

# CITY OF WEST COLUMBIA NEWSLETTER

APRIL/MAY 2023



## MAYOR'S MESSAGE

As we welcome the spring season, I am excited to share with you all the exciting developments taking place in our city. West Columbia is blossoming with new businesses, events, and community initiatives that are sure to make this season one to remember.

We are proud to announce the opening of a new funeral home, as well as the grand openings of other exciting new businesses throughout the city. These new additions will contribute to the vibrant and diverse economic landscape that we continue to cultivate in West Columbia.

Our city is also home to a wide range of community events and activities, including free concerts on the river on Thursdays and Saturdays, free community events like Kinetic Derby Day and Art on State, summer camps, and the beginning of tubing season on the river. These events provide opportunities for our residents and visitors to come together and enjoy all that our city has to offer.

In addition to these exciting events, we are pleased to announce the refurbishing of the Triangle City Fountain, dedicated in memory of former Councilman Jack Harmon, is well underway and expected to be completed by late spring.

As we continue to build a better future for our city, we remain committed to working with our community to make West Columbia an even better place to live, work, and play. Thank you for your ongoing support and dedication to our city.

Sincerely,

Mayor Temus C. "Tem" Miles, Jr.

## HAPPENINGS IN WECO

### MEETING STREET ARTISAN MARKET

425 MEETING STREET

SATURDAYS: 11 AM - 3 PM, 2ND THURSDAYS: 4 - 8 PM

### KINETIC DERBY DAY FEATURING IMAGINE STEAM

MEETING & STATE STREETS

SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 2023, 10 AM - 3 PM

KINETICDERBYDAY.COM

### RHYTHM ON THE RIVER

WEST COLUMBIA RIVERWALK AMPHITHEATER

SATURDAYS IN MAY, 6 - 9 PM

CWCCHAMBER.COM

### JAZZ ON THE RIVER

WEST COLUMBIA RIVERWALK AMPHITHEATER

THURSDAYS BEGINNING APRIL 20 - JUNE 1, 6 - 9 PM

FACEBOOK.COM/JAZZONRIVERSC

### ART ON STATE

100 BLOCK STATE STREET

FRIDAY, MAY 5, 5:30 - 9:30 PM

LIVE ART & MUSIC

20 RIDE - ZACH BROWN TRIBUTE BAND

MARCUS GULLEN & REGGIE SULLIVAN

DISCOVER MORE AT  
[WESTCOLUMBIASC.GOV](http://WESTCOLUMBIASC.GOV)

## MESSAGES FROM COUNCIL



### MIKE GREEN

#### COUNCIL DISTRICT #1

Lybrand Cemetery has been completely cleaned up and all trees removed. Thank you to the many volunteers from First Baptist Church of Columbia and the Pineview Ruritan Club for their dedication to the clean-up.



### TREVOR BEVELL

#### COUNCIL DISTRICT #2

I encourage everyone to make use of the Cayce-West Columbia Public Library. Not only are books available for toddlers through seniors, but also special programs

for all ages, including book clubs, reference materials, computers, meeting rooms, audiobooks, and much more. An experienced, friendly staff is willing to offer assistance. Let's all take advantage of our wonderful library.



### GEORGE CROWE

#### COUNCIL DISTRICT #3

I hope everyone has a happy Easter. As the council continues to do the work for the people of our beautiful city, be sure to visit the riverwalk and parks on these beautiful spring

days. If you have any questions or concerns, please give me a call at 803-250-9870.



### JOSEPH DICKEY

#### COUNCIL DISTRICT #4

State and Meeting Streets are bustling with activity this Spring. Kinetic Derby Day, on April 22, will bring thousands to the heart of the River District for racing, a parade,

and family fun. On Friday, May 5, the 100 Block of State Street will host Art on State with headliner 20 Ride for a party in the street. 4West construction is progressing on the corner with an estimated opening date of Summer 2023. We are also excited to welcome McAlister-Smith Funeral Home to the WeCo Family at 200 State Street.



### MICKEY PRINGLE

#### COUNCIL DISTRICT #5

Ground was broken on the first Habitat for Humanity house being built in West Columbia. New offerings for community members in our area through partnerships

such as Habitat for Humanity, the Brookland-Lakeview Empowerment Center, and most recently the Columbia Children's Theatre is providing much-needed resources to our residents and community members.



### JIMMY BROOKS

#### COUNCIL DISTRICT #6

We have many community events coming up such as Kinetic Derby Day, Rhythm on the River, Jazz on the River, Art on State, Clean-Up Day, and Taste on the River. Check our website and

social media pages for all the info. Also, the Meeting Street Artisan Market is every Saturday and second Thursdays.



