways. The amendments to the Comprehensive Plan can be viewed at http://tinyurl.com/marionairport. Zoning ordinance amendments are expected to go before the City Council in June.

Update to the Neighborhood at Indian Creek Plan

Saturday, May 11 >> Corridor Metropolitan Planning Organization Bike Ride (30-mile round trip ride from Cedar Rapids to Marion). Registration required but participation is FREE.

Monday, May 13 >> Cedar Rapids Bike Share launch

Tuesday, May 14 >> Marion kicks off Bike to Work Week with morning ride and mayoral proclamation (7:30 am, Thomas Park to City Square Park)

Wednesday, May 15 >> Linn County Ride of Silence (6 p.m. beginning and ending in Marion’s City Square Park)

Thursday, May 16 >> Pedal Marion Ride followed by Helmets and Hops after party in the Uptown Artway (ride begins at 6 p.m. from City Square Park)

Friday, May 17 >> Bike to Work Day Ride (7:30 a.m. from Butterfield Park to City Square Park)

Pedal Marion Rides after Uptown Marion Markets

If you and your family or friends are wanting to take a leisurely ride around Marion but don’t like the idea of going alone, join members of the Marion Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee for a trip around Marion. The 8-mile ride is meant to get people on the road in a group setting. All ages and experience levels are invited to join. No registration is required, but helmets are strongly encouraged. The rides begin from City Square Park at the end of the Uptown Marion Market on June 8, July 13, Aug. 10, and following the Fall Market during the Swamp Fox Festival on Sept. 28.

Questions may be directed to Kesha Billings by phone 319-743-6320 or by email at kbillings@cityofmarion.org.

Riding Safely on the Road
Many find that biking is a fun and easy way to get from one place to another for both commuting and recreation purposes. Even though cyclists have a right to the road, the same as other vehicles, here are a few tips to make biking more enjoyable:

1. Make yourself visible: During the day wear bright/vibrant colors and at night use front and rear lights to make yourself seen by oncoming traffic.

2. Be aware: As any driver/rider should be, be aware of your surroundings so you can quickly respond to any potential roadway hazards.

3. Be predictable: If riding in a travel lane, ride in straight lines and do not swerve in the lane. If you are making a turn remember to verify your surroundings and signal before you enter a new travel lane or make a turning movement. If overcoming someone on the trail, make your presence known by verbal instruction with what side you will be passing them on, “On your left.”

4. Be courteous: Obey the rules of the road, yield to slower users and show respect.

Learn more at bikeleague.org.
Signs in the Right-of-Way

Did you know that signs other than official traffic or street signs are not allowed in the City right-of-way? This includes signs such as For Sale, Open House, Garage Sale, advertising or political signs. Signs placed between the curb and sidewalk, within 15-feet of the curb where sidewalks do not exist, or on City property are considered in the right-of-way and will be removed. This time of year these types of signs tend to become very prolific and can cause additional distractions and sight barriers to drivers. Therefore, staff will work aggressively to remove them. The City cannot guarantee that signs will be available to be returned to you if removed from the right-of-way. Questions may be directed to the Engineering or Community Development Departments at 319-743-6340 (6320).

Yard Waste Drop-off Facility Open Year Round

Marion residents that receive municipal solid waste collection can utilize the Yard Waste Drop-off Facility located at 195 35th Street. Yard waste items such as leaves, grass clippings and brush less than 4-inches in diameter are accepted at the facility free of charge, year round. Residents are also welcome to compost, wood chips and mulch free of charge. Please contact the Public Services Department at 319-377-6367 if special arrangements are needed for large deliveries of compost.

Fireworks Usage in Marion

For the upcoming Independence Day holiday, consumer fireworks are only permissible within Marion city limits on July 4, 2019 from noon to 11 p.m. Fireworks may be used on the user’s property or on the property of someone who has given permission for the use of fireworks on their property. Fireworks may NOT be used in public parks (unless by special permit). To report fireworks usage outside of these parameters, call the Marion Police Department’s non-emergency line at 319-377-1511.

