



Breast Cancer Check Presentation



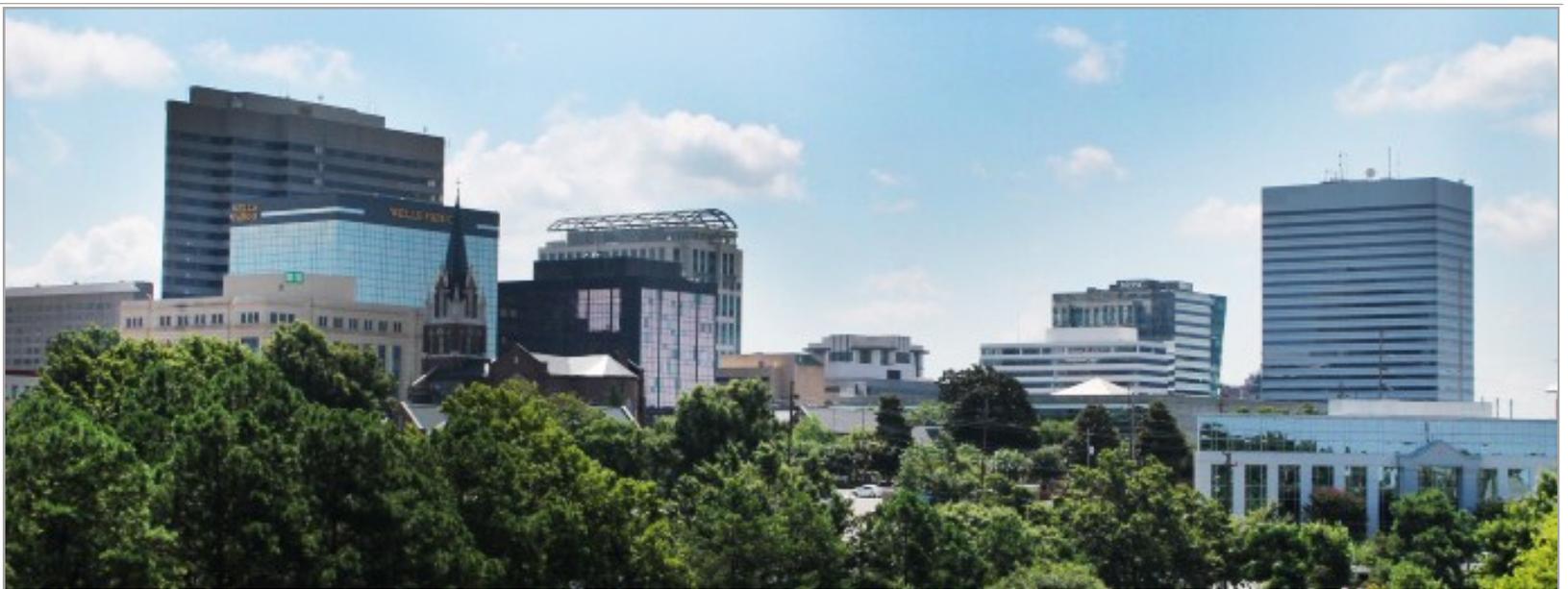
United Way First Gift Photo



Spirit Communications Park Coming To Downtown Columbia

City eNews

We Are Columbia



SPIRIT COMMUNICATIONS PARK COMING TO DOWNTOWN COLUMBIA

The **City of Columbia** and **Columbia Professional Baseball**, announced on that they have reached an agreement with **Spirit Communications** to name the new, state-of-the-art multi-use sports and entertainment venue at **Columbia Common** in downtown Columbia. The venue will be known as “**Spirit Communications Park**.”

Spirit Communications is based in Columbia- with its headquarters on Bull Street, just blocks from the Columbia Common development. Spirit was born and raised in Columbia and is one of the 25 largest privately held firms in the state of South Carolina. Spirit was formed in 1984 by the eleven independent telephone companies and cooperatives across the state.

Spirit offers innovative business solutions to a cross section of businesses, government agencies, schools and healthcare organizations throughout the Carolinas. Spirit provides high tech solutions for voice, data, Internet, managed and hosted IT Cloud services that meet the demands of business today and into the future. “Spirit Communications is delighted to make this investment in what we are sure will be one of the most important and transformative projects our home town of Columbia has seen,” said **Bob Keane, President and Chief Executive Officer, Spirit Communications**.

