

SENECA SPOTLIGHT

\$3.4 MILLION GRANT WILL SUPPORT CREATION OF LOCAL BLACK HERITAGE TRAIL

The Cities of Seneca, Clemson, and Clemson University recently announced that a \$3,445,000 grant from the Mellon Foundation has been awarded jointly to the three organizations in support of the creation of a Black Heritage Trail which will run through the Clemson University campus and through the cities of Clemson and Seneca.

The Black Heritage Trail will feature walking trails that connect heritage sites with interactive signs, artwork and digital content that share the stories of local Black history and South Carolina historical markers at historic sites. The project will be led by representatives from each of the three trail locations, and it will include community engagement and collaboration both across local communities and across the Clemson campus.

In Seneca, the effort will be led by Shelby Henderson, the City's Executive Director of Arts, History and Culture and the founding Director of the Bertha Lee Strickland Cultural Museum. The City of Clemson's efforts will be led by Angela Agard, Executive Director of the Clemson Area African American Museum; in Clemson, the University effort will be led by Dr. Rhonda Thomas, Faculty Director of the Call My Name research project there.

The Seneca portion of the trail will be developed in one of the city's historically Black neighborhoods near the Blue Ridge Community Center. The community center is located in the former Blue Ridge High School, which served African American students in Oconee County prior to desegregation and is on the National Register of Historic Places. The trail is expected to connect the community center with Blue Ridge Field, a city park across the street which was the former site of the high school football field.

"The Heritage Trail will be an extension of Seneca's commitment to preserve, interpret, and share a composite local history and its relation to the broader national narrative," Henderson said. "The trail will inspire future investment in and renewal of public spaces that support a more equitable and resilient quality of life for local under served communities. Moreover, the Trail will perpetuate a sense of place for a vanishing local history."



Shelby Henderson, City of Seneca

Joining the team will be Clemson Professor Dan Harding; Assistant Professor Aby Lat Soukabe Sene Harper; and, Carl Redd, Archive Specialist in Clemson Special Collections and Archives.

The Seneca Spotlight will keep readers apprised of progress as work on the Trail unfolds.



A stone monument outside Blue Ridge Community Center honors the history of Blue Ridge High School in Seneca.





It's happening in Seneca!



**COMMUNITY-WIDE LITTER PICK UP ORGANIZED BY
SENECA POLICE DEPARTMENT
NETS **76** BAGS OF TRASH!**

Thanks to all the great volunteers who came out to help!



**APRIL 13, 2023
GOLF TOURNAMENT TO
BENEFIT THE
SENECA PD K9 UNIT
CROSS CREEK PLANTATION
SPONSORSHIPS STILL
AVAILABLE
FB SENECA SC EVENTS
OR CALL 864-885-2718**

*Fifth Quarter
Thank You!*

**STEVEN TURNER
ingles**

**FOR YOUR INVALUABLE
HELP WITH
SENECA'S FIFTH QUARTER!**



It's happening in Geneca!



CONCEPTUAL DRAWINGS AND DRONE PHOTOS GIVE PROMISE OF EXCITING NEW HARPERS PLAZA



Completion date tentatively scheduled for late summer or fall 2023.





It's always happening in Seneca!



Sesquicentennial events coming up

Restaurant Week - March 6th through 12th
Check your favorite eatery/drinkery for their participation

Picnic in the Park - April 22nd Norton Thompson Park

Happy birthday, Seneca! Jazz on the Alley celebrates with a special 150th laser show. May 25th

More events to follow!



Photo Courtesy of The Journal/Caleb Gilbert

Seneca city administrator Scott Moulder, left, helps Keowee Brewing Company owner Alex Butterbaugh brew a special "Sesquicentennial Ale" in honor of the City's 150th birthday.



First Saturday of Every Month!
April Through October Starting at 4 p.m.



IT'S BACK!



CITY OF **SENECA**

PRESENTS ...

jazz ON THE ALLEY

EVERY THURSDAY 7-9 PM ON RAM CAT ALLEY APRIL THRU OCTOBER

**SPECIAL 2023
SEASON KICKOFF
MARCH 30**



STONE ECHO

**FUNK
FACTORYS**

April 6: Funk Factory 5



April 13: Leisha J.



April 20: The Jamie Wright Band



April 27: The Odyssey Band

**Cruzin'
ON MAIN**
Downtown Seneca, SC

MUSIC, FOOD, PRIZES

Featuring Classic Cars & Trucks
and the Best Cruisers Around!
Norton-Thompson Park in Downtown Seneca
First Saturday Every Month April thru October



Follow us on Facebook Seneca SC Events // More info at www.seneca.sc.us

jazz ON THE ALLEY



SPRING IT ON! JAZZ IS BACK!

Now that March is finally here, it's finally time to get excited about the 14TH SEASON OF **JAZZ ON THE ALLEY!** Jazz season actually starts on April 7th, but we've lined up an exciting Jazz "Prequel" on March 30th featuring the ever-popular "STONE ECHO!" We've got a fantastic year of Jazz coming up with lots of food, fun, music, beverages, family, and old friends you haven't seen all winter!

Check out the upcoming Jazz schedule shown above, call your besties, and meet us downtown Seneca!

Beginning April 6th, Jazz on the Alley entertains and delights every **THURSDAY** night, 7 to 9 pm, April through October!

COMING: MARCH 30TH - STONE ECHO!

News from the



**Welcome to
our new members!**

Tony Massage & Hair Salon

Foothills Care Center

**SBDSC
Members ...
Mark your
calendars
for a great
"Seneca
Off the Clock"
coming up
Tues, March 21
at Cherry Street
Marketplace!
Note new time:
5:30 pm to 7:30 pm**

**MEET YOUR NEW SBDSC
BOARD MEMBERS**

Henry Ramirez, Upstate Medical Associates, Vice President

Barbara Moore, Emily's, Secretary

Erica Rowland, Dear Rosie Boutique, Treasurer

Jerry Edwards, The Journal

Dave Eldridge, TriCounty Entrepreneurial Development Corp

Bradley Anderson, Bradley's Jewelers

Tessa Shope, The Boathouse

Matt Durham, Sure Shot Firearms

K.D. McCurley, Balanced Life Wellness

Misty Taylor, Cherry Street Marketplace

Beverly Abranches, Belle's Health Spa

Mark Moberg, Timber Ridge Axe Throwing

Dan Alexander, Mayor, City of Seneca

Scott Moulder, City Administrator, President

 *Foothills
Care Center*
invites you to
celebrate with them
as they cut the ribbon
on their newly renovated
facilities!

APRIL 20TH @ 5 PM

**207 MAIN STREET
SENECA, SC**

Proud member of SBDSC

The Seneca Business Development Center is a 501(c)3 organization
Executive Director: Riley Johnson