Neighborhood News and Updates

June is National Homeownership Month!

Join Community Development at the 2014 OMG of Homeownership Workshop on Saturday, June 21, at the Midlands Tech NE Campus at 151 Powell Road. It is a free event with great classes, prizes, vendors, refreshments and a lot of great information about buying a home.

It doesn't matter if you are a homeowner or looking to buy a home, this is a place to come where you can get answers to some of the questions you may have.

This year's workshop will offer a wide variety of new classes as well as some of the favorites from last year. Seating is limited so don't forget to register!

Register online: http://www.columbia.sc.gov/OMG2014

City of Columbia Received Top Honors For Creative Journey Program

The City of Columbia Parks and Recreation Department's Creative Journey program was awarded Best Neighborhood Program of 2014 at the Neighborhoods, USA 39th annual conference in Eugene, Oregon.

"Our neighborhoods and the programs offered to our citizens are vital to the quality of life in our great city," City Manager Teresa Wilson stated. "This award reflects the value and high standards of the initiatives that are developed and implemented by our staff. The Best Neighborhood Program award also has special meaning because the 'Creative Journey' program benefits the veterans in our community."

Creative Journey is an all-volunteer art resource that provides monthly art programs to veterans, military members and military family members. It is a collaborative effort between the City of Columbia's Parks and Recreation Department, the U.S. Army, local artists, nonprofit organizations and businesses.

"We are very excited to be recognized by NUSA for the 'Creative Journey' program and for the impact it has had on the many wounded warriors at Fort Jackson," said Jeff Caton, director of parks and recreation. "This program would not have been possible without the compassion for our military by people like Brenda Oliver, Suzy Shealy and all of the volunteers and businesses that came together to make a difference in the lives of our wounded heroes and their families."

Henderson, Nevada's Mediation Program tied for top honors as the Best Neighborhood Program of 2014. This is the first time in the history of NUSA's Best Neighborhood Program Award that there has been a tie for first place.

For more information about the Creative Journey program, contact Brenda Oliver 803.545.3093

CPD Fan the Heat Program

We're MAKING A Difference

The Columbia Police Department is asking for donations for Columbia citizens including: fans, air conditioning units and financial contributions. Donations will be accepted through Saturday, August 30.

Since its inception in 1995, the Fan the Heat program has assisted more than 7,000 Columbia citizens. The program is designed to aid senior citizens, residents with medical concerns/ disabilities and families with small children.

Donations can be dropped off at **CPD Headquarters located at #1 Justice Square** at any time.

Citizens who wish to make a monetary donation can make a check payable to: **The Columbia Police Municipal Funds. (Note the "Fan the Heat" Program on the check.)**

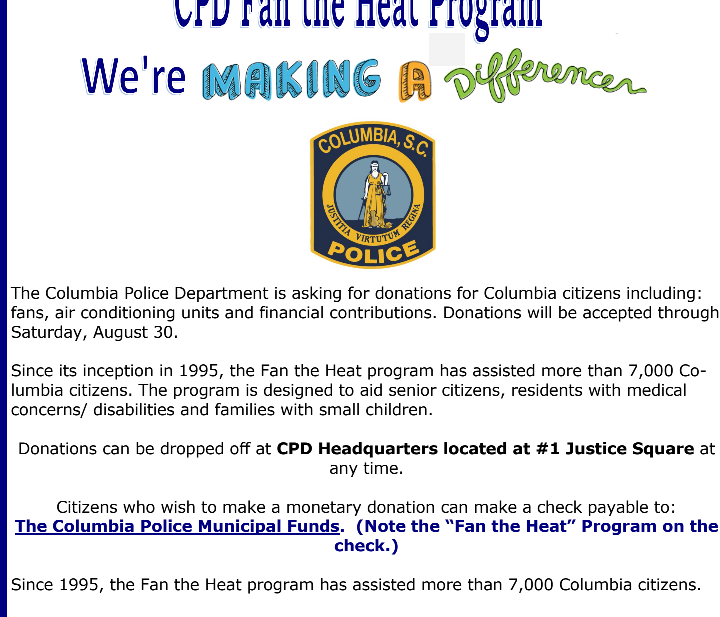
Since 1995, the Fan the Heat program has assisted more than 7,000 Columbia citizens.

