

Walking trails could come through USC campus

JENNIFER STANLEY Staff Writer

South Carolina is more than 400 miles wide stretching from the ocean to the mountains.

And now, nature lovers will be able to hike across the state via the Palmetto Trail.

The Palmetto Trail is a work in progress that establishes a path across South Carolina highlighting individual historical spots, towns and cities and the geography of the state.

"Our function is the railway building group," Tom Dawson, a Columbia Palmetto Trails coordinator, said. "We design a corridor for pedestrians. Can people walk across the state?"

The Palmetto Trail is funded by an Alternative Transportation Grant. The trail, which is open to hikers and bikers, is being opened in passages that provide two to three-day hikes. Camp sites are designated every eight miles.

The first portion of the trail opened in 1995 and now three paths are open: High Hills of Santee Passage, Lake Moultrie Passage and Swamp Fox Passage.

The Palmetto Trails planners are

beginning to map out the route through Columbia. They hope to take hikers through such areas as Fort Jackson, Five Points, Maxcy Gregg Park, USC and the Three Rivers Greenway.

But according to Dawson, they are encountering a problem making a safe path for pedestrians through the city.

"Pedestrians were left out of the equation. Most streets are not designated for pedestrians," Dawson said. "We don't want to shut out cars, but integrate pedestrians and bikes into the transportation plan."

Because a large portion of the downtown area is USC, areas of concern are the Five Points and USC areas. Dawson said although there are crosswalks, people do not always use them, especially in these two areas.

He said city planners should look at signs like footprints in grass areas to determine where people cross the streets.

"Plan around what's there. Be sensitive to how students get around the city as opposed to how they should get around the city," Dawson said. "It'll be easier to get where they want to."

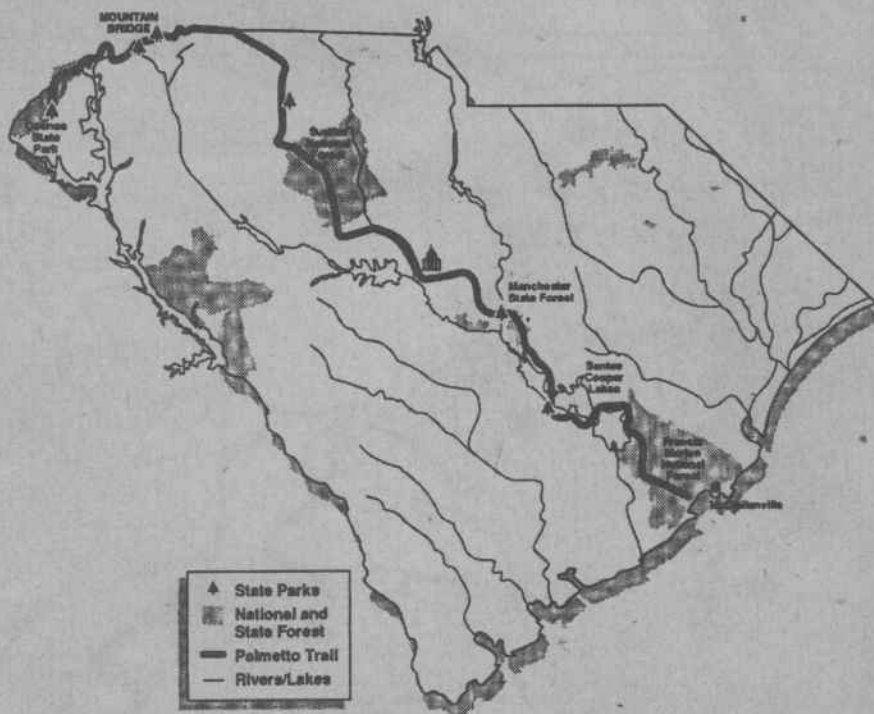
To encourage city planning for pedestrians and bikers, Palmetto Trails,

the Palmetto Conservation Foundation, S.C. Department of Transportation, S.C. State Museum, The River Alliance and Richland County Transportation Committee are sponsoring the Walkable Communities conference from 8:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. Wednesday at the State Museum.

Dawson said the S.C. Department of Transportation has been under criticism about pedestrian issues. Although they look at transportation from an automobile angle, they are trying to broaden their view, he said.

Government officials, city and transportation planners, school boards and staffs recreation planners and major business leaders are being encouraged to attend the conferences, which will feature lectures and discussions about city planning, plans that work in other cities, information about trails and greenways and safety improvement ideas.

The conference costs \$10 for students and senior citizens and \$25 for all other participants. For form information call 1-800-416-8937. For more information about the Palmetto Trail, call 803-777-0870 or visit their website at www.sctrails.net.



Special to the Gamecock

CRIME REPORT

continued from page 1

Larceny of a Bicycle, S-6 lot. Victim stated that an unknown person removed his bicycle from the bike rack on the back of his car.

Aug. 30 Larceny of a Bicycle, Thomas Cooper Library. Victim stated that an unknown person removed his secured bicycle from the location above.

Aug. 29 Larceny of a Bicycle, Round House. Victim stated that an unknown person removed his secured bicycle from the location above.