2019 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Garbage &amp; Recycling Collection</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Pick Up Schedule</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Memorial Day</td>
<td>May 27 – Monday</td>
<td>One day late all week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independence Day</td>
<td>July 4 – Thursday</td>
<td>One day late</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Thursday-Friday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labor Day</td>
<td>Sept. 2 – Monday</td>
<td>One day late all week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thanksgiving Day</td>
<td>Nov. 28 – Thursday</td>
<td>Pickup on Friday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Day After Thanksgiving</td>
<td>Nov. 29 – Friday</td>
<td>Pickup on Saturday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christmas Day</td>
<td>Dec. 25 – Wednesday</td>
<td>One day late</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Wednesday-Friday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Year’s Day</td>
<td>Jan. 1 – Wednesday</td>
<td>One day late</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Wednesday-Friday</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CONTACT CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor Nicolas AbouAssaly
1225 6th Ave. | (319) 743-6305 | marionmayor@cityofmarion.org

At-Large – Randy Strnad
1820 Agate Circle | (319) 377-3276 | marionatlarge1@cityofmarion.org

At-Large – Paul Draper
4670 Fairways Ct. | (319) 377-8393 | marionatlarge2@cityofmarion.org

Ward One – Colette Atkins
1070 Creekbend Ct. | (319) 213-8075 | ward1@cityofmarion.org

Ward Two – Steve Jensen
3830 Monarch Ave. | (319) 360-7009 | ward2@cityofmarion.org

Ward Three – Will Brandt
2745 4th Ave. | (319) 389-9918 | ward3@cityofmarion.org

Ward Four – Rene Gadelha
3476 Barnsley Circle | (319) 538-7888 | ward4@cityofmarion.org

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.
Marion Consumer Confidence Water Quality Report

The Marion Water Department, in compliance with the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act, is providing customers with its annual water quality report. This report explains where your water comes from, what it contains and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. The report is available at www.cityofmarion.org under the Documents & Reports section of the Water Department page. Printed copies will also be provided to customers requesting a copy. For further information about your drinking water, please call the Marion Water Department at 319-743-6310.

Anticipated Water Rate Increase

The Marion Water Department Board of Trustees anticipates holding a public hearing in May to discuss a water rate increase, to be effective tentatively on July 1, 2019. Ongoing capital improvement projects and pay down of the SRF loan for Well #7 necessitate the rate increase consideration. Learn more at www.cityofmarion.org.

Utility Account Access Made Easy!

It’s easy to pay your bill online 24/7. Go to www.cityofmarion.org and search for pay my bill online. Other features available are:

- Obtain current and past bills
- View account history (great for tax purposes!)
- Sign up for electronic bills
- No online fees
- Set up automatic payments using your credit card

Spring Means Door-to-Door Solicitation

Spring is here and warmer weather brings solicitors to our community. A solicitor is any person who goes from house to house, place to place, or street to street, soliciting or taking orders for sales. Per Chapter 122 of the Marion Code of Ordinances, all solicitors, peddlers and transient merchants are required to obtain a license through the City of Marion prior to the first day of any sale, offer for sale or solicitation.

If you decide to continue a conversation with a solicitor, you should ask the individual to see their identification and City of Marion license if it is not in plain sight. Their City of Marion license is evidence of compliance with all requirements of the code and will indicate the length of time the license is valid. If the individual is unable to display their license, you should call the Police Department at 319-377-1511 while the person is at your house or in your neighborhood.

All peddlers, solicitors and transient merchants license time restrictions are 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., seven days a week. If you have any questions, please call the City Clerk’s office at 319-743-6327.
In 2015, a deployment study was conducted by the Center for Public Safety Excellence to assess Marion’s future emergency response needs. The report revealed that Marion needs two more fire stations to adequately serve the community with all of the new growth. Presently there are two fire stations in Marion, one located at 600 8th Avenue and the other located at 3933 Katz Drive.

The new fire station will be located on the southwest corner of Tower Terrace Road and Irish Drive, across from the new Marion YMCA. The new station will also be the new location for the administrative offices of the Marion Fire Department, as the headquarters for the department that were placed in Station No. 2 in 1991 are no longer adequate for the growing staff.