The program is primarily designed for senior citizens, residents with medical concerns/ disabilities and families with small children.

Eligibility requirements include:
Citizens must be 55 years-old or older
Citizens must provide name, address, telephone number

Exception:
If person has respiratory problem or a major illness, he or she can bring in a doctor's statement regardless of age to receive assistance.

If a citizen needs assistance from the Fan the Heat program, they can call the Crime Prevention Unit at 545-3555; or CPD Telephone Response Unit at 545-3500.



We Are Columbia

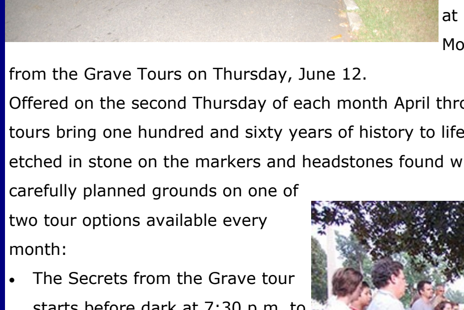
Blowfish Announced Exhibition Game with Columbia Police and Fire

The Blowfish Baseball Club has announced the revival of a great tradition in Columbia sports history! The Columbia Police will take on the Columbia Firefighters in an exhibition softball game Saturday, June 28 at 5:35 p.m. as part of a Triple Header of Fun at the Old Ballpark. Additionally, the Blowfish organization is providing complimentary tickets to all Columbia Police and Fire and their families for this evening of family fun & entertainment.

"We thought this was a great way for all of us to say thanks to all the men and women who serve this great community" said Bill Shanahan owner of the Blowfish. Columbia Police Chief Skip Holbrook and Columbia Fire Chief Aubrey Jenkins were on hand for the official announcement.

The gates will open at 5 p.m. with the softball game beginning at 5:35 p.m. Another great tradition is that Saturdays are "Play Catch with the Blowfish Players" and this day the Columbia Police and Fire players will also be joining the Blowfish players to play catch with the kids. Play Catch will be 6:40 p.m. to 7 p.m. with the Blowfish getting underway at 7:05 p.m. This exciting evening will close with a spectacular Fireworks Show produced by Munnerlyn Pyrotechnics.

Who: Columbia Police v Columbia Firefighters
What: Exhibition Softball Game
When: Saturday, June 28 at 5:35 p.m.; Gates open at 5 p.m. followed by Blowfish v Martinsville, Fireworks Show after the Blowfish game
Where: Capital City Stadium, 301 South Assembly St, Columbia SC
Tickets: $7.00 Field Level Box----$6.00 GA Adult/ $5.00 Kids-Students
available online at www.blowfishbaseball.com or by calling 803-254-FISH (3474)



Take a Moonlight Tour of Elmwood Cemetery on June 12

Grab a flashlight and come explore one of Columbia's oldest cemeteries at Historic Columbia's monthly Moonlight Cemetery and Secrets from the Grave Tours on Thursday, June 12.

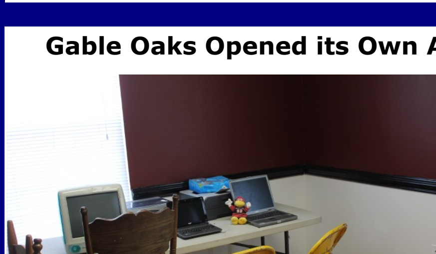
Offered on the second Thursday of each month April through September, HC's Cemetery tours bring one hundred and sixty years of history to life. Discover centuries of stories etched in stone on the markers and headstones found within Elmwood Cemetery's acres of carefully planned grounds on one of two tour options available every month:

- The Secrets from the Grave tour starts before dark at 7:30 p.m. to allow attendees to study the iconography symbols found on so many of the markers and headstones in the cemetery.
- The Moonlight Cemetery Tours at 8 and 8:30 p.m. discuss the lives, burials, cemetery plots and tombstones of families and prominent citizens from Columbia's 19th and 20th centuries.

