



Park of the Week:  
Sims Park



Men's Adult Basketball League  
Registration



Tree Trimming Activities

# City Connection



## CITY OF COLUMBIA'S WOW! NEW YEAR'S EVE CARNIVAL

Bring the whole family out for the City of Columbia's WOW! New Year's Eve Carnival on December 31, 2014 from 6-11p.m. at Main and Hampton Streets. This family-friendly event features carnival rides, inflatables, carnival games, stilt walkers, balloon twisters, face painting, karaoke and more!

Admission to the WOW! New Year's Eve Carnival is free. There is a fee for carnival rides, inflatables and face painting. Prices will vary.

For more information, call the Parks and Recreation Department at 803-545-3100.



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# City Talk

**Tune in to City Talk today on WGCV 620 AM  
from 5 p.m. - 6 p.m. to hear:**



**5:00 p.m. - 5:20 p.m.**

**Guest:** Deborah Livingston, Community Development Director

**Topic:** Public Forums for the City's Consolidated Plan

**5:20 p.m. - 5:40 p.m.**

**Guest:** Jacquelyn E. Richburg, Deputy Director Columbia-Richland 911 Communications

**Topic:** Columbia- Richland-Alerts Program

**5:40 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.**

**Guest:** Police Chief William "Skip" Holbrook

**Topic:** CPD Job Opportunities

**For more information about today's topics, contact the  
Public Relations Department at 803-545-3020.**



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# The Week Ahead

## **SCE&G To Perform TREE TRIMMING ACTIVITIES AS SCHEDULED FOR 2014**

SCE&G will perform tree trimming activities along overhead utility lines in the following neighborhoods for the next two weeks:

Hampton-Wildcat Neighborhood	Kilbourne Park Neighborhood Association
Crosshill Neighborhood	Heathwood Park Neighborhood
Hampton Ridge Neighborhood Association	Sherwood Forest Neighborhood
Heyward Park Neighborhood	Hampton Leas Neighborhood
Hampton Hills Homeowners	St. Marks Woods Neighborhood Association
Meadowfield Neighborhood Association	South Meadowfield Neighborhood Association
	Yorkshire Neighborhood Association

The purpose of the trimming activities is to increase safety and reliability of the electric service.

For more information about SCE&G's tree trimming efforts, including helpful tips and suggestions regarding the planting of trees and other vegetation, visit [www.sceg.com/treetrimming](http://www.sceg.com/treetrimming).

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## **MEN'S ADULT BASKETBALL LEAGUE REGISTRATION**

The City of Columbia Parks & Recreation Department is accepting registrations for the Men's Adult Basketball League. Men ages 18 and older can participate. The fee to participate is \$300 per team.

The last day to register is January 1, 2015. The Men's Basketball League season begins Sunday, January 25, 2015.

To download a registration form, visit [Parks and Recreation's Athletics page online](#) and click the "Adult Registration Form" link.

Registration forms are also available at the Parks and Recreation Administration Office at 1111 Parkside Drive, Columbia, SC 29203. Forms must be returned to the administration office.



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## CITY OF COLUMBIA ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS FOR THE MLK DREAM KEEPER SCHOLARSHIP

The City of Columbia is accepting nominations for the 2015 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Dream Keeper Scholarship Awards. The Dream Keeper Award recognizes exemplary displays of committed service to the tenets of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

The ideals of social responsibility, political empowerment, diversity, racial harmony, nonviolence, and unselfish service must be demonstrated voluntarily by the nominee in support of his or her community and fellow citizens. The nominee must be age 18 or younger and enrolled in school with a minimum 2.0 grade point average.

Winners will be announced at the City of Columbia's annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration on Monday, January 19, 2015, at 4 p.m. at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Park and Community Center, 2300 Greene Street. Nominees must attend the celebration.

Applications are available online for download or at any community center.

Applications must be returned in person or by mail to the City of Columbia Parks and Recreation Department, 1111 Parkside Drive, Columbia, SC 29203. **Applications must be postmarked by Friday, January 2, 2015.**

For more information, contact Shireese M. Bell at 803-545-3100 or [smbell@columbiasc.net](mailto:smbell@columbiasc.net), or visit [www.columbiasc.net](http://www.columbiasc.net).

MLK Dream Keeper Scholarship Application – [Download PDF](#)

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### PET OF THE WEEK: DUKE (ID# A201859)

Duke is a two-year-old Carolina/ Chow mix. He is loyal and a very family-friendly dog. Duke is neutered and micro chipped. Visit Duke today to see if he's a good fit for your family!

Visit Duke and other pets available for adoption at the Columbia Animal Shelter, 127 Humane Lane. Visit [www.columbiasc.net/animal-services](http://www.columbiasc.net/animal-services) or call 803-776-PETS for more information.



All of our pets need loving homes! To view other animals available for adoption, visit [Petfinder.com](http://Petfinder.com). Please refer to the ID number listed above when visiting the website.



## PARK OF THE WEEK: SIMS PARK

Sims Park is the perfect place for families that reside within the surrounding community. This neighborhood park located in Forest Acres features a recently renovated playground and a neighborhood center which includes a multipurpose room.

