

SERCO



2021 Special Edition

South East Rural Community Outreach

P.O. Box 332 ~ Hopkins, SC 29061 ~ www.serco-sc.org ~ sercoevents@gmail.com ~ 803/788-7185 ~ Non Profit

Preserving History and Enriching Communities of the Lower Richland Corridor

JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION

Saturday, June 19, 2021



Historic Harriet Barber House & Grounds

116 Barberville Loop, Hopkins, SC 29061

sercoevents@gmail.com

12:00 Noon

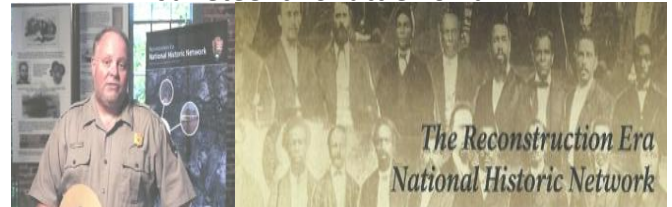


SERCO invites all to join us for our 2021 **Juneteenth Celebration**. Stage entertainment; Food/Non-Food Vendors; Museum Display (Artifacts & Tools); Youth Art Camp; Harriet Barber House Guided Tours, Local Families Photos & Artifacts Displays, and Shuttles to Congaree National Park's Reconstruction Era Exhibit and Horseshoe Competitions. [Safety Measures: Masks required; Seated Social Distancing, and other measures]. See more details: sercsc.org & Face Book. **FREE Admission/Parking**. Sponsored by RC Hospitality Tax Grant.

~ IN THIS ISSUE ~

- .Richland County Conversation Commission News:
New Harriet Barber House Video
- .LRHGS Program with Jackie Whitmore, Local Historian
- .SERCO Board Member Yvonne Brown's Pandemic Poem
- .Get Involved Lower Richland Launched
- .St. John Baptist Church - 145th Anniversary
- .Strong Threads Virtual Celebration
- .LRHS Diamond Day w/John P. Kee & Others
- .Smithsonian Traveling Exhibit: Waterways opens at
Congaree National Park
- .Welcome Cheryl English, County Council District 11
- .RC Conservation Commission Nancy Stone Collum
Retires
- .Dr. Tameria Warren joins Friends of Congaree Board

Juneteenth Shuttle To Park



**Beaufort Park Supt. Scott Theodorski's Return Visit.
Brings National Park Reconstruction Era Exhibit**

Also.....Horseshoes Contest at the Park, anyone? 

~ Upcoming Events ~

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| May 31, 2021 | Memorial Day |
| June 19, 2021 | JUNETEENTH Celebration |
| September 19, 2021 | Hopkins High Alumni Foundation Banquet |
| October 1 & 2, 2021 | 18 th Annual SwampFest Weekend |



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Page 2



News: New Video of Harriet Barber House

<https://youtu.be/rETRtVtf3fi>

Kevin R. Washington, grandson of Mary Barber Kirkland, created a virtual tour of the Historic Harriet Barber House during the late summer and fall of 2020. The video is designed to give a virtual tour of the historic property while it is closed for group tours. Kevin narrated and filmed the tour and also created original music to accompany the narration. The virtual tour may be viewed on the Harriet Barber House and SERCO websites or Facebook page. Kevin, son of Millicent K. Middlebrooks, is a Dreher High School graduate where he became involved with filmmaking and music. He is currently completing his senior year at Frances Marion University, SC where he is majoring in business administration.

Lower Richland High School Diamond Day with John P. Kee & Others

While practicing social distancing, Alumni of Lower Richland High School presented their 11th Annual Diamond Day on October 24, 2020. The free celebration and gospel concert featured John P. Kee, John Lakin & Bow, and other acts. Bishop Wendell B. Sumter also performed and served as stage host. The concert was held on the grounds of the Historic Harriet Barber House.



MY 2020 SUMMARY IN VERSE....by Dr. Yvonne P. Brown

2020 created a new normal for my life and probably for your life;

Even the thought of a haircut has given me strife.

We lost what was familiar and changed a facial mask to a mask for life.

The Pandemic means being in the house under arrest without an ankle bracelet;

Self-quarantine is adult self control and maturity. To do it alone requires creativity and self-starter projects.

The new normal is uncomfortable and unfamiliar. It triggers memories of years gone past;

Now, searching for happiness and purpose is a task.

It's different when you are driven by work and family, but in retirement no family, no work life stalls;

To know if things are done means more than throwing spaghetti on the walls.

Giving becomes more important than receiving;

Who knew a gift of toilet paper was going to be delightful, believe me!

Old baking soda has replaced Lysol and bleach that I can't find;

Sanitizing has been so much on my mind!

