



Friday, April 01, 2016

Contact: Shireese M. Bell at 803-760-9125 or smbell@columbiasc.net; Jennifer Timmons at 803-760-9694 or jatimmons@columbiasc.net

City of Columbia to Host National Youth Violence Prevention Week Activities

In recognition of National Youth Violence Prevention Week, the City of Columbia Parks and Recreation Department and the Columbia Police Department have partnered to host a series of youth violence prevention activities from April 3-8, 2016.

National Youth Violence Prevention Week is held in order to raise awareness and educate students, teachers, school administrators and staff, school resource officers, parents and the public about effective ways to prevent and reduce youth violence. Councilwoman Tameika Isaac Devine initiated the City's involvement with National Youth Violence Prevention Week approximately a decade ago.

Various planned activities will demonstrate the positive role young people can have in making their schools and communities safer.

All events are free and open to the public. Youth, adults, parents, mentors and youth leaders are encouraged to attend.

Schedule of Events

Sunday, April 3, 2016

Praise Fest for Peace – Local Artists/Performers

Dutch Square, 421 Bush River Road

4-6 p.m.

Local choirs, praise dance/mime ministries and more will perform.

Monday, April 4, 2016

Youth Violence Prevention Expo– Various Agencies and Organizations

Dutch Square, 421 Bush River Road

6-8 p.m.

Agencies and organizations will be on hand to provide information on a variety of programs, resources, activities and events that will assist youth in making better life choices.

Tuesday, April 5, 2016

Know Your Rights – Columbia Police Department

Eau Claire Print Building, 3907 Ensor Avenue

6-8 p.m.

Officers with the Columbia Police Department will provide useful tips on interacting with the police and understanding your rights.

Wednesday, April 6, 2016

Operation R.I.S.K. (Rescuing Inner City Students and Kids) – Columbia Police Department

City Hall, 1737 Main Street

6-8 p.m.

Operation R.I.S.K. (Rescuing Inner City Students and Kids) is a proactive, educational and reality-based youth program that is designed to help deter youths ages 11-16 from criminal behavior or association. The goal of Operation R.I.S.K. is to educate youth on the importance of making right decisions, and the potential consequences they can face as a result. This program also gives parents an effective alternative in helping their child become responsible and productive members of society.

Thursday, April 7, 2016

The Aftermath of Youth Violence – Panel of Experts

Earlewood Park Community Center, 1113 Parkside Drive

6-8 p.m.

A panel discussion for youth and adults to ask questions about the effects that youth violence has had on their lives and families.

Friday, April 8, 2016

Hoops for Peace – Columbia Police Department

Hyatt Park, 950 Jackson Avenue

6-9 p.m.

The Columbia Police Department will team up with area youth for an evening of basketball fun. Participants will compete against one another in a three-point contest, a half-court contest, skills challenge, free throw contest and basketball game.

For more information, please call the Parks and Recreation Department at 803-545-3100 or visit www.columbiasc.net.



Friday, April 1, 2016

Contact: Sara Hollar, Forestry and Beautification at 545-3860

SCE&G To Perform Tree Trimming Activities As Scheduled for 2016

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

Distribution Line Tree Trimming:

Hyatt Park Neighborhood
 Seminary Ridge Homeowners Association
 Eau Claire Community Council
 Brandon Acres/Cedar Terrace Neighborhood
 Shandon Neighborhood Council
 Central Rosewood Neighborhood Association
 South Kilbourne Neighborhood Association
 Riverside Apartments
 Laurel Hill Homeowners Association
 Earlewood Community Citizens Organization
 Ridgewood Monticello
 Northwood Hills Organization

Citizens with specific questions or concerns should contact Forestry and Beautification at 803-545-3860 or SCE&G at 1-800-251-7234 to meet and discuss in advance of the work being completed.

The trimming will be completed by SCE&G contractors and work will be closely monitored by the City's 4 Certified Arborists from the Forestry and Beautification Division.

The purpose of the trimming activities is to increase safety and reliability of the electric service. SCE&G reports an 89% improvement in reliability in vegetation related outages in areas where trimming is completed compared to a year ago. The trimming guidelines include removing vegetation within 8-12 feet below and beside the power lines and up to 20 feet above the power lines.

SCE&G and their contractors trim in accordance with International Society of Arboriculture guidelines, using ANSI A300 pruning methods leaving good cuts that will generate new growth.

SCE&G's re-conductor work includes pole replacements and new wire in select locations. The goal of re-conductor work is to improve reliability.

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/treertrimming.

You can also contact SCE&G's 24 hour Customer Service Center toll-free at 1-800-251-7234 or email SCEGContactUs@SCANA.com.

For continued updates from the city of Columbia follow us on Twitter [@cityofcolumbia](https://twitter.com/cityofcolumbia) or "like" the [City of Columbia](https://www.facebook.com/cityofcolumbia) on Facebook.



April 4, 2016

Contact: Erika Moore, City Clerk at 803-545-3045

City Council Meeting Agendas | April 5, 2016

The Columbia City Council will meet on Tuesday, April 5, 2016 at 3:30 p.m. for a Work Session and at 6:00 p.m. for a Council Meeting. The agendas are attached for reference.



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Monday, April 4, 2016

Contact: Shireese M. Bell at 803-760-9125 or smbell@columbiasc.net; Jennifer Timmons at 803-760-9694 or jatimmons@columbiasc.net

Youth Violence Prevention Expo

The City of Columbia Parks and Recreation Department and the Columbia Police Department will host a Youth Violence Prevention Expo **today** at Dutch Square Mall for Day 2 of the annual National Youth Violence Prevention Week.

The expo will be held from 6-9 p.m. and will feature various agencies and organizations that assist youth in making better life decisions. Exhibitors will provide information on a variety of youth-related programs, resources, activities and events.

WHAT: Youth Violence Prevention Expo

WHEN: **Today**, April 4 from 6-8 p.m.

WHERE: Dutch Square Mall, 421 Bush River Road

National Youth Violence Prevention Week is held in order to raise awareness and educate students, teachers, school administrators and staff, school resource officers, parents and the public about effective ways to prevent and reduce youth violence.

Various activities were scheduled from April 3-8 to recognize National Youth Violence Prevention Week. The events will

demonstrate the positive role young people can have in making their schools and communities safer. **All events are free and open to the public.** Youth, adults, parents, mentors and youth leaders are encouraged to attend.

For more information, please call the Parks and Recreation Department at 803-545-3100 or visit www.columbiasc.net.



Tuesday, April 5, 2016

Contact: Shireese M. Bell at 803-760-9125 or smbell@columbiasc.net

Columbia Tennis Center Clay Courts Resurfacing Project Completed

The clay courts at the Columbia Tennis located at 1635 Whaley Street are open to the public, the City of Columbia Parks and Recreation Department announced.

The courts were closed for resurfacing.

The tennis center is open Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., Friday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., Saturday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.



Tuesday, April 5, 2016

Contact: Shireese M. Bell at 803-760-9125 or smbell@columbiasc.net; Jennifer Timmons at 803-760-9694 or jatimmons@columbiasc.net

Day 3 of National Youth Violence Prevention Week: Know Your Rights

The City of Columbia Parks and Recreation Department and the Columbia Police Department will host the Know Your Rights seminar **today** at the Eau Claire Print Building for Day 3 of the annual National Youth Violence Prevention Week.

Officers with the Columbia Police Department and lawyers will provide useful tips on interacting with the police and understanding your legal rights.

