

CITY OF WEST COLUMBIA NEWSLETTER

APRIL/MAY 2025



MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Spring is one of the most beautiful times of the year in the City of West Columbia! Our azalea bushes are in full bloom, adding vibrant pops of color throughout our neighborhoods and business districts.

City staff have been working hard to plan an exciting lineup of events this season. Mark your calendars for Kinetic Derby Day featuring iMAGINE STEAM on April 26, the City-Wide Clean-Up Day on May 3, and Art on State on May 9. These events bring our community together for fun, creativity, and civic pride.

The Beautification Foundation is also in full swing, planning the 9th Annual Taste on the River. This premier culinary event showcases 13 incredible restaurants from across the Midlands, along with a silent auction. It's a fantastic opportunity to enjoy some of the best food in the region while supporting efforts to beautify West Columbia. Tickets are available at beautifywestcolumbia.org.

As the weather warms up, I encourage you to explore our many parks and outdoor spaces. Did you know the tennis courts at Douglas Reeves Park also have pickleball courts? Whether you're a seasoned player or trying it for the first time, it's a great way to enjoy the outdoors!

We look forward to seeing you out and about this spring!

Sincerely,
Mayor Temus C. "Tem" Miles, Jr.



HAPPENINGS IN WECO

KINETIC DERBY DAY
SATURDAY, APRIL 26, 2025
11 AM - 3:30 PM

MEETING & STATE STREETS

KINETICDERBYDAY.COM

CITYWIDE LITTER PICK-UP DAY

SATURDAY, MAY 3, 2025

9 AM - 12 PM

CITY WIDE - MEET AT CITY HALL

SIGN-UP IN ADVANCE AT WESTCOLUMBIASC.ORG

ART ON STATE

FRIDAY, MAY 9, 2025

5:30 - 9:30 PM

100-200 STATE STREET

CWC CHAMBER RYTHM ON THE RIVER

FREE CONCERT SERIES

SATURDAYS, MAY 31, JUNE 7, & 14, 2025

6 - 9 PM

WECO RIVERWALK AMPHITHEATER

BEAUTIFICATION FOUNDATION

TASTE ON THE RIVER

TUESDAY, JUNE 10, 2025

5:30 - 9:30 PM, STONE RIVER

BEAUTIFYWESTCOLUMBIA.ORG

DISCOVER MORE AT
WestColumbiaSC.gov

MESSAGES FROM COUNCIL



MIKE GREEN

COUNCIL DISTRICT #1

Here are a few updates on key infrastructure improvements in West Columbia. The SCDOT I-26 repaving project from Exit 113 to Exit 109, including the on-ramps at Exit 111, is moving forward to improve the road conditions. All streetlights on the Gervais Street Bridge are now fully operational, improving visibility and safety. Construction also continues on the US-1 Highway Safety Project, bringing essential enhancements to the corridor.



JOSEPH DICKEY

COUNCIL DISTRICT #4

There is a lot happening in District 4! New businesses are moving into the buildings along State Street, and the spaces are getting upgrades. Free family-friendly events are being held on April 26 (Kinetic Derby Day) and May 9 (Art on State). The CWC Chamber's Rhythm on the River Concert Series will occur on May 31, June 7, and June 14 at the Riverwalk Amphitheater. The RFP for riverwalk damage from Hurricane Helene and the Request for Pre-Qualifications of Contractors for the Meeting Street Improvement Project are out for bid.



SARAH MATTERN

COUNCIL DISTRICT #7

Spring has sprung in WECO and man is the pollen ever thick, but don't let that stop you from all the FUN events happening! Don't forget to check out the WECO Info App for all upcoming events, but here are a few to mark on your calendars. April 19 - CWC Rabbit Run, starts and finishes at the Ampitheater, April 22 is Earth Day - set a goal to pick up 25 pieces of trash in our neighborhood. All of these events are family friendly events and tons to do for everyone!



TREVOR BEDELL

COUNCIL DISTRICT #2

City staff is working tirelessly to make sure the 2025 Kinetic Derby Day is our best one yet. Please bring your family and friends to enjoy our hometown on April 26. For more information, visit [www.kineticderbyday.com](http://kineticderbyday.com).