An event the whole family will enjoy, HC's Cemetery Tours are $12 for non-member adults, $6 for non-member youth (17 and under), $8 for HC member adults and $4 for HC member youth. Tickets may be purchased online at historiccolumbia.org, by emailing reservations@historiccolumbia.org or by phone at 803.252.1770 ext. 23.

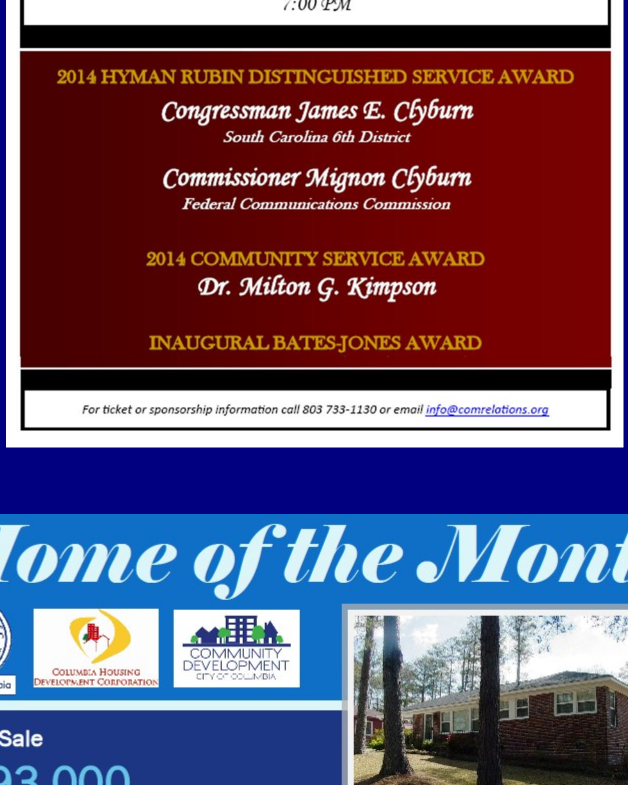
"Hundreds of people drive past Elmwood Cemetery every day without realizing what a historic treasure it is," says Sarah Blackwell, HC's director of programs. "Join us for a tour of this beautiful cemetery and discover the incredible stories of life, love and valor Elmwood offers!"

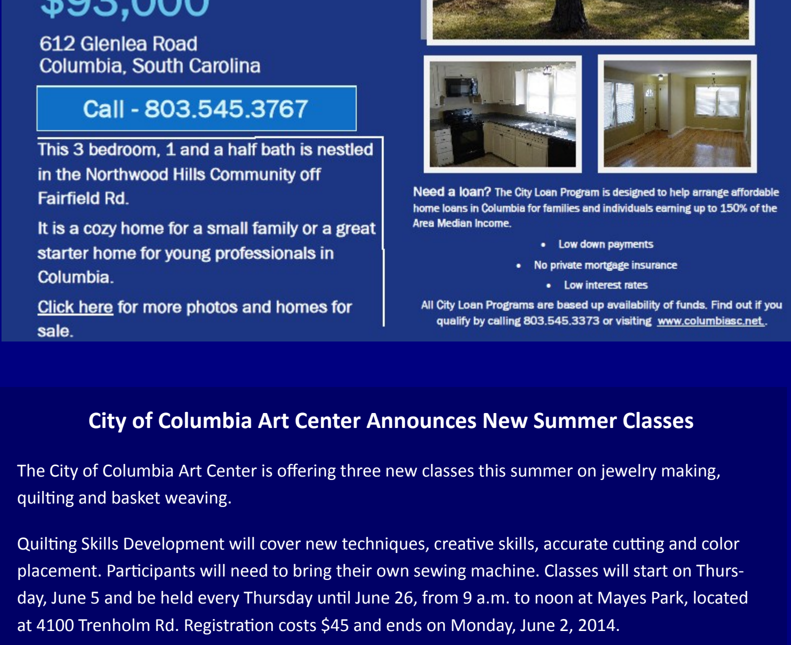
Gable Oaks Opened its Own Afterschool Program