Marion residents will soon see changes in the numbering and titles of the fire stations: Station No. 1 (600 8th Avenue) will become Station No. 3. Station No. 2, located at 3933 Katz Drive, will remain as is. The new fire station on Tower Terrace Road will become Marion Fire Station No. 1. This change will help alleviate confusion about where the administrative offices for the department are located, as it is common for headquarters to be at the Central, Main or Station No. 1 location.

The goal is to open the new fire station by July of 2020.

The Marion Public Safety Communications Center is beginning its recruiting campaign for a 911 Communications Operator. We are seeking qualified applicants who have a passion for serving the public and first responders of our community. Candidates need to have the ability to actively listen and communicate effectively. Must be able to remain calm under pressure, gain control of stressful and confusing situations and use logic and reasoning to quickly reach conclusions. The ideal candidate can multi-task, utilizing technology rapidly and accurately. We are seeking a forward-thinking, proactive employee that will provide competent, consistent customer service while maintaining the security and confidentiality required by law and department policy.

Is this YOU? Watch the City of Marion website or Marion Police Department’s Facebook page for details on dates and the application process. More information will be coming soon!
Public Safety

SAFETY MATTERS

Motorcycles

Motorcyclists account for 14 percent of all traffic-related fatalities while representing only 3 percent of the entire registered motor vehicle fleet.

To keep motorcyclists safe, it is important to share the road, be alert and keep an eye out for one another.

Driving Safety Tips for Motorists

1. Always check your blind spots!
2. Be extra cautious when passing.
3. Remember that motorcycles react more quickly than cars.
4. Bad weather has more drastic effects on motorcycle riders than it does on automobile drivers.
5. Night-riding can be treacherous for motorcyclists. Help riders stay safe by increasing your following distance, ensuring your high beams are turned off when you notice an approaching motorcycle and refrain from passing.
6. Stay in your lane. Motorcycles are legally entitled to their own lane of traffic.
7. Inform motorcyclists of your intention to turn – and do so sooner than you normally would if there is a motorcycle driving behind you.
8. Intersections are danger zones. Always follow the safety protocol for intersections every time that you approach one.
9. Watch for turning motorcycles.
10. Take a second look at left turns.

Driving Tips for Motorcyclists

1. **Be visible** — wear proper clothing, use your headlight, ride in the best lane position to see and be seen.
2. **Communicate your intentions** — use the proper signals, brake light and lane position.
3. **Maintain an adequate space cushion** — following, being followed, lane sharing, passing and being passed.
4. **Search your path of travel** 12 seconds ahead.
5. **Identify and separate multiple hazards.**
6. **Be prepared to act** — remain alert and know how to carry out proper crash-avoidance skills.

A large percentage of crashes can be avoided if motorists, cyclists and pedestrians follow the rules of the road and watch out for each other.

“We recently received a complaint relating to unbaffled or excessively loud motorcycles and the timing of their use. It is important to be respectful of neighborhoods and be cognizant of such usage.” — CHIEF JOE MCHALE

Did you know?

Chapter 53 of the City of Marion Code of Ordinances addresses Noise and Noise Limits.
TOT TIME AT LOWE PARK

AGES 2+ | Looking for something fun to keep your little one busy and active? No structure or instructor, just show up and play with the provided equipment! This program is held outdoors (weather permitting). In the case of inclement weather, program will not be held.

FEE: FREE
DAYS/DATES: Thursdays, June 6–July 25
TIME(S): 10 a.m.–noon

STORY TIME IN THE PARKS

AGES 1+ | Want to spend time in the park with your child? This program offers a variety of stories that will be read aloud, as well as opportunities for your child to interact with other children and enjoy the outdoors.

FEE: FREE
DAYS/DATES: Stories Tuesdays, June 4–July 23
TIME(S): 11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

SUMMER ART CAMPS

GRADES 2ND–8TH | Join local art instructor, Mike Brandt, for some interactive art camps at the Lowe Park Arts & Environment Center. Limited number of spots available each session.

