



around town

www.historicpickens.com

SEPTEMBER 2015

Pickens Innovation Center Announces Director

The South Carolina Department of Commerce's Office of Innovation has worked over the last two years with local communities in our state to establish a statewide ecosystem that drives entrepreneurship and technology-based economic development, which includes the establishment of the Pickens Innovation Center at 107 Court Street in downtown Pickens.



The Pickens Innovation Center is a Clemson University Technology Villages organization – one of five in South Carolina - supporting entrepreneurs with company development, product refinement, establishment of operating model/processes, go to market plan and seed funding strategy. The Center provides a dynamic historical working space in downtown Pickens to explore, collaborate and generate capital while connecting our resident entrepreneurs with other supporting business education materials and expert mentors in both government and business. Pickens offers entrepreneurs a short bike ride to waterfalls, rolling hills and emerald lakes. There are also MBA level programs in six schools within thirty-minutes of our base.

Pickens Innovation Center recently hired an upstate native, Mark Reid Davis, who grew up on a cattle farm in the upstate and spent 23 years traveling abroad working as an entrepreneur. Mark's primary skill is coaching existing business owners in our area to the next level of operation, funding and innovation. Please contact him if you have an existing business or a new business idea via: 864.507.3192 or director@pickensinnovationcenter.com.

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Patrick Lark
President
City Council

Carlton Holley
Vice President
City Council

Faye Padgett
Secretary
Nestfeathers

Megan Thomas
Treasurer
Thomas Realty

Norm Rentz
Cannon Memorial Hospital

Mike Parrott
Greater Pickens Chamber of Commerce

Amanda Dow
Duke Energy

Ken Roper
Roper Law Firm

Travis Swangham
Member-at-Large

Allison Fowler
Executive Director

OFFICE

222 W. Main Street, Suite A
Pickens, SC 29671
864.878.0105
9am - 4pm
Monday - Friday



LOCAL NEWS

Pickens City Council Favors Tearing Down Old Depot to Build Doodle Trailhead

Article originally published in *The Greenville News* on August 26, 2015 by Ron Barnett, Staff Writer

PICKENS – Pickens City Council is leaning toward tearing down rather than renovating the old depot building at the Doodle Trailhead and constructing a new one to draw traffic from the trail to downtown businesses. That was one of two concepts that Blake Sanders of Alta Design + Planning presented to the council Monday in its second work session on the design of a small “railroad park” to mark the start of the recreational trail. The council has not voted on the issue, but Mayor David Owens told Sanders to proceed with the concept that calls for leveling the site. With a price tag of \$2.4 million, it was the less expensive of two options Sanders offered. The other one, which would cost \$3.4 million, called for renovating the crumbling structure on the site now. The renovation part alone would cost \$1.5 million compared to a cost of \$1 million to build a new one plus \$180,000 for demolition of the old one.

The original depot, which is inside an unsightly cinderblock building built around it, is too deteriorated to be preserved and wouldn't be considered of historical value if renovated, Sanders said “You would spend way more money than that's worth,” he said. “I think we need to clear everything,” the mayor said.

The concept includes an information kiosk at the point where Railroad Street and East Cedar Rock Street run into State 8, at the edge of downtown. The locomotive and rail car that belong to the city would be kept there at the front close to the main road and renovated at a cost of \$100,000 so people could go inside. The other two cars there now belong to Easley, which plans to put them at its trailhead.

Eleven parking spaces would provide access to the community building behind the rail cars. The building would be designed in the same style as the original depot. Behind the community building, which could include a railroad museum, a trail office and information about local businesses and attractions, would be a small plaza, with a large lawn just beyond a line of trees. The lawn, which forms a half-circle shape, could be used for an open-air farmers market or other community events.

The concept called for a “Doodle Wall” to be built in along a semi-circular row of trees at the edge of the lawn that would allow people to use provided chalk to doodle or draw artistic “graffiti.” That idea didn't go over well with acting Police Chief Travis Riggs, who said it would be inviting mischief. “I'm telling you, it would be a nightmare,” he said. Council members tended to agree, suggesting that the wall should have a permanent art display rather than offering the public a chance to express themselves at will with potentially offensive expressions.

A children's play area, with grassy mounds, would be on the other side of the wall, adjacent to the existing trailhead parking lot. The plan called for a “Railroad Park Museum” next to the parking lot along Railroad Street, but council members suggested that the museum should be up front, in the depot building, and the facility next to the parking lot be more of a covered outdoor resting area with bathrooms.

