



around town

www.historicpickens.com MAY 2015

Doodle Trail Set to Open Memorial Day Weekend

Original Article published in The Greenville News on May 1, 2015 by Ron Barnett:

www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/local/pickens-county/2015/05/01/incomplete-doodle-trail-set-open-memorial-day-weekend/26699051/

EASLEY – Construction of the Doodle Trail won't be finished all the way into Pickens by the end of May, but a Memorial Day weekend opening is planned just the same, officials said Thursday.

The work is about a week behind schedule because of rain and the paving will come short of the northern terminus by about ¾ mile, Blake Sanders, design associate with Alta Planning & Design told members of the Easley Chamber of Commerce. "Whoever is praying that their garden grows well, please stop," he joked. "It has rained a lot." King Asphalt has spent \$60,000 of its own money to put cement into the base so its workers could continue paving in the rain, he said.

The remaining 3,000 feet from Sunset Drive into the Pickens trailhead should be finished the first week of June, Sanders said. Sanders and City Councilman Chris Mann also unveiled the plans for bringing bikers and walkers into downtown Easley from the southern terminus of the trail, a mile away on Fleetwood Drive.

Eventually, the city hopes to construct a greenway that will invite visitors to go downtown and stimulate the local economy, but the immediate plan is to mark off two routes on existing roadways. One will be a 1.5-mile leg downhill on Fleetwood Drive to State 135 and back uphill to Main Street. The other will be a 1-mile, less hilly route running in the opposite direction on Fleetwood, then left on State 8 for a few hundred feet, left on a short section of Blair Street, right on Cumberland Avenue, and right on Wilbur Street through the cemetery and onto Main Street near the Police Department. Both routes will end at City Hall. The city plans to put up signs along the routes telling visitors how far they are from various points of interest.

Sanders encouraged merchants to become trail partners, offering visitors free water and use of their restroom facilities in exchange for listing their business on trail maps.

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

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LOCAL NEWS

Doodle Trail Set to Open Memorial Day Weekend (continued)

Long-range plans include extending a trail from downtown to the Brushy Creek greenway that would run to the J.B. "Red" Owens recreation complex, with tentacles reaching to Easley High School and the Tri-County Technical College Easley campus, Mann said. Even beyond that, the city would like to find a way to link up with the Swamp Rabbit Trail in Greenville County.

Part of the downtown Easley plan is to run a section of the trail through the low-income neighborhood surrounding the Dream Center of Pickens County, with hopes of revitalizing the area, similar to what has happened in the Nicholtown community of Greenville. The city plans to hold a meeting with residents there to encourage their support.

The project has had a few bumps in the road in addition to delays caused by rain and snow since ground was broken in early February. One was a fire that burned one of the old bridges being renovated, Sanders said. "It ended up being a blessing at the end of the day because we were really able to get up under there and see what was going on," he said.

Over the next couple of weeks, the trail will start to look like it's finished, but everyone needs to stay off it until the ribbon is cut, Sanders said. "It's still a construction zone," he said.

Main Street Challenge Finalists will be announced May 15th

On May 15th, Pickens Revitalization Association will be announcing the finalists for the 2015 Main Street Challenge, an entrepreneurial start up competition! The selection committee will be choosing from the semi-finalists listed below:

- Blue Ridge Business Center & Foothills Tap Room (*business center, event space, tap room*)
- Sugar High Bakery (*bakery*)
- Enrapt (*live theater & supporting arts*)

The semi-finalists have submitted their business plans to the selection committee, who is reviewing them and will select two finalists by May 15th.

For up to two winning entries, the Main Street Challenge program will offer \$5,000 in incentives for start-up businesses, which must then open a new location in downtown Pickens by November 1, 2015.

The Challenge is made possible by grants from Wells Fargo, Duke Energy, Elevate Upstate and an anonymous donor. Formore information on the 2015 Main Street Challenge Guidelines, please visit www.historicpickens.com.

Winners from the Jeep Cruise-In & Music on Main Event

Congratulations to the winners from the Jeep Cruise-In on Saturday, May 2nd!

Most Original: 1981 Jeep CJ5, Chad Sexton

Most Unique: 1967 Jeepster, Pat Welborn

Best of Show: 1981 Jeep Scrambler, Dawn Abbott

Thanks to everyone who came out for a night of fun and music! The next Cruise-In will feature Motorcycles and the Folsom Prison Gang on the Amphitheater stage.