FEE: $80 per child, per session
DAYS/DATES/TIMES/THEME:
Session 1: Cartooning for Kids I
Mon-Fri, June 10-14, 9-11 a.m.
Session 2: Painting for Kids I
Mon-Fri, June 10-14, 11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.
Session 3: Cartooning for Kids II (new material)
Mon-Fri, June 17-21, 9-11 a.m.
Session 4: Painting for Kids II (new material)
Mon-Fri, June 17-21, 11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.
Session 5: Sculpture for Kids I
Mon-Fri, June 24-28, 9-11 a.m.
Session 6: Sculpture for Kids II (new material)
Mon-Fri, June 24-28, 11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.

REGISTER DEADLINE: June 3

MAGIC CAMP

AGES 10+ | Join local magician, Tim Stolba, and learn to perform fabulous feats of amazing magic with ordinary objects such as ropes, coins, rubber bands, cards, and more. Limit 12 participants per session.

FEE: $75 per child
DAYS/DATES: CAMP 1: Mon-Fri, July 29-Aug. 2
CAMP 2: Mon-Fri, Aug. 5–Aug. 9
TIME(S): 9:10-10:45 a.m.
REGISTER DEADLINE: July 19

POUND IN THE PARK (OUTDOORS)

OPEN TO ALL AGES | Designed for all fitness levels, POUND® provides the perfect atmosphere for letting loose, getting energized, toning up and rockin’ out! Pound in the Park After Dark features disco and DJ style lights. You’ll really feel like a rockstar during your workout.

FEE: FREE
DAYS/DATES: June 6, 13, 20; July 11, 18; Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22
I After Dark: June 28, July 26, July 30
TIME(S): 6-7 p.m. I After Dark: 8-9 p.m.

PARKS SCAVENGER HUNT

OPEN TO ALL AGES | Visit four Marion parks and identify the items on the scavenger hunt sheets. Scavenger hunt forms can be picked up at Lowe Park, City Hall or www.cityofmarion.org beginning June 1. Prizes awarded when forms are turned in. Forms must be turned in on or before Aug. 9 to receive prizes.

FEE: FREE
DAYS/DATES: June 1-Aug. 9

PEDDLING THROUGH THE PARKS

OPEN TO ALL AGES | The Friends of the Marion Parks want you to enjoy one of Marion’s greatest amenities...the trails! Ride the bike trails that start at Thomas Park. Please wear a helmet and meet at the main pavilion in Thomas Park any time after 10 a.m. All participants must complete the ride by 2 p.m. to receive prizes. Water and granola bars will be provided.

FEE: FREE
DAYS/DATES: Saturday, June 15
TIME(S): 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

B-I-N-G-O NIGHT

OPEN TO ALL AGES | Enjoy the Kernels game while playing Bingo! The Iowa City Kernels play Tuesday nights at Principal Park.

FEE: $0.25 per card, per game
DAYS/DATES: Friday, July 26
TIME(S): 6:30-8:30 p.m.

CITY OF MARION DAY AT THE BALLPARK

OPEN TO ALL AGES | Join other Marion residents and help pack the ballpark for City of Marion Day with the Kernels as they battle the Clinton LumberKings. Kids 12 and under eat free that day, and are given a voucher at the main gate for a hot dog, popcorn and a drink. Additionally, kids can run the bases, play catch in the outfield, and get autographs from the Kernels players after the game.

FEE: $8 club seats
DAYS/DATES: Sunday, July 28
TIME(S): First pitch at 2:05 p.m.
REGISTER DEADLINE: Must purchase tickets by July 27

HAPPENING AT HANNA

OPEN TO ALL AGES | The Friends of the Marion Parks will be showcasing Hanna Park this summer. Besides the many amenities this beautiful 15-acre park has to offer, activities are planned to involve all ages. Hanna Park has an accessible play area for children, including a ramp for wheelchairs.

FEE: FREE
DAYS/DATES: Saturday, Aug. 10
TIME(S): 1-4 p.m.