“Spirit and our owner companies have been a part of many big things here in South Carolina--assuring that modern technology is available to grow businesses throughout our state as well as bringing that technology to underserved rural areas and schools. Supporting Columbia Common and our new hometown team is a natural fit.”

“Spirit Communications is a successful, home-grown Columbia business that, along with its member companies, has done so much for South Carolina,” said **Mayor Steve Benjamin**. “They are helping position Columbia as a true center of global innovation and I can’t think of a better partner for our new community venue.”

“We’re thrilled to partner with a cutting edge company like Spirit Communications,” said **Jason Freier, CEO, Hardball Capital**. “Spirit is a great local company with a tremendous backstory. Spirit is a leader in innovation, collaboration, and customer service and has been a great community partner. Our goal is for this park and professional baseball in Columbia to be recognized the same way.”

Sitework for Spirit Communications Park is scheduled to begin in late December and a ceremonial groundbreaking will occur in early January. **Populous**, the world’s premier venue architectural firm, has designed the ballpark. The construction of Spirit Communications Park will be managed by **CCEB Partners**, a joint venture between local firms **Contract Construction, Construction Dynamics** and **EnviroAg Sciences** and national ballpark experts **Barton Mallow Construction**.

Spirit Communications Park will anchor the Columbia Common development, the new gateway to downtown Columbia. Under the guidance of master developer **Hughes Development**, Columbia Common will transform the 181-acre former state mental hospital site into the premiere live-work-play community in the region.

“This heralds the start of big things for Columbia Common,” said **Bob Hughes, President of Hughes Development**. “The show of faith by one of our state’s leading companies, Spirit Communications, along with the capabilities they will bring to the project, is just further confirmation that Columbia Common will become a unique and exciting place for the citizens of the Midlands.”

Spirit Communications Park will play host to far more than just baseball. The facility, which is being developed via a partnership between the City of Columbia and Hardball Capital, will serve as a public gathering space with multiple uses for both indoor and outdoor events. From concerts to parties to business meetings and charitable functions, Spirit Communications Park will host hundreds of community events every year. The park will hold approximately 8,000 fans for baseball games and 14,000 for concerts.

“This is a unique opportunity for us to have the Spirit Communications name echo throughout the Midlands,” added **Bob Keane**. “We’re confident professional baseball in Columbia is going to be a home run. But more than that, Spirit Communications Park will be a venue for the entire community to enjoy.”

“It’s exciting and gratifying to have a great partner like Spirit Communications step up to the plate and support one of our most important projects,” said Mayor Steve Benjamin. “The momentum in our city is contagious. Uniting one of our strongest local companies with one of the region’s top developers and Minor League Baseball’s top owner/operators will only strengthen that momentum.”

For more information, visit www.ColumbiaProBall.com or www.SpiritCommunicationsPark.com.



TERESA WILSON UNITED WAY FIRST GIFT PHOTO

City Manager Teresa gave the first pledge to the United Way kickoff campaign for the City of Columbia on Thursday, November 6. The City is one of United Way's top 40 contributors in employee giving and this year's campaign goal is \$10,553,264.

"The City of Columbia is an important partner in our shared mission of serving Midlands residents," said Chris Burnette, Asst. Vice President of United Way of the Midlands. "The United Way is appreciative of City employee contributions, which help us focus on Financial Stability, Healthcare and Education for those who need it most."

United Way of the Midlands works to determine and respond to the critical human service needs of the community. For more information, visit www.uway.org.

PLAN COLUMBIA LAND USE

The City of Columbia invited the public to view the draft of the Land Use Plan for Columbia on Wednesday, November 6. Citizens were able to drop-in and view the plan at their leisure.

The draft was completed using the community's input from the Plan Columbia Workshop in June. This open house meeting was designed to encourage citizens' input and recommendations and give them an opportunity to view potential plans for the city.

"Citizens provided us with a lot of information in June at our Public Workshops," said John Fellows, Development Services/Planning Administrator. "Here they could see how we gathered that information and put it into a plan for land use".

Input from the workshops will be used to edit the current plan. Once it's completed, it will then be delivered to the Planning Commission and forwarded to City Council for recommendations.



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, or visit www.columbiasc.net.

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



We Are Columbia



BREAST CANCER AWARENESS CHECK PRESENTATION

The City of Columbia presented a check of \$11,000 to the Palmetto Health Foundation Bosom Buddies Fund on Thursday, November 13. The donation was raised from Breast Cancer Awareness t-shirt sales and the 2014 Mayor's Campaign Against Breast Cancer Isabel Law Breakfast.

