



COUNTY CONNECTION

VOLUME 2 ISSUE 5 • MAY 2010

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EMS Month 2010:

Your Ambulance Transition Triumph

By Miranda Iglesias, Marion County Fire Rescue

Otto Zimmerman of southeast Marion County died – but then lived to tell a tale of survival.

When he experienced crushing pain that radiated across his chest and up his left arm last year, he became cold, clammy and short of breath. Zimmerman's wife, Barbara, took her husband's condition seriously and immediately called 911.

Marion County Fire Rescue crews from South Forest Station 6 arrived at the Zimmerman home in approximately five minutes and confirmed that he was having a heart attack. Firefighter/paramedics and firefighter/EMTs provided

Continued on page 2.



MISSION STATEMENT

Marion County provides professional and resourceful public services for our citizens through strategic planning and cost-effective implementation of county initiatives, generating positive results that set the standard for quality local government.

“Meeting Needs by Exceeding Expectations”

EMS Month 2010:

Your Ambulance Transition Triumph

(continued)

Zimmerman advanced life support emergency medical care and saved his life.

Zimmerman's story offers just one example of the quality of care and level of service Marion County Fire Rescue personnel provide every day. To honor that service, Marion County Fire Rescue will celebrate national EMS Week by hosting a month-long calendar of events throughout May. The theme: "EMS Month 2010: Your Ambulance Transition Triumph."



Crews will visit eight senior communities, providing residents a hands-on tour of an ambulance as well as information about Marion County's recent ambulance service transition. Attendees will also learn about Marion County's 2009 acquisition of the ambulance service and emergency medical services system. All citizens are invited to the countywide event on May 19, 2010, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the McPherson Governmental Complex field (601 SE 25th Ave., Ocala).

"EMS Month 2010 provides an exciting opportunity to show citizens how Marion County Fire Rescue is advancing patient care, cutting costs and improving ambulance response to Marion County," said Fire Chief M. Stuart McElhaney. Though fire rescue added ambulance service to its mission just last year, department leaders and emergency responders continue to reduce taxpayer costs, improve ambulance response and enhance quality of care.



For more information about "EMS Month 2010: Your Ambulance Transition Triumph" locations, dates and times, contact Marion County Fire Rescue's Public Education Office at 352-291-8000 or visit online at www.marioncountyfl.org

B E S T - K E P T S E C R E T

SAFETY-CONSCIOUS PROGRAM SAVES

TAXPAYER MONEY



By Dennis Slifer, Marion County Solid Waste and Elaine Delorio, Marion County Animal Services

Dangers such as hazardous waste, heavy equipment and high traffic are just part of the daily routine for employees at Marion County's Solid Waste department. And for years, the number of work days lost due to on-the-job injuries and the number of dollars spent on workers' compensation served as constant reminders of the job's daily hazards. Due to a safety program that the department has been running for several years now, though, Solid Waste staff has turned the tide – and is maintaining a safer work environment that's saving taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars.

What a difference items such as protective gloves, glasses, safety boots and neon vests can make. Through the initiation of a safety program, Solid Waste officials added safety gear, such as the protective gloves and glasses, to the required Solid Waste uniform and made policy changes that aimed to prevent the problem before it happened.

The department saw quick, big dollar results. Before the safety program began, the department spent an average of \$101,165 annually on workers' compensation and lost an average of more than 300 workdays a year due to injuries. After the program's 2004 implementation, that average dropped like a rock to \$13,377 a year and only three lost workdays due to injuries during a three-year time span.

The department has now reached a benchmark of 466,607 hours with no time lost due to on-the-job injuries, which means staff has run 40 consecutive months (or since the beginning of 2007) without a major injury. These safety strides benefit more than staff, too; they've saved taxpayers approximately \$260,000 over the past three years in workers compensation costs.

CHANGES MADE THROUGH SAFETY PROGRAM:

- Started a safety shoe program.
- Made all recycling center attendants wear gloves and eye protection while performing certain jobs.
- Community service workers on site must wear an orange vest while working at the recycling centers.
- Safety Officers required to perform safety inspections within their section almost every week.
- Once or twice a year, the department performs safety inspections with the Public Works Safety and Hazard Coordinator; Risk Management assists with these inspections.
- Set up departmental policies such as mandating that landfill heavy equipment operators must maintain a clearance of 25 feet from any customer at all times.
- Hold monthly safety meetings made up of employees from each Solid Waste division.