DAY IN DES MOINES BUS TRIP

OPEN TO ALL AGES | Spend the day in Des Moines and enjoy Iowa Cubs baseball and the Iowa State Fair! Take in a night game as the Iowa Cubs battle the Salt Lake Bees at Principal Park. Your fee includes reserved grandstand seating during the game. After the game, zip on over to the Iowa State Fairgrounds. Don’t miss the famous butter cow or try something tasty on a stick.

FEE: $55, includes bus fare, tickets into I-Cubs game and State Fair
DAYS/DATES: Tuesday, Aug. 13
TIME(S): 8:30 a.m.-10:30 p.m.
The Marion Pool reopens on Memorial Day, May 27.

Regular Hours:
Monday–Friday | 12:30–7 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday | 12:30–5 p.m.

Special Hours During Session 1 Swim Lessons:
June 3-7 & June 10-14 | 12:30–4 p.m.

Daily Adult Lap Swim Hours: All Ages $3.75/person
Monday–Sunday | 11 a.m.–12:15 p.m.
Lap Swim Admission | All Ages $3.75/person
Monday–Sunday (Lap Lane) | 12:30 p.m.–Close
No evening lap swim during session 1 swim lessons

Regular Pool Admission: (Cash or Check Only)
Ages 3 & Under | $2.75/person
Ages 4–59 | $3.75/person
Seniors (Age 60+) | $2.75/person

Season Pool Passes:
Individual Pass | $100/each
Family Pass* | $190/family

Purchase season passes at the Marion Parks and Recreation offices at Lowe Park or Thomas Park, Monday–Friday, 7 a.m.–4 p.m. Passes may also be purchased at the swimming pool starting May 27. Only cash or check accepted for payment at the pool.

Discounted Admission Days:
$2 Days | June 16 • July 14 • August 11
Pay $2 per person on these special admission days

Family Swim Special: Every Wednesday from 4:30–7 p.m. and every Sunday from 3–5 p.m. bring the entire family for a swim at the Marion Pool for just $12. Admission can include up to a maximum of 2 adults and 4 children under the age of 18. This can include grandparents bringing grandchildren. Family rate available on Wednesday and Sunday evenings only.

Private Pool Rentals: Evening rental of the Marion Pool is available for birthday parties, group outings, church groups, etc. To make a reservation before May 27, contact Marion Parks and Recreation at 319-447-3590. After May 27, contact the pool at 319-377-1654.

Monday–Friday, 7:15–8:45 p.m. | $200
Saturday–Sunday, 5:15–6:45 p.m. | $200

Splash Pads: The Marion Parks and Recreation Department operates three splash pads throughout the city. All splash pads are open Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day.
Thomas Park, 343 Marion Blvd. | Open daily 11 a.m.–7 p.m.
Gill Park, 3450 Hawthorne Street | Open daily 11 a.m.–7 p.m.
Willowood Park, 1855 35th Street | Open during pool hours.

Volunteer with the Friends of Oak Shade Cemetery

Friends of Oak Shade Cemetery come from all walks of life. Last year our volunteers contributed almost 1,200 hours to the fulfillment of our mission, “To preserve our historic cemetery and the memory of those interred there.” Included in those hours is the time spent by students of Marion High School who participate in the annual “One Day in May” project working with us to restore and clean grave markers.

Scouts, 4H groups and clubs can also help to meet the needs of our 180-year-old cemetery. Every spring and fall the call goes out to help remove weathered decorations. Help is also needed to gather fallen branches and tree limbs.

Looking for a bigger challenge? We have activities ranging from publicity, promotion, genealogical and historic research to repair and restoration of broken monuments.

Call Darcie at the Parks and Recreation Department at 319-447-3580 if you would like to become a Friend of Oak Shade.
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 to 5 years – Each session is 30 minutes long and includes stories, music and activities.

Doodlebugs Preschool Art Program | Last Thursday of the month | 10:45 a.m.
3 to 5 years – Each session is 30 minutes long and includes an art project, hosted in partnership with the Cedar Rapids Museum of Art.

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.

