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# SOUTH CAROLINA

## Resource Center Newsletter



Volume 3, Issue 5, May 2013

### In this issue

Resource Center News: Saris Poster Contest Winner and National Voting

Upcoming Event: National Bike to School Day

Highlight on a Friend: Palmetto Cycling Coalition and National Bike Month

Spotlight on a Partner: Action Plan Recipients

From our State Coordinator: Save the Dates

Grant Opportunity: Saucony Run for Good

Not a Silver Level Partner Yet?

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### Resource Center News: SC Saris Poster Contest Winner- National Voting Opens May 1st!

Each year, Saris Cycling Group sponsors a fifth-grade bicycle poster contest. The SC SRTS Resource Center coordinated the contest for South Carolina this year.

Congratulations to Tyrique Wise, of [Whittaker Elementary School in Orangeburg](#), for winning the 2013 contest!

Make sure to 'like' the [Saris Facebook page](#) to receive updates and reminders about the contest. The national winner will be announced on May 9<sup>th</sup>! Congratulations to our second and third place winners- **West View Elementary** in Spartanburg



Rodney Oldham, CHES, CPT

### From our State Coordinator

**SAVE THE DATES-**  
With the school year winding down, we know that some schools are already planning next year's calendar. Below are some dates to pencil-in now!

**October 9, 2013** -  
[International Walk to School Day](#)

**March 5, 2014** - South  
Carolina Walk to School Day

**May 7, 2014** - National Bike  
to School Day

Schedule meetings with  
your **SOC** this summer to plan

and **Jennie Moore Elementary** in Mount Pleasant! Tyrique's poster, which received the most "likes" on the SC SRTS Resource Center Facebook page, will now represent our state in the National Poster Contest! **Nation-wide voting will occur May 1<sup>st</sup> through May 7<sup>th</sup> on [Saris' Facebook Page](#).**

## Upcoming Event: National Bike to School Day

May is National Bike Month, and Wednesday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, is **National Bike to School Day!** South Carolina schools are encouraged to host events all month long, in support of these national bike promotions. To register your school's event, or to find out who else is riding, click [here](#). Registered schools will be entered into the National Center for Safe Routes to School's weekly drawings for a **FREE bicycle rack!** Is it too far or unsafe for students to ride bikes to school? Then check out these other creative ways for your school to participate in National Bike Month and receive **FREE bike safety bookmarks** for your students:

- Organize a [bicycle rodeo](#) that offers students an opportunity to practice their skills. This event could take place during school, after school or on a weekend.
- Ask your students to bring their helmets to school, watch a [video](#) on helmet safety, and go over [tips](#) on how to properly fit your helmet.
- Invite your local bike shop or cycling club to speak with students on [safe riding tips](#) and how to maintain their bicycles.
- Ask your local law enforcement department to speak with your students about [bicycle safety tips](#) and the state's bicycle laws.

Please contact your local [School Outreach Coordinator](#) for assistance with planning your National Bike to School Day activities!

for next year's SRTS events. Think of new ways to make these annual events exciting for your students. Organize music or invite mascots to participate in your Walk to School Days! In the past, mascots from these groups and organizations have been happy to take part:

- Universities and Colleges, including USC, SC State, and Clemson
- High School bands, mascots and athletes
- Local Sports Team Affiliates
- Local Businesses

## Grant Opportunity: Saucony Run for Good

The Saucony Run For Good Foundation works to help prevent and reduce childhood obesity and provides funding to organizations that promote running and healthy lifestyle programs for youth. The **Saucony Run For Good** grant offers financial support to programs that impact and fight childhood obesity, like track and field programs. Public schools are eligible recipients; and communities may receive up to \$10,000 in funds through this program. Applications are due **June 14, 2013**. Click [here](#) to read recipient stories and how they used their grant monies.