Family separation is the greatest challenge: missing the activity of talking, laughing, listening, watching, sharing and learning;

I did learn that Millennials think e-mail and AOL are outdated and appalling!

Instagram, Facebook, Face-time, Tik-Tok, etc are the new ways of talking.

I'm like the old shopping mall; I just want to be on a long distance call.

Passwords and downloads are driving me CRAZY!

My brain cannot organize all that in its MAZY.

Slowing down has had its benefits for my mind;

I am hearing the words to Christmas songs and their meaning for the first time!

Can't trust the safety of going inside a church;

But, wow am I enjoying one hour parking lot service just as much.

Well, I don't know how long this new normal will last, but I do hope and pray that your

New Year is a better BLAST!



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Page 3



Save The Date !

MEMORIAL DAY

Monday, May 31, 2021

HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

Sponsored by the Lower Richland Veterans Formation and SERCO
Funded by Richland County Hospitality Tax Grant.

Save The Dates - Watch for Details !

SwampFest Weekend

18th Year

Two Days Two Events One Location

Grounds of Historic Harriet Barber House . 116 Barberville Loop . Hopkins, SC 29061

BBQ, BLUES & SOUL

Friday - October 1, 2021

SwampFest Family Day

Saturday - October 2, 2021

"Get Involved Lower Richland" Launched



This project purposes to enhance community engagement through utilizing the arts throughout Lower Richland, South Carolina. Includes Eastover, Gadsden and Hopkins.

Contact: Mike Dantzler
803-429-2277 or <http://www.getinvolvedlr.org>

Lower Richland
Heritage & Genealogy Society
Presents a Virtual Black History
Workshop

February 21, 2021 - 3:00 P.M.

See More Details: LRHGS Facebook Page



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Page 4

Smithsonian Traveling Exhibit: WATER WAYS at Congaree National Park



Congaree National Park, in partnership with Friends of Congaree Swamp, hosted the Smithsonian Museum on Main Street **Water/Ways** exhibit from November 13, 2020 to January 13, 2021 in the Harry Hampton Visitor Center Auditorium. This exhibition dove into how essential water is to our life on our planet environmentally, culturally, and historically. Water has played an important role in our nation's history. Water has affected settlement and migration patterns. Water is the lifeblood of the Congaree National Park.



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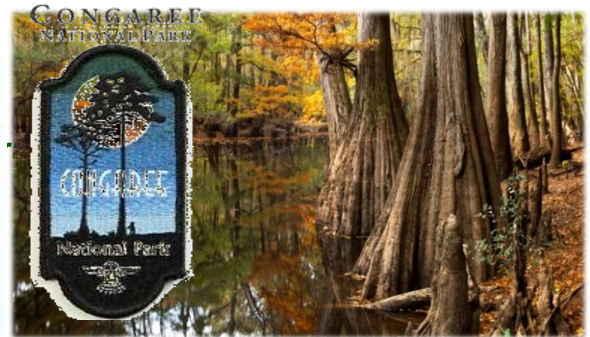
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Page 5

CONGRATULATIONS TO K. LYNN BERRY (SUPERINTENDENT), GREG CUNNINGHAM (CHIEF OF INTERPRETATION) AND DR. JOHN GREGO (FRIENDS OF CONGAREE PRESIDENT) FOR A SUCCESSFUL EXHIBIT. OVER 3,000 VISITORS VIEWED THE EXHIBIT DURING THE 10 WEEKS THERE. KUDOS TO ALL THE STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS WHO MADE IT ALL POSSIBLE!



Smithsonian



South Carolina Humanities



Dominion Energy



Congaree Biosphere Region

2021 Water/Ways Virtual Symposium Sponsors



Welcome Cheryl English

Richland County Council District 10



Swearing in Ceremony of the Honorable Councilwoman Cheryl English

Pictured L/R with Honorable English: Photo 1: Senator Darrell Jackson; Photo 2: Rev. Hazel Scott and Rev. Algerron Williams; Photo 3: Rev. Dr. Blakely Scott, III and Former Councilwoman Bernice G. Scott.

Cheryl D. English represents District 10, which includes parts of Lower Richland and Northeast Richland. A 1983 graduate of Lower Richland High School, English graduated in 2000 from Coker College, majoring in sociology with a minor in business administration and a concentration in criminology. English graduated from the University of South Carolina with a master's in social work.

English has served the state for more than 30 years in various positions, having worked with the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control as well as the S.C. Department of Mental Health as a counselor for children and adolescents. She currently serves on the S.C. Developmental Disabilities Council and is a licensed, ordained minister. She is an associate minister at Mount Moriah Baptist Church in Hopkins. Councilwoman Cheryl English remains involved in her community, serving on the Lower Richland Sweet Potato Festival Committee and the Richland Library Board of Trustees.