GIFT OF PICKENS



Get yours today!

Give the gift that stays in Pickens!

Pickens Revitalization Association is committed to continuing our very own Shop Local Initiative, Gift of Pickens! We want our local businesses in Pickens to thrive and hope you will join us!

Gift of Pickens certificates are on sale now at Pickens Revitalization Association and City Hall

LOCAL NEWS

Leadership Pickens County Class of 2015 Landscaping Hagood Community Center

The purpose of Leadership Pickens County, sponsored by the Chambers of Commerce and the Leadership Pickens Board of Regents, is to organize and implement a framework of experiences for emerging community leaders to become better informed and more actively involved in the decision-making processes of their communities. Through participant involvement in the community endeavors of Leadership Pickens, members will be equipped with the skills and information to contribute to the betterment of their communities in Pickens County.

Each Leadership Pickens County Class is required to initiate a class project. The project can be anything that the class decides on that will assist in the community. This year, the 2015 Leadership Pickens County Class has chosen to beautify and landscape the Hagood Community Center in Pickens, home to the Senior Centers of Pickens, Young Appalachian Musicians, Fiber Arts, Cannon Memorial Hospital Fitness classes, and many more community programs.

The project includes removal of the existing landscaping, installation of new landscaping (per landscaping plan), moving and lighting the existing sign, moving and lighting the flagpole, installing a bike rack, painting the existing swings, and pressure washing the walkways. The group has held three workdays so far, and the project is nearing completion.

Come join the 2015 Class of Leadership Pickens County at the unveiling ceremony for the project on Friday, May 22nd at 11am at the Hagood Community Center!



FEATURED PROMOTIONS and EVENTS



Cannon Memorial Hospital will hold a free **Fit Family Challenge Kick Off** on **Tuesday, May 5th at 5:30-7:30PM** on the walking trail on the Cannon campus. Family and individuals are encouraged to come walk the trail and take part in the event.

Free test screenings, information about Cannon Hospital and services will also be available at the event. Other participating organizations include: **The Pickens YMCA, 9 Round, Mission Fitness, and Pickens Revitalization Association.** These groups will have fitness activities for children & adults during the event. Cannon will have fresh vegetables for sale. For more information or to register your family for prizes and more go to: www.cannonhospital.org and click on the Fit Family Challenge logo on the home page or go directly to www.fitfamilychallengesc.com.



FEATURED PROMOTIONS and EVENTS

18th Annual

Blue Ridge FEST

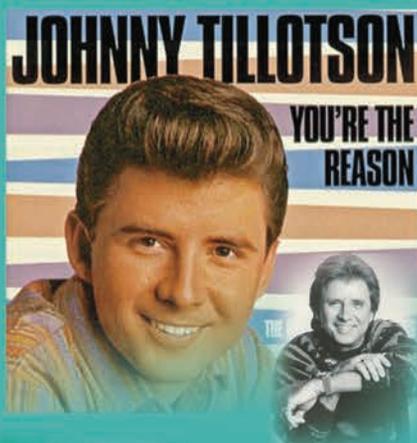


FRIDAY, MAY 8, 2015, 6-10:30 pm

An Evening of Classic Cars, Great Music & Food

featuring

**Johnny Tillotson, Shirley Alston Reeves with The Shirelles Tribute,
and The Swingin' Medallions**



Adults \$25 • Children \$15

(Discounted tickets purchased in advance: Adults \$20 • Children \$12)

Come in a classic car (1979 or older) and \$30 admits a carload of up to four! Line-up begins at noon. Gates open at 2 pm for classic cars. Dash plaques are available for the first 400 cars.