Use the Saucony Run for Good grant to fund your after

## Highlight on a Friend: National Bike Month Activities

The [Palmetto Cycling Coalition \(PCC\)](#) is a non-profit organization working to improve safety, promote cycling facilities, and educate individuals to make SC more bicycle friendly. In 2011, PCC launched South Carolina's first strategic campaign to reduce bicycle fatalities: [Safe Streets Save Lives](#). In celebration of May being National Bike Month, the Coalition is teaming up with friends across the nation to take part in the [National Bike Challenge](#), which begins May 1st.

Check out events happening throughout South Carolina this May:

**Columbia** - Columbia's Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee has teamed up with SC Safe Routes to School Resource Center to offer an interactive skills clinic and group ride on **May 4<sup>th</sup>** in Finlay Park from 9 to 11 am. Click [here](#) for more information and to register!

**Spartanburg** - The Spartanburg Regional Classic is **May 3<sup>rd</sup>** and will include a "Kid's Corner" at Meeting Street Academy of Spartanburg at 3:30pm featuring a bike rodeo and bike ride on the race course! Click [here](#) for more information.

**Walterboro** - On **May 1<sup>st</sup>**, the City of Walterboro is hosting the 11th annual Downtown Walterboro Criterium International Bicycle Race. Click [here](#) for more information.

**Summerville** - Join Dorchester County EMS and MUSC Trident Area Safe Kids for a Summer Safety Festival and Bicycle Rodeo on **May 18<sup>th</sup>**. For more information and to register click [here](#).

**Hilton Head Island** - On **May 25<sup>th</sup>**, families are invited to a Bicycle Rodeo Safety Town event. For more information on this and other community bicycling events, please download this [flyer](#) from the Town of Hilton Head Island Bicycle Advisory Committee.

## Spotlight on a Partner: Action Plan Recipients

school running club, monthly fitness nights, a monthly Walk to School program, or provide running shoes for your participants. Your new running program can lead you to **Gold Level** status with the Safe Routes to School Resource Center. For the Saucony Run for Good grant application and a sample budget outline, click [here](#).

### **Fuel Up to Play 60 Grant Reminder:**

Applications to fund your school's Fuel Up to Play 60 program are due on **June 4, 2013**. Schools may receive up to \$4,000 to fund plans promoting Healthy Eating and Active Living. The Fuel Up to Play 60 grant application can be found [here](#). Please contact your **School Outreach Coordinator** for assistance.

## Not a Silver Level Partner Yet?

Due to the success of so many schools participating in Walk to School Day events in South Carolina each year, the Resource Center will only be able to provide unique incentives such as the glow in the dark silicone bracelets to **[Silver and Gold Level Partners starting Fall 2013!](#)** Bronze level schools will no longer receive these types of incentives, but they will receive other incentives for participating in Walk and Bike to School Day events.

Congratulations to our three partner schools selected to receive Safe Routes to School Action Plan assistance from the Resource Center next school year:

- **Upstate: Ford Elementary, Laurens**
- **Midlands: Burton-Pack Elementary, Columbia**
- **Lowcountry: Beaufort Elementary, Beaufort**

These three schools were selected after self-nominating and submitting an application for assistance. Each school was chosen based on their interest in developing a school travel plan, their current work with SRTS, and the current condition of the school surroundings. Each school's Action Plan will help to establish a long and short-term comprehensive SRTS Plan for the school and surrounding community. The Resource Center is looking forward to providing this great resource and assisting these schools with growing their SRTS programs this fall!

Click [here](#) to see the requirements to become at least a Silver Level Partner! There is still plenty of time to achieve Silver status before International Walk to School Day on October 9, 2013. Please contact your [School Outreach Coordinator](#) for assistance.

Like us on  
[facebook](#)

Keep up with the Resource Center this school year by liking us on [Facebook](#)!

"[Like](#)" us to stay updated on interesting news articles, upcoming events and different funding and learning opportunities!



*The SC Safe Routes to School Resource Center is a program of the South Carolina DOT*

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