“The park’s playground reopened in December after the installation of new playground equipment that included a sand and water table, and animal-shaped spring rides.”

Sims Park also features two basketball courts, a picnic shelter and an educational garden.

After-school care is available at the park’s neighborhood center from 2-6 p.m., and students enrolled in after-school camps are provided with snacks, homework assistance and a variety of supervised activities.



For more information about our parks, please visit the [Parks and Recreation’s page online](#).

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## ANNUAL DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. HONOR THE DREAM FOOD DRIVE

Please join the City of Columbia and Richland School District One, as we help fight hunger in the Greater Columbia area. All food collected will benefit the Harvest Hope Food Bank. Listed are some requested items:

- canned fruit and vegetables
- dry goods
- oatmeal and other cereals
- pork and beans
- soup
- crackers
- canned meats
- peanut butter

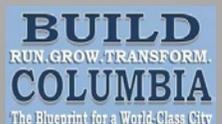
Donations will be collected during normal business hours at most City Parks, City Hall, Washington Square, James E. Clyburn Golf Center, Columbia Tennis Center, City Human Resources, Public Works, Police Headquarters, Fire Department Headquarters, Charles R. Drew Wellness Center, Columbia Art Center and Main Street Ice. **Food Drive ends January 2, 2015**

For more information, call the Parks and Recreation Department at 803.545.3100.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Honor the Dream Food Drive Flyer - [Download PDF](#)



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## **COLUMBIA POLICE DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES JOB OPPORTUNITIES AND INCENTIVES**

Chief William “Skip” Holbrook launches a major Recruitment and Retention Initiative today that will allow the Columbia Police Department to hire qualified applicants for 45 (forty-five) vacant law enforcement officer positions. The Department’s Plan also includes a 7% (seven percent) pay increase and a host of incentives to help recruit and retain law enforcement personnel.

These initiatives are critical to public safety, as the Columbia Police Department works to become fully -staffed and better positioned to compete with neighboring law enforcement agencies, whose salaries and incentives have historically given them a competitive advantage over the CPD--making it more difficult for the Department to recruit and retain good officers.

The Columbia Police Department hopes to change that. Beginning in 2015, positions that require specialized skills and training will receive additional pay for their expertise. Officers who live in the City can look forward to a \$500 annual Residency Bonus and Educational Pay Incentives will be available to all personnel who earn professional degrees while working with the Columbia Police Department. Incentives also include signing bonuses for qualified and certified (new) officers, as well as low interest home loan programs.

According to Chief Holbrook, “attracting and retaining law enforcement’s best and brightest will put the Columbia Police Department in a more competitive position and help to ensure our departmental transformation.”

These employment opportunities, as well as the Recruitment and Retention Incentives, will be widely publicized within the industry and are expected to attract candidates from across the Midlands and Southeastern United States.

For more information please contact:

**Columbia Police Department**  
**Office of Staff Development**  
**803-545-3552**

Or

**City of Columbia**  
**Human Resources Department**  
**803-545-3010**



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## 27TH ANNUAL DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. CELEBRATION

The City of Columbia and the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Foundation announced the 27th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration will be held on Monday, January 19, 2015, at 4 p.m. at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Park and Community Center, 2300 Greene Street.

Columbia Urban League President and Chief Executive Officer James T. McLawhorn, Jr. will be the keynote speaker. The celebration will also include performances from A. C. Flora High School Gospel Ensemble, The Brotherhood of First Nazareth Baptist Church and Jonathan Cannon, a Dutch Fork High School junior.



The celebration will also include a Wreath Laying Ceremony to commemorate the historic marker honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. at 3:06 p.m. at the corner of Harden and Greene streets. Members of the Alpha Psi Lambda and Omicron Iota Lambda chapters of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. will lead the ceremony.

On Saturday, January 17, 2015, the Omicron Iota Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. and Bridging the Gap With Alpha, Inc. will hold the 25th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. 5K Run/Fitness Walk at 9: a.m. at Martin Luther King, Jr. Park located at 2300 Greene Street.

If registering before January 9, 2015, the registration fee is \$25 (includes a commemorative T-shirt) or \$20 (without a T-shirt). After January 9, the fee is \$30 (with T-shirt) or \$25 (without the T-shirt).

Olympic-style medals will be awarded to the first three male and female finishers in 13 age divisions. Proceeds from the race will benefit the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Foundation and The Alpha Academy.

To register, visit [www.strictlyrunning.com](http://www.strictlyrunning.com). Applications are also available by calling 803-254-8070 or emailing [kolonel@bellsouth.net](mailto:kolonel@bellsouth.net).

For more information about the race, contact Willie L. Odom at 803-254-8070 or [kolonel@bellsouth.net](mailto:kolonel@bellsouth.net) or visit [www.AlphaOIL.org/MLK](http://www.AlphaOIL.org/MLK).

For more information about the 27th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration, contact Shireese M. Bell at 803-545-3100 or [smbell@columbiasc.net](mailto:smbell@columbiasc.net), or visit [www.columbiasc.net](http://www.columbiasc.net).