WHAT: Know Your Rights – Columbia Police Department

WHEN: **Today**, April 5 from 6-8 p.m.

WHERE: Eau Claire Print Building, 3907 Ensor Avenue

National Youth Violence Prevention Week is held in order to raise awareness and educate students, teachers, school administrators and staff, school resource officers, parents and the public about effective ways to prevent and reduce youth violence.

Various activities were scheduled from April 3-8 to recognize National Youth Violence Prevention Week. The events will demonstrate the positive role young people can have in making their schools and communities safer. **All events are free and open to the public.** Youth, adults, parents, mentors and youth leaders are encouraged to attend.

For more information, please call the Parks and Recreation Department at 803-545-3100 or visit www.columbiasc.net.



April 5, 2016

Contact: Jennifer Satterthwaite at 803-545-0184

Storm Drain Marking Month Kick Off Event | April 6

Media invited to attend Storm Drain Marking Demonstration

The City of Columbia and Richland County will kick off Storm Drain Marking Month on Wednesday, April 6 at 10 a.m. at the corner of Holt and Laurie Streets in the Rosewood neighborhood. City and County stormwater staff will discuss the importance of keeping trash, lawn debris, and other pollutants out of our storm drains. A marking demonstration will be conducted before heading out to mark the surrounding area.

Storm Drain Marking Month runs throughout the month of April. Both the City and the County will be sending out neighborhood volunteers to place markers on storm drains as part of the month-long campaign.

Water that flows into storm drains does not get treated or cleaned. Any pollutants that go into a storm drain flow directly into our waterways. These stormwater pollutants negatively affect water quality for people, fish, and animals.

Therefore, storm drain markers are used as visual reminders for City and County residents that storm drains lead directly to local waterways. The City of Columbia and Richland County use weatherproof medallions with the image of a fish and water, along with "No Dumping/Drains to River" stamped in large letters.

For more information or to volunteer to mark storm drains in your neighborhood, visit www.MyRiverStartsHere.org. For more information about the Storm Drain Marking demonstration, contact

Jennifer Satterthwaite at jdsatterthwaite@columbiasc.net or 803-545-0184.



Tuesday, April 5, 2016

Contact: Tina N. Herbert, Office of Business Opportunities at 803-545-3259

Minority Business Opportunity Conference (Minority BOC)

The City of Columbia has consistently shown its commitment to the economic growth of all of its communities by providing opportunities for small and minority businesses to succeed. To help further this goal, the Office of Business Opportunities (OBO) will host its first Minority Business Opportunity Conference (Minority BOC) on April 6, 2016.

This **FREE** event will be held from 8 am- 2 pm at the Agape Conference Center, 1624 Main Street, Columbia, SC 29201.

Participants will hear from city leaders, learn about the City's procurement procedures and special programs, and they will also get to meet individuals who purchase goods and services for the city on a regular basis.

Participants can register [here](#), for more information contact Erica Wade at (803) 545-4433 or email ebwade@columbiasc.net.



Tuesday, April 5, 2016

Contact: Marli Drum at 803-776-PETS

City's Pet of the Week: Meet Tray! (ID# A224595)

Tray is a six month old tan domestic short haired mix cat. He is very affectionate and enjoys relaxing. Tray is looking for a forever home. He has been neutered and is also micro-chipped.

Visit other pets available for adoption at the Columbia Animal Shelter, 127 Humane Lane. Visit 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. Please refer to the ID number listed above when visiting the website.



Tuesday, April 5, 2016

Contact: Shireese M. Bell at 803-760-9125 or smbell@columbiasc.net

City of Columbia Parks & Recreation, Junior League of Columbia to Hold Community Build Day for Elmwood/Roy Lynch Park

WHAT: The City of Columbia Parks & Recreation Department and the Junior League of Columbia will hold a Community Build Day on Saturday, April 9 at Elmwood/Roy Lynch Park.

The .79-acre park was closed in November 2015 for renovations, which include a new splash pad, pergola, walking paths, amphitheater/picnic shelter, central green space, and a nature-themed playground.

The park originally housed a splash pad, playground and picnic shelter.

WHERE: Elmwood/Roy Lynch Park, 900 Abbeville St. (across from Logan Elementary School located at 815 Elmwood Avenue)

WHEN: Saturday, April 9, 2016 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

WHO: City of Columbia Parks & Recreation Department Staff; members of the Junior League of Columbia; students from Logan Elementary School; contractors; and community members

For more information, please call the City of Columbia Parks & Recreation Department at 803-545-3100.



Tuesday, April 5, 2016

Contact: Shireese M. Bell at 803-760-9125 or smbell@columbiasc.net

City of Columbia Youth Baseball & Softball Jamboree

The City of Columbia Parks and Recreation Department will host a Baseball & Softball Jamboree on Saturday, April 9 at Hyatt Park, 950 Jackson Avenue, to kick off the 2016 season.

The jamboree will include a parade of teams, welcome message from Mayor Steve Benjamin, ceremonial first pitch and refreshments.

WHAT: Youth Baseball & Softball Jamboree

WHO: Mayor Steve Benjamin; youth baseball and softball teams

WHEN: Saturday, April 9, 2016 at 1 p.m.

WHERE: Hyatt Park, 950 Jackson Avenue

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



Tuesday, April 5, 2016

Contact: Robert Judy at 803-545-3920

Huger Street Repair

On Friday, April 8, 2016, the City of Columbia Wastewater Maintenance Division will be closing both of the South Bound lanes of Huger St. from Gervais street to College St at 9:00 am for repairs & maintenance to the sanitary sewer system in this area. All lanes are planned to reopen by the end of day on Monday April 11, 2016.

North bound lanes on Huger St will not be affected.

- Suggested alternate routes will be:
 - East on Gervais St to Lincoln St or Assembly St
 - East on Hampton St to Lincoln St or Assembly St



Tuesday, April 5, 2016

Contact: Shireese M. Bell at 803-760-9125 or smbell@columbiasc.net

Summer Youth Basketball League Registration Begins April 25

The registration period for the City of Columbia's Summer Youth Basketball League will begin Monday, April 25, the City's Parks & Recreation Department announced.

Children ages 9-18 can play in the summer league. The fee to participate is \$25 per person.

The last day to register is Friday, May 27.

Registration forms are available and can be submitted at any community recreation center or at the Parks and Recreation Administration Office at 1111 Parkside Drive, Columbia, SC 29203.

To download a registration form, visit the Parks & Recreation's [Athletics page online](#).

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



Date: April 6, 2016
Contact: Libby Gober at 803-545-3061

At-Large Open House | April 13

WHO: Councilwoman Tameika Isaac Devine and Councilman Howard Duvall, Jr.

WHAT: April At-Large Open House

WHEN: Wednesday, April 13, 2016 from 5 - 8 p.m.

WHERE: City Hall, 1737 Main Street

For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 803-545-3061.



Wednesday, April 6, 2016

Contact: Shireese M. Bell at 803-760-9125 or smbell@columbiasc.net; Jennifer Timmons at 803-760-9694 or jatimmons@columbiasc.net

**Day 4 of National Youth Violence Prevention Week:
Operation R.I.S.K. (Rescuing Inner City Students and Kids)**

The City of Columbia Parks and Recreation Department and the Columbia Police Department will host Operation R.I.S.K. **today** at City Hall for Day 4 of the annual National Youth Violence Prevention Week.

Operation R.I.S.K. (Rescuing Inner City Students and Kids) is a proactive, educational and reality-based youth program that is designed to help deter youths ages 11-16 from criminal behavior or association.

