Downtown Easley gets all spruced up for spring festival

Planners hope daylong event has twice the attendance of last year's

By John C. Stevenson
STAFF WRITER
jstevens@greenvilleonline.com

Spring is here, bringing with it green grass, warm weather, pollen — and the sixth annual Easley Spring Fling.

The event, which is designed to showcase the city's downtown shopping district, will have some new attractions this year, geared for the more athletically inclined. The YMCA is sponsoring cycling and foot races, with rides of 62, 31 and 10 miles, and runs of 3.1 miles and 6.2 miles.

Organizers hope the new events can drive attendance for the festival up from last year's 3,000-to-4,000 people to as many as 10,000 this year.

"We're trying to improve tourism, have people come back after they've come to the festival," said Kaye Harrison, a co-owner of Vikalin's Coffeehouse and member of the Easley Downtown Business Association, which sponsors the event. "We hope they come back another day and shop at all the shops."

JOIN THE PARTY

- What: Easley Spring Fling Festival
- When: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. April 25
- Where: Main Street, Easley
- Cost: Admission is free

The festival will include about 50 vendor's booths, featuring everything from traditional festival foods and arts and crafts, to booths showcasing local businesses and service organizations.

There also will be live music and prize drawings throughout the day, and activities for kids, Harrison said.

Race-day registrations for all events will begin at 7 a.m. at Easley First Baptist Church, according to Harrison.