

CITY OF WEST COLUMBIA NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2021



MAYOR'S MESSAGE

This Fall has been a busy one for West Columbia with more great things on the way. In September, Council recognized our West Columbia resident, Coach Dawn Staley, for her many achievements throughout her career, including her successes with her team at the University of South Carolina and her representation of the United States during the 2020 Olympic Games. A reception was held in the West Columbia Community Garden, at City Hall, where she was presented with a key to the City.

West Columbia is a city that loves to recognize and showcase the accomplishments of all of our residents. The Columbia Regional Business Report Icons and Phenoms 2021 list was published and the following West Columbia residents and business owners were included in the list: Oliver Gospel Mission Executive Director Travis McNeal, Park and Washington Owner Joe Taylor, Managing Partner of Dickey Law Group West Columbia Councilman Joseph Dickey, Owner of WeCo Bottle & Biergarten Phill Blair, and President and CEO of Lexington Medical Center Tod Augsburger. Council recognized them, as well as, another longtime West Columbia resident and business owner Vanessa Mota, CEO of Mota Enterprises, and her team at the October Council Meeting, for their contribution to the community with the proclamation of the 3rd Annual South Carolina Latino Business Day.

In addition to recognizing our amazing residents and businesses, Council and Staff have procured funding to add exercise equipment at the Riverwalk. It is scheduled to be installed in late October or early November. We invite you to enjoy all of our outdoor amenities whether you live, work, or play here!

Sincerely,

Mayor Temus C. "Tem" Miles, Jr.

DISCOVER MORE AT
WESTCOLUMBIASC.GOV

MESSAGES FROM COUNCIL



MIKE GREEN
COUNCIL DISTRICT #1

We recently approved a new contract with Dominion Energy to change the street light bulbs to LEDs, allowing for more consistent lighting with automatic notification for light outages as well as cost savings from energy consumption reduction. If you have a street light out, I'll report it. Just let me know where it is. 803-563-8085



TREVOR BEVELL
COUNCIL DISTRICT #2

Thank you for everyone's patience during the latest Covid surge. Our mask mandate has expired, however, I encourage you to be mindful of the pandemic and do your part to protect yourself and others. The Guignard Association meets the second Monday of every month, at 6:30 PM, at the Community Center on B Avenue. Please get out and enjoy our parks and other wonderful amenities this fall. If you see a city employee out and about, thank them for a job well done.



CASEY J. HALLMAN
COUNCIL DISTRICT #3

The 17th Annual Christmas Tree Lighting will be held on Friday, December 3, at 6:30 PM, at City Hall on the front lawn. There will be a Christmas message from one of our local pastors, performances from our local schools, and a family fun experience for all.



JOSEPH DICKEY
COUNCIL DISTRICT #4

The weather is beautiful. Get outdoors and enjoy the beautiful West Columbia Riverwalk. Friday, November 5, is Fall Back Fest and the State Street Art Crawl. Start your holiday shopping early, listen to Tokyo Joe, and party with us on Street Street, from 5:30 - 9:30 PM, on the 100 Block of State Street. There will also be a night edition of the Meeting Street Artisan Market in the Interactive Art Park.



MICKEY PRINGLE
COUNCIL DISTRICT #5

The CWC Dixie Youth Baseball Team is holding their 3rd Annual Trunk or Treat on Friday, October 29, from 6:30 - 8:30 PM, at 200 Cougar Drive, West Columbia. Head to the fields for food, laughter, candy, and fun. Call me anytime at 803-467-1357.



JIMMY BROOKS
COUNCIL DISTRICT #6

There is plenty to do in West Columbia this Fall. The CWC Chamber Rhythm on the River free concert series is back every Friday night in October, from 6-9 PM. The Meeting Street Artisan Market is the perfect place to shop locally every Saturday, from 9:30 AM - 1:30 PM. Think about supporting your local shops and restaurants this holiday season by purchasing a gift certificate from one of our many unique spots!



