Beaufort County News Release

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AND OUTREACH AREA | COMMUNICATIONS AND ACCOUNTABILITY DEPARTMENT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 3, 2017



Beaufort County Photo Contest Goes Social: Beaufort County Launches #LoveBeaufortCounty Social Media Photo Contest

Beaufort County recently announced that entries are now being accepted for its new digital photo contest. The contest, hosted on social media, is open to residents and visitors in Beaufort County.

"Our new contest adds a digital element that we hadn't included before," said Monica Spells, an assistant county administrator at Beaufort County. "We hope this will welcome a broader more diverse group of contestants. Anyone with a social media account can enter."

The contest is called <u>#LoveBeaufortCounty</u> and is based on Instagram, Twitter and Facebook.

"We're meeting our residents where they are," said Beaufort County Communications Coordinator Carizma Brown. "With 20,000 people on Facebook every second, we can't ignore the rapid shift into the social age. Our residents are moving into the digital world, and we're moving with them."

The contest will run continuously throughout the year. The three-step process can be done on a computer or smartphone:

- Take a photo that illustrates the unique beauty of Beaufort County's sceneries.
- Like or follow Beaufort County on Instagram, Twitter or Facebook.
- Upload your photo on Instagram, Twitter or Facebook using the hashtag #LoveBeaufortCounty.

A panel of County staff will judge the photos. The highest ranked photos will be featured on the County's Instagram page and website.

Throughout the year, there will be specific themes and categories that participants should follow.

The first theme is "The Civil War and Reconstruction Era Sites and History." Submissions will be collected for this category through Friday, March 10.

The first winner announced for the first theme is Josh Whiteside for his "Chapel of Ease" photo (shown below), taken on St. Helena Island.

The next theme will be "Gardens, Gates and Blooms" and will begin on Monday, March 20, the first day of Spring, and will end on Monday, April 10.

Participants can enter photos at any time during each theme's submission period. Individuals can also submit photos of their choice during periods in which there is no theme using the three-step process.

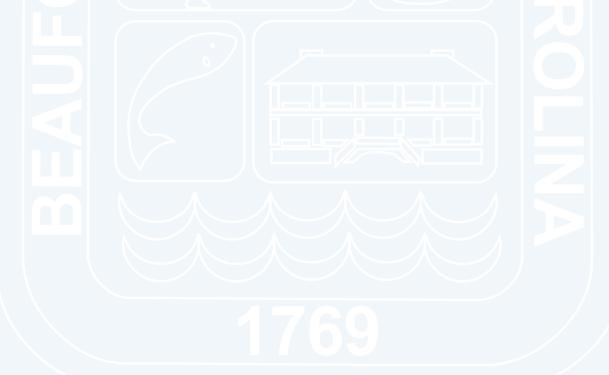
To receive updates about the #LoveBeaufortCounty photo contest, like or follow Beaufort County on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Instagram</u> or <u>Twitter</u>.

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Josh Whiteside – "Chapel of Ease"



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