



THE RESOURCE



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Preserving our Past and Protecting our Future



May is National Bike Month

For information about bicycling safety, access, and education in SC visit:

www.pccsc.net

Ride your bike to work week:

May 14-18, 2012

For information about local bicycling news and events visit:

www.rockhillbicycleclub.com

Bicycling and Walking Benchmark Report

A 2012 benchmark report from the Alliance for Biking & Walking, provides current statistics about walking and biking in the United States.

- ◆ 12% of all trips are by bicycle (1.0%) or foot (10.5%).
- ◆ From 2000 to 2009, the number of commuters who bicycle to work increased by 57%.
- ◆ Between 1966 and 2009, the number of children who bicycled or walked to school fell 75%, while the percentage of obese children rose 276%.
- ◆ Cost benefit analyses show that up to \$11.80 in benefits can be gained for every \$1 invested in bicycling and walking.
- ◆ Bicycling and walking projects create 11-14 jobs per \$1 million spent, compared to just 7 jobs created per \$1 million spent on highway projects.

To read the complete report, visit:

www.peoplepoweredm.com

Did you know?

South Carolina spends about 95¢ per capita for bicycle and walking projects, ranking it 46th among states for biking and pedestrian investments.

Alliance for Biking & Walking

America's Great Outdoors (AGO) Report Results

As referenced in the October, 2010, issue of *The Resource*, the America's Great Outdoors (AGO) initiative was led by the Department of Interior to encourage dialogue and partnerships between local communities and the federal government in order to protect our natural resources while connecting people to the outdoors. Following listening sessions held around the country in 2010, public comments and recommendations were released in a 2011 action plan which calls for a grassroots approach to protect our lands and waters and connect all Americans to their natural and cultural heritage.

The AGO report identified 10 major goals and 75 action items to advance this initiative, from expanding youth programs to increasing public awareness about conservation, to better managing our public lands. Among these recommendations were three major goals to focus the collective recreation and conservation efforts of the federal government:

Create and enhance urban parks and greenspaces.

Renew and restore rivers.

Conserve large rural landscapes.

To read the complete report, please visit:

<http://americasgreatoutdoors.gov/report/>

CAROLINA THREAD TRAIL UPDATE



Weaving Communities Together



Pictured at left: A local high school running club enjoying a Nation Ford Greenway section of the CTT in Fort Mill.

(Photo courtesy of National Park Service and Beth Chuck, NFG Coordinator.)

The Carolina Thread Trail (CTT) is a network of greenways and conserved lands that will link 15 counties around Charlotte, NC. There are currently about 85 miles of trail open to the public in NC and SC. York County sections that are now open include Baxter Village, the Blue Star Trail in the Anne Springs Close Greenway, Manchester Meadows Trail, and a section of the Nation Ford Green-

way Springfield trail. Ultimately, the CTT will include more than 125 miles of existing and potential trails in York County and will provide links to the Catawba Indian Nation, the Catawba River, Kings Mountain Parks, and Historic Brattonsville, among other destinations. To view trail maps and plans for the CTT in York County, please visit:

www.carolinathreadtrail.org/local-connections



The first annual "Thread the Trail 5k" run at the Anne Springs Close Greenway in Fort Mill will be held on Saturday, May 12th. This will be a twilight run beginning at 6:00 p.m. Registration is required and a fee will be charged. For more information, please visit:

www.carolinathreadtrail.org

ONLINE AT THE SC DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES & HISTORY



Located on Parklane Road in Columbia, the SC Department of Archives and History is the state agency charged with preserving and promoting the documentary and cultural heritage of the state through archival care and preservation, records management, public access, historic preservation, and education. While a visit to the Research Room at the archives provides access to original documents and microfilm holdings dating from 1671, a wealth of information is also available through an online visit to the agency's website.

The *Online Records Index* is a database that lists all archive holdings by topic. Through this Index connections can be made to col-

lections of digitized records for online viewing. These include Confederate Pension Applications (1919-1938), Colonial Plats, Will Transcripts (1782-1855), National Register of Historic Places applications, and much more.

Not only will researchers and genealogists discover helpful information on the agency's website, but teachers will find a collection of lesson plans and teaching documents, divided into the time periods as written in the *South Carolina Social Studies Standards*, available online for educational use. There are also resources to help teachers incorporate historic preservation into learning.

Preservationists can read short publications on a range of preservation issues, view workshop presentations

in PowerPoint PDF format, and find compilations and links to all state and federal preservation laws and regulations.

Want to know more about archaeology in SC or explore Native American or African American heritage? Need technical assistance in maintaining or restoring a cemetery, or interested in learning about the symbolism found on some gravestones? Care to take a virtual tour of all the historical roadside markers in the state? Go no further than the nearest computer.

To view all of this information and much more, or to shop at their SC themed merchandise store, visit:

<http://scdah.sc.gov/Pages/default.aspx>



Miss Pageland (2011), Erika Lynn Bryant, poses in front of the Hotel Blakeney.

(Courtesy of National Trust for Historic Preservation, Credit: Christopher Shane.)

“MAKING A DIFFERENCE” IN YOUR COMMUNITY

Erika Bryant, 18, the newly crowned 2011 Miss Pageland, was riding in the Chesterfield County town's Watermelon Festival parade when she first noticed the boarded-up windows and state of disrepair of the empty Hotel Blakeney, at the intersection of McGregor and Cedar streets in Pageland. Her interest piqued to learn more about the structure, Erika discovered that the 1907 inn is the oldest commercial building in Pageland. Once a glamorous draw for visitors and a social centerpiece for the town, it housed a bank, feed store, and casket shop in addition to the hotel. Reaching out to the Palmetto Trust for

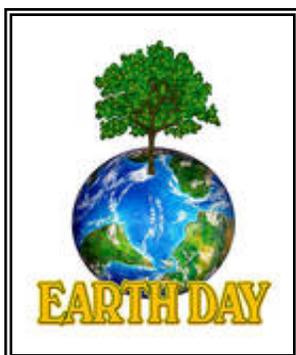
Historic Conservation for help, Erika embarked on a campaign to save the hotel. Thanks to her efforts, and with the assistance of local government leaders and citizens, the *Save the Blakeney Committee* was formed. The Palmetto Trust now has an option to purchase the Blakeney and sell it to a preservation-minded buyer, with the hope that once restored it will again draw visitors to Pageland, providing an economic boost. Erika also helped establish a local historic district in Pageland last summer and is working to have the hotel placed on the

National Register of Historic Places.

Featured in the National Trust's *Preservation* magazine and in the *Sandlapper* magazine, Erika has since adopted historic preservation as her community service platform and plans to continue “making a difference” in adaptive reuse and conservation.

To take a YouTube video tour of the Blakeney with Erika and Palmetto Trust Executive Director, Mike Bedenbaugh, please go to:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GoVXdN38ygA>



April 22, 2012

COMMISSION CORNER - CELEBRATE EARTH DAY

YCF will again be participating in local Earth Day events by offering informational displays at the Anne Springs Close Greenway (250 Dairy Barn Lane, Fort Mill) celebration to be held on **Saturday, April 21st**, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., and at the Museum of York County (4261 Mount Gallant Road, Rock Hill)

on **Saturday, April 28th**, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Mobilize the Earth™ is the theme for the 42nd anniversary of Earth Day. This year's celebration is an opportunity for everyone to voice their appreciation for the planet and stand united in calling upon all individuals, organizations, and

governments to do their part to ensure its protection and sustain its future. To learn what you can do to help, please visit:

www.earthday.org

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The *Resource*, the official publication of the York County Forever Commission, is published quarterly