Operation R.I.S.K. is one of several youth-related programs offered by the Columbia Police Department.

The goal of Operation R.I.S.K. is to educate youth on the importance of making right decisions, and the potential consequences they can face as a result. This program also gives parents an effective alternative in helping their child become responsible and productive members of society.

WHAT: Operation R.I.S.K. (Rescuing Inner City Students and Kids)

WHEN: Wednesday, April 4 from 6-8 p.m.

WHERE: City Hall, 1737 Main Street
National Youth Violence Prevention Week is held in order to raise awareness and educate students, teachers, school administrators and staff, school resource officers, parents and the public about effective ways to prevent and reduce youth violence.

Various activities were scheduled from April 3-8 to recognize National Youth Violence Prevention Week. The events will demonstrate the positive role young people can have in making their schools and communities safer. **All events are free and open to the public.** Youth, adults, parents, mentors and youth leaders are encouraged to attend. For more information, please call the Parks and Recreation Department at 803-545-3100 or visit www.columbiasc.net.



Wednesday, April 6, 2016
 Contact: Columbia Animal Services at 803-776-7387 or
animal@columbiasc.net

Columbia Animal Services to Hold its First Donation Shower

Columbia Animal Services will hold a donation baby shower on April 7-9, 2016 at 127 Humane Lane. Animal Services will be accepting items including but not limited to, pet food, toys, blankets, and litter boxes. If you are interested in becoming a foster parent to an orphaned, sick, or injured cat/kitten, dog/puppy, you may fill out a foster application. "Each Spring we get our share of very young puppies and kittens, and injured/sick animals, that really need to be in foster homes instead of a shelter environment to have the best chance for survival. We hope to collect enough supplies in advance so when they do come in we are ready to hand them over to a foster parent along with everything needed for their care. We don't want to burden our foster homes with those expenses when they are already gracious enough to accept that pet into their home." says Marli Drum, Superintendent of Animal Services. "It also frees up space as we start to fill up with warmer weather."

For more information on the April Donation Shower or foster applications, please contact Columbia Animal Services at 803-776-7387 or animal@columbiasc.net.



Wednesday, April 6, 2016
 Contact: Sally McDaniel at 803-255-8920

Clyburn Golf Center to Close Early to the Public for The First Tee Sessions

The Clyburn Golf Center will close early on Wednesday and Thursday evenings as of April 6 – May 25, in order to host the Spring Session of The First Tee. Ball sales will conclude at 4:00 PM with the range closing to the public at 4:30 PM. The First Tee expects class sizes of 30 participants on Wednesday night and 17 participants on Thursday night. Due to the class size, the entire range will be used for the classes.

If you have any questions regarding The First Tee or The Clyburn Golf Center, please contact Sally McDaniel at 803-255-8920 or email smmcdaniel@columbiasc.net.



Thursday, April 7, 2016
 Contact: Public and Media Relations at (803) 545-3020

City Held First Minority Business Opportunity Conference

On Wednesday, April 6 the City held its first Minority Business Opportunity Conference (MinorityBOC) at the Agape Conference Center. The purpose of the MinorityBOC, hosted by the City's Office of Business Opportunities (OBO), was to provide minority businesses the opportunity to learn about City efforts to grow the

number of companies that they make routine and emergency purchases from. Participants heard from city leaders, learned about the City's procurement procedures & special programs, and met with City department staff that make purchasing decisions. "It's really important for local minority businesses to be able to meet with folks from the City of Columbia to establish relationships with different City departments who buy different things," said Office of Business Opportunities Commercial Loan Officer, Paul Featheringill. "As we learned today, the City does over 200 million dollars of purchases every year so, there is really a huge opportunity for businesses to get in and take advantage of some of them."

During the MinorityBOC, 15 City departments met with over 75 local minority business owners, in matchmaking sessions. These owners were able to learn what each City department needed and then discuss products and/or services they are able to provide. Utilities & Engineering, Public Works, Information Technology, and Public Relations were some of the departments in attendance. The services that local businesses offered varied greatly and some of those categories were janitorial services, advertising/marketing, construction, printing, environmental testing, landscaping, consulting, training, and catering.

Local business owner, Christina Miles of Bruges Chocolaterie stated, "It was a nice event & nice way to meet other businesses and network. It's a way for me to grow my business and an alternative way of advertising."

Participants were also given resource guides and other helpful information on available programs/resources that are accessible to them through the Office of Business Opportunities. For more information, please contact the Office of Business Opportunities at (803) 545-3950.



Thursday, April 7, 2016

Contact: Shireese M. Bell at 803-760-9125 or smbell@columbiasc.net; Jennifer Timmons at 803-760-9694 or jatimmons@columbiasc.net

Day 5 of National Youth Violence Prevention Week: The Aftermath of Youth Violence

The City of Columbia Parks and Recreation Department and the Columbia Police Department will host a panel discussion called The Aftermath of Youth Violence **today** at Earlewood Park for Day 5 of the annual National Youth Violence Prevention Week.

The Aftermath of Youth Violence is a panel discussion for youth and adults to ask questions about the effects that youth violence has had on their lives and families.

Panelists include:

- Troy Williamson, former University of South Carolina and NFL football player
- Tyrone Corbin, former NBA basketball player and coach
- Andre Bovain, coach for the Pee Dee Vipers

WHAT: The Aftermath of Youth Violence

WHEN: Thursday, April 7 from 6-8 p.m.

WHERE: Earlewood Park Community Center, 1113 Parkside Drive National Youth Violence Prevention Week is held in order to raise awareness and educate students, teachers, school administrators and staff, school resource officers, parents and the public about effective ways to prevent and reduce youth violence.

Various activities were scheduled from April 3-8 to recognize National Youth Violence Prevention Week. The events will demonstrate the positive role young people can have in making their schools and communities safer. **All events are free and open to the public.** Youth, adults, parents, mentors and youth leaders are encouraged to attend.

For more information, please call the Parks and Recreation Department at 803-545-3100 or visit www.columbiasc.net.



April 7, 2016

Contact: Shireese M. Bell at 803-760-9125 or
smbell@columbiasc.net

City of Columbia Youth Baseball & Softball Jamboree

The City of Columbia Parks and Recreation Department will host a Baseball & Softball Jamboree on Saturday, April 9 at Hyatt Park, 950 Jackson Avenue, to kick off the 2016 season.

The jamboree will include a parade of teams, welcome message from Mayor Steve Benjamin, ceremonial first pitch and refreshments.

WHAT: Youth Baseball & Softball Jamboree

WHO: Mayor Steve Benjamin; youth baseball and softball teams

WHEN: Saturday, April 9, 2016 at 1 p.m.

WHERE: Hyatt Park, 950 Jackson Avenue

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



April 7, 2016

Contact: Shireese M. Bell at 803-760-9125 or
smbell@columbiasc.net

City of Columbia Parks & Recreation, Junior League of Columbia to Hold Community Build Day for Elmwood/Roy Lynch Park

WHAT: The City of Columbia Parks & Recreation Department and the Junior League of Columbia will hold a Community Build Day on Saturday, April 9 at Elmwood/Roy Lynch Park.

The .79-acre park was closed in November 2015 for renovations, which include a new splash pad, pergola, walking paths, amphitheater/picnic shelter, central green space, and a nature-themed playground.

The park originally housed a splash pad, playground and picnic shelter.