BEHIND THE SCENES

OFFICE OF COUNTY ENGINEER Staff assistants play vital role in county road maintenance

By Michael McCain, Marion County Office of the County Engineer



Potholes. Fallen trees. Rough roads. Do you know who to call about these road-related problems? Though the road crews at the Office of the County Engineer are the ones who physically fix street issues, the department's staff assistants answer the phone and help citizens resolve road problems as quickly as possible.

Office of the County Engineer staff assistants serve as the first point of contact for citizens who want to report maintenance issues or road hazards on county-maintained roads. They answer citizen questions, record service requests, enter work orders and even provide support during emergency operations. While they do not determine the work schedule or type of repair needed on a road, they ensure all service concerns are forwarded in a timely manner to the proper crews for follow-up.

"With 1,600 square miles of area (in Marion County), we count on the public to help us identify road conditions that may require immediate repairs," said Bobby Bosanko, assistant roads manager. "Our staff assistants facilitate that communication through prompt and efficient customer service."

In the first three months of 2010, these staff assistants logged an average of 500 service requests per month. That's almost double the average service requests entered during the same period last year. This year's

numbers are much higher, in part, because of the road damage created by freezing weather conditions in January.

Call the Office of the County Engineer staff at 352-671-8686 Monday through Friday between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. to report road service needs.

Did you know?

- Marion County maintains approximately 2,800 miles of roads.
- The roads section of the Office of the County Engineer is on-call 24 hours a day, seven days a week and works closely with other government agencies during major emergency situations.
- Citizens can report maintenance needs for county-maintained roads online by logging onto the county's Web site, www.marioncountyfl.org. Select "Transportation" in the drop-down menu under the "Departments" tab.



Mandatory lawn watering restrictions specify the days when you may water. These days depend on whether you have an address that ends in an odd or even number, and on the time of year. So unless your day and number are up, please make sure those sprinklers stay down.

know your days

Time of year	Homes with addresses that end in an odd number (or have no address)	Homes with addresses that end in an even number	Nonresidential properties
Daylight Saving Time	Wednesday/Saturday	Thursday/Sunday	Tuesday/Friday
Eastern Standard Time	Saturday	Sunday	Tuesday

• Daylight Saving Time is the second Sunday in March until the first Sunday in November.
• Eastern Standard Time is the first Sunday in November until the second Sunday in March.

Additional restrictions include:

- Water only when needed and not between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.
- Water for no more than one hour per zone.
- Restrictions apply to private wells and pumps, ground or surface water and water from public and private utilities.
- Some exceptions apply.

Learn more at floridaswater.com
Information provided by the St. Johns River Water Management District.

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it's worth saving

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COMMISSION CORNER

By Heather Danenhower, Marion County Office of Public Information



Commissioners From L to R: Mike Amsden, Vice Chair Stan McClain, Chair Barbara Fitos, Charlie Stone and Jim Payton

New county logo adopted during board meeting



To improve consistency and customer service, Marion County commissioners have unanimously adopted a new logo to represent the Marion County Board of County Commissioners and its 24 departments. The new logo – which incorporates Marion County's weather, springs, equine industry and quality of life – will replace more than 16 other county logos currently in use.

The goal: implement one logo and one brand to provide Marion County government with one identity and one central focus. The new logo will enable citizens to recognize Marion County initiatives, programs and services as well as improve consistency and customer service countywide.

County leaders will implement the logo over time to ensure fiscal responsibility. For example, employees will not throw out items with the old logo. Instead, they will use those items first, replacing items with the new logo only when stock needs replenishing. A full integration is expected to take three to five years.

The Marion County Procurement Services Department estimates that the branding and replacement of office supplies (e.g. business cards, letterhead and envelopes) will save approximately \$6,500. This cost savings is possible through centralizing the operation and taking advantage of greater efficiencies and economies of scale.

The Media Group 3, a local graphic design firm,

designed the logo with input from staff. The total cost to create the approved new logo was \$1,912.10. The new logo does not apply to the fire rescue department, Ocala/Marion County Visitors and Convention Bureau or Marion County's constitutional offices.

Adopting a new logo and brand for Marion County government was part of the board-approved "Doing More with Less" plan.

Board extends impact fee suspension until end of 2010 and creates new economic development programs

In a unanimous decision on April 6, 2010, Marion County commissioners voted to continue suspending transportation impact fees through December 2010. This vote was an extension of a Jan. 5, 2010, decision that suspended all transportation impact fees through March 31, 2010. During the initial 90-day suspension, staff reported that a total of 199 residential and non-residential permits were pulled in Marion County, excluding the cities of Ocala, Belleview and Dunnellon. This provided \$1.4 million in impact fee relief. During the same time period last year (Jan. 1 – March 31, 2009), builders pulled 131 permits in unincorporated Marion County.

