



**Casey Jordan Hallman
Council District Three**

Welcome to the first edition of my newsletter for Council District Three. I hope this publication provides you, the residents of District Three, with updates on happenings in our city, ways to contact city officials about your concerns, and information on various programs the city offers to its citizens.

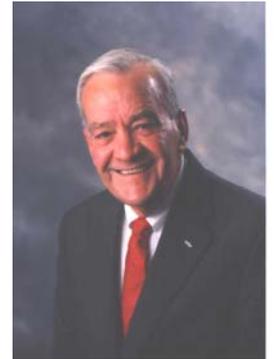
I encourage you to contact me to discuss any suggestions or concerns about issues you may have. You can reach me by cell phone at (803) 413-1187 or you can send an e-mail to me at challman@westcolumbiasc.gov. I look forward to hearing from you.

District 3 News

August 2012 - Vol. I, Number 1

City Dedicates Triangle City Fountain To Former Council Member Jack Harmon

The City of West Columbia will honor the late Jack Harmon by dedicating the newly constructed water fountain on Charleston Highway in Triangle City in his memory at a ceremony on Thursday, August 16, 2012 at 5:30 p.m. Harmon was first elected April 10, 2001 to the West Columbia City Council and served over ten years as council member for District Three. He also served as mayor pro-tempore from September 1, 2009 until his death on September 19, 2011. The Triangle City Fountain, located on Charleston Highway between 12th Street and B Avenue, is part of a series of streetscape projects West Columbia has constructed the past several years along the 12th Street corridor. Projects are funded by SCDOT enhancement funds and community development block grants from Lexington County.

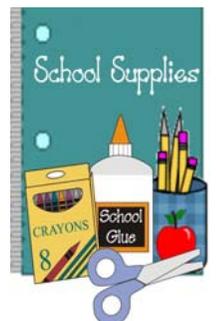


The West Columbia Beautification Foundation will host a wine and cheese reception on August 16 after the ribbon-cutting and dedication ceremony at Dan-Rich Furniture Company located at 255 Charleston Highway across the street from the Triangle City Fountain. Proceeds from the Foundation's fundraising event will fund future beautification enhancement projects in West Columbia.

Back-to-School Bash Benefits West Columbia Children

The City's annual Back-to-School Bash will begin at 2 p.m. on Saturday, August 18, 2012 at Butler Park located at Raleigh Street and Koon Street. The City holds the Bash each year to provide basic school supplies for needy children ranging in age from kindergarten to high school. Local businesses, civic groups, and individuals contribute toward the purchase of supplies that include pencils, pens, crayons, scissors, ruled paper, and insulated lunch bags. Last year over 250 children were provided with school supplies to start the school year right.

Donations of school supplies or money are gladly accepted at the Customer Service Counter in City Hall located at 200 N. 12th Street (corner of 12th Street and Jarvis Klapman Boulevard). A big bin has been placed by the counter to receive all donations from the public.



CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS
are held the first Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall located at 200 N. 12th Street.

COUNCIL WORK SESSIONS
are held the third Monday of each month at 6 p.m. Both meetings are open to the public. Citizens are encouraged to attend these meetings.

Governor Haley Supports New GED Program for West Columbia Community

Governor Nikki Haley joined other city, county and state dignitaries and the leadership of Christ Central Ministries, Inc. to kick off the *FREE and Fast Track GED* program that assists adults in earning their GEDs. The new program is an outreach of The Nehemiah Project, a national pilot project created and supported by Christ Central Ministries, Inc. to alleviate joblessness and help break the cycle of poverty by elevating the educational level of individuals.

The *FREE and Fast Track GED* program is the first of its kind in the nation to assist families and extended family members to achieve greater employability through enhanced educational options that can lead to an improvement in the overall quality of life for citizens. West Columbia will utilize its city web site, include messages on water bills, and give public endorsements to communicate information about the program to students presently “at risk” of dropping out of school and to adults who have already dropped out of school and are unemployable. The city also will provide accessible facilities for qualifying, testing, and tutoring GED applicants. Christ Central Ministries, Inc. - The Nehemiah Project will provide all materials and personnel needed for the *FREE and Fast Track GED* program as well as mentoring and encouragement to individuals seeking to improve their lives.

Christ Central Ministries, Inc. - The Nehemiah Project is looking for volunteers to assist with tutoring and mentoring for students. Please contact Reverend Scooter Scott, Director of the Nehemiah Project at (803) 317-9809. Volunteers do not need to have a teaching or educational background to assist students desiring to earn their GEDs. More information on the *FREE and Fast Track GED* program is available at www.thenehemiahprojectsc.org.



Governor Nikki Haley at City Hall

Property ID Signs Help Fire and Police Locate Your Home During Emergencies

The West Columbia Fire Department offers the Property Identification Sign Program to aid residents and businesses with street number identification for emergency situations. The double-sided, highly reflective signs are easily mounted on mailboxes, business signs, or on structures visible from the road, especially at night when regular unlit numbers signs can't be seen. Signs can be purchased from the Fire Department, which is located at 610 North 12th Street. To obtain more information on the program or to order a sign please call the Fire Department at (803) 791-4440.

Double-sided reflective sign	\$15
Sign and 2x4 mounting plate	\$18
Sign and 2x4 mounting plate installed	\$20
Sign and 4x4 mounting plate	\$20
Sign and 4x4 mounting plate installed	\$25

For a slightly higher cost a city employee will come to your residence or business and properly install the sign if your house or place of business is within the city limits. All money generated from the sale of the reflective signs goes back into the program to help produce the signs at a reasonable cost to the public.

Fan the Heat Program Cools Down Summer Sizzle

The West Columbia Police Department's *Fan the Heat* program offers free fans to needy citizens who are suffering from record-breaking hot temperatures this summer. Fans are provided free to residents who have no air conditioning or those with older systems unable to cool homes during high temperatures. Fans can be picked up from the West Columbia Police Department at 200 North 12th Street (corner of North 12th Street and Jarvis Klapman Boulevard). Residents also can call (803) 936-6280 and a police officer will deliver a fan to a home within the West Columbia community.

Lt. John Norman, who heads the *Fan the Heat* program, says people most likely needing fans are frail elderly folks or families with very young children who are more susceptible to high heat. The WCPD has already given out about 30 fans this summer, but more fans are still needed as temperatures continue to stay above normal range. Lt. Norman suggests that residents should check on their neighbors, especially the elderly, who are more prone to heat stroke or heat exhaustion.

Citizens can help the *Fan the Heat* program by sending contributions to the West Columbia Police Officers Foundation, P.O. Box 4044, West Columbia, SC 29171. Please put *Fan the Heat* program on the check to specify fan purchases. Contributions are tax deductible.