WHERE: Elmwood/Roy Lynch Park, 900 Abbeville St. (across from Logan Elementary School located at 815 Elmwood Avenue)

WHEN: Saturday, April 9, 2016 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

WHO: City of Columbia Parks & Recreation Department Staff; members of the Junior League of Columbia; students from Logan Elementary School; contractors; and community members

For more information, please call the City of Columbia Parks & Recreation Department at 803-545-3100.



April 7, 2016

Contact: Shireese M. Bell at 803-760-9125 or email
smbell@columbiasc.net

Greenview Pool Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

The City of Columbia Parks and Recreation Department will host a ribbon cutting ceremony for the new pool facility at Greenview Park.

WHAT: Greenview Pool Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

WHO: City Council members, City staff and Community leaders

WHERE: Greenview Park, 6700 David Street

WHEN: Saturday, May 21, 2016 at 10 a.m.

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



Thursday, April 7, 2016

Contact: Robert Judy at 803-545-3920

Huger Street Repair - Update

On April 8, 2016 the City of Columbia's Wastewater Maintenance Division will be performing maintenance on an 8 inch gravity sewer main located in the South bound lane of Huger Street between Gervais Street and Blossom Street.

Both South bound lanes will be closed beginning at 9 a.m. and traffic will be detoured East on Gervais Street to Assembly Street. From Assembly Street, traffic will proceed southward towards Blossom Street before taking a right hand turn back towards Huger Street.

This detour is expected to continue until lanes of traffic on Huger Street can re-open. The project is expected to be completed by Monday April 11, 2016. Please reference the attached traffic plan.

The City of Columbia will work as expeditiously as possible to complete this important maintenance while maintaining the safety of its employees and the public.



Friday, April 8, 2016

Contact: Sara Hollar, Forestry and Beautification at 545-3860

SCE&G To Perform Tree Trimming Activities As Scheduled for 2016

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

Distribution Line Tree Trimming:

Hyatt Park Neighborhood
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 Eau Claire Community Council
 Brandon Acres/Cedar Terrace Neighborhood
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 Ridgewood Monticello
 Northwood Hills Organization

Citizens with specific questions or concerns should contact Forestry and Beautification at 803-545-3860 or SCE&G at 1-800-251-7234 to meet and discuss in advance of the work being completed.

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trimming guidelines include removing vegetation within 8-12 feet below and beside the power lines and up to 20 feet above the power lines.

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SCE&G's re-conductor work includes pole replacements and new wire in select locations. The goal of re-conductor work is to improve reliability.

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/treertrimming.

You can also contact SCE&G's 24 hour Customer Service Center toll-free at 1-800-251-7234 or email SCEGContactUs@SCANA.com.

For continued updates from the city of Columbia follow us on Twitter [@cityofcolumbia](https://twitter.com/cityofcolumbia) or "like" the [City of Columbia](https://www.facebook.com/cityofcolumbia) on Facebook.



Friday, April 8, 2016
 Contact: Shireese M. Bell at 803-760-9125 or smbell@columbiasc.net; Jennifer Timmons at 803-760-9694 or jatimmons@columbiasc.net

Day 6 of National Youth Violence Prevention Week: Hoops for Peace

The City of Columbia Parks and Recreation Department and the Columbia Police Department will host Hoops for Peace **today** at

Hyatt Park for the last day of the annual National Youth Violence Prevention Week.

The Columbia Police Department will team up with area youth for an evening of basketball fun. Participants will compete against one another in a three-point contest, a half-court contest, skills challenge, free throw contest and basketball game.

*Hoops for Peace is **free and open to the public.***

WHAT: Hoops for Peace

WHEN: Friday, April 8 from 6-9 p.m.

WHERE: Hyatt Park, 950 Jackson Avenue

National Youth Violence Prevention Week is held in order to raise awareness and educate students, teachers, school administrators and staff, school resource officers, parents and the public about effective ways to prevent and reduce youth violence. Various activities were scheduled from April 3-8 to recognize National Youth Violence Prevention Week. The events demonstrated the positive role young people can have in making their schools and communities safer. Youth, adults, parents, mentors and youth leaders are encouraged to attend.

For more information, please call the Parks and Recreation Department at 803-545-3100 or visit www.columbiasc.net.



Friday, April 8, 2016
 Contact: Public and Media Relations at (803) 545-3020

The City to Host 4th Annual Small Business Week Conference

The City's Office of Business Opportunities (OBO) will host the fourth annual Small Business Week Conference on Thursday, May

5, 2015 from 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. at Spirit Communications Park, 1640 Freed Street intersecting with Bull Street.

The City of Columbia is committed to supporting its entrepreneurs and small businesses on a local level. Through the City of Columbia's Small Business Week Conference, the Office of Business Opportunities highlights the impact of the city's outstanding entrepreneurs and small business owners.

The conference promises to be a unique opportunity to network with small and large business owners throughout the midlands, city and county officials, and a great line-up of presenters with a wealth of information for every business owner. This year's keynote speakers are Gloria Larking of Target.gov, and Carolyn Sawyer of the Tom Sawyer Company.

Attendees will have the opportunity to learn helpful business tips & network with their peers. This year's workshops include:

- Taking a Business from Home to Office
- Pitch Perfect
- Doing Business with the Federal Marketplace
- Using Crowd funding to Launch your Business
- Facts of Franchise Ownership
- UPLlevel: Your Voice, Your Story & Your Revenue: Strategies to increase influence and income
- When to Hire a new Employee
- 5 HR Mistakes that Every Small Business Should Avoid

General admission tickets for the event are \$50. To purchase a ticket, click [here](#).

For more information, contact the Office of Business Opportunities at 803-545-3950 or visit <http://www.columbiasc.net/obo>.



Friday, April 8, 2016

Media Contact: Samantha Yager at (803) 331-2052

City of Columbia Hosts Spring Compost Bin and Rain Barrel Sale

The City of Columbia and Richland County are hosting a spring compost bin and rain barrel sale to help protect our rivers, creeks, and streams by reducing runoff and preventing pollution. Rain barrels help reduce the amount of runoff from roofs that enter storm drains and provide a free source of irrigation water. Composting yard and food waste creates nutrient rich soil that reduces the amount of fertilizer needed to grow healthy vegetables and beautiful flowers.

Compost bins are \$55 and rain barrels are \$68 each. These prices are dirt cheap! Bins and barrels can be purchased online at <http://www.rainbarrelprogram.org/columbia>. Online sales will close at 11 p.m. on Saturday, May 15, 2016. At this time, the City and the County are not accepting cash or check payments.

Residents can pick up their purchase on Saturday, May 21 between 9 a.m. and noon at the City's compost facility, located at 127 Humane Ln. Columbia, SC 29209. Only residents who have pre-ordered and paid online will be able to pick up bins. On-site sales are **not** available.

For more information, visit the City of Columbia at www.columbiasc.net/solid-waste or call the Office of Sustainability at (803) 545-2722. Richland County residents can find information at www.rcgov.us or by calling (803) 929-6000.



Friday, April 8, 2016

Contact: Zoning Division at (803) 545-3333

Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting

The Board of Zoning Appeals will conduct a meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, April 12, at City Hall (City Council Chambers, 3rd floor), 1737 Main Street. The agenda is attached for your review. This agenda, past agendas, and the approved minutes of previous meetings can also be found here: www.columbiasc.gov/planning-boards-commissions/boza/agendas-minutes.

Should you have questions regarding items on this agenda, please contact Zoning Division at 803-545-3333.



