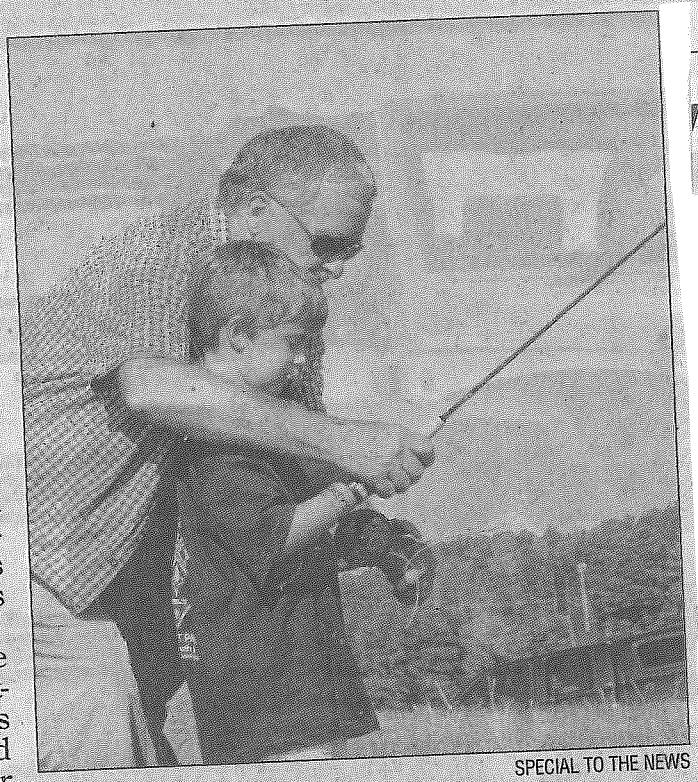
OUTDOORS

Duke hosts Outdoor Family adventure

Hunting and Fishing Day celebration scheduled

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SPECIAL TO THE NEWS

A youngster learns about fishing at last year's event at Duke's World of Energy.

By late Saturday evening, Hubert Cox expects to have 10,000 lead pellets on the floor of his trailer.

No, Cox doesn't live in a rough part of town, but rather serves as an air rifle instructor for 4-H's mobile shooting sports educational trailer.

The trailer will be among the featured attractions at Saturday's National Hunting and Fishing Day Outdoor Family Adventure at Duke Energy's World of Energy near Seneca.

"There will be kids lined up behind the trailer when we open the door that morning," Cox said. "And they'll probably still be lined up when it's time to shut down for the evening."

Good thing Cox also is a recycler.

"We melt the lead down and make balls for black powder rifles," Cox said.

Cox, a retired financial advisor who serves as a 4-H volunteer and also is a firearms instructor for a leisure skills course at Clemson University, said his goal is to project a positive image about firearms.

"We want the parents to be there, too, and listen to what we're telling their kids about firearm safety," said Cox, who last July took a local team of young BB shooters to the national championship in Kentucky. "Shooting appeals to boys and girls, rural and urban kids.

"Our state is not so rural anymore, so we have a lot of urban kids and it may be the first time they've ever touched a real firearm. And it may be the first time they've had someone talk to them about firearms and how to use them properly."

If shooting doesn't appeal to the kids, there are plenty of other hands-on activities that might, including archery, fishing, fly casting, fly tying, kayaking and nature photography.

More than 1,200 people attended last year's event, which is being held for a third straight year as a celebration of National Hunting and Fishing Day.

"We have grown every year and added new



SPECIAL TO THE NEWS

Retriever demonstrations are a popular part of the Upstate's National Hunting and Fishing Day event

events every year," said Duke Energy's Sandra Magee. "There's so much room here that it just keeps getting bigger and better."

The event, which is free, is sponsored by Duke Energy, Upstate Forever, Trout Unlimited and Clemson University Extension, among others. Hours are from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m.

Parking will be closer this year, Magee said, with shuttle service provided. Attendees may bring a picnic lunch or buy hot dogs or barbeque from on-site concessionaires.

The event also will include a "Conservation Lane," where visitors can learn about more than 20 organizations ranging from the South Carolina Wildlife Federation to the Oconee County Beekeepers Association.

EVENTS

Air Rifle Shooting (4-H Shooting Sports)
Archery (S.C. Bow Hunters Assoc.)
Fishing (S.C. Department of Natural Resources)
Butterfly Exhibit (Clemson Univ.)
Butterfly Gardening (John and Carolyn Turner)
Camo Games (Oconee County Extension Service)
Fly Casting (Chattooga River Chapter of Trout Unlimited)
Fly Tying (Chattooga River Chapter of Trout Unlimited)
Fishing Simulator Game (S.C. Department of Natural Resources)
Kayaking (Calm Waters Kayak Tours)
Take One Make One Trailer (S.C. DNR Law Enforcement)
Treestand Safety (4-H Shooting Sports)
Wildlife Artifacts/Snakes and Critters (S.C. DNR)
Retriever Demonstrations (Foothills Retrievers)
Conservation Lane Participants
Clemson Extension and 4-H
Coast Guard Auxiliary
Collegiate Ducks Unlimited
Devil's Fork State Park
Foothills Trail
Friends of Lake Keowee Society
Keep Oconee Beautiful
National Wild Turkey Federation
Oconee Co. Beekeepers Assoc.
Oconee Co. Parks, Rec. and Tourism
Palmetto Conservation Foundation
South Carolina Wildlife Federation
Trappers Association
Upstate Forever
U.S. Forest Service