### ERIN P. PORTER

#### COUNCIL DISTRICT #7

The waterline replacement installation project is progressing nicely. Pipe installation has been completed on Seminole Drive and continues on Mohawk Drive and

Woodland Drive. For questions or concerns, the project representatives can be reached at 803-939-9321 or [wcolawater@aec-sc.com](mailto:wcolawater@aec-sc.com).



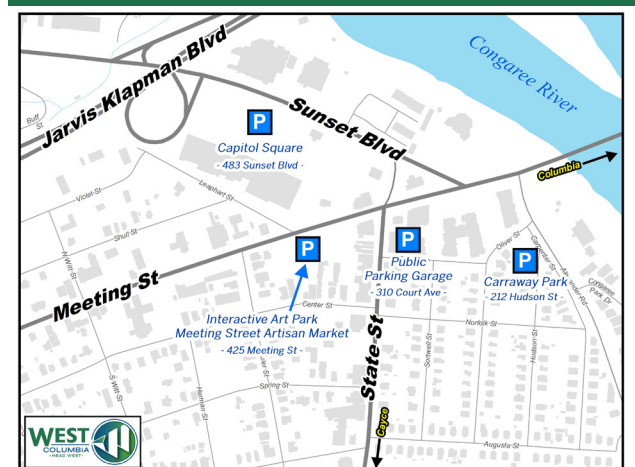
### DAVID MOYE

#### COUNCIL DISTRICT #8

Large developments are drivers of progress, but the small projects in between are very important. In the River District, the first brick "Main Street USA Style" small commercial building that

has been built in many years is under construction at the corner of 9th and Meeting Streets by Developer G Meetze Construction. Marketing for the two spaces is being handled by Andrew Diegl at Art of Real Estate. I am very excited about the progress in this area.

## RIVER DISTRICT FREE PARKING



(803) 791-1880

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



## LAKEVIEW COMMUNITY, IN THE HEART OF WEST COLUMBIA, UNDERGOING POSITIVE CHANGE



Groundbreaking for new home on Monticello Street Build in South Carolina since 2019.

The area around the Brookland-Lakeview Empowerment Center and Turner Memorial AME Church in West Columbia is experiencing growth. West Columbia Mayor Tem Miles said the Lakeview Community is in the heart of the city and is the key to West Columbia becoming the best that it can be.

On March 8, the ground was broken on a new home on Monticello Street, in West Columbia's City Council District 5. At the groundbreaking, Reverend Kenneth Taylor of Turner Memorial AME Church recognized that the build was the first new home in the area in almost 60 years. The Habitat for Humanity home is the first Women's

Build in South Carolina since 2019. The City of West Columbia announced, in January 2023, the move of the Columbia Children's Theatre to West Columbia at the Brookland-Lakeview Empowerment Center located in the heart of the area. Columbia Children's Theatre holds after-school classes, summer camps, rehearsals, and administrative services in its new location at the Brookland-Lakeview Empowerment Center. The site is a cultural focal point that promotes economic development in line with the 2018 Citywide Revitalization Plan adopted by the West Columbia City Council.

In November 2022, a ceremony was held to celebrate the renovated football field behind the Brookland-Lakeview Empowerment Center at 1218 Batchelor Street. The field has new turf, new lights, and an irrigation system, and is host to the West Columbia Tigers youth football teams.

In December 2020, a historical marker was unveiled for the Lakeview School, now the Brookland-Lakeview Empowerment Center. This marker is the first to recognize a former all-African American school in Lexington County.

West Columbia District 5 Councilman Mickey Pringle said at the marker dedication, "It is important to make sure our children know the legacy of Lakeview School."

Reverend Taylor said, "The recognition of the school's legacy offers hope for greater things in the years to come."

## LA CIENEGA MEXICAN GRILL IS A BIG HIT IN WEST COLUMBIA, AND IT WILL SOON BE EXPANDING



Angel and Sandra Vargas, with Chef Roy Leon

La Cienega Mexican Grill opened in June 2020 and it has continued to build its clientele list ever since. The restaurant is owned by Sandra and Angel Vargas and is located at the corner of Sunset Boulevard and Fairlane Drive in West Columbia.

"We took a leap of faith and opened," Sandra said. "This is our first time owning a restaurant."

West Columbia Mayor Tem Miles is a customer and raves about the high quality of the fare at La Cienega.

"I had a Saturday night steak dinner at La Cienega Mexican Grill," Miles said. "It is really good Mexican food and it's right here in the

City of West Columbia. We're very glad to have them."

The former West Columbia Mayor is another customer at La Cienega. "It is really good food," Bobby Horton said. "I've been there many times and like everything I ever get there. It's delicious."

Sandra said Angel's cousin, Roy Leon, is one of the keys to the success of La Cienega. He is their chef and specializes in flavor and presentation. Sandra also said only premium meats are used in the dishes at La Cienega.