ERIN P. PORTER
COUNCIL DISTRICT #7

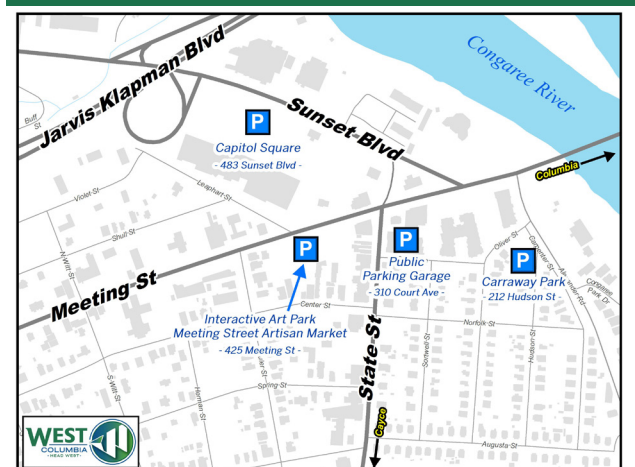
Fall is here and there are so many fun activities to enjoy in our city. Every Saturday morning enjoy our Artisan Market behind Terra. Riverbanks Zoo and Gardens is hosting Boo at the Zoo October 20-30. There are many trunk or treats throughout the city. BCHS DECA is hosting one on October 28 from 6-7:30 PM, at 1300 State Street. Fall Back Fest is Friday, November 5, on State Street. Mark your calendars for these fun events.



DAVID MOYE
COUNCIL DISTRICT #8

The revitalization of the Meeting Street corridor is a key part of revitalizing our city. The River District Merchants Association has been re-branded as the WECO River District and has a focus on developing local business in this important area. We welcome Studio 221, a design/furniture gallery, and Always Original Bakery to Meeting Street. Shop local. Go check them out!

RIVER DISTRICT FREE PARKING



(803) 791-1880

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

NEW BUSINESS IS BOOMING IN WEST COLUMBIA WITH MORE SCHEDULED TO OPEN IN THE FUTURE



Plaza Garibaldi, Augusta Road at Jarvis Klapman Blvd

Over the past few years, many new businesses have found a home in West Columbia, with more on the way. Business licenses issued by the City of West Columbia in 2021 have outpaced the rate in 2020.

Savage Craft Ale Works, The Hideout in WECO, Gentleman's Quarters Barbershop, Jake's on Meeting, Select Physical Therapy in the Brookland Development, Franks Car Wash, at 1707 Charleston Highway, and D'Alberto, Graham, and Grimsley Law Firm, at 508 Meeting Street are just some of the businesses opened in the past year. Studio 221 Interiors, of Chapin, recently opened its second location on 536 Meeting Street in September 2021.

The Cake House Casa del Pastel opened at 323-B Ninth Street in April 2021. It's a dessert shop and bakery. Debbie Truett is one of the owners and she said the business has been very good. Always Original Bakery opened on Meeting Street in October 2021, with inventory flying out of the cases.

In addition to businesses that have already opened, some are set to open soon. A Murphy USA Gas Station and a Take 5 Car Wash are being built on the property in the Carolina Pottery complex at 2816 Augusta Road, across from Lowe's. Other businesses are planning to open soon. Cucinella's Pizzeria and Italian Ice is coming to Westland Square on Sunset Boulevard. It is expected to open before the end of the year. Garibaldi Plaza, which includes the Garibaldi Restaurant and SuperMarket, is currently under construction on Jarvis Klapman Boulevard and Augusta Road.

WHETZEL'S AUTOMOTIVE IS A FAMILY-OWNED BUSINESS THAT HAS BUILT TRUST OVER THE YEARS



Rob and Kathy Whetzel of Whetzel's Automotive.

Whetzel's Automotive, at 2017 Augusta Road, was established 21 years ago by Rob and Kathy Whetzel. Since opening in 2000, the business has grown significantly and now has 18 service bays.

"We have met so many wonderful people doing business in West Columbia," said Kathy. "Our customers have become like family." Kathy says she is thankful for the level of trust the Whetzel's customers have in their auto repair shop. Rob said confidence in the services they provide is vital.

"I'm very glad we chose West Columbia for our business," said Rob. "Living in the city where we have our business gives us the ability

to develop relationships with our customers beyond the bays."

Kathy is from West Columbia and Rob has lived here long enough that he refers to West Columbia as "home".

"With the rising prices of new and used cars, people are keeping their cars longer," Rob said. "How well your car is maintained, and who maintains your car is of utmost importance. We want to make sure our customers are satisfied."

In addition to a good relationship with their customers, the Whetzels enjoy working with the City of West Columbia.

"The staff at the City is always friendly," Kathy said. "They want to help in any way they can."

