

**SERCO**

Lower Rich-land  
Clean & Green



# South East Rural Community Outreach

P.O. Box 332 ~ Hopkins, SC 29061 ~ [www.serco-sc.org](http://www.serco-sc.org) ~ 803/788-7185 ~ Non Profit

*"Preserving History and Enriching Communities of the Lower Richland Corridor"*

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Memorial Day - Government Cemetery

Memorial Day - Harriet Barber House

SC Senate Resolution

Back to School Bash, Fairgrounds

Expressive Arts Camp

International Festival

Freedom Festival

Adams & Brooks at - Robert Mills House &  
"Jubilee" ~ Mann-Simons Cottage, Columbia

## ~ Upcoming Events ~

**Coming...  
2 Days of Fun!**

**9th Annual**

# Congaree Swampfest

**September 30th & October 1st**



Sept 9-10: Girls of Power Network Conference  
Sept. 30: Barbeque - Blues & Jazz  
Oct. 1: Congaree SwampFest  
Nov. 5: Congaree Campfire Chronicles  
Nov. 5: Veterans Day  
Dec. 3 Victorian Christmas and Holiday  
Taste & Tour

## Memorial Day - Part I ~ Solemn Ceremony Government Cemetery

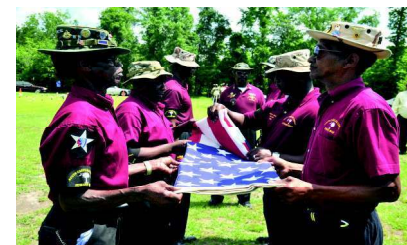
The 6th annual Memorial Day Solemn Ceremony was held at the St. John Resurrection Memorial Garden (also known as the Government Cemetery), on Ault Road. SC Combat Veterans Group performed a special tribute and words of encouragement were offered by the Honorable Norman Jackson, Richland County Councilman for District 11, and St. John Baptist Church member. The ceremony was sponsored by the Lower Richland Veterans Formation, the SC Combat Veterans Group and the J.P. Holley Funeral Home with funding from the Richland County Hospitality Tax grant.



Honorable Norman Jackson



Sonya R. Hodges, Founder of the 371st  
World War I Historical Society



**We Welcome News:** Please send news and announcements to SERCO by U.S. mail ~ Attention D.S. Brooks, PO Box 332, Hopkins, SC 29061 or e-mail: [sercoevents@gmail.com](mailto:sercoevents@gmail.com).  
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## Memorial Day - Part II ~ Heritage Celebration Historic Harriet Barber House



Following the Memorial Day Solemn Ceremony, held at the St. John Resurrection Memorial Garden (also known as the Government Cemetery), there was a procession to the historic Harriet Barber House, where the Heritage Celebration continued with a family-oriented day of fun. There was entertainment by the Blythewood Jazz Sextet with the legendary Willie Lyles, free food, vendors and other entertainment. Former residents of Lower Richland and tourists from as far away as the states of California, Michigan, Georgia, and Florida, joined guests from around the state of South Carolina for a celebration of Lower Richland's diverse heritage. This event was sponsored by SERCO, with funding from the Richland County Hospitality Tax Fund and was free to the public. Richland County District 10 is served by the Honorable Councilman Kelvin Washington. Special thanks to Ms. Sue Outz and the SYSCO Columbia, LLC for food donations for this event in support of the Lower Richland community.





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## Senate Resolution Honors Co-Authors Marie Barber Adams & Deborah Scott Brooks

Marie Barber Adams and Deborah Scott Brooks, cousins and co-authors of *African Americans of Lower Richland County*, were honored with a resolution in the South Carolina Senate Chambers on May 31, 2011. The resolution, sponsored by Senator Darrell Jackson (District 21), was adopted by the legislative body to *recognize and honor Adams and Brooks for their valuable work in researching and compiling stories of African-American families in Lower Richland County, and to congratulate them for their new book, African Americans of Lower Richland County*. Senator Jackson commented that the co-authors, through their book, "had achieved something never done before for Lower Richland County." The resolution further noted that the members of the SC Senate were grateful for the rigorous research and extensive efforts of Adams and Brooks to preserve the rich heritage of African-American families in Lower Richland. Remarks were also made by Senators John Courson (Dist. 20), Joel Lourie (Dist. 72), and John Scott (Dist. 19). House Representatives Jimmy Bales (Dist. 80), and Joseph "Joe" Neal (Dist. 70), stood with the Senators.



Front/Center Row L/R: Representatives Bales and Neal, Adams/Brooks & Senator Darrell Jackson. They were joined by local family members and friends and those from all across the United States.



On the Senate Floor L/R: Representatives Joe Neal and Jimmy Bales, and Senators Joel Lourie, John Scott, Darrell Jackson and John Courson.



