

BREAKING OUT

Gray Court's Warrior Mountain protected

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In the midst of a record-breaking year for land protection, Upstate Forever has announced another property has been secured with a conservation agreement.

The latest tract is Warrior Mountain, owned by Dianne Culbertson and her son, Chad. The 800-foot mountain is the significant feature on the 297-acre property in Gray Court.

While Warrior Mountain is the historic name, many Laurens County residents know it as "Little Knob," to prevent confusion with 945-foot-tall "Big Knob," the county's high point about a mile away.

Dianne Culbertson previously protected her nearby property, Timber Creek Farm in 2006. But when the Warrior Mountain property containing the well-known monadnock – a free-standing sin-



Upstate Forever

Land surrounding and including Gray Court's Warrior Mountain, also known as Little Knob, was recently protected with a conservation agreement.

gle mountain that rises from an otherwise level area – became available earlier this year, Dianne and Chad bought and protected the landmark.

The Culbertsons call the property – located northeast of the intersection of S.C. Highway 14 and Metric Road, about three miles south of Gray Court – War-

rior Mountain, its name on historic maps dating to colonial times.

The conservation agreement permanently protects the property from industrial, commercial and retail uses, residential subdivisions, parking lots, billboards, and mining, while allowing the Culbertsons to continue traditional us-

es like hunting, fishing, farming, and harvesting timber.

A conservation agreement keeps property in private ownership, is completely voluntary, and does not impact the property's ability to be sold or left to heirs.

Greenville-based Upstate Forever announced

UPSTATE FOREVER

For more information about Upstate Forever or protecting your land with a conservation agreement visit: www.upstateforever.org or contact Dana Leavitt, Upstate Forever Land Trust Director at: 864-250-0500, ext. 23.

late last week that 2009 was a record-breaking year for land protection as it brought more than 3,800 acres of farms, fields, forests, waters and wildlife habitat under agreements.

Among the acreage protected in 2009 are five properties with frontage on S.C. Scenic Highway 11 frontage, three public parks, three working farms and now Warrior Mountain.

Upstate Forever has now worked with 73 landowners to protect more than 14,284 acres in a 10-county region.

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