Council members were concerned with drawing people from the trail toward downtown and didn't think it wise to put too much of an attraction right next to the parking lot where people might not bother to go farther. “The big thing is we've got to get the crossings and bike lanes from 0 to 1,” said Councilman Patrick Lark. The trail is marked mile 1 just outside the main parking lot but will continue downtown to mile zero once the city gets bike lanes in place.

Sanders suggested the council consider phasing in the project over 7-9 years. The city plans to use hospitality tax revenues and grant money for the work. City Administrator Bruce Evilsizor said the city is applying for up to \$500,000 in grants.



FEATURED PROMOTIONS and EVENTS



Fitness **BACK-TO-SCHOOL KNOCKOUT SPECIAL!**

THERE ARE 1,440 MINUTES IN A DAY, JUST GIVE US 30!

9Round™ is a complete 30 minute kickboxing workout on your schedule. Go nine rounds of kicking, punching and a whole lot of sweating! The best part is there's a trainer included every time at no extra charge. The first workout is always FREE, so what are you waiting for?

30 MINUTE KICKBOX CIRCUIT

- BURN UP TO 500 CALS IN 30 MINS
- FULL BODY WORKOUT
- NO CLASS TIMES
- TRAINER INCLUDED
- RESULTS GUARANTEED

FREE!

CHAMPIONSHIP GLOVES!

----- \$30 VALUE -----

Month To Month Memberships Available!

Limit one per household. No cash value. Other fees and some restrictions may apply.
Valid only for local residents on first visit at participating clubs.

9ROUND™

30 MIN KICKBOX FITNESS

864-507-3142

113 W Main St
Pickens, SC 29671

www.9round.com



FEATURED PROMOTIONS and EVENTS

RIDE TO THE ROCK



presented by
PICKENS ROTARY CLUB

proceeds benefit the



Join us for a cycling adventure to

TABLE ROCK

40k, 60k & 100k rides

8AM • September 26TH

Pickens Recreation Center

The rides travel north to the Cherokee Foothills Scenic Highway 11 with views of Table Rock Mountain and the opportunity to climb Caesars Head before returning to Pickens.

**The 40k ride does not go all the way to Table Rock*

A complimentary **Ride to the Rock** t-shirt will be given to all pre-registered riders and a post-ride meal will be provided for each participant.

COST PER RIDER: \$40

Early Bird: \$35 before September 14th

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

www.PickensRotary.org/RidetoRock

REGISTRATION:

Go-GreenEvents.com/RideToRock

sponsored by:



FEATURED PROMOTIONS and EVENTS



FOUNDERS DAY MUSIC FESTIVAL

"Pickin' in Pickens"
South Carolina

October 3, 2015

Pickens, South Carolina

bluegrass  crafts  food

2pm - 9pm

**Blue Flame
Bluegrass Band**

County Clare

**Sweet Potato
Pie Kids**

**New Dixie
Storm**

Volume Five

www.historicpickens.com

FEATURED PROMOTIONS and EVENTS

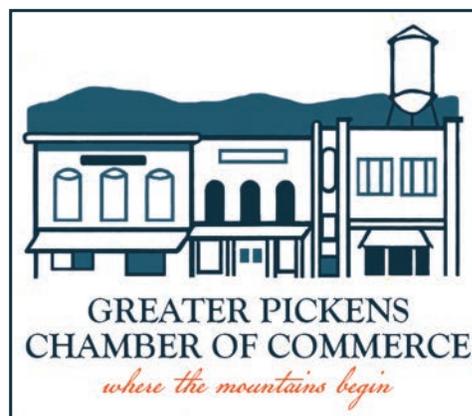


\$300/team
\$75/single player

GREATER PICKENS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE *24th Annual Golf Tournament*

Friday, October 9th
9am; Pickens Country Club
1018 Country Club Road, Pickens

For registration, sponsorship opportunities, a schedule of events
& more information, contact Mike Parrott at 864.878.3258
or info@pickenschamber.net



PRACTICE YOUR PUTTING SKILLS AT THE WATER COOLER CLASSIC

The Greater Pickens Chamber of Commerce invites you to practice your putting skills Thursday, October 8th, the evening before the golf tournament! Acker, Lambert, Hinton PA will be hosting the 3rd Annual Water Cooler Classic to benefit the Greenville Area Parkinson Society. The event will be held Thursday, October 8th at 5:30pm at the office located at 859 Pendleton Street, Pickens, SC 29671.

