



Pickens Revitalization Association
 205 East Main Street, Suite LL
 Pickens, SC 29671
www.historicpickens.com

Visit our website, www.historicpickens.com to sign up for our E-Newsletter or to volunteer for the Pickens Revitalization Association.



July News

www.historicpickens.com

2012

a Main Street South Carolina Community

around town

Pickens Revitalization Association is dedicated to the preservation, enhancement, and sustainable growth of Pickens' historic downtown area.

Month Long Cruise-In & Music on Main Series Goes Out With a Roar

Jeep owners answer MC George Case's call for a "Rumble in the Street" by revving their engines in a collective roar on Main Street.

Jeep Night and music with Katlin Owens Band wrapped up the Cruise-In & Music on Main series. The series, which ran the first four Saturdays in June, brought in nearly 500 cars, bikes, jeeps, and trucks and many spectators and car enthusiasts.

The City of Pickens partnered with Pickens Revitalization Association and event sponsors, including NAPA of Pickens, Gwinn's Tire & Alignment, Dowell Electrical Services, and Holcombe Cycles to bring this event into being. The food was provided by Outlaw Barbecue, The Gate House, Bojangle's and Brewster's. Pickens First Baptist Church and Lutheran Church provided cold refreshments.

Hot Rods and other custom vehicles lined West Main Street on June 2. The Marvin King Band entertained the crowds for the entire event. The Toilet Bowl Races, provided by Bouncin 'Roo and Parties Too and sponsored by Dowell Electrical Services, provided a source of entertainment for guests of all ages. Local Lutheran Minister Bob Kastings and Mayor David Owens electrified the crowd with their

enthusiastic head-to-head race. Holcombe Cycles' sponsored a Poker Run to benefit both MARYS House and PRA on Saturday, June 9. Several dozen bikers, clubs, and other participants raised hundreds of dollars for both organizations. Jessie Holcombe presented the funds to Ann Durham from

MARYS House on the NAPA Main Stage. Eight year-old Corbin beat out the Mayor and several others to be the Toilet Bowl Races Grand Prize Winner. He was presented with a trophy on the Main Stage by Mayor Owens.

Ted Russell Kamp entertained the crowd on June 16, Classic Car Night. He is a singer, songwriter, multi-instrumentalist, and producer living in Los Angeles and touring the Southeast. Larry Hinkle led the Upstate Legends Jeep Club in a Jeep procession into the Cruise-In on June 23. Nearly 200 Jeeps lined West Main Street and Garvin Street. Katlin Owens proved to the crowd why he is a local favorite on the Country Scene. The Cruise-In & Music on Main series ended at 9:30pm with a 'Rumble in the Street' to end the event. This rumble was heard all over Pickens as over a hundred Jeeps revved their engines.

PRA would like to thank all of our sponsors, partners, and vendor as well as all the volunteers that came out from Upstate Legends Jeep Club, PRA, City Council, and the community. Without the generous support of these organizations and individuals, this event would not have been possible.



Photo Courtesy of Upstate Legends Jeep Club

Pickens Students Help Mark Stormwater Drains

Be on the lookout for storm drain markers along the streets of Pickens! The markers, which say “No Dumping, Drains to Waterways” remind everyone that anything that ends up in a storm drain, ends up in our creeks, rivers, and lakes. When it rains, stormwater runoff from our streets and yards flows into storm drains and moves through underground pipes which empty into our waterways. Stormwater is untreated! Any pollutants like litter, cigarette butts, dirt, grass clippings, leaves, pet waste, oils, or fertilizers can be picked up by stormwater and get into our drinking water. Pickens Middle School Community Connections classes and teacher Louise Hope are marking storm drains with the help of the Pickens County Stormwater Partners, which is a clean water

partnership of Pickens County and the cities of Pickens, Liberty, and Easley. For more information or to mark storm drains in your neighborhood, contact Cathy Reas Foster, Pickens County Extension Service at creas@clermson.edu.



(L) PMS Community Connections teacher Louise Hope with a group of students. (Above) Students attach storm drain markers.

Spotlight on Art

Jo Ann Taylor, LWS

*I Hung the Sun –
Jo Ann Taylor*

“I paint in the studio with my “mind’s eye”... In viewing my “studio paintings” and “on location paintings”, you would think two different artists are involved- in a way, that is very true!”

Jo Ann is a Virginian by birth and a South Carolinian by choice. She attended Mary Washington College of the University of Virginia. She studied print making, drawing and design at Dabney S. Lancaster College, Clifton Forge, VA. She has studied with Chen Chi, Ed Betts, Jeanne Dobie, Barbra Nechis, Stephen Quiller, Charles Redi, Christopher Schink, Georg Shook, Ralph Smith and Doris White. She attended the Rangemark Master Class founded by Barse Miller in Winter Habor, Maine. She studied at School of Realism in Seattle, Washington.

Her work is included in corporate and private collections throughout Europe, Asia, Canada, and the United States. Her photography is featured in five Michelin Green Guides. Jo Ann is a signature member of the Louisiana Watercolor Society, an international organization.

