LOCAL NEWS

Pickens to freshen up

Cleanup, grants will focus on West Main Street, proposed park

By Julie Howle
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Downtown Pickens could be getting a little spring cleaning and some new additions soon.

A cleanup is planned for March 26 from 9 a.m. until noon targeting areas including West Main Street, a park proposed for the downtown area and the Bradley-Boggs House.

The city also has received three grants from Palmetto Pride — one that would be for a new four-tier fountain in Legacy Square; one for planters to be put on West Main Street; and one for work at the front of property the city purchased for the park near the Bradley-Boggs House.

City Administrator Katherine Brackett said the city received about $12,000 in Palmetto Pride grants in February and said this cleanup is the first of three required as part of the grants.

She said the other two could be a trail cleanup and one at Jaycee Park.

According to the city, gloves, bags and safety vests will be supplied at the cleanup, but the city is asking for people to bring equipment they think might be helpful.

Mayor David Owens said residents and others are encouraged to volunteer for the cleanup.

"We're just trying to keep the town clean and clean up some areas that might be an eyesore," Owens said. "We want to try to have that area looking pretty good up top (at the proposed park) before the Azalea Festival."

Brackett said the city is going after about $200,000 in a grant through the state Department of Parks and Recreation to develop the park on Main and Ann streets near the Bradley-Boggs House.

YOU CAN HELP

For more information on the cleanup, call 878-6421.

downtown areas

She said the money would be used for a covered picnic shelter, main entrance area and walking trails.

Later phases in the park could include an amphitheater, a stormwater retention pond and rain garden, and a fountain, Brackett said.

Owens said brick pavers could be going into the front area of the proposed park in the next week or two for a sitting area.

He said they hope to have the pavers as well as the fountain in Legacy Square finished by the Azalea Festival in April.

The planters for West Main Street could take longer, Owens said, and those can be moved somewhere else in the city when streetscape improvements are extended to West Main.

"We want to try to make West Main look attractive for businesses and for people to stop, just trying to draw people in to the downtown area," he said.

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