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S.C. STORIES

Singing the blues

HUMOR ME

Finding the droll in drool

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SPRING & SUMMER TRAVEL GUIDE

FEATURE 21 On the trail of history

To mark the 150th anniversary of the start of the Civil War, join us on a tour of South Carolina's most important historic sites. We'll take you through the entire conflict, from the opening salvo against Charleston's Fort Sumter, to the collapse of the Confederate government at Abbeville's Burt-Stark mansion, to the dawn of a new era for freed slaves at the Penn Center on St. Helena Island.

FORT SUMTER / NATIONAL PARK SERVICE



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The Palmetto Trail, a 290-mile network of bike and walking trails spanning the state, needs volunteers and donations to help with maintenance in the wake of state budget cuts. Plus: Meet the teachers who will be chaperoning this year's Washington Youth Tour, find out what happens when CFLs die and learn how your home uses electricity.

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Volunteers from South Carolina's electric co-ops are making life better for foster children. Here's how you can get involved, too.

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Rechargeable electric yard tools and mowers are a cost-effective way to maintain your lawn.

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Drink Small, South Carolina's "blues doctor," has been prescribing his toe-tapping blend of Piedmont blues mixed with gospel, shag, country and bluegrass since the 1950s.

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Citrus garlic shrimp linguine
Pat's country fried pork and peppers
Risen biscuits in a bread cornucopia

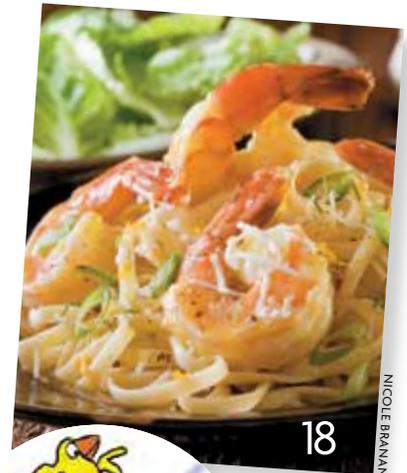
HUMOR ME

38 Send in the mastiff

Ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for a 160-pound slobber machine named Clyde.

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NICOLE BRAMAN



JAN A. IGOE



On the cover: Michael Allen, a historian and community relations specialist with the National Park Service, shares the history of the Battle of Fort Sumter with visitors to Fort Moultrie, a unit of Charleston's Fort Sumter National Monument. Photo by Milton Morris.

For a complete listing of Events, see page 36

Highlights

MAY 13-14

Blue Ridge Fest rides into town

Come on baby, let's do the twist...because Blue Ridge Fest, one of the Upstate's biggest and most anticipated festivals, rides into town May 13-14, with Chubby Checker (pictured below right) and his Wildcat Band as the headline entertainment.

The legendary singer takes the stage Friday evening as part of the Beach Night Cruise-In, which draws thousands of people to Blue Ridge Electric Cooperative's covered outdoor facility in Pickens. The gates open at 5 p.m. and you'll want to get there early to admire all the chrome and steel on display at what is probably the state's largest classic-car gathering. There are also prize drawings for \$5,000 and a 2011 Polaris Ranger XP 800 UTV. On Saturday, the festival concludes with the annual charity motorcycle ride through the scenic Blue Ridge foothills. It all adds up to a good time, with an even greater purpose.

"We created the Blue Ridge Fest in response to the large number of requests our employees get to support local fundraising events," says Charles Dalton, Blue Ridge president and CEO. "We decided to help our staff focus their time and energy by creating just one event they could organize and stage for the community to enjoy, and to support all these worthy causes."

Since 1998, Blue Ridge Fest has contributed more than \$1.1 million in net proceeds, including the \$151,000 raised last year that supported 13 charitable agencies across the co-op's four-county service area, Dalton says.

Advance purchase tickets are recommended. They cost \$15 for adults and \$8 for children. Raffle tickets are \$5 each. To purchase tickets online, or for more information, visit blueridge.coop/blueridgefest or call (800) 240-3400.



BLUE RIDGE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE



S. D. BAUGH

APRIL 30

Taste of Jasper

Sample some of the best food in the Lowcountry and help raise much-needed funds for the local Boys & Girls Club. Taste of Jasper takes place at the Farmer's Market in Ridgeland, an ideal setting for some evening fun and food that also will include a silent auction and live entertainment.

For details, visit bgclowcountry.org or call (843) 717-1615.



TOP PICK FOR KIDS

APRIL 14-16, APRIL 29-30

Story time

The time-honored traditions of storytelling—in print and in person—take center stage in April at a pair of festivals the kids will love. First up is the 25th annual **A(ugusta) Baker's Dozen** on April 14-16 at the University of South Carolina and the Richland County Public Library in downtown Columbia. Spartanburg County's **Stone Soup Storytelling Festival** is set for April 29-30 at the Woodruff Community Center, historic Woodruff High School auditorium and the town library's Reading Park. Nationally and regionally known authors and storytellers are on the schedules, as are live bands, lectures and other events aimed at intriguing young minds.

For details on A(ugusta) Baker's Dozen, visit myRCPL.com or call (803) 929-3440. For Stone Soup, visit stonesoup.com or call (864) 476-8770.



STONE SOUP STORYTELLING FESTIVAL



USMC

APRIL 16

U.S. Marine Corps Mud Run

Get down and dirty at the nation's largest, officially sanctioned USMC Ultimate Challenge Mud Run. Held on a big, muddy piece of land near the Lexington County community of Sandy Run, more than 10,000 participants engage in obstacle courses that include swimming, crawling, climbing, jumping and, of course, wallowing through mud holes. Those who choose not to dive in are welcome to watch. Proceeds benefit the Greater Columbia Marine Foundation, which aids wounded and fallen soldiers and their families.

For details, visit usmcudrun.org or call (803) 201-5010.

MAY 6-7

NASCAR at Darlington

As any true NASCAR fan can tell you, the green flag signaling the start of this year's Sprint Cup Showtime Southern 500 will drop at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 7. And for the approximately 60,000 fans expected to pack venerable Darlington Raceway for the event, the day can't get here fast enough. That's why many of them will also be in attendance for the Nationwide Series Royal Purple 200 race on May 6.

For details and ticket prices, visit darlingtonraceway.com, or call (866) 459-RACE.



GETTY IMAGES FOR DARLINGTON

Join the Palmetto Trail fundraising effort

The Palmetto Trail—some 290 miles of interlocking bike and walking trails spanning South Carolina—needs your help.

State funding for the project has dried up and the nonprofit Palmetto Conservation Foundation (PCF) says it needs more volunteers and \$500,000 in donations to keep the current trail in good condition, and to continue expanding the cross-state pathway to its planned length of 425 miles.

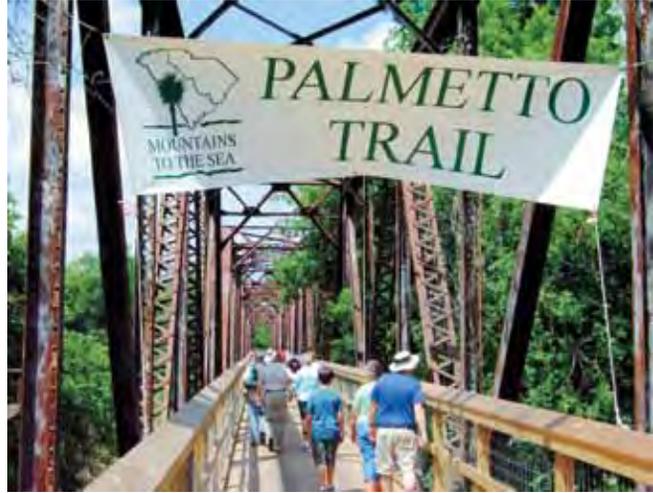
Immediate maintenance priorities include bolstering eroded banks on mountain trails, clearing fallen trees, completing work on a 690-foot trestle at the

Broad River near Peak and repairing 35 bridges in the Lowcountry.

“We have been without any state funding for three years, and now we really need our community members and corporate sponsors to step up. Nature quickly reclaims its own, and time is of the essence,” says Natalie Britt, the PCF’s executive director.

The Palmetto Trail is a federally designated Millennium Legacy Trail, one of just 16 cross-state projects in the country. To learn how you can help, call (803) 771-0870 or visit palmettoconservation.org.

—MARC RAPPORT



PALMETTO CONSERVATION FOUNDATION

The Palmetto Trail takes hikers and bikers through forest and urban areas, and across repurposed railroad trestles like the Broad River Bridge near Peak.



GOING OUT WITH A BANG

Worried when you hear a compact fluorescent lightbulb (CFL) pop or sizzle as it burns out? Don't be. Despite confusion caused by an e-mail hoax circulating since April 2010, these sounds signal the bulb is working safely in its final moments, say the experts at Underwriters Laboratories (UL).

Most folks know traditional incandescent lightbulbs burn

out with a pop, a flash, and, when shaken, the familiar rattle confirming the bulb needs to be changed. With CFLs, light dims over time and the lamp may produce a more dramatic pop, emit a distinct odor, and even release some smoke. Sometimes the special flame-retardant plastic at the base of a CFL will turn black. These are all normal, says John Drengeberg, UL's



consumer affairs manager. UL is an independent, not-for-profit firm that tests and sets minimum standards for electric items.

“CFLs are one of the products we regularly test to specific requirements for electrical safety, fire and shock hazards,” he says. “Any popping sounds or smoke that a consumer might see when a CFL burns out means that the bulb’s end-of-life mechanism worked as it should have.”

S.C. RAMBLE!

BY CHARLES JOYNER,
SEE ANSWER ON PAGE 35

PHONE-ETICS

1	2 ABC	3 DEF
4 GHI	5 JKL	6 MNO
7 PQRS	8 TUV	9 WXYZ

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YOUTH TOUR

From teachers to tourists

Two South Carolina high school teachers are headed out of the classroom and into our nation's capital June 11-16 for the Washington Youth Tour. Mary Chandler, of Easley, and Sharon Rawls, of Lake Wylie, have been selected to serve as chaperones for this summer's tour sponsored by the Electric Cooperatives of South Carolina.

Each year, the state's electric cooperatives send rising high school seniors on the Washington Youth Tour—an all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C. For the first time this year, the electric co-ops also gave high school teachers an opportunity to apply as chaperones.