To offset losses to the Transportation Impact Fee fund, which pays for the construction of new roads or expansion of existing roads, commissioners chose to utilize the remaining one-cent local option sales tax proceeds. The remaining balance of the one-cent local option sales tax proceeds is \$1.7 million.

The Office of the County Engineer will now reprioritize its road construction and expansion projects and update its five-year Transportation Improvement Program based on revised impact fee projections. The county engineer is expected to bring a recommendation to the board during a budget workshop in July.

In a majority 3-2 vote, Marion County commissioners also adopted an Economic Development Transportation Impact Fee Relief program and Small Business Impact Fee Assistance program to encourage investment in high-wage job creation and sustainable business growth. That program is not expected to go into effect until January 2011.

Commissioners award seventh economic development grant

Marion County commissioners recently awarded Ewers Technology, Inc., doing business as Fire Programs Software (based in Citrus County), a \$28,000 Marion County Economic Development Financial Incentive Grant, or EDFIG. This includes \$9,000 in local matching funds to Florida's Qualified Target Industry program. The company will receive \$19,000 over three years based on meeting specific job creation and salary criteria.

Fire Programs Software is the seventh EDFIG granted since the program's inception in 2008. The Institute for Human and Machine Cognition, Lockheed Martin, Intellon Corporation, Rasmussen College, Santelli Tempered Glass, Inc. and Signature Brands, LLC, also received grants. Two other EDFIGs were awarded but never paid because the companies were unable to fulfill the requirements of their contracts. To date, the EDFIG program has helped facilitate the potential creation of nearly 500 jobs.

Fire Programs Software is a technology company that develops and supports various software packages for the fire industry. The company, currently located in Beverly Hills, Fla., serves 2,300 fire departments across the U.S. and Canada; it has 13 employees.

Company leaders want to relocate the company's 13 employees and operation to Marion County near the Ocala International Airport as well as add 15 additional positions over three years. The average salary for those positions is \$48,303 plus benefits. The company has also committed to investing at least \$300,000 in capital investment, machinery and equipment.

Relocating Fire Programs Software from Citrus to Marion County will provide the company with closer proximity to other fire industry providers (e.g. E-One, Classic Fire, LLC, and Pro Poly of America, Inc.). The move is expected to also enhance an emerging fire technology cluster and provide greater synergies.



NEWSFLASH

Federal stimulus dollars

Drive Roads Projects

By Don Atwell, Marion County Office of the County Engineer



Summer is on its way and so are new roads and pathways for Marion's residents. Marion County's Office of the County Engineer is currently working on five projects through funds provided via the Florida Department of

Transportation and the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act of 2009. Those projects are:

- Northwest 80th Avenue resurfacing from State Road 40 to U.S. Highway 27 (substantially complete).
- County Road 484 resurfacing from U.S. Highway 41 to Marion Oaks Course (substantial completion expected in July 2010).
- Marion Oaks Trail sidewalks from Southwest 63rd Terrace to Southwest 31st Avenue Road (out to bid).
- County Road 318 resurfacing from County Road 315 to the west 1.75 miles (out to bid).
- Marion Oaks sidewalk construction project.

These five projects will bring an estimated \$7.3 million in construction improvements to Marion County roads and sidewalks.

In October 2009, Marion County issued its 'Notice to Proceed' for the Marion Oaks sidewalk construction project. In doing so, it became the first municipal agency in district five of the Florida Department of Transportation to activate construction of an American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 project. This act is a governmental program responsible for the stimulus monies local governments across the country have received. District five includes eight other counties in central and coastal Florida.

MAKE YOUR SUMMER (AND EVERY OTHER SEASON)

BITE-FREE

By Elaine Delorio, Marion County Animal Services

You teach your children to wash their hands so they don't spread germs. You teach them to stop, drop and roll in case their clothes catch on fire. You teach them how to swim and have them wear flotation devices until they learn. But do you teach your children how to properly interact with their four-legged friends?

Approximately 50 percent of all children nationwide will be bitten by a dog before their 12th birthday, according to the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. However, most dog bites are preventable.

That's why Marion County Animal Services encourages children (and adults) to follow these safety tips to prevent dog bites:

- Always ask the owner's permission before petting a strange dog. Then, ask the dog's permission by turning your hand palm-down and allowing the dog to sniff your palm.