Introducing New, Ongoing Programming

Music & Movement | Thursdays | 9:30 a.m.
2 to 5 years – Each interactive session is 30 minutes long and is geared toward all abilities, with accommodations made for those with sensory issues.

Thursday Free Play | Bi-weekly | 5:45-6:45 p.m.
Family friendly – These are drop-in sessions, with activities for all ages to enjoy while caregivers get a chance to chat and connect.

Elementary Engagement | Mondays | 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Elementary-aged – Activities vary, with themes such as DIY Lava Lamps or Paint by Sticker Fun.

Saturday Stop-In | Monthly | 10-11 a.m.
Family friendly – Theme varies by month, for example St. Patrick’s Day in March.

Summer Reading Program Highlights
Summer Meals will be served Monday-Friday
Programs will include everything from open-ended play to circus variety shows. Enjoy a visit from Ruby the Red Panda and experience the touch tank of live ocean animals. Summer Reading will be “out of this world.”

MONDAY MORNINGS MEET-UPS 9:30-10:30 A.M.

TIMELESS TRIVIA | First Monday of the month
Stretch your memory and have some fun. Through film clips, historic photos and commentary, there will be a new theme every month.

CARD SHARKS | Second Monday of the month
Join us for games like Gin Rummy, Hearts, Phase 10 and Dominoes.

MOVIE MONDAYS | Third Monday of the month
We’ll show a classic film and our program sponsor, Humana, will provide the coffee and donuts.

PUZZLE CLUB | Fourth Monday of the month
We’ll have puzzles for your mental exercise needs.

This is a busy and exciting time at the library. And probably for you, as well. Summer brings changes in routines and new opportunities to learn and discover.

Speaking of discovery, we’re so looking forward to this year’s Summer Reading Program, A Universe of Stories. There will be events, activities and prizes for all ages to enjoy.

Our “stardates” this year will be June 1 through Aug. 6 and we’ll be kicking things off with an open house on June 8 from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. We’d love to see you there! Stay tuned, more details and excitement to come!

If you haven’t stopped by yet to check out the Sonia Kendrick Memorial Seed Library, please do. This project is the result of a partnership between our own Adult and Information Services Manager Madeline Jarvis, Iowa BIG and Feed Iowa First. What a great example of what we aim to offer this community always: free and accessible resources to transform lives for the better.

Please don’t hesitate to ask for me next time you’re here—I love meeting new faces and greeting familiar ones. I’d also love to invite you to stop by one of our monthly open-house forums. The fourth Monday of each month, a member of our leadership team will be here to meet, collaborate and listen from 4:45-5:15 p.m. Bring your questions and ideas.

Warmly,
Hollie
ADULT SUMMER PROGRAMS

History of Juneteenth
Presented by the African American Museum of Iowa
Tuesday, June 7 | 7-8 p.m.
Learn about Iowa’s African American history as well as the story behind the Juneteenth holiday.

Ultima Thule Presented by NASA Ambassador Mark Brown
Tuesday, June 11 | 7-8 p.m.
NASA Ambassador Mark Brown will share lessons about deep space research.

Make Space! Personal Organizing with The Neat Collective
Tuesday, June 18 | 7-8 p.m.
Are you ready to spark joy? Join organization experts, The Neat Collective, in a fun and easy one hour class!

Rainbow Health: Smoothies with Hy-Vee
Tuesday, June 25 | 7-8 p.m.
Ready to brighten up your beverage game? Join Hy-Vee dieticians in this delicious class!

“The Martian” Movie Night
Tuesday, July 2 | 6:30-8 p.m.
Enjoy the film adaptation of Andy Weir’s hit novel. We’ll have the popcorn ready!

The Science of Star Wars
Tuesday, July 9 | 7-8 p.m.
This year excitement builds as fans await the release of the final episode of the Star Wars saga. Critics and fans alike have declared it to be the greatest film franchise of all-time. Terry Fisk discusses the fascinating creative process of how George Lucas brought about this masterpiece by drawing inspiration from a variety of sources, including comic books, novels, serials, films, animals and religions.