Chandler, a member of Blue Ridge Electric Cooperative, teaches Spanish at J.L. Mann Academy in Greenville. She applied for the trip because



Mary Chandler

she wants to use what she learns on the tour to guide a classroom lesson comparing our heritage to that of Latin American countries. "I remember my trip to D.C. as a student when I was in 8th grade," Chandler said. "It was an amazing experience. D.C. is a city every American should visit—it is the heart of our nation."

Rawls is a social studies teacher at Clover High School in Clover. She's no stranger to D.C. In college, she volunteered with a Washington-based nonprofit organization. "I would like to



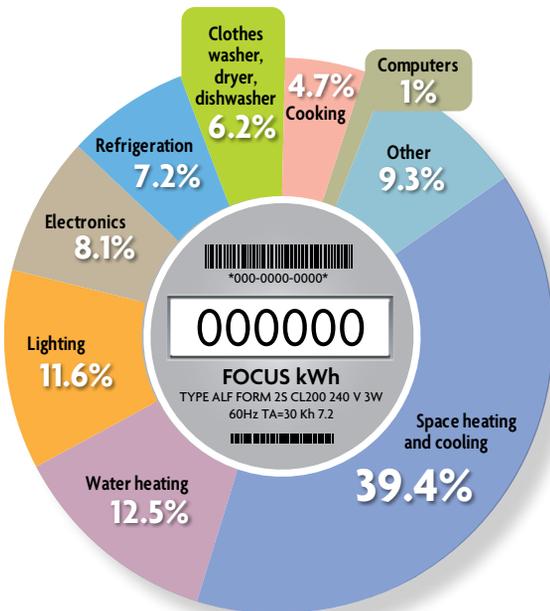
Sharon Rawls

help participating students experience Washington, D.C., not just as a tourist attraction but as the center of our democratic government," Rawls said. "D.C. is a place that values democratic participation and provides individuals the opportunity to develop their political voice and ensure it is heard."

Chandler and Rawls will be joined by co-op employees as chaperones for the June trip. They'll be responsible for nearly 50 of the state's high school students. You can follow the trip at twitter.com/scyouthtour. —VAN O'CAIN

BY THE NUMBERS

How your home uses electricity



Source: U.S. Department of Energy, 2009 Buildings Energy Data Book, Table 21.5. Represents an all-electric home. Updated February 2011.

GONE FISHIN'

The Vector Fish & Game Forecast provides feeding and migration times. Major periods can bracket the peak by an hour. Minor peaks, ½ hour before and after.

	AM		PM			AM		PM	
	Minor	Major	Minor	Major		Minor	Major	Minor	Major
APRIL									
17	5:01	11:46	—	6:31	1	—	5:07	6:52	12:07
18	12:01	5:31	7:31	12:31	2	—	5:37	7:37	12:37
19	12:46	6:01	8:31	1:01	3	—	5:52	8:07	1:07
20	1:16	6:31	9:16	1:46	4	1:07	6:22	8:52	1:37
21	2:01	7:01	10:31	2:31	5	1:37	6:37	9:37	2:07
22	2:46	7:31	—	3:31	6	2:22	7:07	10:37	2:52
23	8:01	12:01	—	4:31	7	3:07	7:37	11:37	3:37
24	8:46	1:16	—	5:46	8	4:07	8:22	12:37	4:37
25	8:31	2:01	12:01	7:16	9	6:07	9:37	—	5:37
26	9:01	2:31	2:16	8:16	10	11:52	1:22	—	6:52
27	9:31	3:01	3:16	9:01	11	8:52	2:07	2:22	8:07
28	3:16	9:46	9:46	4:16	12	2:52	9:37	3:52	9:22
29	3:46	10:16	10:16	4:46	13	3:22	10:22	10:22	4:52
30	4:01	10:46	11:01	5:31	14	3:52	10:52	11:07	5:52
					15	4:22	11:37	11:52	6:52
					16	—	5:07	7:37	12:22

LETTERS

THE HERO NEXT DOOR

I would like to recognize the latest good deed of our neighbor, Andy Donahue, following a recent snowfall and ice storm.

In early January of this year, my wife, Julia, had foot surgery and was confined to the house for three weeks. One week after her surgery, we returned home from a follow-up appointment with her podiatrist to find that we had almost no water pressure. I soon discovered why: An outdoor spigot on the water line that supplies our house had burst and all our water was gushing across the frozen ground.

With a flashlight and water shutoff tool, I found the water main and stopped the flow. Just after I did, Andy and his son, Drew, stopped to investigate when they saw my vehicle parked off the road. I told them about the burst spigot and about my wife's recent surgery. Without hesitation, Andy offered to go home, get his tools, and come back and repair the spigot to restore water to our house. Since it was well after dark, I declined his offer, but he promised he would check it for me the next day.

Despite having an out-of-town family obligation, Andy, true to his word, returned the next day and had replaced the spigot by the time I got home from work. He even took the extra step of checking on my house-bound wife asking if there was anything he could do for her!

This is not the only good deed Andy Donahue has done for us, but his latest selfless act came at a time when we truly needed assistance. He is adamant about not accepting payment for his help, so I sincerely hope your recognition of him will convey our sincerest appreciation for our good neighbor.

ROBERT AND JULIA THOMAS, GAFFNEY

Write **SCL**

Letters to the editor

We love hearing from our readers. Tell us what you think about this issue, send us story suggestions or just let us know what's on your mind by writing to Letters, South Carolina Living, 808 Knox Abbott Drive, Cayce, SC 29033. You can also e-mail us at letters@scliving.coop or send a note by fax to (803) 796-6064. All letters received are subject to editing before publication.



JASON CLARKE



ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Tip of the Month

Check your HVAC system's air filter monthly. If it looks dirty, change it. A dirty filter makes your system work harder.

SOURCE: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

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Family matters



MIKE COUICK
President and
CEO, The Electric
Cooperatives of
South Carolina

IN THE AUGUST 2010 ISSUE OF THIS MAGAZINE, we brought you the story “Saving South Carolina’s Lost Children,” which examined the issues surrounding foster care and adoption in the Palmetto State.

The article was more than just a compelling read, it was a call to action, and it came as no surprise to me that members of our electric cooperatives were quick to respond. Concern for Community is one of the seven cooperative principles, and when our members learned that thousands of children lacked safe, stable homes, they didn’t just shake their heads and wonder why “somebody” wasn’t doing more to solve the problem—they got involved.

“The response to the article was overwhelming,” says Naomi Torfin, executive director of Children Come First (CCF), a nonprofit advocacy group seeking innovative approaches to foster care and adoption in South Carolina. “We realized how many people out there are willing to open their hearts and their homes.”

For all who took action, I am grateful. In addition to being the proud father of two adopted children, I am privileged to serve on the CCF board. Along with other child welfare agencies, we are collaborating with the Joint Citizen’s and Legislative Committee on Children, the United Way, the Duke Endowment and the S.C. Department of Social Services to reassess our state’s approach to children in crisis. At any

given time, there are approximately 5,000 kids in state foster care, and our goal is to dramatically reduce that number by helping families stay together and by shortening the time it takes to find permanent homes for the children who need them.

Children who have been victims of abuse and neglect, or who have seen their family disintegrate in the wake of tragedy, need stability in their lives. To quote my good friend George Milner, chairman of the CCF board, “No foster youth likes the uncertainty of not having a family and not knowing where he or she will be living. Permanent families eliminate that fear and let children focus on learning how to be productive contributors to society.”

Make no mistake: Reducing the number of children in foster care, and improving the outcomes for those already there, will be a challenge. In a typical year, social service workers investigate 19,000 calls reporting abuse or neglect, representing more than 40,000 children. About 15,000 of these children are found to be at serious risk. Of those cases, 11,000 children will stay with their parents, assisted by in-home counseling and other services designed to keep the family intact, but about 4,000 children will enter foster care.

The problems that tear families apart are as old as humanity itself. So are the solutions. Volunteers who mentor foster children, become foster parents, adopt foster children and who support sound public policy on child welfare issues, are vital to the cause of creating a brighter future for kids in need. If you feel compelled to get involved, listed at left are six organizations that can use your help.

Children Come First, scchildrencomefirst.org

SC Heart Gallery, scheartgallery.org

The S.C. Foster Parent Association, scfpa.com

S.C. Department of Social Services, dss.sc.gov

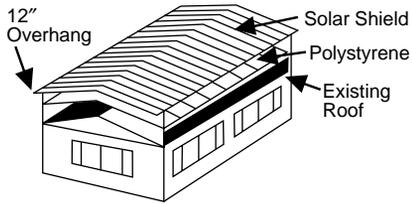
S.C. Guardian Ad Litem Program, oepp.sc.gov/gal

S.C. Children’s Foster Care Review Board, oepp.sc.gov/fcrb

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\$125,000	\$624.11	30 YR. Fixed	4.37%	4.56%
\$200,000	\$998.57	30 YR. Fixed	4.37%	4.53%
\$75,000	\$557.77	15 YR. Fixed	4.00%	4.51%
\$125,000	\$924.61	15 YR. Fixed	4.00%	4.51%
\$200,000	\$1,468.88	15 YR. Fixed	3.87%	4.19%

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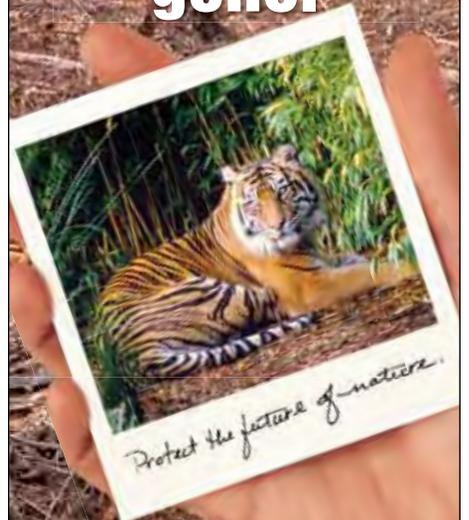
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Electric yard tools save money

Q Are electric yard tools cheaper to use than gasoline-powered tools? And what should consumers look for when shopping for electric models?