- Don't approach or touch a dog that's sleeping, eating, caring for puppies, fighting or chained in a yard. Dogs can be startled if you wake them suddenly and can be highly protective of their food, property and puppies.

- If approached by a strange dog, don't run and scream. Stand still and silent (like a tree) and don't make eye contact with the dog. Dogs view direct eye contact as challenging and loud noises and sudden movement as scary or threatening. When the dog loses interest, walk away slowly. Dogs are apt to join in on a game of chase if anyone attempts to run away.

- If children are bitten by a dog, teach them to tell an adult, wash the wound with warm water and soap and contact Marion County Animal Services (352-671-8700) immediately. This will help ensure the wound doesn't get infected and others don't get hurt from the same dog.

Citizens to graduate from academy in May

By Christy Jergens, Marion County Office of Public Information



They pounded the gavel as a Marion County commissioner, stared fear in the face as a Marion County firefighter and even designed a Marion County park. Now, on May 4, 2010, 24 citizens will graduate from Marion County's 2010 Citizens Academy, an eight-week interactive program that gives citizens a behind-the-

scenes look at many Marion County departments and services.

Academy participants started their program in March, learning about Marion County's Growth Management, Office of the County Engineer, Public Library System, Veterans Services, Animal Services, Solid Waste, Parks and Recreation, Extension Service, Fire Rescue and Public Safety Communications.

Re-initiating the Citizens Academy was part of the board-approved "Doing More with Less" plan. Due to the success of the program, county leaders plan to host a second Citizens Academy in 2011. For more information, contact Executive Administrative Manager Jeannie Rickman at 352-438-2300 or jeannie.rickman@marion-countyfl.org.

Playing with Fire

By Peveeta Persaud, Marion County Fire Rescue

Fire is fascinating, and for that reason, children often play and experiment with it. But one flick of a match or click of a lighter can have devastating consequences, resulting in death, destruction of property, hefty fines and even jail time. What's more: fire play tends to heat up over the summer when children get bored during their break from school.

That's why Marion County Fire Rescue encourages parents to curb curiosity and teach children the dangers of playing with fire as part of Arson Awareness Week 2010 from May 2-8. To assist parents, Marion County Fire Rescue offers a Juvenile Fire Setter Program. Formed in 1992, the program has taught hundreds of children, ages three to 16, the dangers of playing with fire. The free two-hour program aims to extinguish fire play in the early stages through use of classroom instruction, videos, and interactive discussion. The program also educates parents, teachers and other community members on how to identify children most at risk.

Marion County firefighters recommend adults follow these safety tips to reduce fire risks:

- **Keep matches and lighters away from children's reach.** This may seem like common sense, but some adults can easily forget to keep matches and lighters away from children.
- **Keep a watchful eye on novelty lighters.** These can resemble toys with their flashing lights and bright colors. Some children may mistake a novelty lighter for a toy and accidentally start a fire.
- **Involve children in additional activities during school breaks.** Finding other outlets for their extra energy and creativity can keep them from playing with fire.
- **Supervise children adequately.** Know where your children are playing, especially if they're playing in or around heavy brush or wooded areas.
- **Pay close attention to children's interest in fire.** If you are concerned that a child is unusually drawn to fire, refer him or her to Marion County Fire Rescue's Juvenile Fire Setter Program.



2010 BRINGS

10 TOURNAMENTS TO MARION COUNTY

By Gina Peebles, Marion County Parks and Recreation

In recent years, Marion County has become a destination for national sports tournaments, and from June to August this year, a total of ten baseball and softball tournaments (and their players and participants) will be coming to Marion.

The upcoming summer tournaments will take place at both the Rotary Sportsplex (5220 SE Maricamp Road, Ocala) and Wrigley Fields (405 E. Highway 316, Citra) and range from district and regional tournaments to the national Cal Ripken World Series.

Securing these tournaments is seen as a boon for local businesses as the players and spectators participating in and attending the tournaments eat at local restaurants and stay in nearby hotels, adding to the economic vitality of our greater Marion County community. Because of the quality facilities offered, the Rotary Sportsplex has hosted the State Rookie Qualifier (more than 40 teams) for five years in a row and state championships, which gives many players who are unable to travel to other locations an opportunity to compete.

"Hosting these tournaments is an asset to our community," said Commissioner Charlie Stone. "Both parks attract tens of thousands of participants and spectators each year, and they are treasures to our community."

For more information on hosting your next tournament at one of our county parks, please contact the Marion County Parks and Recreation Department at 352-671-8560.