Mothers of the Milky Way Presented by Kathy Wilson
Wednesday, July 10 | 6:30-8 p.m.
Were Victorian women really as clueless about sex when they married as we’ve been told? What was it like for Victorian women, and how did they face childbirth knowing they could die? Were they really encouraged, as one Victorian author suggested, to die with a smile on their face? Learn the answers to these questions and others in this fascinating look pregnancy, childbirth, and childhood in the 19th century.

Linn County Astronomy
Tuesday, July 16 | 7-8 p.m.
Join the Cedar Amateur Astronomers to learn more about our night sky!

“Hidden Figures” Movie Night
Tuesday, July 30 | 6:30-8 p.m.
Enjoy the film adaptation of the true story of the African American women who helped launch space travel. We’ll pop the popcorn!

Moon Landing Memories
Wednesday, July 31 | 6-8 p.m.
Where were you when Neil Armstrong took one small step for man? Share memories with community members in this reminiscing rendezvous. Refreshments provided!

Space Race 1960s Party
Saturday, Aug. 3 | 6-9 p.m.
Let’s party like it’s 1969! Adults 18+ are invited to this after-hours 60s-themed celebration, complete with snacks and door prizes.

OUT LOUD!
The Metro Library Network Author Series brings another solid set of authors to the metro area this summer for the 12th consecutive year. The collaborative program of the Cedar Rapids, Hiawatha and Marion Public Libraries will present Craig Johnson, Cristina Henriquez and Jennifer Weiner on three Friday nights in June at the Hotel at Kirkwood Center.

While no tickets are required, series organizers are requesting pre-registration. Patrons may contact any of the Metro Libraries or send an email to events@crlibrary.org.

All Out Loud! authors will take questions from the audience and sign books following their presentations.
Annual Community Festivals and Events

MARION FARMERS’ MARKET
Saturdays | May 4-Sept. 28
Taube Park | 8-11:30 a.m.

MARION ARTS FESTIVAL
Saturday, May 18
City Square Park
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

SUNRISE YOGA
Saturdays | June 1-Aug. 31
Lowe Park | 7:30 a.m.

MARION BBQ RENDEZVOUS
Saturday, June 1
Lowe Park | 11 a.m.-9 p.m.

MARION BY MOONLIGHT
Thursdays | June 6, 13, 20, 27
City Square Park
6:30-9:30 p.m.

UPTOWN MARION MARKET
Saturdays
June 8, July 13, Aug. 10
City Square Park | 8 a.m.-noon

COMMUNITY BAND CONCERTS
Tuesdays | June 11, July 2
City Square Park | 7 p.m.

PICNIC ON THE PRAIRIE CONCERTS
June 15 | 7:30 p.m.
Klopfenstein Amphitheater
Featuring Lucy Kaplansky
Aug. 16 | 7 p.m.
Klopfenstein Amphitheater
Featuring Dandelion Stompers

PURPLE XPERIENCE – PRINCE TRIBUTE BAND
Saturday | June 22
Klopfenstein Amphitheater
DJ at 7 p.m., band at 8:30 p.m.

FIREWORKS & FIREFLIES
Wednesday | July 3
Lowe Park | Music/food at 6 p.m., fireworks at dusk

MARION BIG BAND CONCERTS
Thursdays | July 11, 18, 25
City Square Park | 7 p.m.

EAT, DRINK & BE MARION FUNDRAISER
July 11 | Uptown Marion

MIDWEST DUELING PIANOS
Saturday | July 13
Klopfenstein Amphitheater
7-10 p.m.

UPTOWN GETDOWN
Thursdays | Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22
City Square Park | 6-9 p.m.

THE JOHNNY ROGERS SHOW
Saturday | Aug. 3
Klopfenstein Amphitheater
7-10 p.m.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT
Tuesday | Aug. 6
Thomas Park | 5-7 p.m.

SWAMP FOX FESTIVAL
Sept. 27-29
Uptown Marion and Lowe Park

---

City of Marion
Iowa
1225 6th Avenue
Marion, IA 52302
www.cityofmarion.org