Specials at La Cienega include Chicken Breasts, Enchilada Super Ranchera, Hawaiian Fajitas, Chile Verde, and Huevos Mexicanos. Angel grew up on the La Cienega Ranch and the restaurant plays country music to reflect that legacy.

Business has been so good, La Cienega is in the process of expanding so it can accommodate more dine-in customers.

## JB BECKETT FINANCIAL IS A WEST COLUMBIA BUSINESS THAT PRIDES ITSELF ON SERVICE TO ALL



Beckett Financial Group at 825 Meeting Street

Beckett Financial Group is located at 825 Meeting Street in West Columbia and is owned by JB Beckett.

He said the central location allows him to serve a variety of clients located from Columbia to Lexington. He said his location in the River District also makes it easy to get plugged into the different business organizations around West Columbia.

Beckett Financial Group has nearly 40 years of combined experience and provides a multitude of financial services and income planning solutions. The advisors of Beckett Financial Group specialize in the areas of retirement planning, individual and group life insurance, long-term care insurance, group

disability coverage, and college savings plans. They are affiliated with over 30 different carriers, allowing them the freedom to tailor individual plans to each client's specific needs and objectives.

In addition to enjoying his location in West Columbia, Beckett likes to promote small businesses. Beckett Financial Group conducts many community activities aimed at educating others about financial planning.

"Small businesses are everywhere. They are the backbone of our economy," Beckett said. "There are a lot of remarkable people who own fantastic businesses. I'm thankful to do business with them."

Beckett also said they specialize in personalized service. "Our clients are not just names in our book of business. They are our neighbors and fellow businesspeople. Our clients deserve solutions and strategies that work toward financial independence. We provide that for them."

## DINE & SHOP IN WECO

### #EATLOCAL

AL'S UPSTAIRS  
ALWAYS ORIGINAL BAKERY  
ARIANA'S RESTAURANT  
BLACK ROOSTER  
BLOSSOM BUFFET  
BREADS & SUCH  
BREAKFAST AT RUIZ  
BRICKHOUSE GOURMET COFFEE & TEA  
BUTTERCREAM DREAMS  
THE CAKE HOUSE CASA DE PASTEL  
CABANAS  
CAFE STRUDEL WEST COLUMBIA  
CALLOWAY'S SPORTS BAR & GRILL  
CHAYZ LOUNGE  
CHINA HUT III  
COMPTON'S KITCHEN  
CUCINELLA'S PIZZERIA & ITALIAN ICE  
D'S WINGS  
DELUCCA'S ITALIAN GRILL  
EGGROLL STATION  
GRECIAN GARDENS RESTAURANT  
GROUCHO'S DELI  
THE HIDEOUT IN WECO  
HITE'S BBQ  
JIMMY'S MINI MART/CITGO  
JIN JIN CHINESE RESTAURANT  
LIZARD'S THICKET  
LOVE A CUP BAKERY  
MAI THAI CUISINE  
MANNY'S  
MAURICE'S PIGGIE PARK  
NEW BROOKLAND TAVERN  
NICK'S HOUSE OF PIZZA  
ODALY'S BAKERY  
RUSH'S FABULOUS FOOD ... FAST!  
SAN JOSE MEXICAN RESTAURANT  
STEVE'S DELI  
TACOS LOCOS AND GRILL  
TERRA  
TEX MEX WEST COLUMBIA  
THE HIDEOUT IN WECO  
THE ORIGINAL BRUNCHES  
TRUE BBQ  
WHAT-A-BURGER  
ZESTO OF WEST COLUMBIA

### #SHOPLOCAL

763 ANTIQUE MALL  
ATTIC FANATIC  
BARBARA JANE'S BOUTIQUE  
BILL'S MUSIC SHOP & PICKIN' PARLOR  
CHERRY'S DELIGHT  
COLUMBIA FLAG & SIGN COMPANY  
ED'S EDITIONS BOOKSTORE  
GOLD LINE FRAMING  
GLASSIE LADIES  
JAAS BOUTIQUE  
JARRETT'S JUNGLE  
MEETING STREET INTERIORS  
MESSIE'S CLOSET  
NEW BROOKLAND RAILROAD & HOBBY  
OLD MILL ANTIQUE MALL  
PRESERVE & CO.  
ROB SHAW GALLERY AND FRAMING  
SCRATCH & SPIN  
SIGHTLER'S FLORIST & MARKETPLACE  
SPA 131  
STATE STREET TRADING COMPANY  
STONE BOOT COMPANY  
TALL OAKS BOUTIQUE  
THE WAREHOUSE  
THREE OAKS FLORIST AND INTERIORS  
THREE RIVERS ANTIQUES  
TROPIC AIRE PATIO GALLERY  
WEST POINT COINS, LLC

WESTCOLUMBIASC.GOV