MICKEY PRINGLE

COUNCIL DISTRICT #5

Brookland-Lakeview 21st Century COLA Program's free summer camp registration is now open. Students in 6th-8th grade from Northside Middle, East Point Academy, and rising 6th graders from Riverbank Elementary, Saluda River Academy, and East Point Academy are eligible. Held from 8 AM to 4 PM, Monday - Friday, it offers free breakfast, lunch, and snacks, games and physical activities, performing arts classes by Columbia Children's Theatre, STEAM activities, field trips, and more. More info: brooklandlakeview.org or call (803) 744-1967.



DAVID MOYE

COUNCIL DISTRICT #8

The West Columbia Beautification Foundation is working with SCDOT to plant the medians in the City, included in the Highway 1 Safety Project. The permit to add irrigation to the medians has been approved by SCDOT, and the City is going through the process of selecting a contractor for the installation.



GEORGE CROWE

COUNCIL DISTRICT #3

District 3 has so many great local places to grab a bite to eat. Make sure to get out and support a local business. As the weather warms up, it offers a wonderful opportunity to showcase our WeCo pride by maintaining our yards, clearing any accumulated debris, and joining friends at the City's cleanup day on Saturday, May 3, for litter pickup.



JIMMY BROOKS

COUNCIL DISTRICT #6

The South Carolina Department of Transportation has completed the Henbet Drive traffic signal project, and it is now operational. It enhances the safety of traffic entering and exiting the Quail Hollow area's businesses and neighborhoods. We also welcomed a new dental office at 2858 Sunset Blvd, Family Dental Health.



RIVER DISTRICT FREE PARKING

(803) 791-1880

200 N. 12TH STREET, WEST COLUMBIA, SC 29169

WEST COLUMBIA BEAUTIFICATION FOUNDATION TO HAVE A “HUGE IMPACT” ON AUGUSTA ROAD



US-1/Augusta Road Corridor Safety Project

Mayor Tem Miles.

The medians within the City Limits of West Columbia that are included in the project will be enhanced by the West Columbia Beautification Foundation (WCBF).

“The Augusta Road corridor is a highly visible part of West Columbia,” said Kathy Whetzel, Chairperson of the WCBF. “The Beautification Foundation is working on a plan to plant vegetation in the medians as a part of the SCOTD’s improvements to Augusta Road. It is one of our most extensive undertakings since the Beautification Foundation was established.”

Kathy said the medians will be filled with colorful trees, shrubs, and flowers. The plantings will be supported by an irrigation system that the WCBF is sponsoring.

“We plan to use hearty, drought-tolerant vegetation that is native to our area,” Kathy said. “We want it to be visually appealing and have a significant impact.”

The Augusta Road (US-1) corridor improvement project is based on a road safety assessment conducted in partnership between SCOTD, Stantec, the City of West Columbia, Lexington County, the South Carolina Highway Patrol, the

MANAGE WATER USAGE ONLINE: WEST COLUMBIA’S SMART PORTAL LAUNCHES IN APRIL



Scan for Portal Access

At the March 2025 West Columbia Special City Council Meeting, Justin Black, West Columbia’s Senior Assistant Administrator/Treasurer, provided an update on the City’s Smart Meter Portal. Mr. Black reported that over the preceding 18 months, 16,000 water meters had been successfully upgraded to “Smart” meters, with the city prioritizing minimal disruption to residents during the installation process.

“These new meters are a great improvement for our customers,” stated West Columbia Mayor Tem Miles, expressing his satisfaction with the system’s full implementation. This April, the City of West Columbia will launch its new smart water management system, building upon the recently upgraded infrastructure. The system offers residents enhanced control and convenience through an online portal providing real-time water usage monitoring, available 24/7/365. Customers can set customizable daily and monthly usage thresholds, allowing them to receive email alerts for potential leaks or unusual consumption spikes, which helps prevent unexpected high bills. The system also features a “vacation mode” for monitoring usage during absences. The new portal also offers flexible payment options, including auto-draft, Quick Pay, and secure e-check payments. Designed to be mobile-friendly, the system is accessible from any device, and an official app is currently under development.