Monday, April 11, 2016

Contact: Public and Media Relations at (803) 545-3020

City Recognizes National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week

"CRC Celebrates National Accreditation Status"

In 1991, the United States Congress designated the second full week of April as National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week. This week is designated to recognize and honor the Nation's "first" first responders -- public safety telecommunicators -- for their contributions to the safety and security of residents in the United States. Every day, the citizens of Richland County and

the City of Columbia depend on the skill, expertise, and commitment of the men and women who answer their 911 calls. On April 2, 2016 Columbia-Richland received its fourth award of Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). The CALEA Accreditation Award is for three years and the agency is required to maintain continuous compliance during the award period.

On April 10th -16th the City will help recognize these men and women who are the calm and reassuring voices on the other end of the telephone. To recognize the telecommunicators of Richland County and the City of Columbia there are itineraries listed below in their honor:

- On April 5, 2016 the Mayor and City Council proclaimed April 10th – April 16th National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week
- Telecommunicators will be honored during an internal ceremony

(not open to public)

- Telecommunicators will be featured on the homepage of City of Columbia website and in the Know Your City public education campaign

During the week of appreciation the citizens of Richland County and the City of Columbia are also encouraged to recognize Columbia-Richland 911 Communications on all via social media and thank the Telecommunicators for their skills, expertise, and commitment that are provided for our community. For more information, please visit the Columbia-Richland County 911 Communications website at <http://www.columbiasc.net/911>.

For continued updates from the city of Columbia follow us on Twitter [@cityofcolumbia](https://twitter.com/cityofcolumbia) or "like" the [City of Columbia](https://www.facebook.com/cityofcolumbia) on Facebook.



Monday, April 11, 2016
 Contact: Erika Moore, City Clerk at 803-545-3045

City Council Budget Workshop Agenda for April 12, 2016

Please note that Members of City Council will conduct an Budget Workshop on Tuesday, February 12, 2016 from 2:30 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. at City Hall, Council Chambers, 1737 Main Street. The agenda is attached for your review.



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Friday, April 8, 2016
 Contact: Public and Media Relations at (803) 545-3020

The City to Host 4th Annual Small Business Week Conference

The City's Office of Business Opportunities (OBO) will host the fourth annual Small Business Week Conference on Thursday, May 5, 2015 from 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. at Spirit Communications Park, 1640 Freed Street intersecting with Bull Street.

The City of Columbia is committed to supporting its entrepreneurs and small businesses on a local level. Through the City of Columbia's Small Business Week Conference, the Office of

Business Opportunities highlights the impact of the city's outstanding entrepreneurs and small business owners.

The conference promises to be a unique opportunity to network with small and large business owners throughout the midlands, city and county officials, and a great line-up of presenters with a wealth of information for every business owner. This year's keynote speakers are Gloria Larking of Target.gov, and Carolyn Sawyer of the Tom Sawyer Company.

Attendees will have the opportunity to learn helpful business tips & network with their peers. This year's workshops include:

- Taking a Business from Home to Office
- Pitch Perfect
- Doing Business with the Federal Marketplace
- Using Crowd funding to Launch your Business
- Facts of Franchise Ownership
- ULevel: Your Voice, Your Story & Your Revenue: Strategies to increase influence and income
- When to Hire a new Employee
- 5 HR Mistakes that Every Small Business Should Avoid

General admission tickets for the event are \$50. To purchase a ticket, click [here](#).

For more information, contact the Office of Business Opportunities at 803-545-3950 or visit <http://www.columbiasc.net/obo>.



DATE: April 11, 2016
 CONTACT: Connie Bailey at 803-545-4268

Advertisement of Vacancies on Various Boards and Commissions

The City of Columbia is accepting applications to fill several vacancies on the following boards and commissions.

Climate Protection Action Committee

Seeking a District 4 representative.

Identify measures that can be taken to reduce greenhouse gases. CPAC was initiated to impact climate change, but now also serves as the City's unofficial environmental clearing house, focusing on air quality, energy conservation, water conservation and recycling/waste reduction. Term – 2 years.

Criminal Domestic Violence Taskforce

Seeking nine (9) applicants.

The purpose of this board is review strategies and creative ways to address the issue of Criminal Domestic Violence within the City of Columbia. Term – 3 years.

Parks and Recreation Foundation

Seeking four (4) applicants.

Columbia Parks and Recreation Foundation enhances the leisure service opportunities in the City of Columbia by improving the scope and quality of educational and human development programs. It encourages, recruits, receives, and administers gifts, devises, and donations by deed, will or otherwise, for the advancement of the City of Columbia Parks & Recreation Department. Term – 3 years.

Property Maintenance Board of Adjustment and Appeals

Seeking seven (7) applicants who are qualified by experience and training (i.e. architect, contractor, engineer, property manager) to pass on matters pertaining to property maintenance.

The purpose of the Property Maintenance Board of Adjustment and Appeals is to hear appeals of notices or decisions issued under the International Property Maintenance Code. Term – 3 years.

Deadline – Applications are due no later than April 29, 2016, 5 p.m.

For applications and more information contact Connie Bailey at (803) 545-4268 or send a request to cfbailey@columbiasc.net. Download an application at <http://www.columbiasc.net/boards-commissions>.



April 11, 2016

CONTACT: Connie Bailey, Office of the City Council at 803-545-4268

Advertisement of Vacancy on the Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee

The City of Columbia is accepting applications to fill several vacancies on the following boards and commissions.

Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee

Seeking one (1) Applicant for Re-Appointment/Appointment from the Cultural Interest representative.

The purpose of this committee is to review applications submitted for Accommodations Tax funding and make recommendations to Columbia City Council. Term – 2 years.

Deadline – Applications are due by March 31, 2016, 5 p.m.

For more information, contact Connie Bailey at (803) 545-4268 or send a request to cfbailey@columbiasc.net. Download an application at <http://www.columbiasc.net/boards-commissions>.



Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Contact: The Planning Division at 803-545-3222

Design/Development Review Commission meeting for April 13, 2016

Please note that there will be a Design/Development Review Commission Meeting on April 13, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. at City Hall, Council Chambers, 1737 Main Street. The agenda is attached for your review. This agenda, past agendas, and the approved minutes of previous meetings can also be found here: <http://www.columbiasc.net/planning-boards-commissions/ddrc/agendas-minutes>.



Tuesday, April 12, 2016
Contact: Public and Media Relations at (803) 545-3020

City Urges Citizen Participation in FY 2016-2017 Annual Action Plan Public Hearing

In the Fiscal Year 2016-2017, the City of Columbia expects to receive continued federal funding through three U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Entitlement grants: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA).

In order to receive these HUD grants, the City of Columbia must submit an Annual Action Plan to HUD that provides the community needs, resources, priorities, and proposed activities with regard to housing, community development, economic development, and public services. The City has begun development of its FY 2016-17 Action Plan, which is due to HUD on or before May 15, 2016.

Citizens will have the opportunity to review and comment on the proposed Annual Action Plan during the public hearings and during the 30-day public comment period: April 10, 2016- May 11, 2016. A summary of citizen comments will be included in the FY 2016-17 Annual Action plan to be submitted to HUD.

A Public Hearing that will be open for citizen commentary and input will be held on Thursday, April 21, 2016 at Spirit Communications Park, 1640 Freed Street at 6:30 p.m.

During the Public Hearing the City would like to hear from the citizens of Columbia to gain feedback on the drafted FY 2016-2017 Annual Action Plan.