Make a big splash @ your library...read

By Karen Jensen, Marion County Public Library System

Are you ready for summer? The Marion County Public libraries are, with programs and services to brighten your day like a healthy dose of Florida sunshine.

Summer reading is a lot like a dip in the pool—you can dive right in! Make a big splash! Immerse yourself. Soak it up.

Summer is the perfect time to read, and the Marion County Public Library Summer Reading program encourages children, teens and adults to pour over some wonderful books. And this year's water theme, "Make a Big Splash @ Your Library...Read," has everyone excited about providing creative program ideas for all ages.

The summer reading program has been a hallmark of the Marion County Public Library System and libraries across the country for years. Research indicates that children who do not read in the summer lose significant reading skills,

but those who read a minimum of just two books avoid that "summer slide." During the summer months, libraries in Marion County's system offer activities, programs and incentives to encourage children and teens to keep reading. In 2009, more than 29,000 families and individuals participated in this free, system-wide program.

This summer's reading program will include many reading challenges and prizes for all ages. It will also mark the second year that the Marion County Public Library System will offer programming for adults and the first year to include tiny tots in the mix as well. Programs are free for everyone and take place weekly at library locations across the county. Stay tuned for a full calendar of activities, which will be included in the Summer 2010 WORDS magazine, or visit the library Web site at <http://library.marion-countyfl.org> for more information.

Marion County receives FAVORABLE BOND RATING

By Heather Danenhower, Marion County Office of Public Information

Marion County received the results of its credit check in April, and the results are good news for citizens. According to Standard & Poor's and Moody's Investors Service, Marion County government is financially strong, and it has the capacity to meet its financial obligations.

Because of that financial position, Marion County received a favorable rating on its transportation bonds from both financial institutions. That means when the bonds go to market the week of April 19, Marion County can expect a good interest rate.

The Marion County Clerk of the Court, serving as Marion County's chief financial officer, recently coordinated the independent review in anticipation of the commission's upcoming issuance of \$30 million in Public Improvement Revenue bonds that will fund transportation projects, such as the construction of the Southwest 42nd Street extension from State Road 200 to Southwest 27th Avenue with a flyover at I-75.

Commissioners have multiple ways to pay for these types of projects: cash, lines of credit, bank loans and bonded debt (among other methods). Commissioners opted to use bonded debt last year to pay for a total of \$50 million in road enhancements (\$20 million was financed in May 2009). Borrowing the funds allows commissioners to lock-in lower prices, decrease overall construction costs and build roads immediately.

Bond ratings are required in order to market or sell the bonds. The rating denotes the risks associated with the purchase. The better the bond rating, the lower the interest rate that Marion County has to pay. Officials will use revenue received from the recently enacted five-cent local option gas tax to pay the principal and interest on these bonds.

Standard & Poor's and Moody's Investors Service identified the following as part of the rationale for the good credit rating:

- Solid financial position.
- Strong reserves.
- Strong debt service coverage despite declining level of pledged revenues.
- Sound legal provisions within bond documentation.
- Low debt burden.

Standard & Poor's is an independent provider of financial information, such as credit ratings, investment research and risk evaluation. Moody's Investors Service is also widely regarded as a ratings business that provides research and tools for assessing credit risk.

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

By Miranda Iglesias, Marion County Fire Rescue

FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC **ANTHONY BREDOW**

From one side of the country to the other, Marion County Fire Rescue firefighter/paramedic Anthony Bredow has helped fight fires and respond to medical emergencies for 20 years.

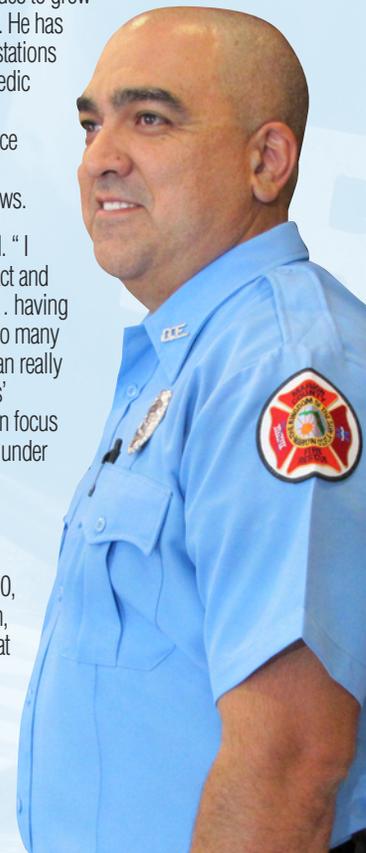
Bredow started his career immediately after he graduated from high school, becoming certified as an Emergency Medical Technician, or EMT, in California and working as a volunteer firefighter at three fire departments. He moved from California to Ocala in 2004 and continued to work as an EMT with the former ambulance service known as EMSA. At the same time, he also volunteered as a firefighter with Marion County Fire Rescue.