"It's important to note that we surpassed last year's total by more than \$3,000," said Mayor Benjamin. "Thanks to our firefighters, our police officers and to all of our city employees who sold 834 shirts and who served about 250 breakfasts."

Bosom Buddies is a 501(c)3 organization that assists women who are in need of mastectomy camisoles or have other post-surgical needs. Bosom Buddies is a breast cancer survivor support group sponsored by Palmetto Health Breast Center.

CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

Chief Aubrey D. Jenkins was honored as the "Citizen of the Year Award" by the Omicron Phi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. on Sunday, November 9. Each year, the Omicron Phi Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. holds their Annual Achievement Week Program to recognize individuals both locally and nationally who contribute toward improving the quality of life for African Americans.

"Chief Jenkins was recognized because of his long dedication to the City of Columbia and his mission to educate the community on fire safety and prevention," said Johnathan Chambers.

Chief Jenkins has been with the Columbia Fire Department for 35 years and has served as Chief for the past four years.



MOTHERS AGAINST DRUNK DRIVING (MADD)

Columbia Fire Department joined Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD), state and local law enforcement agencies in launching the 28th annual Tie One On For Safety holiday red ribbon awareness campaign. This effort is to prevent drunk driving by designating a non-drinking driver. Drunk driving typically increases during the holiday season.

Columbia Fire Chief Aubrey D. Jenkins spoke as a representative on behalf of first responders and as someone who knows firsthand what drunk driving can do to an innocent family. In March, Jenkins' great nephew Josiah was killed in a crash involving a man charged with felony DUI. Josiah was being taken to get pizza by his mother to celebrate a recognition he earned at preschool.

“As first responders we far too often encounter the loss of life when we respond to accidents involving impaired or drunk drivers, which mentally takes a toll on us,” said Chief Jenkins. “After losing Josiah I wanted to do everything I could to support law enforcement and groups like MADD who work every day to reduce the number of fatalities on our roadways.” Beginning December 1 to December 15, MADD supporters and drunk driving victims can post an image of how they display their MADD red ribbon with #myMADDribbon on Facebook and Twitter.

To order a MADD red ribbon or purchase a red ribbon car magnet, visit madd.org/toofs. For safe party tips, visit madd.org/safe-party.



Honor the Dream Food Drive



City of Columbia **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 (rice, pasta, etc.)
- 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, Police Headquarters, Fire Department Headquarters, Public Works, Charles R. Drew Wellness Center, Columbia Art Center and Main Street Ice.

Food Drive ends January 2, 2015

For more information, call 803.545.3100.



Martin Luther King Jr.
Memorial Foundation

Light Up North Columbia

Light Up North Columbia

Sunday, December 7, 2014
6:00 P.M. - Eau Claire Town Hall

*Celebrate the season with your North Columbia Neighbors!
Carolling - Choirs & Musicians - Military Salute - Refreshments
Please support Eau Claire Cares by bringing non-perishable food items*



www.eauclairecommunity.org • 803-691-1168

Financial Education Workshop



"BANK ON"
COLUMBIA



YOU'RE INVITED!

MANAGE YOUR MONEY - MANAGE YOUR LIFE

**City of Columbia
Community Development
Start Fresh!**

Financial Education Workshops

Having trouble managing your budget or
paying down debt?
Let us help you take control!

Understand the importance of :

- **Banking**
- **Budgeting**
- **Saving**
- **Building your Credit**



The workshop will be held 9-11 a.m. at 1225 Lady Street on
Saturday, December 13

For more information or to register, call 803-545-0280 or visit www.columbiasc.net.

Escape Planning Tips

Escape Planning

Plan Ahead! If a fire breaks out in your home, you may have only a few minutes to get out safely once the smoke alarm sounds. Everyone needs to know what to do and where to go if there is a fire.

SAFETY TIPS

- » MAKE a home escape plan. Draw a map of your home showing all doors and windows. Discuss the plan with everyone in your home.
- » KNOW at least two ways out of every room, if possible. Make sure all doors and windows leading outside open easily.
- » HAVE an outside meeting place (like a tree, light pole or mailbox) a safe distance from the home where everyone should meet.
- » PRACTICE your home fire drill at night and during the day with everyone in your home, twice a year.
- » PRACTICE using different ways out.
- » TEACH children how to escape on their own in case you can't help them.
- » CLOSE doors behind you as you leave.

IF THE ALARM SOUNDS...