Teams of four play a two best ball format for the right to represent Acker Lambert Hinton, PA at the finals held in ZEN in downtown Greenville on November 5, 2015. The grand prize is a golf trip and lodging for four at the Omni Grove Park Inn in Asheville, NC.

The cost to register is \$20 per player. If you wish, you may sign up as an individual and you will be placed on a team. Please RSVP to adam@alhfirm.com and please include the name of your players.



The Water Cooler Classic is a unique 9-hole indoor putting challenge that benefits the Greenville Area Parkinson Society. The event is open to golfers and non-golfers. These in-office tournaments present a great team building or new business opportunity for Upstate Area businesses.

FEATURED PROMOTIONS and EVENTS



Friends of Pickens County Guardian ad Litem

Cordially invites you to
Our 2nd annual

Clusters for Kids Oyster Roast

All Proceeds to benefit the Friends of
Pickens County Guardian ad Litem and the
neglected and abused children of Pickens
County



Ticket Price: \$50 per person in advance
\$90 per couple in advance
\$75 per person at the door

*The event will include oysters and dinner buffet, along
with beer and wine, music, silent auction, corn hole
competitions and more!*

Saturday, October 24, 2015
5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Arran Farm – Home of Daniel & Janice Lee
820 Lenhardt Road, Easley, SC 29640

For tickets or more information, please contact:
864-506-0737 or chair@friendspcgal.org

501(c)3 Charitable Organization

Supporting Pickens County's Neglected and Abused Children since 2002

Friends of Pickens County Guardian ad Litem - Post Office Box 1692
Easley, South Carolina 29641

www.friendspcgal.org



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

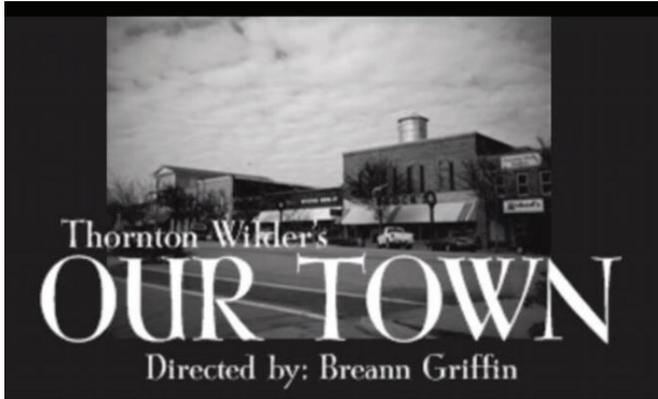
SEPTEMBER

17th - 19th

Thornton Wilder's Our Town

presented by Enrapt, LLC

7pm; Enrapt (118 W. Main Street, Pickens)



26th

Ride to the Rock

presented by Pickens Rotary Club

8am; Pickens Recreation Center

RIDE TO THE
ROCK

OCTOBER

2nd - 3rd

Rainbow of Quilts

presented by UpCountry Quilters Guild

9am - 6pm: Friday

9am - 5pm: Saturday

Pickens View Wesleyan Church

Admission \$5, Children 12 and Under Free

3rd

Founders Day Music Festival

2pm - 9pm; Pickens Amphitheater

9th

24th Annual Greater Pickens Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament

9am; Pickens Country Club

31st

Trick or Treat on Main

presented by Cannon Memorial Hospital

5pm - 8pm; Downtown Pickens

DECEMBER

11th

City of Pickens Christmas Parade

7pm; Downtown Pickens

THANKS MEMBERS!

Alexander Law Firm

Cannon Memorial Hospital

Pickens Senior Center

Pickens Dental Associates

Town & Country Florist

Behavioral Health Services

East Main Treasures

Pruitt Health

Oh Joy!

South State Bank

Brock's

City of Pickens

Edward Jones

Stockade Antiques

Pickens Savings & Loan

Flowers By Virginia

Foothills Gun and Pawn

Blue Ridge Electric Coop

Pickens Federal Credit Union

Cornell-Dubilier

Corner Drug Store

Great Oaks Dental

Lindsay Oil Company

American Legion

Nestfeathers

GateHouse Restaurant

Roper Law Firm

TTI/OWT, Inc.

Pickens Rotary Club

Buddy & Cisco's Bistro

Pizza Inn

Pace & Reeves

State Farm

TD Bank

Shabby & Chic

Mark Kaiser

9 Round

Durham Greene

Domino's

Enrapt, LLC