The new smart water management system is expected to be fully operational in April 2025. Residents are encouraged to register for free at www.municipalonlinepayments.com/westcolumbiasc/utilities to begin effectively managing their water usage. Current portal users can continue to use their current login to access the new features. Additional information can be found at www.westcolumbiasc.gov.

E&A GRANITE AND MARBLE COUNTERTOPS IS EXPANDING ITS SUNSET BOULEVARD OPERATION



E&A Granite and Marble Countertops

said. “Our expert team provides precision fabrication, ensuring each countertop is crafted to perfection. We also offer a wide variety of unique edging options, adding a personalized touch to your kitchen or bathroom. Throughout the entire process, we deliver top-notch craftsmanship and seamless installation for every project.

Tile installation is another service offered. “No need to wander off and find another professional to handle the install. We will take care of it, and we take pride in every job we do,” Eli said. “The most popular rooms for E&A Granite and Marble Countertops are the kitchen, bar, and bathroom.”

E&A Granite and Marble is thriving in West Columbia and looks forward to serving the community with exceptional products and services for years to come.

VISIT WECO

#EATLOCAL

ALWAYS ORIGINAL BAKERY
ANOTHER BROKEN EGG CAFE
ARIANA’S RESTAURANT
BLACK ROOSTER
BLOSSOM BUFFET
BREADS & SUCH
BREAKFAST AT RUIZ
BRICKHOUSE GOURMET COFFEE & TEA
THE CAKE HOUSE CASA DE PASTEL
CABANAS
CAFE STRUDEL WEST COLUMBIA
CALLOWAY’S SPORTS BAR & GRILL
CHAYZ LOUNGE
CHINA HUT III
CITY LIMITS Q
CRAVE ARTISAN SPECIALTY MARKET
CUCINELLA’S PIZZERIA & ITALIAN ICE
D’S WINGS
DELUCCA’S ITALIAN GRILL
EGGROLL STATION
GOLDEN CHOPSTIX
GRECIAN GARDENS RESTAURANT
GROUCHO’S DELI
THE HIDEOUT IN WECO
JIMMY’S MINI MART/CITGO
JUNE MARI’S DELI
LA CIENEGA MEXICAN GRILL & SEAFOOD
LA FOGATA
LA MORENITA
LIZARD’S THICKET
LOS PAISANOS
MAI THAI CUISINE
MANNY’S
MAURICE’S PIGGIE PARK
NICK’S HOUSE OF PIZZA
NO. 1 CHINA
ODALY’S BAKERY
PHO & BÁNH MÌ
QUE! BUENO NEVERIA & SNACK BAR
RUSH’S FABULOUS FOOD ... FAST!
SAN JOSE MEXICAN RESTAURANT
SAVAGE CRAFT ALE WORKS
TACOS LOCOS AND GRILL
TASTY WINGS & SEAFOOD
TERRA
TEX MEX WEST COLUMBIA
THE HIDEOUT IN WECO
TRUE BBQ
WHAT-A-BURGER
ZESTO OF WEST COLUMBIA

#SHOPLOCAL

763 ANTIQUE MALL
ABOUT FACE WELLNESS & MEDICAL SPA
ABOUT YOU AESTHETICS
ATTIC FANATIC
BARBARA JANE’S BOUTIQUE
BILL’S MUSIC SHOP & PICKIN’ PARLOR
COLUMBIA FLAG & SIGN COMPANY
ECLECTIC EDGE WOODWORKS
ED’S EDITIONS BOOKSTORE
GARDEN & RELIC
GOLD LINE FRAMING
GLASSIE LADIES
MEETING STREET INTERIORS
NEW BROOKLAND RAILROAD & HOBBY
OLD MILL ANTIQUE MALL
OUTDOOR WOOD FURNITURE
SCRATCH & SPIN
SIGHTLER’S FLORIST & MARKETPLACE
SPA MD
STATE STREET TRADING COMPANY
STEVEN WHETSTONE FINE ART
STONE BOOT COMPANY
THE WAREHOUSE
THREE RIVERS ANTIQUES
TROPIC AIRE PATIO GALLERY
WEST POINT COINS, LLC

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