In 2005, Bredow began fire school, working toward his ultimate career goal of becoming a dual-certified firefighter/paramedic. "I saw the department growing and wanted to be a part of that as soon as possible," he said. A year later, Bredow became part of the fire rescue family.

Bredow's career continues to grow as he serves in Marion. He has served at five different stations and on multiple paramedic units and is currently a driver/engineer at Spruce Creek Station 30. His passion for the job shows.

"I love my job," he said. "I enjoy that patient contact and feed off the challenge... having worked for so long in so many different roles, I feel I can really understand the patients' conditions and maintain focus and compassion, even under the most stressful situations."

Bredow's lieutenant at Spruce Creek Station 30, Lt. Shaun Cunningham, describes him as a great resource. "I know that with his experience and background, Tony can handle whatever comes along."



IN CASE YOU Missed It!

By Christy Jergens, Marion County Office of Public Information

Marion County's Parks and Recreation Department rededicated Brick City Adventure Park (1300 SE 22nd Road, Ocala) on March 26, 2010. Parks and Recreation held the event to celebrate the many upgrades and renovations that have taken place at the park since October 2008 when the county took on the daily operation of the property.

To better serve the public and provide daily family fun in a safe environment, the county Parks and Recreation Department renovated the park's community center, installed new equipment at the playground, upgraded the field lighting system and paved the parking area. The rededication ceremony offered activities including an ice cream social, "I Spy" trail walk, arts and crafts, face painting and other games.



Garden Sense

Bee Solutions



By Jo Leyte-Vidal, UF/IFAS Marion County Extension Service (Master Gardener)



Bees have been in the news and on the minds of gardeners in the past few years due to Colony Collapse Disorder, a phenomenon that can suddenly wipe out 30–90 percent of the worker bees in a colony. During colony collapse, worker bees virtually disappear, which leads to the eventual death of the queen and young bees, quickly decimating large bee populations.

Why is this important? Because flower and vegetable gardens everywhere depend heavily on bees to pollinate plants. While the honey bee and bumble bee have traditionally been considered our most popular garden helpers, due to colony collapse, they've been fewer in number than in years past. Luckily for gardeners, though, there is another bee that is also an excellent pollinator, the orchard mason bee.

The orchard mason bee is found throughout North America, particularly in wooded areas and near houses. You can recognize the mason bee by its shiny dark blue color and its size, which is smaller than the honey bee. These bees are nicer to have around than some of their relatives, too; the mason bee is non-aggressive and will only sting when trapped. They also have a solid reputation as successful pollinators.

To attract these types of bees to your garden, create a bee-friendly nesting area. You can create nest holes by making bundles with dried bamboo, six inches in length, and hang them in your trees. A bee block can also be made from a 4" x 6" x 12" inch block of pine. Drill holes 5/16 inch wide and 6 inches deep into the diameter. Place the holes 3/4 inch apart. The block can be mounted on a post and placed near shrubs or trees. Happy bee keeping!

PETS OF THE MONTH

By Elaine Delorio, Marion County Animal Services



Bean

He's as small as a bean, the color of barbecue sauce and has a personality the size of a watermelon. This red dachshund is a happy, yet calm, little dog who wants to be king of your couch, or car, or picnic blanket or wherever you happen to be at the time. He's no trouble but a lot of fun and wants to be a new part of your life.



Majestic

Majesty (or Maj, for short) is good looking, and he knows it. This German Shepherd mix dog has a sleek, black coat, tan legs and a happy, pink tongue that hangs out when he flashes his heart-winning smile. He's a happy, sweet dog who's looking for a best friend.

