

hether you walk or drive
Main Street in Summerville,
South Carolina, it is hard to
ignore the vivid past that lingers just over
your shoulder and around every corner.
The small town offers quaint stores,
boutiques and antique shops, surrounded
by a myriad of azalea bushes and mere
minutes from the hustle and bustle of the
larger retail businesses in Azalea Square.

MAIN STREET MEMORIES

If you are looking for that one-of-a-kind gift or would like to experience the nostalgia of visiting a soda fountain that has been in operation since 1927, then the downtown businesses are for you.

"Shopping in Summerville is like shopping in everyone's dream small downtown. Everyone is friendly, helpful, welcoming to children, dogs and yes ... you can use our restrooms," boasts Diane Frankenberger, president and owner of People, Places & Quilts. "We are just plain ol' us. Nothing fancy."

Frankenberger's Southern charm permeates her surroundings and infects everyone around her.

"We talk to our customers and really care about them, and they care about us," she says.

Newcomers to Summerville will also enjoy the nostalgia of Guerin's Pharmacy, located on South Main Street. A fixture in downtown since 1871, the pharmacy boasts all the must-haves of national chains plus an old-fashioned soda fountain.

"We are a full-service pharmacy that accepts insurance and serves fresh-squeezed oranges and lemonade," explains Barbara Dunning, pharmacist and president.

Running the family business with her parents, Harriet and Charles Dunning, Barbara is a third-generation owner.

"Our business has been owned by only two families," she says, pointing out that customers receive the same attention today they did when the store opened for business in the 19th century.