Dr. Tameria Warren Joins Friends of Congaree Board

Dr. Tameria Warren is now a board member of the Friends of Congaree. She replaces SERCO Chair Marie Barber Adams, who had served on the "Friends" Board since 2008. Dr. Warren serves as a professor in the Environmental Studies department at the University of South Carolina. She is also a SERCO Board Member.

The mission of Friends of Congaree Swamp is as follows: Increase recognition, public awareness, and appreciation of the Congaree National Park as a resource of local, state, national, and international significance; Protect and restore the ecological systems and natural beauty of the park, and seek to maintain compatible and uses outside the park; Enhance educational, interpretive, and research opportunities relating to the natural heritage and historical heritage of the park and its environs; and Support the park through advocacy, volunteer service, and fundraising. Dr. John Greco, long-time supporter of SERCO, is Friends of Congaree Swamp Board Chair.





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Preserving History and Enriching Communities of the Lower Richland Corridor

Page 7

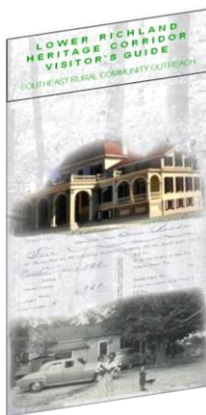
Nancy Stone Collum, RC County Conservation Commission Manager, Retires

October 2020

Nancy Stone-Collum retired from the staff division of the Richland County Conservation Commission in October 2020 after 16 years. She lastly served as manager of the division. The RCCC is charged with promoting the protection of the county's natural, historical, and cultural resources and promoting nature-based recreation and eco- and heritage tourism. Through the years of our efforts to document and promote conservation, SERCO has found Stone-Collum to be hands-on and a dedicated manager and partner.



Nancy Stone-Collum & Urban History Conference Guests on the grounds of Historic Harriet Barber House. (2018)



In a continuing effort to promote Lower Richland County, and its rich history, SERCO developed a visitor's guide featuring significant historical sites in our area. Nancy Stone-Collum provided valuable hands-on support throughout SERCO's grant projects from 2008 through 2020.



SERCO & Nancy Visit Laurelwood Plantation

St. John Baptist Church - 145th Anniversary

The 145th Anniversary of St. John Baptist Church was held on September 12 & 13, 2020. According to state historical records, Reverend Phillip Shiver was the first preacher called to serve the church, but Reverend William Lowman was the first ordained minister. Mr. Ephraim Neal donated land for the first church building after members had met and worshipped in a bush arbor or brush arbor. The new building faced toward the railroad and was adjacent to Chappell Creek where baptisms were held. It was December 1, 1875 that Lowman was ordained by the Reverend William W. Adams, the first pastor of New Light Beulah Baptist Church. Abigail Swygert of Columbia sold a one acre tract of land to the trustees of St. John on December 14, 1878. Reverend William Lowman, who served in the South Carolina House of Representatives from 1876-1878, was pastor of the church from 1875 until 1885 and again from 1887 until 1893. In 1893 the Reverend Jesse W. Neal became pastor, serving a total of 51 years. Rev. Westberry H. Neal, son of Rev. Jesse Neal, succeeded his father and served a total of 58 years. Dr. Neal left a rich legacy as a minister, serving as Pastor Emeritus until his death in 2002. Reverend Sammy L. Wade, a retired US Army Chaplain and former Assistant Inspector General, has served since 2001, first as interim pastor and currently as pastor of St. John Baptist Church.



145th Anniversary Drive-By



Please Join Us . . . The mission of SERCO is to create partnerships within the Lower Richland Community to provide charitable, educational and scientific programs to strengthen and expand the capacity of the community for a better quality of life for its residents. SERCO invites you to become a part of the outreach movement by supporting our Lower Richland Heritage Corridor events and programs throughout the year:

SOUTH EAST RURAL COMMUNITY OUTREACH MEMBERSHIP FORM

INDIVIDUALS & FAMILIES:

\$20 INDIVIDUAL \$40 FAMILY \$75 ADVOCATE \$100 PARTNER \$500 PATRON

ORGANIZATIONS, BUSINESSES & CORPORATIONS:

\$1,000 BENEFACTOR \$2,000 CORPORATE SPONSOR

SUBMIT INFORMATION:

NAME _____

ADDRESS : _____

HOME PHONE: (_____) _____ **WORK PHONE:** (_____) _____

FAX: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Please mail completed form and check to:

**South East Rural Community Outreach
Post Office Box 332 - Hopkins, SC 29061**



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