- » If the smoke alarm sounds, **GET OUT AND STAY OUT**. Never go back inside for people or pets.
- » If you have to escape through smoke, **GET LOW AND GO** under the smoke to your way out.
- » CALL the fire department from outside your home.

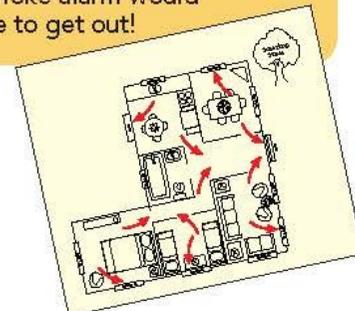


Your Source for SAFETY Information www.nfpa.org/education
NFPA Public Education Division • 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169



FACTS

- ! According to an NFPA survey, only **one of every three** American households have actually developed and practiced a home fire escape plan.
- ! While **71%** of Americans have an escape plan in case of a fire, only **45%** of those have practiced it.
- ! **One-third** of American households who made an estimate thought they would have at least 6 minutes before a fire in their home would become life-threatening. The time available is often less. And only **8%** said their first thought on hearing a smoke alarm would be to get out!



Bonita on Balance



Charles R. Drew Wellness Center

2101 Walker Solomon Way, Columbia, SC 29204

www.drewwellnesscenter.com

(803) 545-3200

Bonita on Balance: PART II

Sponsored by: The Charles R. Drew Wellness Center

When: Thursday, December 11 @ 5:30-6:30PM

Where: Drew Wellness Center Meeting Room

Cost: FREE to the Public

Are you suffering from weight gain? Hot flashes?
Night sweats? Sleeplessness? Memory loss? Hair thinning? Mood swings?



Please join Bonita D. Clemons, Nutrition Counselor and Life Balance Expert, as she discusses how to balance your hormones naturally and live in harmony with your body.

Contact the Drew Wellness Center to
REGISTER EARLY and reserve your spot!



We Are Columbia

www.columbiasc.net

\$25 Pet Adoptions

Home for the
Holidays

DECEMBER

15th - 24th | 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



We Are Columbia

Columbia Animal
Services

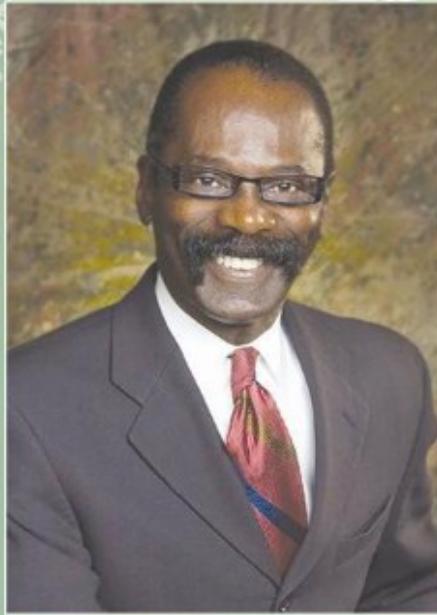
803-776-PETS (7387)
127 Humane Lane

www.ColumbiaSC.net



Holiday Reception

*'tis the season
TO CELEBRATE*



*Join Councilman Sam Davis
for a Holiday Reception*

*Monday, December 8
from 5 - 8 p.m.*

*Eau Claire Print Building
3907 Ensor Avenue
Columbia, SC 29203*

For more information, please call 803-545-3061.

Season's Greetings

Season's Greetings



*Join Councilman Cameron Runyan for a
Christmas Celebration*

*Tuesday, December 9
5-7 p.m.*

*First Citizens Café
1210 Main Street*

For more information, please call 803-545-3061.

Holiday Drop-In

Happy Holidays



Celebrate the season with
Councilwoman Tameika Isaac Devine

Annual Holiday Drop-In

Wednesday, December 10
5 - 8 p.m.

The Canal Room
211 Gervais Street

For more information, please call 803-545-3061.

2014 City of Columbia Holiday Schedule

Holiday	Official & Designated Day-Date
Christmas Day	Thursday— December 25, 2014
Day in conjunction with Christmas	Friday— December 26, 2014



Garbage Collection Schedule Changes

- Garbage/Recycling pickup scheduled for Thursday, December 25, 2014 will be rescheduled for Wednesday, December 24, 2014. Normal schedule will resume on Friday, December 26, 2014



City Media

www.ColumbiaSC.net



TWC Ch.2 City Talk

We Are Columbia

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