



PARKS AND RECREATION

MARION COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
YOURS TO DISCOVER

Outdoor Times

**It Starts
in Parks**

Volume 48, Issue 1

October 2011

SPORTSABILITY ARRIVING IN MARION ON SEPT. 30

Christy Jergens

Inside this issue:

| | |
|--|------------|
| Kudos Korner | 2 |
| Benjamin Louis Van Duuren Park Dedicated | 2 |
| Owl-ween a "Hoot" at Carney Island | 3 |
| Adult Softball Slides into Wrigley Fields | 3 |
| Parks and Recreation to Participate in 21 Annual Lake Eaton Kids' Fishing Derby | 3 |
| Calendar of Events | 4-5 |

Outdoor Times is a monthly newsletter provided as a public service to park visitors and guests.

Any questions related to this publication can be directed to Leah Hoffman, Administrative Manager, in writing at Marion County Parks and Recreation, 111 SE 25 Avenue, Ocala, FL 34471, by telephone at 352-671-8560 or via email at leah.hoffman@marioncountyfl.org



Sports enthusiasts of all age and ability levels in Marion County will soon have another excuse to head outdoors. SportsAbility, a sports event designed to enhance the lives of those with disabilities through recreational opportunities, is coming to Marion County Sept. 30 – Oct. 1, 2011.

Marion County Parks and Recreation and the City of Ocala Recreation and Parks Department are co-hosting the event for the third year in a row in partnership with the Florida Disabled Outdoors Association, the event organizer.

On Sept. 30, attendees can participate in events such as scuba diving, horseback riding and adaptive golf, tennis and basketball at the E.D. Crosky Center, Hampton Aquatic Center and MLK Recreation Complex (1510 NW Fourth St., Ocala). Participants will also have the opportunity to attend the SportsAbility Resource Expo

for information on recreation, health and assistive technology, among other topics.

On Oct. 1, events move to Marion County's Carney Island Recreation and Conservation Area (13275 SE 115th Ave., Ocklawaha) where participants can take pontoon boat rides, sit water-ski and try archery (among other activities). School groups, group homes, organizations, families and individuals are all invited to attend.

All activities will be offered at no charge and run from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. each day.

For more information on attending, contact Marion County Parks and Recreation staff Cathy Norris or Dan Burleigh at 352-671-8560. For more information about SportsAbility, visit www.fdoa.org.



KUDOS KORNER

Leah Hoffman



On Sept. 21 our many dedicated individual and group volunteers were recognized at the Parks and Recreation Department's annual meeting. This fiscal year alone, more than 1000 hours were logged, valued at \$14,539.44

- **Jim Hesse** and **Mark Fielding** donated just over 467 hours assisting with kayaking and interpretive hiking programs.
- **Caryn VanZandt** volunteered over 79 hours maintaining the Silver Springs Conservation Area and landscape at the Parks Administration Office.
- **Wendy Walters, Alexis DiMare, Pat Minto** and **Julie Musselman** contributed 126 hours to-

wards recreational programs, landscaping and administrative office assistance.

- **Joan Bernat** provided 33 hours to Carney Island and the Friends of Marion County Parks and Recreation, Inc.

Our **Adopt-A-Park** volunteers provided general park maintenance by pruning, painting, removing litter and installing amenities.

- **Rotary Club of Ocala-Sunset** contributed just over 44 hours at the Baseline Road Trailhead.
- **Kiwanis Club of Ft. King** volunteered 35 hours at Coehadjoe Park.
- The **Lasher Family** donated over 14 hours at

Flemington Community Park.

- **Liberty Middle School** volunteered over 128 hours and installed an educational kiosk at Liberty Community Park.
- The **Ocala Jaycees** devoted 18 hours to Brick City Adventure Park.
- **Grace Baptist Youth Ministry** completed 47 hours at the Belleview Sportsplex.

To volunteer, please visit our website at www.marioncountyfl.org/parks and complete and return the appropriate volunteer form. For more information, please contact Leah Hoffman at 352-671-8560.

BENJAMIN LOUIS VAN DUUREN PARK DEDICATED

Gina Peebles



In August, 2004, Mrs. Satloo Van Duuren donated 12.57 acres in NW Marion County in memory of her late husband, Dr. Benjamin Louis Van Duuren as a passive park.

Dr. Van Duuren was a world-class expert in the field of cancer causation and prevention using chemical and analytical techniques. He published 299 manuscripts recording the findings from his laboratory. He served on numerous committees such as Na-

tional Institutes of Health Study Sections, the Lung Cancer Task Force and the monograph Committee of the International Agency for Research in Cancer.

While Mrs. Van Duuren's primary home is in New York, she frequents her Daytona Beach vacation home each summer. Dr. and Mrs. Van Duuren purchased the 12.57 acres in Marion County due to its central location, the hospitality of our residents, rural charm and rich natural history.