The adoption fee for Majesty (D-2010-2244) or Bean (D-2010-2584) is only \$40 and includes their spay/neuter surgery, county license, current vaccinations and microchip. Call Marion County Animal Services at 352-671-8700 for more information or visit the department Tuesday - Friday from 10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. or Saturday from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Calendar of Events

Compiled by Sharan Reif, Marion County Public Safety Communications and Elizabeth Leger, Marion County Public Safety Communications

May 2010

Marion County Board of County Commissioners

May 4	9 a.m.	County Commission Meeting	McPherson Complex Auditorium
May 4	10 a.m.	BCC Public Hearing: Solid Waste Service Franchise	McPherson Complex Auditorium
May 4	10 a.m.	BCC Public Hearing: City of Ocala Inter-local Agreement – Annex 12 enclaves	McPherson Complex Auditorium
May 6	9 a.m. - 12 p.m.	BCC Public Hearing: 2010 Small Scale Amendment Applications	McPherson Complex Auditorium
May 13	12 p.m. - 5 p.m.	Marion County Employee Blood Drive Lifesouth Community Blood Centers	McPherson Governmental Complex
May 18	9 a.m.	County Commission Meeting	McPherson Complex Auditorium
May 18	2 p.m.	County Commission Meeting – Zoning	McPherson Complex Auditorium
May 25	4 p.m.	Ocala/Marion County Transportation Planning Organization	McPherson Complex Auditorium
May 31		All County Offices Closed for Memorial Day	

Marion County Animal Services

May 1	11 a.m. - 4 p.m.	PETCO Party at the Sanctuary	5590 NW Highway 225, Ocala
May 1	10 a.m. - 2 p.m.	Cat Adoptions at PetSmart	534 U.S. Highway 441, Lady Lake
May 4-6		Animal Services Closed	
May 7	12 - 1:30 p.m.	WVLG Radio Station Dog Adoptions	1101 Main St., The Villages
May 8	10 a.m. - 2 p.m.	Cat Adoptions at PetSmart	534 U.S. Highway 441, Lady Lake
May 14	12 - 1:30 p.m.	WVLG Radio Station Dog Adoptions	1101 Main St., The Villages
May 15	10 a.m. - 2 p.m.	Cat Adoptions at PetSmart	534 U.S. Highway 441, Lady Lake
May 21	12 - 1:30 p.m.	WVLG Radio Station Dog Adoptions	1101 Main St., The Villages
May 22	10 a.m. - 2 p.m.	Cat Adoptions at PetSmart	534 U.S. Highway 441, Lady Lake
May 28	12 - 1:30 p.m.	WVLG Radio Station Dog Adoptions	1101 Main St., The Villages
May 29	10 a.m. - 2 p.m.	Cat Adoptions at PetSmart	534 U.S. Highway 441, Lady Lake

Marion County Fire Rescue

May 19	10 a.m. - 1 p.m.	EMS Month 2010: Your Ambulance Transition Triumph	McPherson Governmental Complex Field 601 SE 25th Ave., Ocala
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Marion County Parks and Recreation

(Programs may require pre-registration and a small fee; please call 352-671-8560 for more information.)

May 2	9:30 a.m.	Kayak Outings	Silver River/Ray Wayside
May 5	9 a.m.	Preschool P.E. (ages 3-5)	Brick City Adventure Park
May 5	10 a.m.	Home-school Art Program (ages 10-14)	Brick City Adventure Park
May 5	10 a.m.	Home-school P.E. (ages 5-9)	Brick City Adventure Park
May 5	11:15 a.m.	Home-school Art Program (ages 4-9)	Brick City Adventure Park
May 5	11:15 a.m.	Home-school P.E. Program (ages 10-17)	Brick City Adventure Park
May 6	11 a.m.	Kayak and Koffee	Rainbow River/KP Hole
May 8	9 a.m.	Basic Wild Caving Experience (ages 8+)	Brick City Adventure Park
May 8	10 a.m.	Art Van-Go	Baseline Road Trailhead
May 8	12 p.m.	Art Van-Go	Liberty Community Park
May 8	2 p.m.	Art Van-Go	Wrigley Fields
May 11	9:30 a.m.	Interpretive Walk/Hike	Sink Hole Trail/Lake Eaton
May 12	9 a.m.	Preschool P.E. (ages 3-5)	Brick City Adventure Park
May 12	10 a.m.	Home-school Art Program (ages 10-14)	Brick City Adventure Park
May 12	10 a.m.	Home-school P.E. (ages 5-9)	Brick City Adventure Park
May 12	11:15 a.m.	Home-school Art Program (ages 4-9)	Brick City Adventure Park
May 12	11:15 a.m.	Home-school P.E. (ages 10-17)	Brick City Adventure Park
May 15	9:30 a.m.	Kayak Outings (Ray Wayside to Gores Landing)	Ocklawaha River
May 17	10 a.m.	Adventure Education for	Brick City Adventure Park

Calendar of Events (Continued)