The month of September, 2003, Jo Ann was the Artist in Residence in Corner Brook, Newfoundland, sponsored by the Pouch Cove Foundation of St. Johns, Newfoundland. She was/is Artist in Residence for the SC Parks Commission in 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010. Jo Ann’s acrylic Painting, “Red Bay” was chosen “Best in Show” at the 2006 Spartanburg Artists’ Guild Juried Show. Jo Ann’s Studio Gallery, located near Scenic SC Highway 11 in Dacusville, SC, is included in the newly formed South Carolina heritage Corridor Art Trail and is listed in the official publication.

The public can view select pieces from her collection in the PRA office located in downtown Pickens.



Don Gravely Receives Community Pride Award



I Fan the Flame
Program Recognizes
Don Gravely

Pickens, SC. Don Gravely, long time Pickens barber and owner of Gravely’s Barber Shop on Main, today was recognized as the June recipient of the city’s *I Fan*

the Flame award. Created by the city of Pickens and the Pickens Revitalization Association, the award honors individuals that have supported and contributed to the community in extraordinary ways – those who have demonstrated a passion for helping make Pickens a great place to live, work and play.

A lifelong resident of Pickens, Don’s roots go back for generations. Reminiscing, he noted, “My grandparents lived here and my dad worked at Bivens Hardware for 50 years. We have 5 children that attended our schools, 9 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren and they all live in the area. My father-in-law was Pickens Police chief for many years and my uncle was the county sheriff. I wanted to see the world and left Pickens, in 1948, for two years in the service and couldn’t wait to get back. I did not know how much I like Pickens until I left for awhile. Although it is changing, Pickens is still a small town to me. I call it Mayberry #2.”

Don started as a shoeshine boy at the original shop in 1945. He graduated from barber school and has worked as a barber since then – fully owning the barber shop since 1973. Always supportive of Pickens and a long time Main Street businessman, Don has been active in many organizations, such as the JC’s and Lions Club over the years.

Gravely’s Barber shop is a treasure trove of Pickens history – in photos, old magazines and memorabilia. Over the years, famous visitors have included Lyndon Johnson, Bert Lancaster and Cameron Mitchell. In the very early years of the shop, when haircuts were 50 cents, the shop was where the men went on Saturdays to visit, argue politics and get their Saturday bath and shave.

Regretfully, Don says, “There are few true barbers left. Here I’ve had the chance to get to know most people in town. They have been good to me and I have tried to be good to them”.

I Fan The Flame 2012 Platinum sponsors include the Historic City of Pickens and Great Oaks Dental. East Main Treasures and Pace & Reeves BP, Inc. are this year’s bronze sponsors.

The award program will be expanded, in the future, to recognize the many contributions of various academic, civil, religious and charitable organizations towards “fanning the flame” in Pickens.

News from the City



The city is now taking applications for outdoor seating/sidewalk cafes. You can pick up your applications at PRA office or City Hall. Go to www.historicpicknes.com to download your application and to find out more about how a sidewalk café can benefit your business.

Founders Day Music Festival Coming To Pickens

Pickens, SC. On September 22nd, Main Street will come alive with a celebration of Pickens’ music and cultural heritage. The free event will begin at 10:00 AM and end around 8 PM in the evening.

On that date, hundreds of roots musicians, including old time, country, blue grass and folk, will descend on Pickens. Eight bands, all with local ties, will be featured on center stage. “Open mic” times will allow individuals and groups to jam, at will, throughout the day. Early evening will bring all musicians together to set a record for the largest jam in Pickens’ (perhaps Upcountry) history. The event will conclude with contra dancing for everyone. “Early response has been phenomenal”, said Daniel Brazinski, the events music chairman. “Not only will we have great entertainment on stage, we also expect to find hundreds of musicians, from near and far, playing up and down Main Street all day long.”

However, Founders Day will be much more than just great music. Vendors will offer traditional arts and crafts as well as food and beverage such as homemade ice cream. Numerous “lost craft” experts will provide demonstrations on blacksmithing, quilting, musical instrument construction, gunsmithing, and more in Legacy Square. Special activities, such as face-painting and traditional games, will entertain the kids.

Andrew Pickens will be there throughout the day to tell of his life and have photos taken with him. Specially selected vintage vehicles will be on display. The Pickens County Historical Society will display a large model of the downtown monument that will be constructed to honor the city’s namesake. The Hagood-Mauldin House and the Pickens County Museum will be open for special tours. Living history reenactments will be staged with musket, long rifle, and cannon firing demonstrations. Visitors will actually have a chance to fire an authentic cannon. Hagood Mill will offer an alternative to the evening music and dancing with a unique mill site, one time only, candlelight history tour.

The festival is being planned by the many volunteers associated with the Pickens Revitalization Association. A wide variety of sponsor opportunities are available. Additional information can be obtained by contacting the PRA at 864-878-0105