A For most homeowners, electric yard tools are clearly a better option than gasoline-powered devices. By my estimates, an electric lawn mower will use about 10 cents of electricity to cut a one-third-acre lot. Given today's spiking petroleum prices, it's a safe bet you can't cover that much ground on a dime's worth of unleaded.

From hedge trimmers to lawnmowers to small chain saws, there's an electric-powered option for just about every type of yard tool a homeowner needs. Whether you choose cordless, rechargeable electric tools or old-fashioned plug-in models is a matter of personal preference and convenient access to outlets. As a general rule, I recommend cordless rechargeable models because there's no hassle with extension cords, but cordless tools are somewhat heavier.

When shopping for cordless electric



The 36-volt battery in this Black & Decker cordless mower can be removed for convenient charging and winter storage.

JAMES DULLEY

tools, a key component to consider is the rechargeable battery pack—they vary in battery life, weight and cost. The four basic types of batteries used are lead-acid, nickel-cadmium, nickel metal-hydrate and lithium-ion.

Lead-acid batteries are used in cordless lawn mowers because they can store the most charge and they are relatively inexpensive. Their drawback is weight. In a tool such as a lawn mower, this is not a major problem. For hand-held yard tools, however, having a lead-acid battery hanging on the handle can wear out your arm rather quickly.

Nickel-cadmium (Ni-Cd) batteries were used on some of the earliest cordless tools and are still found in some smaller devices today. They are relatively inexpensive, and they maintain their performance at cooler temperatures—an important feature for tools used outdoors. Ni-Cd batteries are relatively heavy, however.

Nickel metal-hydrate (Ni-Mh) batteries weigh about the same as Ni-Cd

batteries, but they can store more electricity. They are also more expensive to make. Ni-Mh batteries tend to lose runtime in colder temperatures and their life (the length of the run/charge cycle) is shorter than for Ni-Cd batteries.

Lithium-ion (Li-ion) batteries are the latest in battery technology. They are the most expensive type of battery but also the lightest for the power they can store. Li-ion batteries operate very well at cold temperatures, but they can take longer to charge than Ni-Cd or Ni-Mh batteries.

When shopping for cordless tools, you don't necessarily want the highest voltage. No matter what type of battery a tool uses, higher voltage means more battery weight. If you primarily do light yard work, lower-voltage tools will have plenty of power to get the job done. ☺

Send questions to Energy Q&A, South Carolina Living, 808 Knox Abbott Drive, Cayce SC 29033, e-mail energyqa@scliving.coop or fax (803) 739-3041.

GetMore

For more information on electric lawnmowers, see "A greener way to mow your lawn," on page 15 of the October 2010 issue of *South Carolina Living*. It's also available online at SCLiving.coop.

The following companies offer cordless lawn mowers and tools:

- ▶ Black & Decker, (800) 544-6986, blackanddecker.com
- ▶ Homelite, (800) 242-4672, homelite.com
- ▶ Husqvarna, (800) 438-7297, husqvarna.com
- ▶ Neuton, (800) 798-2921, neutonpower.com
- ▶ Toro, (888) 384-9939, toro.com

HEALTH INSURANCE

Monthly Rates

Age	Insured	With Spouse	With Child(ren)	Family
0-30	\$169	\$249	\$259	\$329
31-40	\$239	\$369	\$379	\$519
41-50	\$299	\$499	\$509	\$719
51-65	\$339	\$579	\$589	\$819

WHOLE LIFE

\$10,000*

Monthly Rates

Age	M	F	Age	M	F
50	\$26	\$21	70	\$67	\$51
55	\$33	\$26	75	\$94	\$70
60	\$41	\$32	80	\$134	\$101
65	\$52	\$41	85	\$185	\$153

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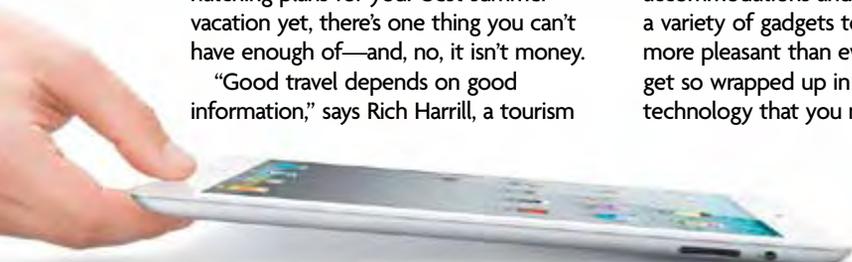
WHETHER YOU'RE PLANNING A SPRING GET AWAY to see some of South Carolina's historic Civil War sites (see page 21) or hatching plans for your best summer vacation yet, there's one thing you can't have enough of—and, no, it isn't money.

"Good travel depends on good information," says Rich Harrill, a tourism

industry expert at the University of South Carolina. Today's travelers can turn to the Internet for details on destinations, accommodations and attractions, and use a variety of gadgets to make getting there more pleasant than ever before. Just don't get so wrapped up in all the travel-related technology that you miss the fun of the

journey itself, he warns. "An overreliance on gadgetry can cause people to lose track of travel. Be open to stumbling on a fine restaurant. Use technology to enhance the trip, not to replace it."

Here are some of our favorite gadgets to help you make the most of your next, well-earned vacation.



MEDIA TO GO

Long trips pass quickly if you're pleasantly distracted, and when it comes to distractions you can't beat the new iPad 2 tablet computers with 3G network capability. This mobile media center runs up to 10 hours on a single charge—plenty of time to read digital books, magazines and newspapers, listen to music, watch streaming movies or television, surf the Web, check e-mail, play games (Who's up for a round of Angry Birds?), update your Facebook page, send a Tweet, make a video call, edit your home movies.... The 3G-capable units start at \$629; monthly wireless data plans start at \$15. Prices vary for digital content, games, movies and music. (800) 692-7753; store.apple.com.



GETTING THERE

LUGGAGE SECURITY

The ReuniteIT luggage security kit (brought to you by the folks at LoJack) is designed to help you recover lost or stolen bags and other valuables. Each \$15 kit includes two bag tags, two tag straps and four key tags that you register with the company's website. Any Good Samaritan who finds your missing items can report the find on the Web or by calling an 800 number on the tag, leading to a speedy return of your stuff. (800) 916-2545; reuniteit.com.

COMFORT ZONE

Frequent travelers rely on noise-reducing headphone systems like the Sennheiser PXC 310 to help them block out the world, so they can work or sleep on planes and in airports. These on-ear, mini headphones are compact, foldable and cancel out 90 percent of active noise. A clever talk-through feature allows you to have a conversation when you want to be social, and they are compatible with all 3.5mm headphone plugs. \$300. (888) 237-8289; bestbuy.com.

VESTED TECHNOLOGY

Gadget freaks who like to keep their toys handy and avoid baggage fees at the same time, will love the Scottevest line of travel clothing, including the new men's lightweight vest with 22—count 'em, 22—handy gadget pockets. A specially designed PadPocket will hold a tablet computer or a small laptop, and clear pockets allow touchscreen phones to be operated through the fabric. The machine-washable vest is \$100. (866) 909-8378; scottevest.com.



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The Sealife company has long been known for its completely waterproof point-and-shoot digital camera systems. The latest is the Mini II SSL330 with easy-to-use 3-button operation so you can get pictures in, around and even under the water without worry. It's depth tested to 130 feet, shockproof to withstand 6-foot drops and rubberized for easy gripping. Features include instant focus from 2 feet to infinity, video mode, auto underwater color correction and high-resolution capability. \$230. (800) 999-3483, divers-supply.com.

DRY DOCK

Most electronic gadgets don't mix well with water and sand, so the OtterBox line of safety cases provides watertight protection. The OtterBox 1000 Series is the right size to protect digital cameras, cell phones, credit cards, keys and wallets from crushing damage in addition to being fully submersible up to 100 feet. \$11.50. (888) 695-8820; otterbox.com.



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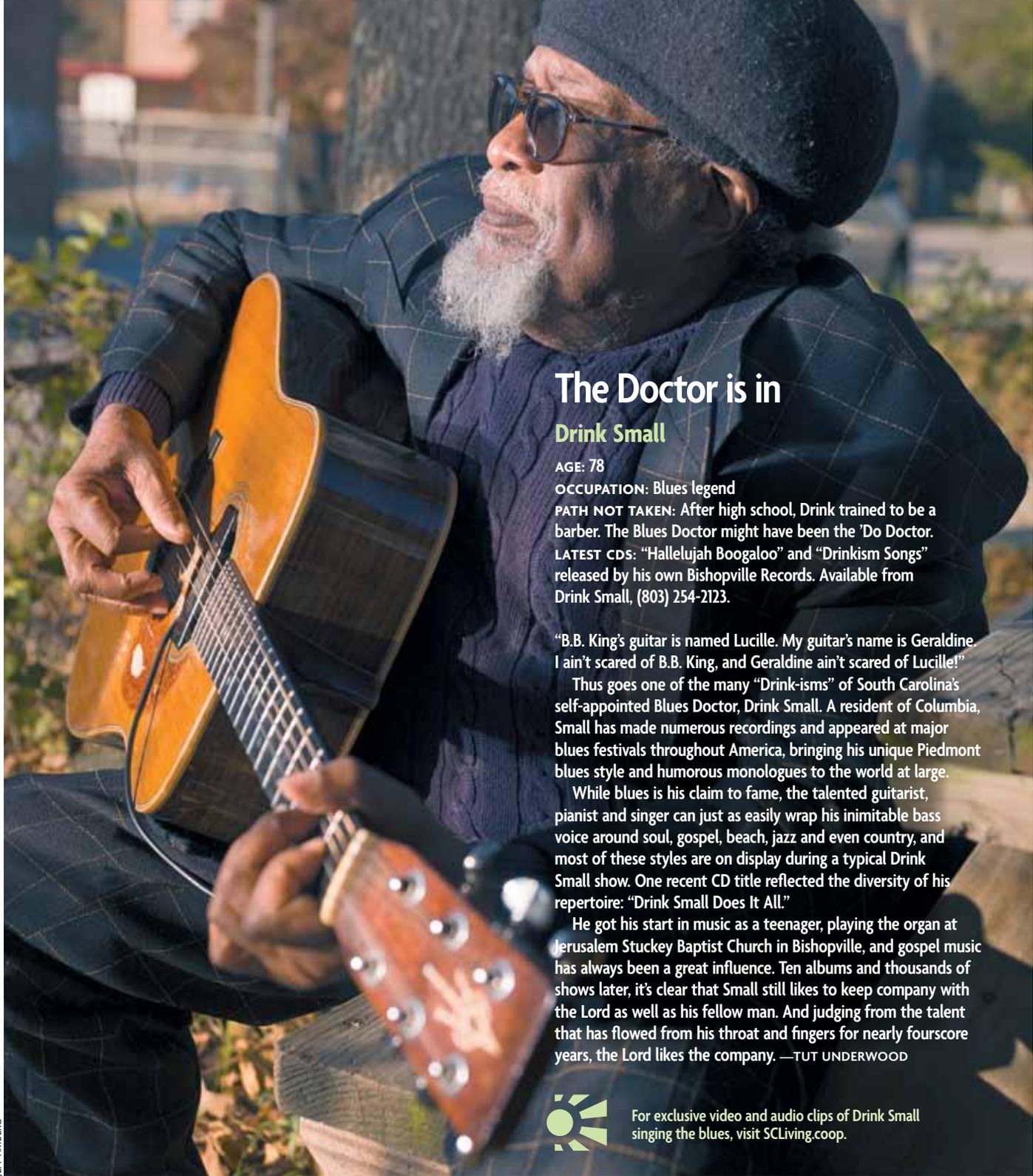
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The Doctor is in