For more information, please contact the Community Development Department at (803) 545-3373. For Persons with mobility, visual or hearing impairments requiring special accommodations, please dial 7-1-1 TDD or Limited English Proficiency call 803-545-3373.



April 14, 2016
Contact: Connie Bailey, Office of the City Council at 803-545-4268

Advertisement of Vacancies on Various Boards and Commissions

The City of Columbia is accepting applications to fill several vacancies on the following boards and commissions.

Climate Protection Action Committee

Seeking a District 4 representative.

Identify measures that can be taken to reduce greenhouse gases. CPAC was initiated to impact climate change, but now also serves as the City's unofficial environmental clearing house, focusing on air quality, energy conservation, water conservation and recycling/waste reduction. Term – 2 years.

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Property Maintenance Board of Adjustment and Appeals

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The purpose of the Property Maintenance Board of Adjustment and Appeals is to hear appeals of notices or decisions issued under the International Property Maintenance Code. Term – 3 years.

Deadline – Applications are due no later than April 29, 2016, 5 p.m.

For applications and more information contact Connie Bailey at (803) 545-4268 or send a request to cfbailey@columbiasc.net. Download an application at <http://www.columbiasc.net/boards-commissions>.



Thursday, April 14, 2016

Contact: Public and Media Relations at 803-545-3020

City Manager Teresa Wilson Recognized as a Recipient of the Whitney M. Young, Jr. Service Award

City Manager Teresa Wilson was recognized at the 18th Annual Whitney M. Young, Jr. Service Awards Banquet on Tuesday, April 12, 2016. Wilson was selected as an honoree because of her tireless efforts and dedicated public service during the historic October 2015 flood. The Whitney M. Young, Jr. Service Award Banquet was hosted by the Indian Waters Council, Boy Scouts of America.

“It is an honor to be a recipient of the Whitney M. Young Jr. award. I am proud to serve my community and I commend the commitment to service that the Boy Scouts of America demonstrate every day. I have never been prouder than when the Boy Scouts joined other organizations and volunteered to support those in need during the flood in 2015. Our entire community displayed a high level of resilience during a historic crisis,” City Manager Teresa Wilson stated.

The Whitney M. Young, Jr Service Award is given to recognize outstanding service by an adult individual or organization in the development of Scouting for youth. This award also salutes “unsung heroes”, these people who might not otherwise receive recognition for their exceptional service to America’s youth. Selection as a recipient of this most prestigious honor is based on the nominee’s contribution as an advocate seeking to improve at-risk conditions affecting America’s youth and communities.

For more information, visit www.indianwaters.org or call 803-750-9868.



Thursday, April 14, 2016
 Contact: Sara Hollar, Forestry and Beautification at 545-3860

SCE&G To Perform Tree Trimming Activities As Scheduled for 2016

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

Distribution Line Tree Trimming:

Hyatt Park Neighborhood
 Seminary Ridge Homeowners Association
 Eau Claire Community Council
 Brandon Acres/Cedar Terrace Neighborhood
 Shandon Neighborhood Council
 Central Rosewood Neighborhood Association
 South Kilbourne Neighborhood Association
 Riverside Apartments
 Laurel Hill Homeowners Association
 Earlewood Community Citizens Organization

Citizens with specific questions or concerns should contact Forestry and Beautification at 803-545-3860 or SCE&G at 1-800-251-7234 to meet and discuss in advance of the work being completed.

The trimming will be completed by SCE&G contractors and work will be closely monitored by the City's 4 Certified Arborists from the Forestry and Beautification Division.

The purpose of the trimming activities is to increase safety and reliability of the electric service. SCE&G reports an 89% improvement in reliability in vegetation related outages in areas where trimming is completed compared to a year ago. The trimming guidelines include removing vegetation within 8-12 feet

below and beside the power lines and up to 20 feet above the power lines.

SCE&G and their contractors trim in accordance with International Society of Arboriculture guidelines, using ANSI A300 pruning methods leaving good cuts that will generate new growth.

SCE&G's re-conductor work includes pole replacements and new wire in select locations. The goal of re-conductor work is to improve reliability.

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/treertrimming.

You can also contact SCE&G's 24 hour Customer Service Center toll-free at 1-800-251-7234 or email SCEGContactUs@SCANA.com.

For continued updates from the city of Columbia follow us on Twitter [@cityofcolumbia](https://twitter.com/cityofcolumbia) or "like" the [City of Columbia](https://www.facebook.com/cityofcolumbia) on Facebook.



Date: April 18, 2016
 Contact: Erika Moore, City Clerk at 803-545-3045

City Council Work Session and Council Meeting Agendas for April 19, 2016

The Columbia City Council will conduct a Work Session at 2:30 p.m. and a Council Meeting at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 19, 2016.



Monday, April 18, 2016
 Contact: Shireese M. Bell at 803-760-9125 or
smbell@columbiasc.net

City of Columbia Accepting Applicants for Let's Move! Columbia Family Wellness Challenge

The City of Columbia will kick off a **free** 12-week family wellness challenge beginning Sunday, May 1, to encourage families to lead a healthy and active lifestyle.

The Let's Move! Columbia Family Wellness Challenge will be held from May 1 through July 24, and is **free** and open to the public. Participants must be age 6 and older.

Up to 15 families will be selected to compete in the wellness challenge. A family can include at least one child and one adult living in the same household. Grandparents who live in the same household can also participate.

Councilwoman Tameika Isaac Devine, who is spearheading the citywide wellness initiative, said the health of your family is one of the most important aspects of life.

"As a Let's Move! Gold Medalist City, we are working diligently to improve access to healthy, affordable food and increase opportunities for physical activity for our citizens," Devine said. "That's why this challenge is so important to us. We want to empower families by giving them the tools and resources to take charge of their health together."

"It's not always easy to find time to work out or create nutritious meals but my hope is that this challenge will show families ways to think outside of the box when it comes to their health."

A **kick-off celebration** will be held on Sunday, May 1 from 3-6 p.m. at the Charles R. Drew Wellness Center located at 2101 Walker Solomon Way for those families who are selected to compete in the challenge.

Families must complete an application and describe why their family should be considered for the wellness challenge and list the goals they want to reach by participating.

Participants will be asked to track their meals and activities, and participate in a variety of special events throughout the challenge. Participants will receive points in the following categories:

- Fitness
 - Exercise program (on their own or at the Charles R. Drew Wellness Center)
 - Scheduled group activity
- Nutrition/Gardening
 - Attending nutrition and cooking classes sponsored by the SC Department of Health & Environmental Control
 - Attending gardening sessions or planting a garden at home
- Family Activity
 - Spending time together as a family (sharing or cooking a meal together, attending a special event, exercising, shopping, gardening etc.)

Overall prizes valued at \$1,000, \$500 and \$250 will be awarded to the top three families who log the most points at the end of the challenge.

All participating families will receive a certificate for their participation.

Each family that is selected for the challenge will receive the following:

- Free health screenings (BMI and blood pressure)
- Weekly emails providing physical activity and nutrition tips
- Cookbook
- Activity tracking notebook
- Activity and program calendars
- (3) fresh food boxes from FoodShare Columbia
- Personal potted plant for children

- Raised garden bed kit for the entire family
- Boot Camp sessions with a personal trainer
- Chance to win prizes worth up to \$1,000
- And more!

To download an application, visit
<http://www.columbiasc.net/parks-recreation/lets-move>.

Applications must be received by 5 p.m. on Wednesday, April 27.