Mrs. Van Duuren requested that park improvements include a nature trail for children to learn about and appreciate nature and that the property forever remain a park.

Mrs. Van Duuren, accompanied by her friends Cam and Sue Baker, visited the park in August shortly after the completion of the walking trail.

The park is located at 918 NW 120 Ave in Ocala.

OWL-WEEN A “HOOT” AT CARNEY ISLAND

Cathy Norris

With Halloween just around the corner, the Marion County Parks and Recreation Department has scheduled the fourth annual Owl-Ween program on Saturday, Oct. 29 at 3:30 p.m. at Carney Island Recreation and Conservation Area.

Participants of all ages will learn about owls and other “raptor” birds from the Avian Reconditioning Center. In addition refreshments, nature craft activities and a nature walk are included for only \$4 per person, plus the park entrance fee of \$5 per vehicle.



Carney Island is located at 13275 SE 115 Avenue in Ocklawaha.

To register, please select “online services” at: www.marioncountyfl.org/parks.

For additional information, please contact the Marion County Parks and Recreation Department at 352-671-8560 or stop by our office located at 111 SE 25 Avenue in Ocala.

ADULT SOFTBALL SLIDES INTO WRIGLEY FIELDS

Gina Peebles



Fields this fall. An Adult Co-Ed league is being organized on Mondays at 6:30 p.m. beginning on Oct. 17.

Wrigley Fields is located at 405 E Hwy. 316 in Citra.

grams, activities and events, please visit us online at www.marioncountyfl.org/parks, call us at 352-671-8560 or visit our Administrative Office at 111 SE 25 Avenue in Ocala.

It's time to hit the field and slide into home at Wrigley
For more information on this or any number of other great recreational pro-

“Achievement,
A sense of Community,
Conservation of our Natural Treasures,
Bestows an Economic Impact,
Imparts Good Health,
Incorporates Heritage,
Respect for Nature,
Florida’s Future... It Starts in Parks.”

PARKS AND RECREATION TO PARTICIPATE IN 21st ANNUAL LAKE EATON KIDS’ FISHING DERBY

Barbra Hernandez

Marion County Parks and Recreation is partnering with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission for the 19 consecutive year to bring local children the annual Lake Eaton Kids’ Fishing Derby. The derby offers children ages 6-12 and their families an opportunity to learn about fishing and Florida’s aquatic habitats.

Parks and Recreation staff will host an educational table with nature crafts activities and assist participants at the event, which is celebrating its 21st edition this year. Derby fun will also include casting contests and a “Bugs and Critters” lake wading activity. Interested participants should sign up in advance, as space is limited to 90 children.

The Derby will be held at the Ocala Conservation Center and Youth Camp in the Ocala National Forest (7325 NE 170 Ave. in Silver Springs on Saturday, Oct. 8 from 8 a.m. until 12 noon.

To sign up, call 352-732-1225 (weekdays only). Each registered child will receive a commemorative T-shirt and a rod and reel set.