Drink Small

AGE: 78

OCCUPATION: Blues legend

PATH NOT TAKEN: After high school, Drink trained to be a barber. The Blues Doctor might have been the 'Do Doctor.

LATEST CDS: "Hallelujah Boogaloo" and "Drinkism Songs" released by his own Bishopville Records. Available from Drink Small, (803) 254-2123.

"B.B. King's guitar is named Lucille. My guitar's name is Geraldine. I ain't scared of B.B. King, and Geraldine ain't scared of Lucille!"

Thus goes one of the many "Drink-isms" of South Carolina's self-appointed Blues Doctor, Drink Small. A resident of Columbia, Small has made numerous recordings and appeared at major blues festivals throughout America, bringing his unique Piedmont blues style and humorous monologues to the world at large.

While blues is his claim to fame, the talented guitarist, pianist and singer can just as easily wrap his inimitable bass voice around soul, gospel, beach, jazz and even country, and most of these styles are on display during a typical Drink Small show. One recent CD title reflected the diversity of his repertoire: "Drink Small Does It All."

He got his start in music as a teenager, playing the organ at Jerusalem Stuckey Baptist Church in Bishopville, and gospel music has always been a great influence. Ten albums and thousands of shows later, it's clear that Small still likes to keep company with the Lord as well as his fellow man. And judging from the talent that has flowed from his throat and fingers for nearly fourscore years, the Lord likes the company. —TUT UNDERWOOD



For exclusive video and audio clips of Drink Small singing the blues, visit SCLiving.coop.

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CITRUS GARLIC SHRIMP LINGUINE

SERVES 6

- ½ cup olive oil
- ½ cup orange juice
- ⅓ cup lemon juice
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- 5 teaspoons grated lemon peel
- 4 teaspoons grated orange peel
- 1 teaspoon salt
- ¼ teaspoon black pepper
- 1 pound linguine, uncooked
- 1 pound shrimp, uncooked and peeled
- 2 tablespoons corn starch
- Parmesan cheese, shredded

Combine the first eight ingredients in a large skillet and heat through. Begin to cook linguine according to package directions. Add shrimp to citrus garlic mixture and cook 5 minutes until shrimp turn pink. Mix in corn starch. Drain linguine and transfer to serving platter. Top with shrimp and sauce. Sprinkle with Parmesan cheese.

ROY & KATHY COCKFIELD, HEMINGWAY

Send us recipes! We welcome recipes for all seasons: appetizers, salads, main courses, side dishes, desserts and beverages. Selected original recipes win a \$10 Bi-Lo gift card.

ABOUT SUBMITTING RECIPES Entries must include your name, mailing address and phone number. When writing recipes, please specify ingredient measurements. Instead of “one can” or “two packages,” specify “one 12-ounce can” or “two 8-ounce packages.” Note the number of servings or yield. Recipes are not tested.

Send recipes to South Carolina Living, 808 Knox Abbott Drive, Cayce, SC 29033, by e-mail to recipe@scliving.coop, or by fax to (803) 739-3041.



© CATHERINE LANE/STOCKPHOTO

RISEN BISCUITS IN A BREAD CORNUCOPIA

MAKES APPROXIMATELY 50 BISCUITS

- 2 packets or 2 tablespoons of yeast
- 4 cups water
- ½ cup honey
- ⅛ cup oil
- 2 teaspoons salt
- 8–9 cups bread flour

Mix ingredients together in a large bowl. On a lightly floured surface, knead dough into a ball shape. Let dough rise 1 hour. Cut biscuits into desired shape and size. Let rise for 45 minutes to 1 hour, or until they double in size. Place on a baking sheet, then bake in a preheated oven at 400 degrees for 25 minutes or until done.

BREAD CORNUCOPIA

Risen Biscuits dough

Roll of aluminum foil

Cooking and butter spray

Prepare the dough using the Risen Biscuits recipe. Crunch the foil to make the shape of a horn. Spray liberally with cooking spray. Place on a cookie sheet covered with non-stick aluminum foil. Roll out long strips of dough, ¼-inch in diameter or smaller because they will double in size when allowed to rise. Starting at the wide end, wrap strips of dough around the foil horn, sealing the ends together. Continue wrapping to the tip end of the foil horn leaving no gaps between the strips. Take small balls of dough and place around the base to give it a finished look. Let dough rise until it doubles in size. Bake at 400 degrees for 25–30 minutes or until golden brown. Remove from oven and spray with butter spray. Cool completely to set. Remove the foil horn little by little. Fill with risen biscuits or rolls.

ANN RAMNEY, SALEM

PAT'S COUNTRY FRIED PORK AND PEPPERS

SERVES 4

- 4 boneless pork cube steak, ¾-inch thick
- 6 tablespoons cornmeal
- 4 tablespoons flour
- 1 teaspoon paprika
- ½ teaspoon garlic salt
- ½ teaspoon onion powder
- ¼ teaspoon ground black pepper
- ¼ teaspoon cumin
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 medium green bell pepper, cut in strips
- 1 medium sweet, red bell pepper, cut in strips



© TIM BUCKNER/STOCKPHOTO

Pound pork to ¼-inch thickness. In a medium bowl, stir together the cornmeal, flour, paprika, garlic salt, onion powder, black pepper and cumin. Dip pork in water, allowing excess water to drip off and dredge both sides in cornmeal mixture. In large skillet, heat olive oil. Cook pork over medium heat for 4 minutes. Turn over and add pepper strips to skillet. Cook 4 more minutes or until pork is nicely browned and just slightly pink in the center. Remove pork from skillet. Cook peppers an additional 1–2 minutes, if necessary, until tender.

PAT CARTEE, YORK

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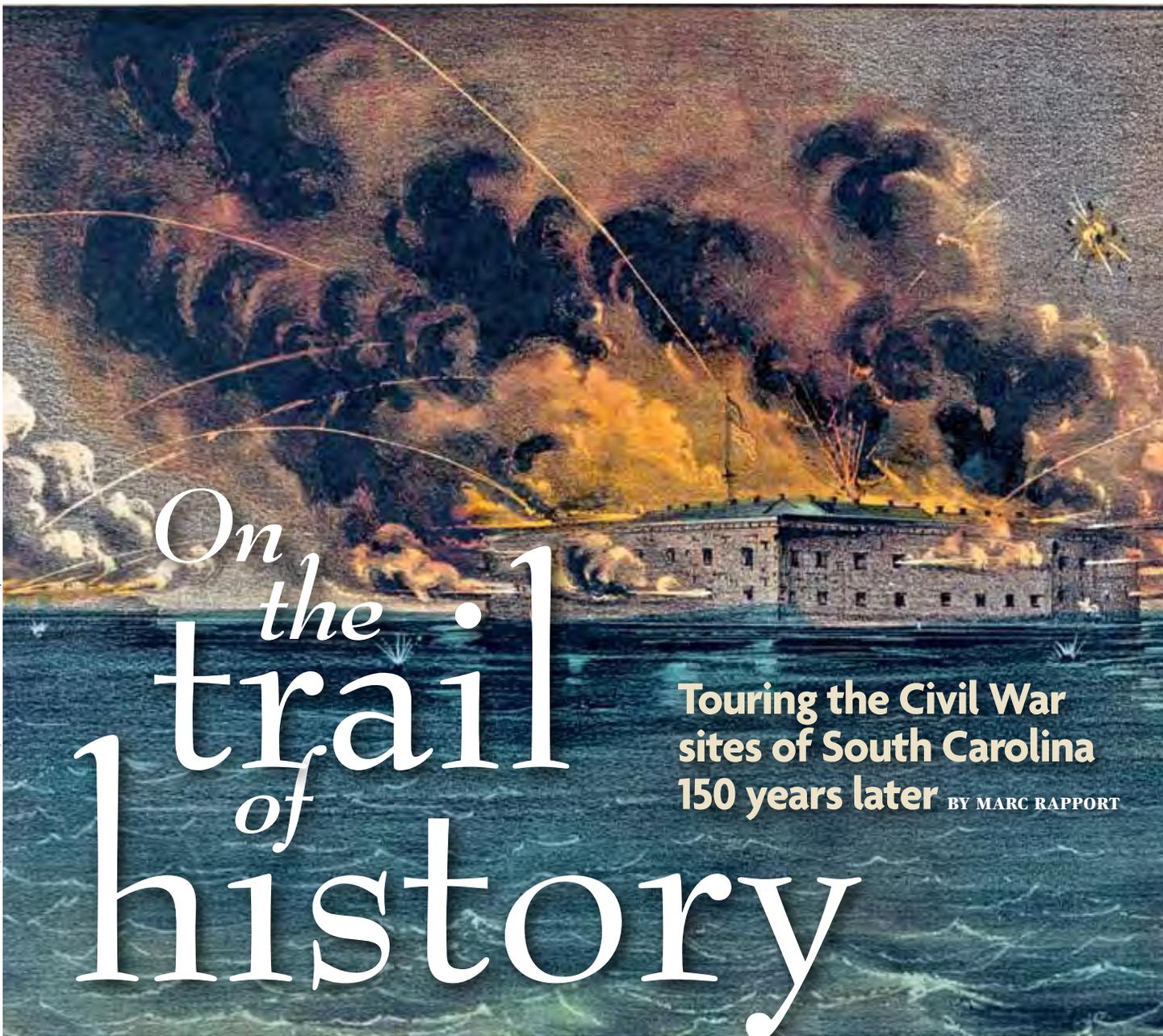
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On the trail of history

Touring the Civil War sites of South Carolina 150 years later BY MARC RAPPOR

The fiery voices of secession had carried the day. Reveling in South Carolina's newly declared independence from the Union, Gov. Francis W. Pickens

demanded that federal troops garrisoned in Fort Sumter, one of several outposts guarding Charleston Harbor, abandon their position. Rebels controlled all of the other coastal defenses, including Fort Moultrie, on the southern tip of Sullivan's Island, and Fort Johnson, on the northern end of James Island, and under secession flags, Confederate troops trained their cannons on Sumter's brick enclosures.