# Make Your Hometown Your Destination This Weekend

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26TH

## STAR OF BETHLEHEM



Star of Bethlehem, a full dome planetarium experience, travels back in time to Jerusalem and Bethlehem to investigate fascinating ideas about the “Christmas Star.”

**Location:** SC State Museum – 301 Gervais St.

**Time:** 11 a.m., 1 p.m., 3 p.m., and 5 p.m.

**Admission:** Prices vary (combo tickets available)

**Phone:** 803-898-4921

**Website:** <http://scmuseum.org/calendar/planetarium-show-three-fourth-tuesday/>

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## CIVIL WAR IN 3D

The exhibit features a nearly 30-minute revolving 3D show of over seventy-five stereographs. The show, featuring an original soundtrack with sound effects, brings to life each image and offers a unique look at America's most defining moment in history.

**Location:** South Carolina Confederate Relic Room & Military Museum – 301 Gervais St.

**Times:** 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

**Admission:** \$5 general admission, \$4 military and seniors, \$2 for children under 12

**Phone:** 803-737-8094

**Website:** <http://scmuseum.org/>



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**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28TH**

## **MAIN STREET ICE**



City of Columbia and Magic Ice U.S.A., Inc. have partnered to bring a 50' X 63' synthetic ice- skating rink to the plaza, located in front of the Columbia Museum of Art

**Location: Corner of Hampton and Main Street – 1515 Main St.**

**Time: 1-9 p.m.**

**Admission: Adults \$10, Children \$8**

**Phone: 803-545-3100**

**Website: <http://www.columbiacvb.com/listings/Main-Street-Ice-Boyd-Plaza/18187/>**

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## **FREE SUNDAYS AT COLUMBIA MUSEUM OF ART**



Enjoy the Columbia Museum of Art every Sunday for free. This discount is not valid for special ticketed events.

**Location: Columbia Museum of Art – 1515 Main St.**

**Time: 12 p.m. – 5 p.m.**

**Admission: FREE**

**Phone: 803-799-2810**

**Website: <http://www.columbiamuseum.org/>**



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# \$25 Pet Adoptions

*Home* for the  
*Holidays*

DECEMBER

15<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> | 2014

**\$25 PET ADOPTIONS**

ALSO

Want to give the gift of a new companion to a friend or family member? Gift Certificates can be purchased to put towards the adoption of a pet to ensure that the right pet gets into the right home!

Go To  
**Petfinder**  
To View Our  
Adoptable Pets



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Columbia Animal  
Services  
803-778-PETS (7387)  
127 Humane Lane

[www.ColumbiaSC.net](http://www.ColumbiaSC.net)



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# Save the Date



## RING IN 2015 AT FAMOUSLY HOT NEW YEAR, THE LARGEST FREE NEW YEAR'S EVE CELEBRATION IN SOUTH CAROLINA!

- Join tens of thousands for the street party of the year featuring R&B legends **The O'Jays**, as well as opening acts **MisterWives** and **Lefty at the Washout**. Concert starts at 7:30 p.m., and the O'Jays will keep the "Love Train" rolling well before and just after midnight at Main and Gervais Streets.
- Top off the celebration with the most colossal New Year's Eve fireworks show in the Carolinas, at midnight above the picturesque South Carolina State Capitol.
- Enjoy free parking, Alert Cab discounts, special COMET bus service and the Comfort Zone with regional food & drink.
- Come to Main Street for early evening happenings including the Main Street Crit road race (starts 3 p.m.) and the WOW NYE Kids Carnival with rides, face painting, bounce houses and more (5 p.m. - 11 p.m.).
- Upgrade from the free street party to the elegant VIP Crescent Lounge, with open bar, catering, indoor restrooms and exclusive parking.
- Experience the New Year in a comfortable, safe setting and check out Columbia's downtown dining and shopping districts, all within walking distance of Famously Hot New Year and multiple hotels.
- Stick around all weekend and check out unmatched area attractions like Riverbanks Zoo and Garden and the South Carolina State Museum's brand new Planetarium.

Registration, transportation, parking, lodging, VIP tickets, hotel package giveaways and more at [FamouslyHotNewYear.com](http://FamouslyHotNewYear.com). @FamouslyHotNYE #FHNY #GiveAToast



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# Meetings/Closings

- The Columbia Art Center will be closed for a Christmas break from Monday, December 22-28, 2014. The center will reopen Monday, December 29, 2014, at 9 a.m.
- City of Columbia offices will be closed in observance of Christmas Holiday on December 25 - 26, 2014.

# Garbage Collection Schedule Changes

- Garbage/Recycling pickup scheduled for Thursday, December 25, 2014 will be rescheduled for Friday, December 26, 2014.
- Garbage/Recycling pickup scheduled for Friday, December 26, 2014 will be rescheduled for Saturday, December 27, 2014.



# City Media

[www.ColumbiaSC.net](http://www.ColumbiaSC.net)



TWC Ch.2 City Talk

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**Public Relations, Marketing and Media Department**  
**pio@columbiasc.net P: 803-545-3020 F: 803-343-8719**