Calendar of Events

| Date | Time | Event | Location |
|--------|--------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| Oct 1 | 10 am | Art Van Go | Baseline Road Trailhead |
| | Noon | Art Van Go | Liberty Community Park |
| | 2 pm | Art Van Go | Wrigley Fields |
| | 10 am - 3 pm | SportsAbility | Carney Island |
| Oct 3 | 9:30 - 10:30 am | Nature Buddies (ages 4-5) | Brick City Adventure Park |
| | 10:45 am - Noon | Nature Club for Home School (ages 6-12) | Brick City Adventure Park |
| Oct 4 | 8:30 am | Explore Marion County - Carney Island | Brick City Adventure Park |
| | 3:15 pm | Youth Beginning Tennis | Bellevue Sports Complex |
| | 4:15 pm | Youth Advance Beginner Tennis | Bellevue Sports Complex |
| Oct 5 | 10 am - 10:55 am | HPER Club ART (Ages 9-14) | Brick City Adventure Park |
| | 10 am - 10:55 am | HPER Club PE (Ages 5-8) | Brick City Adventure Park |
| | 11 am - 11:55 am | HPER Club ART (Ages 5-8) | Brick City Adventure Park |
| | 11 am - 11:55 am | HPER Club PE (Ages 9-14) | Brick City Adventure Park |
| Oct 6 | 9:00 am | Kayak and Koffee - Rainbow River | KP Hole Park |
| | 3:15 pm | Youth Beginning Tennis | Coehadjoe |
| | 4:15 pm | Youth Advance Beginner Tennis | Coehadjoe |
| Oct 8 | 9:30 am & 12:30 pm | Kayak 101 (ages 10 & up) | Carney Island |
| | 8 am - 12 noon | Lake Eaton Kids' Fishing Derby | Ocala Conservation Ctr & Youth Camp |
| Oct 9 | 8:30 am | Kayak Outing (Experienced)-Juniper Springs | Juniper Springs Creek |
| Oct 10 | 9:30 - 10:30 am | Nature Buddies (ages 4-5) | Brick City Adventure Park |
| | 10:45 am - Noon | Nature Club for Home School (ages 6-12) | Brick City Adventure Park |
| Oct 11 | 9:30 am & 12:30 pm | Kayak 101 (Adult) | Carney Island |
| | 3:15 pm | Youth Beginning Tennis | Bellevue Sports Complex |
| | 4:15 pm | Youth Advance Beginner Tennis | Bellevue Sports Complex |
| Oct 12 | 10 am - 10:55 am | HPER Club ART (Ages 9-14) | Brick City Adventure Park |
| | 10 am - 10:55 am | HPER Club PE (Ages 5-8) | Brick City Adventure Park |
| | 11 am - 11:55 am | HPER Club ART (Ages 5-8) | Brick City Adventure Park |
| | 11 am - 11:55 am | HPER Club PE (Ages 9-14) | Brick City Adventure Park |
| Oct 13 | 3:15 pm | Youth Beginning Tennis | Coehadjoe |
| | 4:15 pm | Youth Advance Beginner Tennis | Coehadjoe |
| Oct 14 | 8:30 am | Kayak Outing (Experienced)-Ocklawaka River | Gores Landing to Eureka |
| Oct 15 | 8:30 am | Kayak Outing (Experienced)-Silver River | Ray Wayside |
| Oct 17 | 9:30 - 10:30 am | Nature Buddies (ages 4-5) | Brick City Adventure Park |
| | 10:45 am - Noon | Nature Club for Home School (ages 6-12) | Brick City Adventure Park |
| | 6:30 pm | Adult Softball | Wrigley Fields |
| Oct 18 | 3:15 pm | Youth Beginning Tennis | Bellevue Sports Complex |

Calendar of Events

| Date | Time | Event | Location |
|--------|------------------|---|---------------------------|
| | 4:15 pm | Youth Advance Beginner Tennis | Bellevue Sports Complex |
| Oct 19 | 10 am - 10:55 am | HPER Club ART (Ages 9-14) | Brick City Adventure Park |
| | 10 am - 10:55 am | HPER Club PE (Ages 5-8) | Brick City Adventure Park |
| | 11 am - 11:55 am | HPER Club ART (Ages 5-8) | Brick City Adventure Park |
| | 11 am - 11:55 am | HPER Club PE (Ages 9-14) | Brick City Adventure Park |
| | 3 pm | Parks and Recreation Advisory Council | Parks Administration |
| Oct 20 | 9:00 am | Kayak and Koffee - Silver River | Ray Wayside Park |
| | 3:15 pm | Youth Beginning Tennis | Coehadjoe |
| | 4:15 pm | Youth Advance Beginner Tennis | Coehadjoe |
| Oct 22 | 8:30 am | Explore Marion County - Land Bridge | Brick City Adventure Park |
| | 9 am - 2 pm | Basic Wild Caving (age 8+) | Brick City Adventure Park |
| Oct 24 | 9:30—10:30 am | Nature Buddies (ages 4-5) | Brick City Adventure Park |
| | 10:45 am - Noon | Nature Club for Home School (ages 6-12) | Brick City Adventure Park |
| | 6:30 pm | Adult Softball | Wrigley Fields |
| Oct 25 | 3:15 pm | Youth Beginning Tennis | Bellevue Sports Complex |
| | 4:15 pm | Youth Advance Beginner Tennis | Bellevue Sports Complex |
| Oct 26 | 10 am - 10:55 am | HPER Club ART (Ages 9-14) | Brick City Adventure Park |
| | 10 am - 10:55 am | HPER Club PE (Ages 5-8) | Brick City Adventure Park |
| | 11 am - 11:55 am | HPER Club ART (Ages 5-8) | Brick City Adventure Park |
| | 11 am - 11:55 am | HPER Club PE (Ages 9-14) | Brick City Adventure Park |
| Oct 27 | 3:15 pm | Youth Beginning Tennis | Coehadjoe |
| | 4:15 pm | Youth Advance Beginner Tennis | Coehadjoe |
| Oct 28 | 8 am - 5 pm | Park Explorers (ages 10-15) | Brick City Adventure Park |
| Oct 29 | 3:30 pm | Owl-Ween (all ages) | Carney Island |
| Oct 31 | 9 am - 2 pm | Home School Outdoor Adventure (ages 8-14) | Brick City Adventure Park |



Please visit us online at <http://www.marioncountyfl.org/Parks> and click ONLINE SERVICES or call 352-671-8560 to pre-register or for more information.