Applications can be submitted in the following ways:

- **Email:** Wanda Austin at weaustin@columbiasc.net
- **Mail or deliver in person:**
 - Kathryn M. Bellfield Booker Washington Heights Cultural Arts Center, 2611 Grant Ave., Columbia, SC 29203 (Hours of operation: Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.)
 - City of Columbia Parks & Recreation Department, 1111 Parkside Drive, Columbia, SC 29203 (Hours of operation: Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.)
- **Fax:** 803-343-8744 (Attn: Wanda Austin)

For more information, contact Wanda Austin at 803-315-4964 or weaustin@columbiasc.net.



Monday, April 18, 2016
 Contact: Shireese M. Bell at 803-760-9125

Summer Youth Basketball League Registration Begins April 25

The registration period for the City of Columbia's Summer Youth Basketball League will begin Monday, April 25, the City's Parks & Recreation Department announced.

Children ages 9-18 can play in the summer league. The fee to participate is \$25 per person.

The last day to register is Friday, May 27.

Registration forms are available and can be submitted at any community recreation center or at the Parks and Recreation Administration Office at 1111 Parkside Drive, Columbia, SC 29203.

To download a registration form, visit the Parks & Recreation's [Athletics page online](#).

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



Monday, April 18, 2016
 Contact: Marli Drum at 803-776-PETS

City's Pet of the Week: Meet Lance! (ID# A224483)

Lance is a three year old white American Bulldog Mix. He is a gentle 80 pound giant. Lance is very obedient and is treat motivated. He is looking for a loving home. He has been neutered and is also micro-chipped.

Visit other pets available for adoption at the Columbia Animal Shelter, 127 Humane Lane. Visit 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. Please refer to the ID number listed above when visiting the website.



Tuesday, April 19, 2016
 Contact: Public and Media Relations at (803) 545-3020

City Urges Citizen Participation in FY 2016-2017 Annual Action Plan Public Hearing

In the Fiscal Year 2016-2017, the City of Columbia expects to receive continued federal funding through three U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Entitlement grants: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA).

In order to receive these HUD grants, the City of Columbia must submit an Annual Action Plan to HUD that provides the community needs, resources, priorities, and proposed activities with regard to housing, community development, economic development, and public services. The City has begun development of its FY 2016-17 Action Plan, which is due to HUD on or before May 15, 2016.

Citizens will have the opportunity to review and comment on the proposed Annual Action Plan during the public hearings and during the 30-day public comment period: April 10, 2016- May 11, 2016. A summary of citizen comments will be included in the FY 2016-17 Annual Action plan to be submitted to HUD.

A Public Hearing that will be open for citizen commentary and input will be held on Thursday, April 21, 2016 at Spirit Communications Park, 1640 Freed Street at 6:30 p.m.

During the Public Hearing the City would like to hear from the citizens of Columbia to gain feedback on the drafted FY 2016-2017 Annual Action Plan.

For more information, please contact the Community Development Department at (803) 545-3373. For Persons with mobility, visual

or hearing impairments requiring special accommodations, please dial 7-1-1 TDD or Limited English Proficiency call 803-545-3373.



Wednesday, April 20, 2016
 Contact: Shireese M. Bell at 803-760-9125 or
smbell@columbiasc.net

City of Columbia to Host Kids Day Survivor Challenge

Test your mental and physical strengths at the City of Columbia's Kids Day Survivor Challenge on Saturday, May 14 at Finlay Park.

This **free**, fun and interactive event will feature a variety of mental and physical challenges for youth and adults, a Kids Korner (ages 5 and under), water games, food vendors, exhibitors, and more!

Challenges include:

- Clash of the Titans
- Castaways
- Make Your Mark
- Crazy Legs
- Off-To-The-Races
- Master Mind & More!

Admission is FREE. There are fees for food vendors.

WHAT: Kids Day Survivor Challenge

WHEN: Saturday, May 14, 2016 from 12-4 p.m.

WHERE: Finlay Park, 930 Laurel Street

The Kids Day Survivor Challenge is sponsored by the City's Parks & Recreation Department. For more information, call 803-545-3100.



Thursday, April 21, 2016

Contact: Office of Business Opportunities at 803-545-3950

Commercial Revolving Loan Fund Committee Meeting Agenda for Wednesday, April 27, 2016

The Commercial Revolving Loan Fund Committee (CRLF) meeting will be held at the Office of Business Opportunities – First Floor Conference Room, 1225 Lady St. on Wednesday, April 27, 2016 at 10 a.m. Should you have questions regarding items on the attached agenda, please contact the Office of Business Opportunities at (803) 545-3950.



Friday, April 22, 2016

Contact: Shireese M. Bell at 803-760-9125

Earth Day Tree Identification Walk

The City of Columbia Parks and Recreation Department invites the public to explore the diversity of trees at Riverfront Park on a free ranger-led walk on Saturday, April 23.

The Earth Day Tree Identification Walk will be held from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Participants will learn how to use an identification key that they can use to identify trees in their backyard, neighborhood or local park.

Participants are encouraged to bring binoculars and field guides as well as any essentials such as water, sunscreen, bug repellent, hats and sturdy walking shoes.

Those attending the walk should meet in the Laurel Street parking lot at Riverfront Park, 312 Laurel Street.

WHAT: Earth Day Tree Identification Walk

WHEN: Saturday, April 23 from 10 – 11:30 a.m.

WHERE: Riverfront Park, 312 Laurel Street

WHO: Open to the public

For more information, contact the Parks & Recreation Department at 803-545-3100.



Friday, April 22, 2016

Media Contact: Samantha Yager at (803) 331-2052

City of Columbia Hosts Spring Compost Bin and Rain Barrel Sale "Environmental Care for Earth Day in Columbia"

The City of Columbia and Richland County are hosting a spring compost bin and rain barrel sale to help protect our rivers, creeks, and streams by reducing runoff and preventing pollution. Rain barrels help reduce the amount of runoff from roofs that enter storm drains and provide a free source of irrigation water. Composting yard and food waste creates nutrient rich soil that reduces the amount of fertilizer needed to grow healthy vegetables and beautiful flowers.

Compost bins are \$55 and rain barrels are \$68 each. These prices are dirt cheap! Bins and barrels can be purchased online at <http://www.rainbarrelprogram.org/columbia>. Online sales will

close at 11 p.m. on Saturday, May 15, 2016. At this time, the City and the County are not accepting cash or check payments.

Residents can pick up their purchase on Saturday, May 21 between 9 a.m. and noon at the City's compost facility, located at 127 Humane Ln. Columbia, SC 29209. Only residents who have pre-ordered and paid online will be able to pick up bins. On-site sales are **not** available.

For more information, visit the City of Columbia at www.columbiasc.net/solid-waste or call the Office of Sustainability at (803) 545-2722. Richland County residents can find information at www.rcgov.us or by calling (803) 929-6000.



Monday, April 25, 2016
Contact: Erika Moore, City Clerk at 803-545-3045

City Council Budget Workshop Agenda for April 26, 2016

Please note that Members of City Council will conduct an Budget Workshop on Tuesday, April 26, 2016 from 2:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at City Hall, Council Chambers, 1737 Main Street. The agenda is attached for your review.



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Monday, April 25, 2016
Contact: Marli Drum at 803-776-PETS

City's Pet of the Week: Meet Beanie! (ID# A222184)

Beanie is a two year old domestic shorthaired mix cat. She is easy-going and enjoys playing. Beanie is very affectionate and loving. She has been spayed and is also micro-chipped.