May 2010

May 19	9 a.m.	Home-school Groups (ages 12-16)	Brick City Adventure Park
May 19	10 a.m.	Preschool P.E. (ages 3-5)	Brick City Adventure Park
May 19	10 a.m.	Home-school Art Program (ages 10-14)	Brick City Adventure Park
May 19	11:15 a.m.	Home-school P.E. (ages 5-9)	Brick City Adventure Park
May 19	11:15 a.m.	Home-school Art Program (ages 4-9)	Brick City Adventure Park
May 19	3 p.m.	Home-school P.E. (ages 10-17)	Brick City Adventure Park
May 20	11 a.m.	Parks and Recreation Advisory Council	Parks and Recreation Main Office
May 22	9:30 a.m.	Kayak and Koffee	Silver River/Ray Wayside
May 22	12 p.m.	Kayaking 101 (ages 10+)	Carney Island
May 24	10 a.m.	Kayaking 101 for Adults	Carney Island
		Adventure Education for	Brick City Adventure Park
		Home-school Groups (ages 8-11)	
May 24	10:45 a.m.	Memorial Day Program	Veterans Memorial Park
May 26	9 a.m.	Preschool P.E. (ages 3-5)	Brick City Adventure Park
May 26	10 a.m.	Home-school Art Program (ages 10-14)	Brick City Adventure Park
May 26	10 a.m.	Home-school P.E. (ages 5-9)	Brick City Adventure Park
May 26	11:15 a.m.	Home-school Art Program (ages 4-9)	Brick City Adventure Park
May 26	11:15 a.m.	Home-school P.E. Program (ages 10-17)	Brick City Adventure Park
May 28	9:30 a.m.	Kayak Outings (Gores Landing to Eureka)	Ocklawaha River

Marion County Public Library System

May 1	10:30 a.m.	Card-making with Kim	Dunnellon Public Library
May 3	6 p.m.	Storm Preparedness and Recovery	Bellevue Public Library
May 4	10 a.m.	Friends of the Dunnellon Public Library Meeting	Dunnellon Public Library
May 4	10:30 a.m.	Toddler Story Times	Forest Public Library
May 5	2 p.m.	Meet the Authors: Steven Noll and David Tegeger	Headquarters-Ocala Library
May 5	10 a.m.	Preschool Story Times	Herman B. Oberman Public Library
May 5	10:30 a.m.	Toddler Story Times	Dunnellon Public Library
May 6	10:30 a.m.	Butterfly Gardens	Bellevue Public Library
May 6	10:30 a.m.	Preschool Plus Story Times	Forest Public Library
May 7		Headquarters-Ocala and Freedom libraries closed	
May 7	10:30 a.m.	Preschool Story Times	Dunnellon Public Library
May 7	1 p.m.	Friday Movie Matinee Classics	Dunnellon Public Library
May 7	10 a.m.	Preschool Story Times	Marion Oaks Public Library
May 9	4 p.m.	Crafty Kids	Dunnellon Public Library
May 10 - 16		Children's Book Week Extravaganza	Headquarters-Ocala Library
May 11	10:30 a.m.	Toddler Story Times	Forest Public Library
May 12	10:30 a.m.	Toddler Story Times	Dunnellon Public Library
May 12	2 p.m.	Wednesday Movie Matinee	Forest Public Library
May 12	3 p.m.	Kid's Book Bash!	Freedom Public Library
May 12	10 a.m.	Preschool Story Times	Herman B. Oberman Public Library
May 13	10:30 a.m.	Preschool Plus Story Times	Forest Public Library
May 13	10 a.m.	Friends of the Fort McCoy Public Library Meeting	Fort McCoy Public Library
May 14	10:30 a.m.	Preschool Story Times	Dunnellon Public Library
May 14	10 a.m.	Preschool Story Times	Marion Oaks Public Library
May 15	2 p.m.	"It's a Mystery: My Grandma's Gonna Kill Me!" (Grades 3-6)	Headquarters-Ocala Library
May 18	10:30 a.m.	Toddler Story Times	Forest Public Library
May 20	11 a.m.	Baby Sign Fun! (Sign language for babies)	Dunnellon Public Library
May 20	10:30 a.m.	Preschool Plus Story Times	Forest Public Library
May 21	10 a.m.	Preschool Story Times	Marion Oaks Public Library
May 26	2 p.m.	Family Flix	Bellevue Public Library
May 26	2:30 p.m.	Kids Club	Forest Public Library
May 28	10 a.m.	Preschool Story Times	Marion Oaks Public Library
May 31		All libraries closed for Memorial Day	

Marion's libraries offer many story time opportunities. Contact your local library branch for more information.

*Event dates and times are subject to change without notice.