Gable Oaks Apartment Community at 901 Colleton Street in Eau Claire is opened its own afterschool center for its youth residents. Named "G.O. Forward Afterschool Center," the site is free to its residents and open several afternoons per week. Tutors include Gable Oaks elders, assisted by student tutors from area technical colleges and universities.

Apartment complex management company is providing the free space for this afterschool center: a free 3 bedroom apartment. Management also provides a free dinner-to-go for each child who visits each day. The Eau Claire Promise Zone and several allies have donated arts and crafts supplies, along with hundreds of children's books and Coach Willie Washington has provided chairs and tables. In addition, local community organizations will provide hands-on workshops throughout the year on topics ranging from cultural heritage to etiquette to sewing skills.

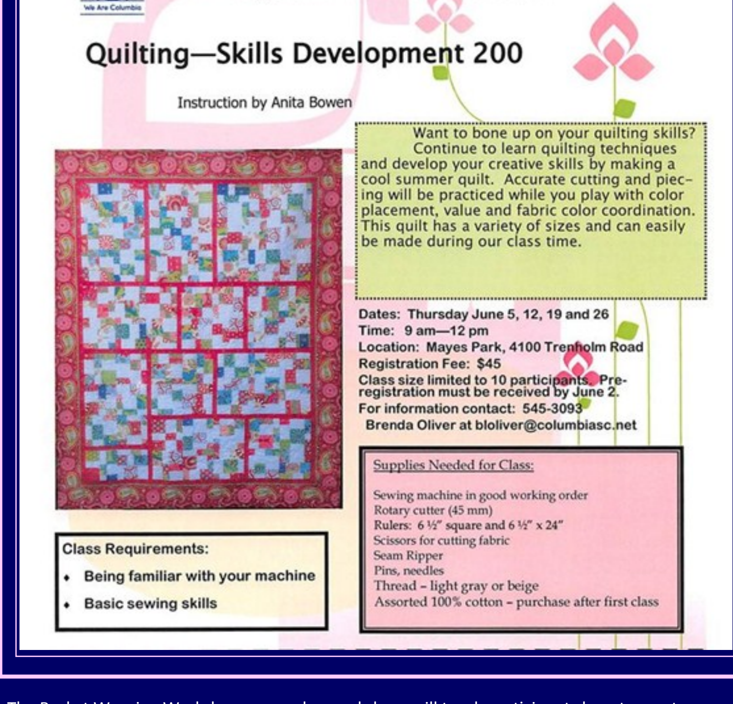




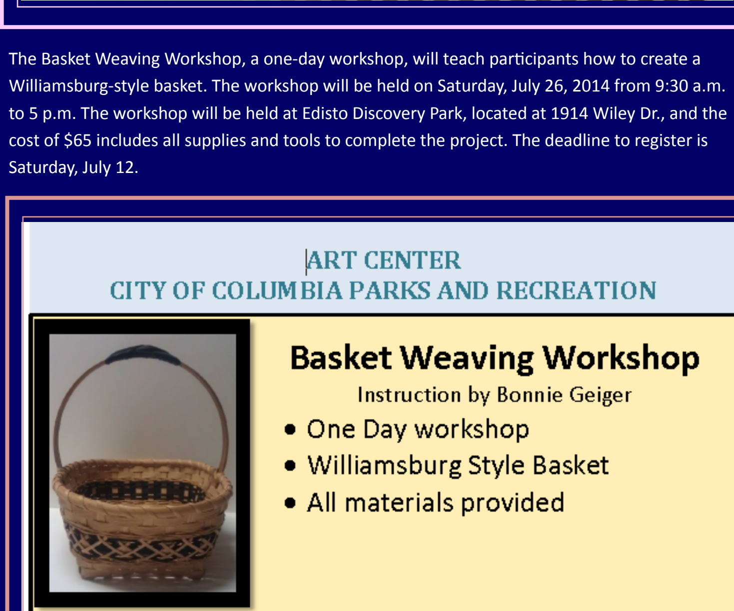
City of Columbia Art Center Announces New Summer Classes