The tension broke at 4:30 a.m., April 12, 1861, when a 10-inch mortar round fired from Fort Johnson began a 34-hour exchange of artillery fire that lit up the sky and marked the first battle of the U.S. Civil War.

SPRING & SUMMER TRAVEL GUIDE

The war that forever changed the course of our nation began—and some say officially ended—right here in South Carolina. To mark the 150th anniversary of the conflict, *South Carolina Living* presents this travel guide to our state's most significant Civil

War sites, parks and museums. From the opening salvo against Fort Sumter in Charleston, to the collapse of the Confederate government at the Burt-Stark Mansion in Abbeville, to the dawn of a new era for former slaves at the Penn Center on St. Helena Island, these unique places provide a living sense of history and a way for families to enjoy a day together exploring modern-day South Carolina.

CHARLESTON

Where it all began

As the Confederate assault on Fort Sumter wore on through its first day, jubilant Charlestonians flocked to the waterfront streets to watch the fireworks. Some sipped cocktails from their balconies, unaware that the events unfolding before them were the start of what would become one of the bloodiest conflicts in human history. The battle ended when the federal troops, outgunned and low on provisions, surrendered the fort, but Charleston paid the price for rebellion over the next four years as the Union Navy blockaded and bombarded the city until the war's end in 1865.

Fort Sumter National Monument

Located on a man-made island at the mouth of Charleston Harbor, Fort Sumter is surprisingly serene, especially when you consider its violent history. “It’s such a beautiful, scenic place to visit it’s hard to imagine what was happening then, but you can see exactly where it all took place, and it really sticks with you when you stand out there and feel it,” says Michael Allen, a National Park Service historian.



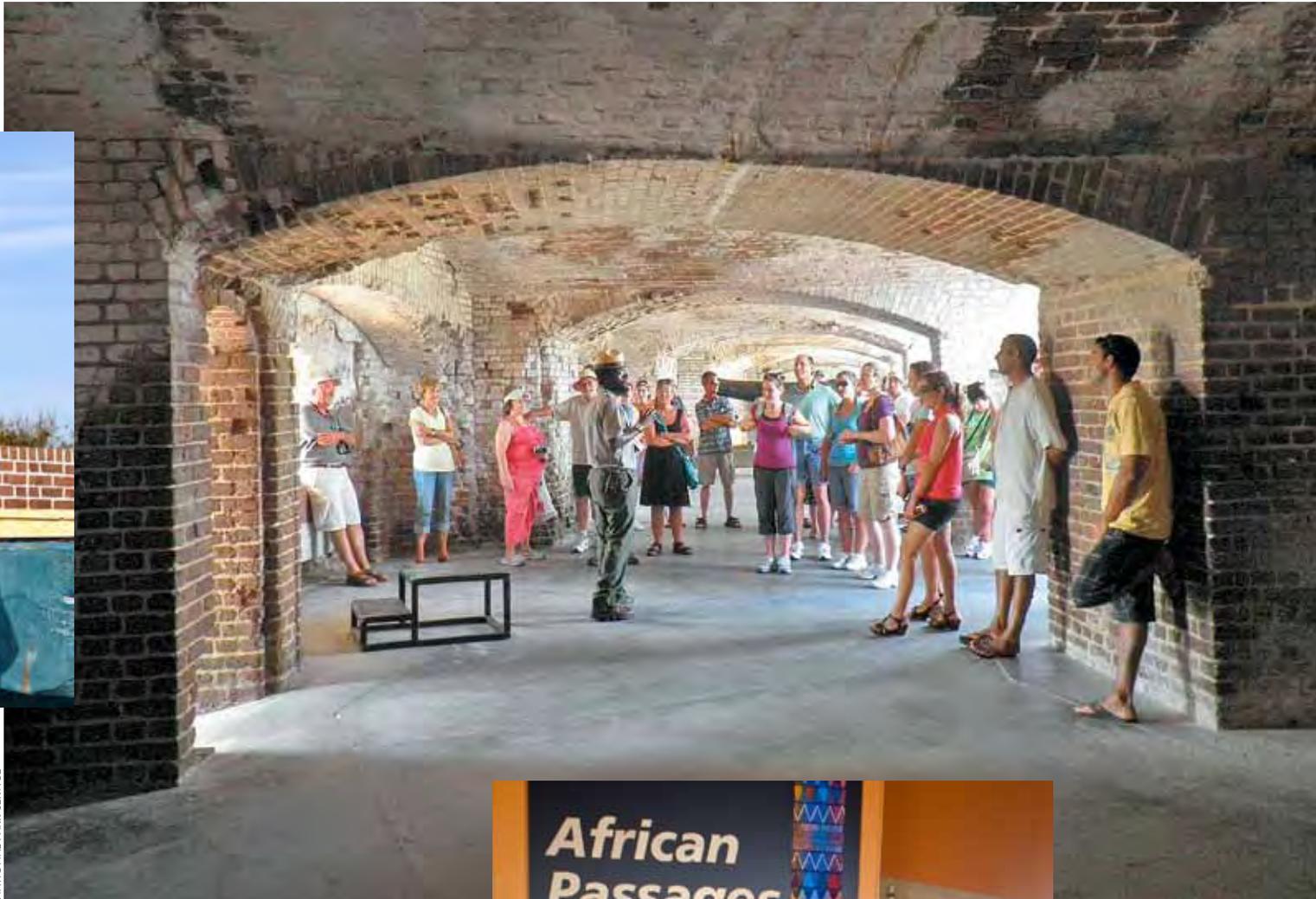
MILTON MORRIS

Fort Sumter, Fort Moultrie on nearby Sullivan’s Island, and a Visitor Education Center on Liberty Square in downtown Charleston, are all part of the Fort Sumter National Monument, but each is a distinct attraction in its own right. Displays at the education center walk visitors through the events leading up to the firing on Fort Sumter and include a stunning 20-by-36-foot replica of the flag that flew over the fort during the battle. Fort Sumter itself is accessible by ferry boats that leave from the center and from Patriots Point. Rangers greet the boats dockside to narrate the events that took place in 1861, then visitors are free to roam the grounds guided by interpretive exhibits describing the fort’s unique place in history.

Fort Moultrie, accessible by car, has its own visitor center documenting the fort’s use from the Revolutionary War period all the way up to World War II. Exhibits also explore the sometimes gritty reality of the state’s history and the build-up to the Civil War. A highlight is the dramatic “African Passage” exhibit, a heart-wrenching examination of the slave trade including the meticulously documented story of Priscilla, a 10-year-old girl taken captive in Sierra Leone and shipped to America in 1756. Also on site is a monument—a simple bench put in place by the Toni Morrison Society—marking the very

ANDREW CHAPMAN & SHARI WOLFGANG





NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Sesquicentennial events at Fort Sumter National Monument are designed to tell the whole story of the events before, during and after the Civil War, says Michael Allen, a historian and community relations specialist with the National Park Service. At Fort Moultrie on Sullivan's Island (opposite page) visitors can peer down the barrel of a cannon aimed at Fort Sumter and imagine the war's first battle from the rebel side, while ranger-guided tours of Fort Sumter itself (above) provide the perspective of besieged federal troops.

spot where at least one-fourth of all the enslaved Africans brought to America first landed.

Telling the full history of the events surrounding the war is important, Allen says, even if it's sometimes painful.

"The National Park Service sees all this as an opportunity to meet our goal of telling the broad-based story of what happened here," he says. "We're working with partners who have come together to tell the story of what happened in the battlefield, who wore the gray and blue uniforms, who pulled the lanyard to fire the first cannon, but also those on the home front, who managed affairs while relatives were away,



LEFT: MILTON MORRIS; BELOW: KEITH PHILLIPS

Exhibits, including "African Passages" at the Fort Moultrie visitor center and "The First Shot" at the Fort Sumter Visitor Education Center in downtown Charleston, explore the cultural and military aspects of the war.

and the role of the African-Americans whose freedom came out of this."

★ Fort Sumter National Monument is open year-round except for New Year's Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas. Hours vary by site and season. For details, visit nps.gov/fosu or call (843) 883-3123. For Fort Sumter ferry information, visit spiritlinecruises.com or call (800) 789-3678.



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- The United Daughters of the Confederacy Museum
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- The Charleston Museum
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Warren Lasch Conservation Center

One of the great mysteries of the Civil War—the fate of the Confederate submarine *H.L. Hunley*—has puzzled historians ever since the night of Feb. 17, 1864, when the human-powered craft became the first submarine to sink an enemy ship in combat. Under the command of Lt. George Dixon, an eight-man crew drove an explosive spar into the side of the warship *USS Housatonic*, sinking the blockade vessel. Dixon signaled the success of his mission by lighting a blue lantern, but the sub never made it back.

In 2000, marine archeologists raised the intact submarine from the muddy floor of the harbor, and placed it in a 90,000-gallon conservation tank located in the former Navy yard in North

Charleston. In the years since, researchers have recovered and buried with military honors the remains of the crewmen, restored numerous artifacts and rewritten the history books on how the sub was constructed and operated. But they have yet to determine exactly why it sank.

