

# Did you know...?

It doesn't matter what county you live in—you can get your drivers license, hunting and fishing license and tag renewed at anyone of our Marion County Tax Collector offices. The only transaction that is county specific is the payment of property taxes.



# **March of Dimes**

The Marion County Tax Collector's office raised a total of \$6500 for the 2011 March of Dimes campaign! Thank you to all who participated and walked with us. We can't wait to walk again next year!



Marion County Tax Collector Annual Car Show

Our 1st Annual Marion County Tax Collector Car Show was a huge success! Thanks to all who participated. We were able to raise \$7500 for our local charities! We look forward to seeing everyone again at our 2nd Annual Marion County Tax Collector Car Show on March 10th, 2012!





Marion County Tax Collector George Albright, and Louann DeSantis present Ken Nelson with a check for \$2,500 for Food 4 Kids. The money was raised from the first annual George Albright Tax Collector Auto Show.

- Check out the attached flyer for summer camps that Marion County Parks and Recreation is offering this summer! There are a lot of great activities to keep the kids entertained! Have a safe and happy summer!
- Remember to keep plenty of water in your bird baths this summer. We are experiencing dryer than usual conditions and this will help keep the birds and squirrels from getting dehydrated!
- Attached is the flyer for Self Care Exchange. Please take the time to look at it and possibly participate. It's a wonderful, local charity.

For information please contact Marion County Parks and Recreation at 352-671-8560.

## Summer "FIREWISE NATURE CAMPS" Brick City Adventure Park

Firewise Nature Camp is a new summer camp program for children ages 6-12 offered at Brick City Adventure Park, 1211 SE 22<sup>nd</sup> Road, Ocala, FL 34471. Explore the wonders of nature with a new theme each week that includes field trips and special guests. Our campers will also learn about wildfire safety, developing an understanding and empowering safe Firewise practices in their daily lives, at home and in their community.

> Weekly fee is \$75 / child - Monday - Friday from 8am-5pm Registration begins April 4<sup>th</sup>.

A "Pre & After Program" (7:30am-8am and 5pm-6pm) is available for parents that need that added time. Fee is \$11 / week per child.

### June 20-June 24: Web of Life

Plants, insects, animals, water, soil and fire are all linked together into an intricate web of life that makes our Hammocks and wet lands survive. Through exploration field trips to Carney Island, and Sunny Hill Restoration Area, we will begin to untangle the web and see how everything depends on each other. Join us for a week packed with exploration, fun hikes, games, arts and crafts.

June 27-July 1: Rock, Dirt, and Mud Enjoy getting sweaty and dirty? Strength, heat, tight spaces and dirt are just some of the obstacles a fireman faces. Check out your endurance exploring a cave, climbing rocks, and digging fossils. Join us for a week of games, hiking and art and crafts as we discover some of earth's wonders.

## July 5- July 8: UP, UP, and AWAY!!

Want to know what it takes to fly and navigate airplanes, helicopters, kites, and bats? Let's take a trip to the Ocala International Airport, and check out a local bat house where you will experience a close up encounter of what goes Up, Up, and Away. Join in on the fun with nature hikes, games, arts and crafts everyone will enjoy.

## July 11- July 15: OH, GO EAT WORMS!

Investigators needed to help discover and identify slimy, slippery, slithering, creeping, and crawling worms, frogs, lizards, and spiders. Join us for all the squeals as we discover the important habitats each requires for its basic needs of food, water, shelter and space. Explore these habitats with Field Trips to Sunnyhill Restoration Area and Crones Cradle. Join the fun expanding your knowledge with activities from hiking to games, arts and crafts.

#### July 18 - July 22: Who's In That Hole?

Hiding reveals....Burrowing owls, pocket gophers, gopher tortoises, snakes and sand skinks to name a few scrub land creatures. Who could be hiding in that hole? Let's get answers exploring Silver Springs Conservation Area. See up close different creatures that call a hole their home! Get in on the action with lots of games, hikes and arts and crafts.

#### July 25 - July 29: Soar like an Eagle

Learn to identify different birds of prey and how they play a vital part in the ecosystem. One depends on the other for survival in the cycle of life. Come explore wetlands and forest while hiking the Ocklawaha Prairie and Horseshoe Lake. Bring those binoculars to see spectacular sites. The week will include Recreate Bird of Prey games, hiking, games and art and crafts.

#### August 1 - August 5: RUN LIKE A CHAMPION

Are you Chasing a Dream? Come and embrace the magical world of a thoroughbred race horse. From Yearling to full grown learn how to maintain a horse, get some hands on grooming, observe a Jockey working a thoroughbred around the track. How about injury recovery? Dreams come true with field trips to CHASIN'A DREAM FARM and THE SANCTUARY. Get a good understanding of the life of a race horse. Come kick up your heels and have some fun with a week of games, hikes, arts and crafts.

Registration for the weekly camps gets underway April 4<sup>th</sup>. Search, register and pay for Marion County Parks and Recreation programs 24 hours per day, 7 days a week from any device connected to the internet at <u>www.marioncountyfl.org</u>. For additional information please contact our office at (352) 671-8560 or email <u>cathy.norris@marioncountyfl.org</u>.



# MAKE A DIFFERENCE — Help Someone in Need —

Do you have a piece of medical, self-care or disability equipment you're no longer using...a wheelchair, a walker, a hospital bed?



Why not put it to good use by either DONATING it or selling it to someone in need?

There are untold numbers of people less fortunate who simply cannot afford that same piece of equipment.

See how easy it is to make a difference in someone's life...

Visit www.SelfCareExchange.com today to DONATE or sell your equipment...it's FREE!

Self*Care*Exchange.com

Connecting those in need with those who can help.