West Columbia has been good to the Whetzels, and for that, they are happy to give back. Kathy is the chairperson of the West Columbia Beautification Foundation.

"I am very enthusiastic about West Columbia and the Beautification Foundation is my way to contribute," she said.

ALWAYS ORIGINAL BAKERY OPENS WITH COMMUNITY ANTICIPATION IN THE RIVER DISTRICT



Jay, Ginger, and George of Always Original Bakery.

There is a new bakery in West Columbia. Always Original Bakery opened on October 5, 2021, at 501 Meeting Street.

"The response from the community has been awesome," said George Grogan, who owns the bakery with Jay Dawson. "We're really excited to be here in The River District and we'd like to invite everyone to come by and taste a few things."

George said he wants Always Original to become the neighborhood's bakery.

George and Jay have years of experience baking and both like to get creative with their confectionery designs. The staff at Always Original includes Sheila Campbell and Ginger Miller, in addition to

George and Jay. The bakery offers cakes, cupcakes, cookies, scones, muffins, brownies, and artisan breads. Everything is made from scratch and on-site. There are also vegetarian, vegan, and gluten-sensitive options, along with doggy treats. George said they started the bakery because he wanted to provide an authentic menu.

"Everyone here is passionate about personal customer service," said Ginger, "And everyone on staff loves to bake."

The anticipation for the opening of Always Original Bakery has been high. George said that while the building was being renovated, many potential patrons came to the door looking for the chance to sample the bakery's delights and inquiring about the opening date. He said the process of opening his business in the City of West Columbia was great and he loves the convenient location.

HAPPENINGS IN WECO

MEETING STREET ARTISAN MARKET
EVERY SATURDAY
425 MEETING STREET
9:30 AM - 1:30 PM

FALL BACK FEST
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2021
100 BLOCK OF STATE STREET
5:30 PM - 9:30 PM

CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2021
200 N. 12TH STREET, CITY LAWN
6:30 PM

VISIT WECO

#EATLOCAL

AL'S UPSTAIRS
ALWAYS ORIGINAL BAKERY
ARIANA'S RESTAURANT
BLACK ROOSTER
BRICKS AND STONES PIZZA COMPANY
BUTTERCREAM DREAMS
CAFE STRUDEL WEST COLUMBIA
CAKE HOUSE CASA DEL PASTEL
CHINA HUT III
COMPTON'S KITCHEN
D'S WINGS
DELUCCA'S ITALIAN GRILL
EGGROLL STATION
GRECIAN GARDENS RESTAURANT
GROUCHO'S DELI
HITE'S BBQ
JIMMY'S MINI MART/CITGO
JIN JIN CHINESE RESTAURANT
LIZARD'S THICKET
MAI THAI CUISINE
MANNY'S
MAURICE'S PIGGIE PARK
NEW BROOKLAND TAVERN
NICK'S HOUSE OF PIZZA
PALATE
PARKLAND CAKES
PRIMAL GOURMET KITCHEN + MARKET
RUSH'S FABULOUS FOOD ... FAST!
SAN JOSE MEXICAN RESTAURANT
STEVE'S DELI
SUNSHINE CAFE
TERRA
THE ORIGINAL BRUNCHES
TRUE BBQ
ZESTO OF WEST COLUMBIA

#SHOPLOCAL

763 ANTIQUE MALL
ATTIC FANATIC
CHERRY'S DELIGHT
COLUMBIA FLAG & SIGN COMPANY
ED'S EDITIONS BOOKSTORE
FURNITURE ON SUNSET
GOLD LINE FRAMING
GLASSIE LADIES
JAAS BOUTIQUE
JAK'S ESSENTIALS
JARRETT'S JUNGLE
MEETING STREET INTERIORS
MESSIE'S CLOSET
OLD MILL ANTIQUE MALL
ROB SHAW GALLERY AND FRAMING
SIGHTLER'S FLORIST & MARKETPLACE
SPA 131
STATE STREET TRADING COMPANY
STONE BOOT COMPANY
STUDIO 221 INTERIORS
TALL OAKS BOUTIQUE
THE ECLECTIC HOUSE
THE WAREHOUSE
THREE OAKS FLORIST AND INTERIORS
THREE RIVERS ANTIQUES
TROPIC AIRE PATIO GALLERY
WEST POINT COINS, LLC