The City of Columbia Art Center is offering three new classes this summer on jewelry making, quilting and basket weaving.

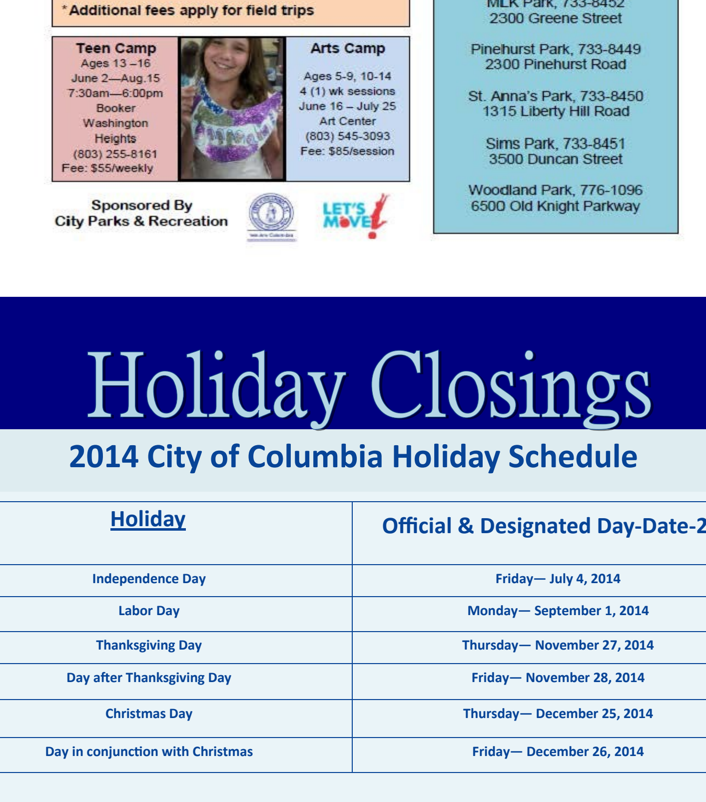
Quilting Skills Development will cover new techniques, creative skills, accurate cutting and color placement. Participants will need to bring their own sewing machine. Classes will start on Thursday, June 5 and be held every Thursday until June 26, from 9 a.m. to noon at Mayes Park, located at 4100 Trenholm Rd. Registration costs $45 and ends on Monday, June 2, 2014.



The Basket Weaving Workshop, a one-day workshop, will teach participants how to create a Williamsburg-style basket. The workshop will be held on Saturday, July 26, 2014 from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. The workshop will be held at Edisto Discovery Park, located at 1914 Wiley Dr., and the cost of $65 includes all supplies and tools to complete the project. The deadline to register is Saturday, July 12.



2014 Summer Camp Guide



Holiday Closings

2014 City of Columbia Holiday Schedule

Holiday	Official & Designated Day-Date-2014
Independence Day	Friday— July 4, 2014
Labor Day	Monday— September 1, 2014
Thanksgiving Day	Thursday— November 27, 2014
Day after Thanksgiving Day	Friday— November 28, 2014
Christmas Day	Thursday— December 25, 2014
Day in conjunction with Christmas	Friday— December 26, 2014

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We Are Columbia