Cousins: Adams, Rep. Neal, Brooks

## Book Signings ~ African Americans of Lower Richland County - Co-Authors Adams & Brooks



### Members Day - Open House Historic Columbia Foundation Robert Mills House, Columbia

L/R: Debbie Giles, Director of Administration & Finance, Adams, Jackie Rhodes, Museum Shop Coordinator & Brooks. May 7, 2011



Adams & Brooks greet Mrs. Martha Monteith



WIS-TV films Adams and Brooks for evening news.



Book discussion with guests.



### Jubilee Festival ~ Mann-Simons Cottage Columbia, August 27, 2011

Adams & Brooks with Robin Waites, Executive Dir., Historic Columbia (center). The bottles on display contain SERCO's: **Congaree Swamp Juice!**



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## Tom Joiner's Back-to-School Bash SERCO & Congaree National Park Staff Promote Congaree SwampFest

August 5, 2011



## SERCO's Swamp Juice Is Big Hit !

Several thousand children and adults attended the annual event and tasted samples of the Congaree Swamp Juice which will be on sale during the Congaree SwampFest again this year.





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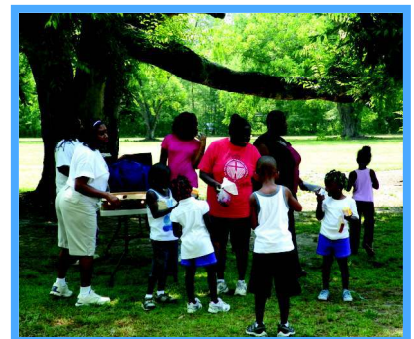
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## 3rd Annual Expressive Arts Camp



The Expressive Arts Camp was held for the third year at the historic Harriet Barber House. The camp allows students to express themselves educationally through language usage, reading & writing as well as artistically, physically and emotionally. The program, in this unique setting, brings the classroom outdoors and into the community, while merging learning with the arts and inspiration. The success of the Expressive Arts Camp is attributed to very supportive parent volunteers and the dedicated staff.

Staff members were: Program Director - Dr. Josie Bright Stone; Art Teacher - George Sims; Visiting Artist in Residence/ Art Therapist - Dr. Maha Arah; Reading Intervention Teacher - Marilyn Sims; Storyteller & Poet - Selvbrea Seven; Guidance Counselor - Thera Kinard; Reading Intervention Teacher - Africa Oliver; Music Composer - Jimmy Williams; and Dance Teacher - Stephanie Jones.





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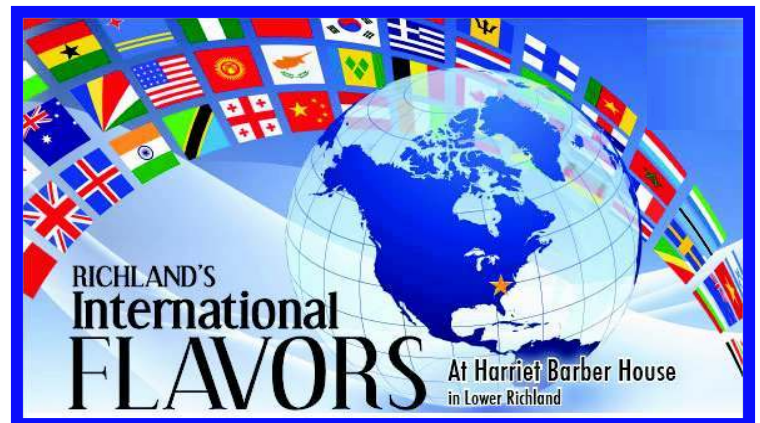
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## Harriet Barber House Hosts . . .

The historic Harriet Barber House was the setting for the 2011 Richland International Flavors Festival June 25th. The Columbia International Festival and the Richland County Public Library hosted the family friendly event which featured international music and beautiful costumed dancers. The unique event featured cultural performances and offered a variety of food to sample from Mexico, the Philippines, India, Thailand and many other exotic places. Dr. Raj Aluri was the festival organizer.





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L/R: County Councilman Kelvin Washington, District 10, Festival Organizer, Dr. Raj Aluri, and County Councilman Jim Manning, District 8.



Councilman Manning, shown above with Marie Barber Adams, toured the historic Harriet Barber House. He purchased an autographed copy of "African Americans of Lower Richland County," which was co-authored by Adams and her cousin, Deborah Scott Brooks.



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## SERCO Celebrates July 4th at Village at Sandhill's Annual Freedom Festival



SERCO participated in the Village at Sandhill's annual Freedom Festival on July 4, 2011. As a part of our outreach efforts to attract tourists to the Lower Richland Heritage Corridor, volunteers manned a display booth and distributed information on SERCO's ongoing projects and upcoming events. The day was filled arts, crafts, and music. The festival closed with the mid-state's premier fireworks show. In addition to a wide range of entertainment, the Richland County Sheriff's Department was also on-hand with equipment displays and demonstrations.



With new landscaping around the historical marker and welcome sign, Hopkins is an inviting and attractive place for residents and tourists. Special thanks to Thomas Gunter and David Harris!