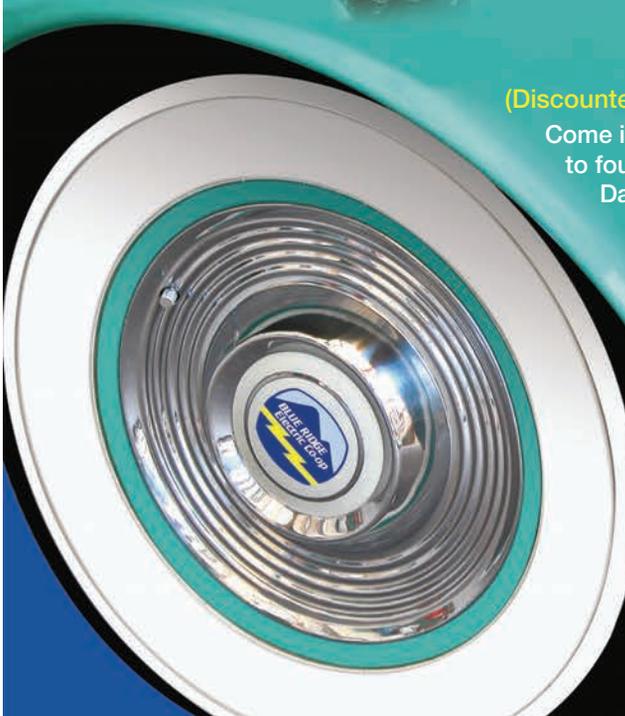
All proceeds benefit Upstate charitable organizations.

Events will take place at Blue Ridge Electric Co-op
734 W. Main Street, Pickens, SC.



75
Years

For more information,
call 1-800-240-3400 or 
visit online at blueridgefest.com.



FEATURED PROMOTIONS and EVENTS

FREE!

FREE!

Attractions at the AMPHITHEATER HISTORIC PICKENS

SUMMER 2015

april

- 16th Jamie Wright Review
- 18th Azalea Festival
- 25th Pickens' Got Talent
- ★ Cruise-In & Music on Main Event



may

- 2nd Katlin Owen Band*
- 9th Is That So
- 16th Itchy and the Chiggers
- 23rd The Hired Help
- 30th Thomas Fountain

june

- 6th Folsom Prison Gang*
- 13th Jamie Wright Review
- 20th New Dixie Storm
- 27th YAMS

july

- 4th 4th of July Celebration
- 11th Marvin King & Blues Revival
- 18th Derrick Dorsey Band
- 25th YAMS

august

- 1st The Flying Saucers*
- 8th Jamie Wright Review
- 15th Splitshot
- 22nd YAMS

7pm - 10pm
114 W. Main Street
FREE



For more information, contact the City of Pickens at 864.878.6421 or www.cityofpickens.com or Pickens Revitalization Association at 864.878.0105 or www.historicpickens.com

FEATURED PROMOTIONS and EVENTS



MAY 2nd
JEEPS with the
Katlin Owen Band



JUNE 6th
MOTORCYCLES with the
Folsom Prison Gang



AUGUST 1st
CUSTOM & CLASSIC CARS
with the Flying Saucers

West Main Street, Historic Pickens
Vehicle Registration starting at 5:30pm

(enter from Garvin Street)

Entertainment starting at 7pm
Special Awards plus other Surprises



Please visit www.historicpickens.com for more info!



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MAY

2nd

Cruise-In and Music on Main (Jeeps)

Attractions at the Amphitheater

7pm - 10pm; Pickens Amphitheater

8th

Blue Ridge Fest

Blue Ridge Electric Coop

www.blueridgefest.com

9th

Attractions at the Amphitheater

Is That So

7pm - 10pm; Pickens Amphitheater

16th

Attractions at the Amphitheater

Itchy and the Chiggers

7pm - 10pm; Pickens Amphitheater

23rd

Attractions at the Amphitheater

The Hired Help

7pm - 10pm; Pickens Amphitheater

30th

Attractions at the Amphitheater

Thomas Fountain

7pm - 10pm; Pickens Amphitheater

JUNE

6th

Cruise-In and Music on Main (Motorcycles)

Attractions at the Amphitheater

Folsom Prison Gang

7pm - 10pm; Pickens Amphitheater

13th

Attractions at the Amphitheater

Jamie Wright Band

7pm - 10pm; Pickens Amphitheater

20th

Attractions at the Amphitheater

New Dixie Storm

7pm - 10pm; Pickens Amphitheater

27th

Attractions at the Amphitheater

YAMs

7pm - 10pm; Pickens Amphitheater

JULY

4th

Fourt of July Celebration

Rides, Vendors, Music & Fireworks

Katlin Owen Band

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

Enrapt, LLC

Corner Drug Store

Great Oaks Dental

Lindsay Oil Company

American Legion

Nestfeathers

GateHouse Restaurant

Chuck Dooley

TTI/OWT, Inc.

Pickens Rotary Club

Pizza Inn

Pace and Reeves

State Farm

TD Bank

Shabby & Chic

Mark Kaiser

9 Round

Durham Greene

Domino's