Grand larceny of a golf cart, Williams Brice Stadium. Victim stated that an unknown person removed a golf cart from the above location. Estimated value: \$6,000.

compiled by Rosalind Harvey

USC Datebook

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • September 14, 6 p.m. "Internet Safety," Towers Computer Lab. • September 14, 8:30 p.m. "Catch the intruder," Bates & Horseshoe Areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • September 8, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. "Operation ID," bicycle registration, Towers Area Office • September 15, 8:30 p.m. "Catch the intruder," South Area • September 15, 2 p.m. "Psychomotor therapy/group," Counseling and Human Development Center, 900 Assembly St. 2nd floor, commitment to full participation required 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • September 9, 7:30 p.m. "The world of Tae Kwon Do" club meeting, Booker T. Washington gym, call Lisa @ 359-2815 for more information • September 9, 8 a.m. "Operation ID," bicycle registration, Towers Area Office • September 9, 7 p.m. "In Love & Danger," Towers Classroom • September 9, 7:30 p.m. "Payne family recital," USC School of Music recital hall • September 9, 7:30 p.m. "Alpha Epsilon Delta" pre-medical honor society meeting, CLS room 005 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • September 10, 7 p.m. "Self-defense," Bates Social Room • September 10, 2:30 p.m. "Drop-in self hypnosis," Counseling and Human Development Center, 900 Assembly St., 2nd floor • September 10, 8 p.m. "Sigma Gamma Rho" interest meeting, RHUU room 305 • September 10, 8 p.m. "Clover, screening with author Dori Sanders," Gambrell Auditorium • September 10, 5 p.m. "Meet Student Government Day," Student Government Office 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • September 11, 7 p.m. "Fencing Club," Blatt P.E. Center, room 308 • September 11, 8:30 p.m. "Gamma Beta Phi" meeting, RHUU ballroom • September 18, 10 a.m. "Dissertation Writing Support Group," Counseling and Human Development Center, 900 Assembly St., 2nd floor • September 18, 3 p.m. "Confronting Alcohol and Drug Abuse," Counseling and Human Development Center, 900 Assembly St., 2nd floor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • September 26, 10:30 a.m. "Adult Children of Alcoholics," Counseling and Human Development Center, 900 Assembly St., 2nd floor

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 10:15 @ South Tower
 10:45 @ Univ. Commons

pick-ups every hour till 1am

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All 70's All The Time

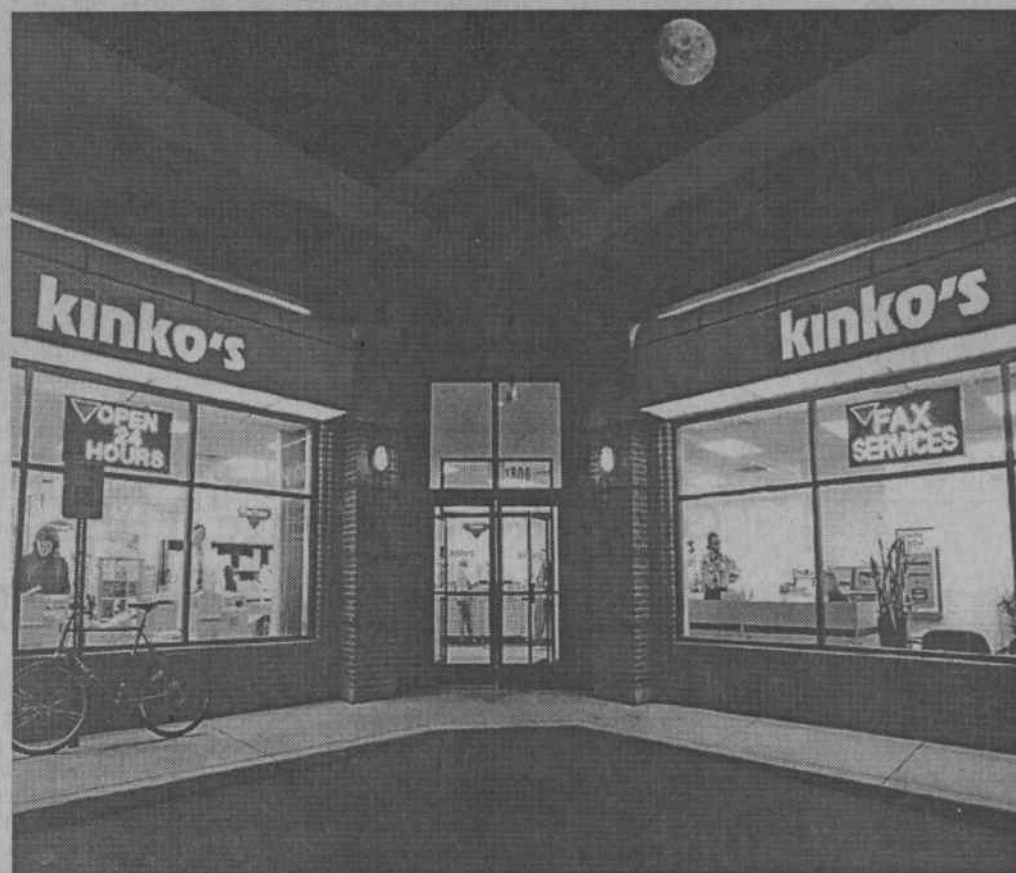


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