Visit other pets available for adoption at the Columbia Animal Shelter, 127 Humane Lane. Visit 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. Please refer to the ID number listed above when visiting the website.



Monday, April 25, 2016
Contact: Shireese M. Bell at 803-760-9125 or
smbell@columbiasc.net

Finlay Park Playground Temporarily Closed Due To Construction

The playground area at Finlay Park is closed to visitors, effective today, April 25, the City of Columbia Parks and Recreation Department announced. Finlay Park is located at 930 Laurel St.

The playground area will be closed to the public to allow for the removal of the old playground equipment, site preparation and installation of new playground equipment.

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



Monday, April 25, 2016

Contact: Public & Media Relations at [803-545-3020](tel:803-545-3020) or Columbia Urban League at [803-799-8150](tel:803-799-8150)

Mayor Steve Benjamin and the Columbia Urban League to Hold SWELP Press Conference

WHAT: Mayor Steve Benjamin and the Columbia Urban League will hold a Summer Work Experience Leadership Program (SWELP) press conference to announce the water bill check off program and SWELP application process. The initiative will allow citizens to donate funds to support the SWELP program. The Columbia Urban League's Summer SWELP is a career development program for youth ages 14-19.

WHO: Mayor Steve Benjamin; James T. McLawhorn, Jr., President and CEO and Ray Tanner chairman of Columbia Urban League Board, and several local participants who have gained experience and benefited from the SWELP initiative.

WHERE: Bank of America, 1901 Main Street (Board Room on the 18th Floor)

WHEN: Tuesday, April 26, 2016 from 1-2 p.m.

For more information, contact the Public & Media Relations Department at [803-545-3020](tel:803-545-3020) or the Columbia Urban League at [803-799-8150](tel:803-799-8150).



April 27, 2016

Contact: Leigh DeForth at 803-545-4864 or ldeforth@columbiasc.net

Imagine Mill District Workshops

The City of Columbia Planning and Development Services Department invites the public to help establish a community vision for the future development of the Whaley, Olympia, and Granby neighborhoods – The Capital City Mill District.

Two public Imagine Workshops will be held for citizen input on the Mill District. The workshop presentations are identical opportunities to contribute and will begin promptly at the times listed.

WHAT: Imagine Workshops

WHEN: Wednesday, April 27, 6:00-7:30 p.m. and Thursday, April 28, 7:30-8:30 a.m.

WHERE: 701 Whaley in the Grand Hall

WHO: Open to the public

In June, during the next session of Imagine Workshops, the Project Team will present initial findings and there will be opportunities for additional citizen review and input.

For more information, contact the Planning and Development Services Department at 803-545-3222.



April 28, 2016

Contact: Leigh DeForth at 803-545-4864 or ldeforth@columbiasc.net

Imagine Mill District Workshop | April 28

The City of Columbia Planning and Development Services Department invites the public to help establish a community vision for the future development of the Whaley, Olympia, and Granby neighborhoods – The Capital City Mill District.

WHAT: A public Imagine Workshop will be held for citizen input on the Mill District.

WHEN: Thursday, April 28, 7:30-8:30 a.m.

WHERE: 701 Whaley in the Grand Hall

WHO: Open to the public

In June, during the next session of Imagine Workshops, the Project Team will present initial findings and there will be opportunities for additional citizen review and input.

For more information, contact the Planning and Development Services Department at 803-545-3222.



Thursday, April 28, 2016

Contact: Zoning Division at (803) 545-3333

Planning Commission Meeting Agenda for May 2, 2016

The planning commission will conduct a meeting at 5:15pm on Monday, May 2, 2016. The agenda is attached for your review.

This agenda, past agendas, and the approved minutes of previous meetings can also be found here: www.columbiasc.gov/planning-boards-commissions/pc/agendas. Should you have questions regarding items on this agenda, please contact Zoning Division at 803-545-3333.

***Please Note Change of Meeting Location: Mayor's Conference Room, 2nd Floor, 1737 Main Street**



Friday, April 29, 2016

Contact: Public and Media Relations at 803-545-3020

The City's National Small Business Week Kick-Off Press Conference

WHAT: The City of Columbia's Office of Business Opportunities in conjunction with Columbia Chamber of Commerce and Richland County will kickoff National Small Business Week with a press conference.

WHO: Mayor Steve Benjamin, Columbia Chamber of Commerce CEO, Carl Blackstone, Richland County Officials, and U.S. Small Business Administration South Carolina District Director, Elliott Cooper.

WHERE: Columbia Chamber, 930 Richland Street, Columbia, SC 29201

WHEN: Monday, May 2, 2016 at 2 p.m.

For more information, contact Office of Business Opportunities at 803-545-3950.



Friday, April 29, 2016

Contact: Marli Drum at (803)-776-PETS

Cinco De Meow Pet Adoption Special

WHAT: The Columbia and Lexington Animal Services will be holding a Cinco De Meow pet adoption special for \$35 during the month of May. The adoption fee includes spay/neuter, microchip, Feline Leukemia/Heartworm Test, initial vaccines and deworming.

WHERE: Columbia Animal Services, 127 Humane Lane, Columbia, SC and Lexington Animal Services, 321 Ball Park Rd, Lexington, SC

WHEN: Sunday, May 1 – Tuesday, May 31, 2016

Cost: \$35 per pet

For more information about the adoption specials please call Columbia Animal Services (803)776-7387 or Lexington Animal Services (803) 785-8149.



Date: April 29, 2016

Contact: Libby Gober at 803-545-3061

At-Large Open House | May 11

WHO: Councilwoman Tameika Isaac Devine and Councilman Howard Duvall, Jr.

WHAT: May 2016 At-Large Open House

WHEN: Wednesday, May 11, 2016 from 5 - 8 p.m.

WHERE: City Hall, 1737 Main Street

For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 803-545-3061.



Friday, April 29, 2016

Contact: Public and Media Relations at 803-545-3020

City Manager Teresa Wilson and Community Development Director Deborah Livingston Honored at CCN Awards Banquet and Hall of Fame Induction

On Thursday, April 28 City Manager Teresa Wilson and Community Development Director, Deborah Livingston were honored and presented the Friend of the CCN Award. The two outstanding women were nominated by the President and Vice President of the executive committee and given the award on behalf of the CCN Board of Directors. The theme for the night was, "Standing Strong."

The Friend of the CCN award is presented to those who have made significant contributions to help or make the Columbia Council of Neighborhoods better in the past year. Deborah Livingston was recognized for her continuous involvement in the community through the Community Development department. The Community Development Department was also there to accept the award on her behalf. Throughout the banquet, the City Manager was

recognized for her upstanding dedication to the community during the October floods.

“It means so much to me ,and I really receive the honor that's been given by the Columbia Council of Neighborhood as a friend to the CCN on behalf of all City staff. We've had a challenging year and it's really shown on the resilience of our community. So, to have the neighborhood leaders and the collaboration of neighborhoods to recognize our work as a city is very meaningful.”

Mayor Benjamin, City Councilmembers, fire and police chiefs were also in attendance and commended both of the honorees on their accomplishments.

For more information, please contact the Public and Media Relations department at (803) 545-3020.



Date: April 29, 2016

Contact: Erika Moore, City Clerk at 803-545-3045

City Council Agendas | May 3

The Columbia City Council will conduct a Work Session at 3:30 p.m. and a Council Meeting at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 3, 2016.

The agendas are attached for your review.



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