The search for answers continues, funded in part by admission fees from weekend visitors to the Warren Lasch Conservation Center. A highlight of the behind-the-scenes tour is peering down into the tank that holds the historic vessel. “One thing that strikes you immediately is how small it is and that eight men were able to squeeze in there and power it by hand,” says Kellen Correia, executive director of the Friends of the Hunley, which operates the facility. “And then there’s the emotional component, as you think of the bravery that allowed them to get in there and do what they did.”

Interactive exhibits detail the operation of the sub, what historians think happened that fateful night and the biographies of the crew. Among the remarkable artifacts on display is the bent gold piece found with the remains of Lt. Dixon. A bullet struck the coin during the battle of Shiloh in 1862, sparing Dixon’s life, and he kept it for the rest of his numbered days as a good luck charm bearing the inscription, “My Life Preserver.”

★ Warren Lasch Conservation Center is open Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. For details, visit hunley.org or call (843) 743-4865.



The Warren Lasch Conservation Center is a working laboratory that opens its doors to visitors on weekends. Interactive displays allow kids of all ages to experience what it was like to be a crewman on the *H.L. Hunley*. On behind-the-scenes tours, visitors can view the submarine inside its 90,000-gallon preservation tank and examine restored artifacts, including Lt. Dixon’s bent gold coin.



PHOTOS: FRIENDS OF THE HUNLEY

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The Penn Center stands on the site of the South's first school for freed slaves, which opened on St. Helena Island in 1862 during Union occupation. Today it serves as a center for preserving and interpreting Gullah culture. Visitors to the gift shop can purchase authentic Gullah crafts including quilts and sweetgrass baskets.

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Visit SCLiving.coop for even more Lowcountry historic sites, including:

- Beaufort National Cemetery



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Beginning with the Battle of Port Royal Sound in November 1861, the Civil War ran a violent, tumultuous course through the Lowcountry. Beaufort was the first Southern city occupied by the Union, and the U.S. Navy soon established its southern Atlantic blockade headquarters on Hilton Head Island. Slavery was abolished on the Sea Islands, followed shortly by the birth of one of the most significant African-American history sites in the country, the Penn Center.

Penn School National Landmark Historic District

Shrouded by ancient oaks and tucked away on a still-rural stretch of St. Helena Island, the Penn School National Landmark Historic District is the site of the South's first school for freed slaves. The 50-acre campus operated as a school until 1953, when it became a conference facility. During the Civil Rights era, it famously hosted strategic retreats led by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and members of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. Today, it also serves as a Gullah cultural center dedicated to preserving the language and traditions handed down from former slaves to their modern descendants.

"Our visitors often tell us they get a sense of awe when they come here, both because they never realized there's so much here at the Penn Center itself, and because it's their first exposure, many times, to real Gullah culture and language," says Rosalyn Brown, the center's director of history and culture.

Brown points guests to the York W. Bailey

Museum, which shares the cultural legacy of the Gullah people and offers a gift shop featuring sweetgrass baskets, quilts, Gullah memorabilia and books. While you're there, make sure to see the ETV-produced film documenting the Penn Center's history. Also onsite: the Laura M. Townes Archives and Library. Open by appointment only, it features one of the oldest collections of African-American photographs in the country.

Visitors to Penn Center also can participate in the Gullah praise tradition of community sings held every third Sunday from September to May, as well as the annual Penn Center Heritage Days celebration during the second weekend in November.

★ The Penn Center is open daily, except Sundays, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. For details, visit penncenter.com or call (843) 838-2474.

Robert Smalls Monument

Robert Smalls escaped slavery in December 1862 by seizing a Confederate steamer, sailing it past rebel sentries in Charleston Harbor and delivering it to the U.S. Navy. After serving with distinction as a Union officer, he became one of the first African Americans elected to Congress. A monument to Smalls marks his burial site on the grounds of Tabernacle Baptist Church at 911 Craven St. in Beaufort. His former home at 511 Prince Street is on the National Register of Historic Places and makes for a nice photo op, but it's a private residence so there are no tours.

★ The Tabernacle Baptist Church grounds are open daily during daylight hours. For details, visit beaufort-sc.com/history or call (843) 524-0376.



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Sherman's first stop

After burning Atlanta and capturing Savannah, the Union Army under Gen. William Tecumseh Sherman turned its attention to the capture of Columbia in the early days of 1865.



Interpretive trails and a monument to fallen Confederates soldiers at Rivers Bridge State Historic Site lead visitors through the battle that took place Feb. 2-3, 1865.



PHOTOS: SCSPRT

Rivers Bridge State Historic Site

Sherman's march into South Carolina encountered its first serious resistance on the banks of the Salkehatchie River at what is now Rivers Bridge State Historic Site near Ehrhardt. Here, in the deep, swampy woods, the still-intact earthen fortifications bear silent witness to the fierce battle that raged on Feb. 2-3, 1865. Rivers Bridge is the only state-protected Civil War battlefield site in South Carolina, and an interpretive trail takes visitors along the silent breastworks where men on both sides fought and died.

"This is one of those special places where you can get a sense of reverence and awe just

thinking about what happened here and the tragic loss on both sides," said Phil Gaines, director of the S.C. State Park Service. "Maybe it's the remote location and the deep woods and swamps, but sometimes you can just feel the desperation the Confederates must have felt and the wonder the northern troops must have felt, seeing such a different place than where they were from."

★ Rivers Bridge State Historic Site is open daily from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission is free. For details, visit southcarolinaparks.com or call (803) 267-3675.

Redcliffe Plantation State Historic Site

"Cotton is king!" roared South Carolina Senator James Henry Hammond in 1858 as the halls of Congress shook and war drew ever nearer. Hammond, also a former governor, knew a thing or two about cotton from his life at Redcliffe, his plantation near the Savannah River where he experimented with crops and planted uniform rows of magnolia trees that still line the lane to the manse. Donated to the state in 1973, the Greek Revival house and grounds—including preserved slave quarters and an heirloom garden—are open year-round offering a variety of seasonal interpretive programs.

★ Redcliffe Plantation State Historic Site is open Thursday to Monday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For details, visit southcarolinaparks.com or call (803) 827-1473.



Visitors to Redcliffe Plantation State Historic Site can explore the grounds for a glimpse of what life was like in antebellum South Carolina.



PHOTOS: REDCLIFFE PLANTATION

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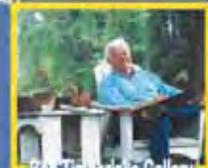


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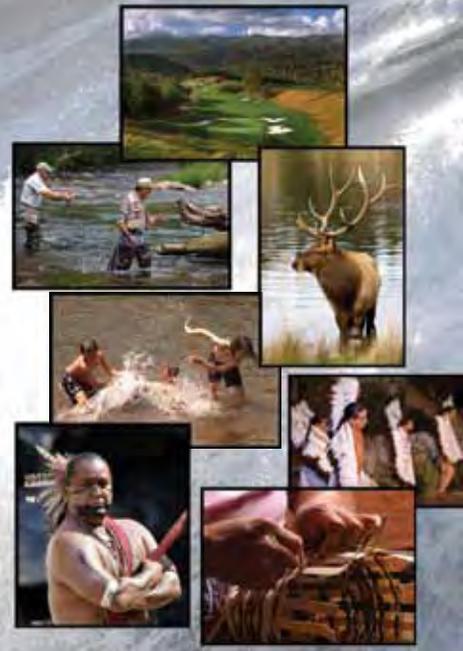
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SOUTH CAROLINA STATE MUSEUM

An 1860 Palmetto Flag from "The Coming of the Civil War" at the South Carolina State Museum.

COLUMBIA

The burning question

This much we know: Union troops were in control of Columbia on the night of Feb. 17, 1865, when a cotton-fueled fire leveled much of the city. Whether the fire was accidental, as Union soldiers claimed, or vengeance, as Confederates alleged, has never been determined for sure. Today, however, the capital city is an ideal place to learn more about the Civil War.

South Carolina State Museum

While the life-size replica of the *H.L. Hunley* has long been a popular exhibit at the South Carolina State Museum, the curators are marking the sesquicentennial by adding

new Civil War sections each year for the next four years.

The first exhibit, "The Coming of the Civil War," focuses on the causes and defining moments leading to the outbreak of hostilities. It includes such items as a table and chairs from the secession convention at Columbia's First Baptist Church, a diorama of a secession ball in Charleston and a copy of the Ordinance of Secession.

"Items like an 1860 Palmetto Flag really give you a feel for the new sense of independence from the rest of the union that South Carolinians were feeling in those days," says Fritz Hamer, the museum's curator.

Other items, such as a 10-inch mortar shell very similar to those fired at Fort Sumter, speak to their deadly serious intent to secure that independence.

The next exhibit opens July 22. "The Civil War in South Carolina: Duty to State and Family" focuses on the formation of military units and their service and sacrifice throughout the war. "We'll also have a section on African-Americans from South Carolina, on where they fought for the Union and those who worked for the Confederacy," Hamer says.

★ The South Carolina State Museum is open year-round Tuesday to Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sundays from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. The museum is also open on Mondays from Memorial Day through Labor Day. For details, visit southcarolinastatemuseum.org or call (803) 898-4921.

GET MORE ONLINE

Visit SCLiving.coop for even more historic sites in Columbia, including:

- The South Carolina Confederate Relic Room & Military Museum
- The South Carolina State House
- Riverbanks Zoo & Garden
- Battle for Columbia re-enactment

And in the Pee Dee region, including:

- Bloomsbury Inn in Camden
- The Jacob Kelly House near Hartsville

MIDLANDS TO THE PEEDEE

The Union advances

Done with Columbia, Sherman's army advanced toward North Carolina roughly following the route that is now U.S. 1, and passing through Camden, Hartsville and Cheraw en route.



SCRPRT

The Cheraw Lyceum

Sherman himself stayed in the Chesterfield County town of Cheraw for several days in early March of 1865, where his men, town history has it, celebrated Lincoln's second inauguration by drinking and looting. Although the visit was punctuated by an accidental explosion of captured Confederate gunpowder that razed most of the downtown business district, more than 50 antebellum buildings are still standing.

