

# A LOOK IN THE CUPBOARD

## MAYOR JOE RILEY

Mayor of Charleston, South Carolina since December 1975

*What are some of your earliest memories that you have of food, growing up here?*

I remember eating the fresh vegetables from the farmers at the city market and the fresh seafood which was always available, from a vendor or by catching it yourself!

*Everyone had a hated food growing up. Mine was tomatoes. Care to share?*

Eating liver was a task which took much time and many positive thoughts!

*What is the favorite dish that you like to prepare?*

I make great chocolate chip cookies during the holidays for my family and friends.

*I know that they aren't necessarily the best foods, but I can't resist Golden Flake Cheese Curls or Lemonheads candy. What is your "can't*

*resist" food?*

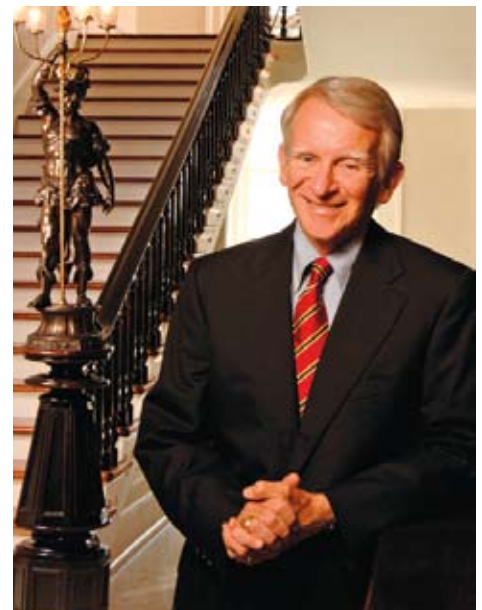
I have to say donuts, although I do manage to control the urge to reach for one.

*State Agriculture is rolling out its "Fresh on the Menu" program here in Charleston. Will the city also be promoting local foods?*

We have done so for years at our Charleston Farmers Market on Saturdays.


*Charleston has positioned itself as one of the top culinary destinations, thanks in no small part to your leadership efforts. Where do we go from here?*

I think it will just get better. The competition, the great place to live and the regional cuisine will continue to draw residents and visitors. And where they go, the good food will be!



*As much fun as being the mayor of Charleston is, what food career would you choose?*

I would probably choose to be a fisherman or a shrimper. I love being on the water and love to share the bounty of our waters.



**CHARLESTON  
FARMERS  
MARKET**

Every Saturday at 8am  
April 12 - December 20, 2008  
Marion Square