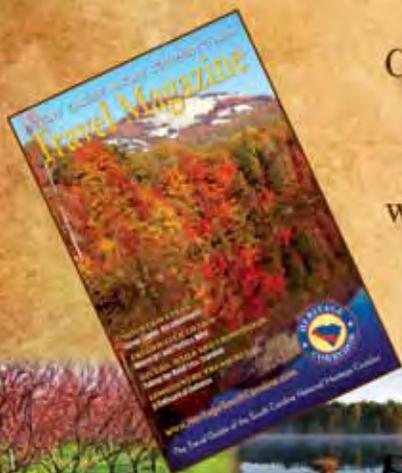
One of the surviving buildings, the Lyceum, was occupied by both armies during the war

Cheraw's Lyceum survived Sherman's occupation and today serves as the town museum.

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and is now the town museum, operated by the Chamber of Commerce. Among the stories it tells is that of the *CSS Pee Dee*, a gunboat that was scuttled in the nearby Great Pee Dee River after covering the Confederate retreat ahead of Sherman's arrival. The Lyceum was the town library during the war and the path of some of the Union soldiers could be followed into North Carolina by the books they abandoned along the way.

★ **The Cheraw Visitors Bureau/Chamber of Commerce at 221 Market St. is open weekdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For details, visit cheraw.com or call (843) 537-8425.**



ABBEVILLE

Where the war ended

The armed conflicts in South Carolina all took place below the Fall Line, but the Piedmont hosted one of the war's most significant moments.



ABOVE AND FAR RIGHT: KEITH PHILLIPS; RIGHT: TONY SMITH

The Burt-Stark Mansion

While historians consider Robert E. Lee's surrender at Virginia's Appomattox Courthouse on April 9, 1865, to be the end of the war, Abbeville's Burt-Stark Mansion stakes its claim to being where the Confederate government officially disbanded.

On the run after the fall of Richmond, Va., Confederate President Jefferson Davis stopped at the Greek revival house on May 2 en route to

GET MORE ONLINE

Visit SCLiving.coop for even more Upstate historic sites, including:

- **Rose Hill Plantation State Historic Site near Union**

LearnMore

For more on exhibits, re-enactments and other events marking the sesquicentennial, see:

S.C. Civil War Sesquicentennial Advisory Board, sc150civilwar.palmettohistory.org; (803) 896-6265.

South Carolina Battleground Preservation Trust, scbattlegrounds.org; (843) 689-3223.

Fort Sumter National Monument, nps.gov/fosu; (843) 883-3123.

Fort Sumter-Fort Moultrie Historical Trust, fortsumtertrust.org; (843) 224-0331.

Lowcountry Civil War Commemoration, sccivilwar.org; (843) 224-0331.

Lowcountry & Resort Islands Tourism Commission, southcarolinalowcountry.com; (843) 717-3090.

Olde English District,

sctravel.net; (800) 968-5909. (Ask for the brochure of Civil War sites which includes those in Kershaw and Chesterfield counties.)



Katy Tilley (left) says the events of May 2, 1865 are in large part responsible for the preservation of Abbeville's Burt-Stark Mansion. Visitors can tour the house and grounds, including the Men's Parlor where Jefferson Davis disbanded the Confederate government and declared, "All is indeed lost."

Mississippi. He began the day intending to fight on, but that afternoon a group of his Cabinet members and brigade commanders finally convinced him that the South was defeated.

"All is indeed lost," he finally brought himself to say," says Katy Tilley, a member of Little River Electric Cooperative and chairman of the Abbeville Historic Preservation Committee. "It was right here in the men's parlor."

A distraught Davis dismissed his cabinet, sent the troops accompanying him on their way, then retired to an upstairs bedroom to rest before continuing his journey. The bed he slept in is on display and visitors touring the house and grounds can easily imagine the events of the war's final moments, Tilley says. "It was a great struggle and it indeed, had come to an end. Right here in Abbeville."

★ **The Burt-Stark Mansion is open Friday-Saturday, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., other times by appointment. Admission is \$10 per person. For details, visit burt-stark.com or call (864) 366-0166.**

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- 16 • Magical Easter Eggstravaganza**, Babyland General Hospital, Helen, Ga. (706) 865-2171.
- 16 • Spring Bonanza**, McCormick. (864) 852-2835.
- 16 • Greater Greenville Master Gardeners Annual Plant Festival**, Greenville. (864) 616-4073.
- 16 • Living History Saturdays**, Ninety Six National Historic Site, Ninety Six. (864) 543-4068.
- 16 • April's Array Trail Walk**, Table Rock State Park, Pickens. (864) 878-9813.
- 23 • Central Railroad Festival**, Central. (864) 654-1200.
- 28-May 1 • Piedmont Plant & Flower Festival**, Greenville. (864) 244-4023.
- 28-May 2 • Ga. Mountain Birdfest**, Unicoi State Park, Helen, Ga. (800) 573-9659, ext. 300.
- 29 • Upstate Spice of Life**, Carolina First Center, Greenville. (864) 250-9713.
- 29-30 • Stone Soup Storytelling Festival**, Woodruff City Hall Auditorium, Woodruff. (864) 476-8770.
- 29-May 1 • Spring Fling**, Spartanburg. (864) 596-3105.
- 30 • Earth Day Birthday**, Museum of York County, Rock Hill. (803) 329-2121.
- 30 • Ghost Creek GourdFest**, Ghost Creek Gourd Farm, Laurens. (864) 682-5251.
- 30-June 9 • 32nd Annual Juried South Carolina Artists Exhibition**, Pickens County Museum of Art & History, Pickens. (864) 898-5963.

MAY

- 5-7 • Lady Bass Anglers Professional Bass Tour**, Lake Hartwell. (864) 630-1633.
- 5-7 • Abbeville Spring Festival on the Square**, Abbeville. (864) 459-5017.
- 6 • Greer Family Fest**, Greer. (864) 877-3131.
- 7 • Winefest**, Habersham Winery, Helen, Ga. (706) 878-9463.

- 7 • Wurstfest**, Downtown & Festhalle, Helen, Ga. (706) 878-1908.
- 7 • Issaqueena's Last Ride Bicycle Ride**, St. John's Lutheran Church, Walhalla. (864) 380-3976.
- 7 • Heirloom Gardening**, Rose Hill Plantation State Historic Site, Union. (864) 427-5966.
- 13-14 • High School Rodeo**, Bates Bridge Road, Marietta. (864) 313-8533.
- 13-14 • Blue Ridge Fest**, Blue Ridge Electric Co-Op, Pickens. (800) 240-3400.
- 13-15 • Artisphere**, West End Historic District, Greenville. (864) 271-9398.
- 14 • White County Cork & Keg Festival**, Festhalle, Helen, Ga. (706) 878-3300.
- 14 • Pickin' for the Pets**, Hagood Mill Historic Site & Folklife Center, Pickens. (864) 898-5963.

ONGOING

- Daily • Trail Riding**, Croft State Natural Area, Spartanburg. (864) 585-1283.
- Daily • Art Gallery at the Fran Hanson Discovery Center**, South Carolina Botanical Garden, Clemson. (864) 656-3405.
- Daily until May 22 • Gallery Exhibit "Spring is Here"**, Helen Arts & Heritage Center, Helen, Ga. (706) 878-3933.
- Wednesdays until May 4 • Garden Naturalist Program Series**, South Carolina Botanical Garden, Clemson. (864) 656-3405.
- Thursdays until May 5 • Young Naturalists Program Series**, South Carolina Botanical Garden, Clemson. (864) 656-3405.

MIDLANDS

APRIL

- 14 • Celebrity Fashion Show**, Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center, Columbia. (803) 926-3462.
- 14-16 • A(ugusta) Baker's Dozen—Celebration of Stories**, Richland County Public Library, Columbia. (803) 929-3472.
- 14-17 • Midlands Plant and Flower Festival**, SC State Farmers Market, West Columbia. (803) 737-4664.
- 15 • Wine Tasting and Riverbanks Botanical Garden**, Riverbanks Zoo and Botanical Garden, Columbia. (803) 779-8777.
- 15-16 • Vietnam Era Veterans Homecoming**, Columbia. (803) 708-4752.

- 15-17 • Olde Towne Artisans Fair**, Colonial Times, North Augusta. (803) 279-7560.
 - 16 • Bark to the Park Walk and Festival for the Animals**, Finlay Park, Columbia. (803) 407-0991.
 - 16 • A Spring Evening at Redcliffe**, Redcliffe Plantation State Historic Site, Beech Island. (803) 827-1473.
 - 17 • 2nd Annual Fishing Tournament**, Gravatt Camp and Conference Center, Aiken. (803) 648-1817.
 - 19 • Tales for Tots**, EdVenture Children's Museum, Columbia. (803) 779-3100.
 - 23 • Governor's Frog Jump Festival**, Springfield. (803) 258-3152.
 - 25-May 6 • Interior Design Student Exhibition**, Lewandowski Student Gallery, Winthrop University, Rock Hill. (803) 323-2493.
 - 28-29 • Ah Spring ... An Evening at the Opera**, URS Center for the Performing Arts, Aiken. (803) 648-1438.
 - 29-30 • Spring Festival**, St. Augustine of Canterbury, Aiken. (803) 641-1913.
 - 29-30 • Striped Bass Festival**, Manning. (803) 435-4405.
 - 29-May 1 • Santee Birding and Nature Festival**, Santee Cultural Arts Center, Santee. (803) 478-2277.
 - 29-May 1 • Orangeburg Festival of Roses**, Edisto Memorial Gardens, Orangeburg. (803) 534-6821.
 - 30 • 6th Annual Blair Coalition of Churches Family Day & Parade**, Willie Lee Robinson Field, Blair. (803) 924-1917.
 - 30 • Flamingo Fling**, Timberlake Country Club, Chapin. (803) 932-4071.
 - 30-May 1 • Great American Backyard Campout**, Sesquicentennial State Park, Columbia. (803) 788-2706.
- ### MAY
- 1 • Elwood Park Tour of Homes**, Roy Lynch Park, Columbia. (803) 929-1945.
 - 1-31 • Cynthia Cox Painting Exhibit**, Aiken Center for the Arts, Aiken. (803) 278-0709.
 - 5 • Main Street Live**, Rock Hill. (803) 324-7500.
 - 5 • Midlands Master Naturalist Quest**, Columbia. (803) 243-1444.
 - 6 • Aiken Lobster Race**, Historical Downtown Aiken, Aiken. (803) 649-9500.

- 6-7 • S.C. Strawberry Festival**, Walter Elisha Park, Fort Mill. (803) 547-2116.
- 6-7 • Spring Cooter Fest**, Allendale. (803) 584-0082.
- 7 • Aiken Strawberry Festival**, Aiken. (803) 439-4833.
- 7 • Camden Cup Polo Match**, Camden Polo Field & Fine Arts Center, Camden. (803) 425-7676.
- 7 • Arts on the Ridge**, Century House, Ridgeway. (803) 337-2213.
- 7 • Tour de Cure**, Little Mountain Reunion Park, Little Mountain. (803) 799-4246.
- 7 • Johnston Peach Blossom Festival**, Johnston. (803) 275-3635.
- 7 • Wings & Wheels Air Fair**, Fairfield County Airport, Winnsboro. (803) 635-4242.
- 14 • Spring Market Day**, Historic Camden Revolutionary War Site, Camden. (803) 432-9841.
- 14 • Follow the Blooms Garden Tour**, Camden. (803) 815-4422.

ONGOING

- Daily • Trail Riding**, Kings Mountain State Park, Blacksburg. (803) 222-3209.
- Daily • Trail Riding**, Lee State Park, Bishopville. (803) 428-5307.
- Daily • Trail Riding**, Poinsett State Park, Wedgefield. (803) 494-8177.
- Daily, except Sundays • Living History Days**, Historic Brattonsville, McConnells. (803) 684-2327.
- Daily, except Mondays and major holidays • Historic Camden Revolutionary War Site**, Camden. (803) 432-9841.
- Daily until April 3 • Nano Days**, EdVenture Children's Museum, Columbia. (803) 779-3100.
- Daily until May 8 • Attack of the Bloodsuckers!**, EdVenture Children's Museum, Columbia. (803) 779-3100.
- Daily until July 11 • Conservation Quest**, Museum of York County, Rock Hill. (803) 329-2121.
- Tuesdays in March and April • Toddler Tuesdays**, EdVenture Children's Museum, Columbia. (803) 779-3100.
- Thursdays and Fridays in May and June • Midlands Master Naturalist Class**, Columbia. (803) 243-1444.
- Fridays May 6-June 24 • Main Street Marketplace**, Boyd Plaza, Columbia. (803) 779-4005, ext. 2042.
- Saturdays in April • Worlds in Motion**, DuPont Planetarium, Aiken. (803) 641-3654.

LOWCOUNTRY

APRIL

- 14-16 • South Carolina BBQ-Shag Festival**, Hemingway. (843) 344-2527.
 - 15-16 • The Garden Club of Charleston's Annual Walking Tour of Private Houses and Gardens**, Charleston. (843) 530-5164.
 - 15-17 • East Coast Canoe and Kayak Festival**, James Island County Park, Charleston. (843) 795-4386.
 - 16 • Freewoods Farm Spring Festival**, Freewoods Farm, Myrtle Beach. (843) 650-9139.
 - 16 • Rural Heritage Celebration**, Clemson University Pee Dee Research & Education Center, Florence. (843) 669-1912.
 - 16 • Plantasia**, Gaillard Municipal Auditorium, Charleston. (843) 579-9922.
 - 16 • Shaggin' on the Cooper**, Mount Pleasant Pier, Mount Pleasant. (843) 762-9946.
 - 16-17 • Art in the Park**, Chapin Park, Myrtle Beach. (843) 448-7690.
 - 17 • Red Cross Old Village Home Garden & Art Tour**, Mt. Pleasant. (843) 764-2323 x 386.
 - 17 • Town of Mount Pleasant Blessing of the Fleet and Seafood Festival**, Mount Pleasant Memorial Waterfront Park & Pier, Mount Pleasant. (843) 884-8517.
 - 18-24 • The Heritage**, Harbour Town Golf Links, Hilton Head Island. (800) 671-2448.
 - 23 • Soft Shell Crab Festival**, Paris Avenue, Port Royal. (843) 524-3163.
 - 23-24 • Art in the Park**, Market Common, Myrtle Beach. (843) 448-7690.
 - 27-May 29 • Hairspray**, Arts Center of Coastal Carolina, Hilton Head Island. (843) 842-2787.
 - 29-May 1 • Colleton County Rice Festival**, Walterboro. (843) 549-1079.
 - 29-May 7 • North Charleston Arts Festival**, North Charleston. (843) 740-5854.
 - 30 • Loris in Bloom Spring Festival**, Loris. (843) 756-6030.
 - 30 • Socastee Heritage Festival**, Socastee. (843) 241-1740.
 - 30 • Key West Music & Wine Fest**, La Belle Amie Vineyard, Little River. (843) 399-9463.
- ### MAY
- 5 • Darlington Raceway Car Hauler Parade and Race Festival**, Darlington. (843) 393-2641.
 - 6 • Royal Purple 200 NASCAR Nationwide Series Race**, Darlington Raceway, Darlington. (843) 395-8499.
- 6-7 • Racing to the Market**, Pee Dee State Farmers Market, Florence. (843) 665-5154.
 - 6-7 • Waltherboro Rodeo**, Double D Arena, Waltherboro. (843) 909-4849.
 - 7 • Rivertown Jazz & Arts Festival**, Conway. (843) 248-6260.
 - 7 • Bluffton Village Festival**, Calhoun Street, Bluffton. (843) 757-3855.
 - 7 • Darlington Raceway NASCAR Sprint Cup Series SHOWTIME Southern 500**, Darlington Raceway, Darlington. (843) 395-8499.
 - 7 • Mayfest on Main**, North Myrtle Beach. (843) 280-5570.
 - 7 • Blues by the Sea**, Freshfields Village, Kiawah Island. (843) 762-9125.
 - 7 • Lowcountry Shrimp Festival**, McClellanville. (843) 887-3323.
 - 7 • Charity Golf Tournament**, Prestwick Golf & Country Club, Myrtle Beach. (843) 232-0265.
 - 7 • 5th Annual Chesterfield Yard Sale of the Carolinas**, Chesterfield. (843) 623-2131.
 - 8-15 • Coastal Uncorked Food and Wine Festival**, Myrtle Beach. (843) 916-2000.
 - 11 • Pawleys Pavilion Reunion**, North Causeway, Pawleys Island. (843) 546-5685, ext. 4.
 - 12-15 • Charleston Harborfest**, Charleston Maritime Center, Charleston. (843) 722-1030.
 - 14 • Strawberry Festival**, McLeod Farms, McBee. (843) 335-8335.
 - 14 • 24th All Saints Garden Tour**, Hilton Head Island. (843) 681-8333.
 - 14 • Follow the Blooms Garden Tour**, Marion. (803) 815-4422.
- ### ONGOING
- Daily • Trail Riding**, Cheraw State Park, Cheraw. (843) 537-9656.
 - Daily until May 21 • Hooray for Hollywood**, The Palace Theater, Myrtle Beach. (843) 448-0588.
 - Daily until June 30 • Day in the Life of a Sailor**, Charles Towne Landing State Historic Site, Charleston. (843) 852-4200.
 - Daily except Mondays • Feeding Frenzy**, Huntington Beach State Park, Murrells Inlet. (843) 651-1003.
 - Tuesdays and Thursdays • Bingo**, Lions Club, Edisto Island. (843) 296-4092.
 - Fridays through Oct. 28 • Farmers Market Hilton Head Island**, Coastal Discovery Museum at Historic Honey Horn, Hilton Head Island. (843) 422-4168.

Send in the mastiff

WHEN YOUR KID DEPLOYS to another continent—the kind with lots of camels—you fear for her safety. When she leaves you with a dog that’s the size of a camel, you fear for your own safety. Also the mailman’s.

While my military daughter is stationed overseas, her “kids” are visiting. There’s the 55-pound Lab she rescued—her *toy* dog—and Clyde, who is a dog only in the loosest sense of the term. Technically, he’s livestock.

Clyde is an English mastiff who weighs between 150 and 160 pounds, depending on how many cars he eats before you weigh him. I have no formal training or special license to handle a beast of this size. I’m not even sure our neighborhood is zoned for it. I’m just doing my part for America.

“Ask not what your country can do for you,” my daughter said. “Ask what you can do for the mastiff.” So we took him.

Clyde is only 3, but he’s already been through five families who probably neglected to research mastiff drool, a fast-curing industrial adhesive the dog uses to lubricate his surroundings. Once it dries, the easiest thing to do is buy a new house.

Before Clyde arrived, the three dogs we already own shared one water bowl, which the mastiff empties with a single snort. So we set Clyde up with a commercial stockpot in the bathroom, where he can drain his jowls while inflicting the least collateral damage.

As Clyde drops his mighty head into the pot, there’s a deafening rumble usually created by boats with twin-diesel engines. Once his tank is full, Clyde emerges in all his frothy glory, prepared to empty the fleshy flaps that flank his face. Each one holds several quarts of liquid and



assorted projectiles with an effective splatter range of 10 feet. (Tip: Foaming at the mouth is not a reliable sign of madness in this breed. They’re always foaming.)

Since what goes in must come out, we try to empty Clyde frequently. We quickly learned that the pint-size doggie bags adequate for most of the canine world are not one-size-fits-all, so we upgraded to lawn and leaf. My husband thinks the skilled professionals who follow circus elephants around with shovels probably train on mastiffs. And whatever they get paid, it’s not enough.

Wherever he goes, Clyde attracts a crowd. Strangers always stop to gape and point. The mere sight of such a majestic animal seems to trigger a spontaneous reflex as reliable as a rubber mallet tapping your

knee: “That is a BIG DOG,” everyone assures us, in case we thought we were walking a Pomeranian.

Oddly enough, they’ll still charge up and stick an arm in the big dog’s face without asking if he’s friendly. Or hungry. It wouldn’t surprise me to see someone pry Clyde’s jaws apart to stick their head in for a photo opp.

Before you adopt a mastiff, I highly recommend taking the dog for a test drive. You might want to hold off until you find one with power steering, cruise control and brakes.

But if you can’t wait, my daughter can hook you up with a camel. ☺

JAN A. IGOE would appreciate any tips from big-breed owners and cattle ranchers on the care and feeding of big, lovable, slobber machines like Clyde. Write her at HumorMe@SCLiving.coop.



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