

CITY OF WEST COLUMBIA NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2024



MAYOR'S MESSAGE

We have so many great things happening in the City of West Columbia in 2024. The initial planning is underway for the access area of the pedestrian bridge that will connect West Columbia to the Columbia Riverwalk over the Saluda River off Mohawk Drive next to the Botanical Gardens. The sewer infrastructure project along Sunset Boulevard is complete, bringing more economic development opportunities to the corridor.

The 5th Annual Kinetic Derby Day is just around the corner. If you haven't started building a car or thought about joining the parade, now is the time. All of the information can be found on the event website at www.kineticderbyday.com.

The City is once again going to be a stop on the SC7 Expedition showcasing our jewel on the river, the West Columbia Riverwalk! The walk will be Sunday, May 5, 2024, in the afternoon, and will end at Savage Craft Ale Works in the Interactive Art Park. The mission of SC7 is to get people in the outdoors so they gain an appreciation for the outdoors, and therefore begin to actively do their part to protect the outdoors. More details to come and can be found on the SC7 website www.southcarolina7.com.

Sincerely,

Mayor Temus C. "Tem" Miles, Jr.

HAPPENINGS IN WECO

PRESIDENTS' DAY
CITY HALL CLOSED
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2024

GOOD FRIDAY
CITY HALL CLOSED
FRIDAY, MARCH 29, 2024

KINETIC DERBY DAY
SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 2024
10:30 AM - 3:30 PM
MEETING & STATE STREETS
KINETICDERBYDAY.COM

ART ON STATE
FRIDAY, MAY 10, 2024
5:30 - 9:30 PM
100-200 STATE STREET

CWC CHAMBER RHYTHM ON THE RIVER
SATURDAYS, MAY 18, 25, JUNE 1, 2024
6 - 9 PM
WECO RIVERWALK AMPHITHEATER
109 ALEXANDER ROAD
CWCCHAMBER.COM

MEETING STREET MUSIC FEST
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2024
3 - 8 PM
MEETING STREET
MEETINGSTREETMUSICFEST.COM

DISCOVER MORE AT
WESTCOLUMBIASC.GOV

MESSAGES FROM COUNCIL



MIKE GREEN

COUNCIL DISTRICT #1

Exciting news! City Limits Q recently opened its brick-and-mortar, on Methodist Park Road right off Augusta Road, and is a strong contender for the James Beard Award, showcasing WeCo's culinary excellence. Safety upgrades and beautification will be happening along the US1 Corridor, from Dreher to Ermine Road. We will be adding mast arms for the stoplights and enhanced crosswalks in several intersections.



TREVOR BEVELL

COUNCIL DISTRICT #2

Kinetic Derby Day is April 20, 2024, on Meeting and State Streets. I hope we have our biggest turnout ever. City staff is working hard on this great event. Join the fun and get with family and friends to build a soapbox car or enter the parade. I hope you all can enjoy all our wonderful city has to offer. More info at www.kineticderbyday.com.



GEORGE CROWE

COUNCIL DISTRICT #3

I hope everyone's New Year has started off great. We are working on a lot of exciting things for West Columbia, including working to attract new business to our city. There is so much to see and do in WeCo. Please try to be part of it. Get geared up for Kinetic Derby Day, April 20. WeCo is the place to be. If there are any questions or anything I can do, please give me a call. It is a pleasure to serve the people of West Columbia.



JOSEPH DICKEY

COUNCIL DISTRICT #4

If you have not gone by the newest option for fitness in West Columbia yet, make sure to go by Hotworx, the new 24-hour infrared fitness studio. It is now open at 114 State Street. Brickhouse Gourmet Coffee & Tea Company will be holding its soft opening in its NEW location on February 19, at 729 Meeting Street. Make sure to swing by for a delicious coffee, tea, and locally made snack.



MICKEY PRINGLE

COUNCIL DISTRICT #5

Brookland-Lakeview is home to the COLA Afterschool Program that serves Northside Middle and East Point Academy Middle Campus. They provide snacks and light meals, homework assistance, academic enrichment in math and reading, character building and leadership, bus transportation, creative arts, and more. For more info: 803-744-1967 or lakeview@brookland.cc.



JIMMY BROOKS

COUNCIL DISTRICT #6

Council meets for our annual visioning session on Monday, February 5, 2024, to create the Goals and Priorities for the 2024-25 fiscal year. If you have any ideas, suggestions, or input that you would like to share with me before the meeting, please email me at jbrooks@westcolumbiasc.gov.



SARAH MATTERN

COUNCIL DISTRICT #7

Happy New Year! I would like to spend more time with friends, family, and enjoy the outdoors in 2024. For the city, I want to see our continued focus on meaningful infrastructure projects to tackle system-wide improvements for our water and wastewater distribution systems, while supporting the growth and economic development of our hometown.

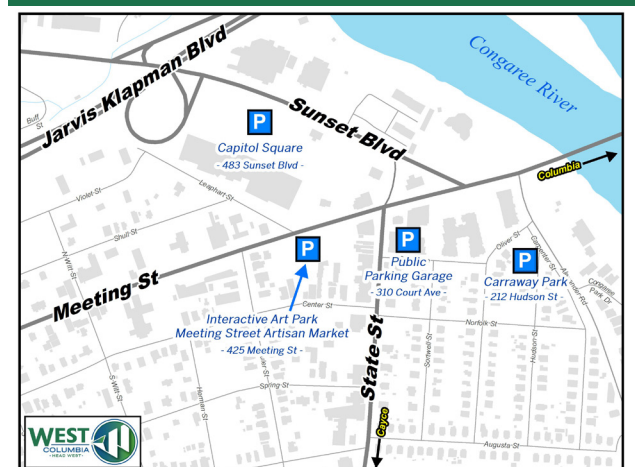


DAVID MOYE

COUNCIL DISTRICT #8

Our council has a goal to bring redevelopment and improvement to all corners of our city. We are currently working together with city staff to address unique challenges to building and renovating in the older parts of town.

RIVER DISTRICT FREE PARKING



(803) 791-1880

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

BLACK ROOSTER OWNER KRISTIAN NIEMI TALKS ABOUT NEW ITALIAN MENU AND WEST COLUMBIA



Black Rooster flying the Italian flag.

“With the closing of Al’s upstairs. I felt it was a perfect opportunity to change the menu and give West Columbia a casual upscale place for Italian. I think everybody has an interest in Italian, much more so than French, which seems to be a bit daunting to many diners. Even though French is ubiquitous in our everyday meals in America, I think a lot of people think it is fancy and only for special occasions. Italian, on the other hand, is much more approachable.”

Talk about your location overlooking the Congaree River.

“Our location, with its beautiful views of the rivers, and the cityscape, is definitely a drawing point for our place. It is really hard to beat the view as the sun sets on the cityscape.”

How do you like doing business in West Columbia?

“Doing business in West Columbia has been a dream. From the moment we started construction through the pandemic and on, it has been a fantastic experience. Everybody in city government and administration has been so helpful and supportive of our business since the day we opened. The residents of the area have also been super supportive. It’s just a great place to do business and be a part of the community.”

Black Rooster, in the Brookland development in West Columbia, is owned by expert Chef Kristian Niemi.

The restaurant opened in 2019 as a French bistro. It sits at the scenic base of the Gervais Street Bridge.

Black Rooster also has a rooftop bar where patrons can sit outside and get a perfect view of the skyline and the Congaree River.

Niemi announced in December 2023 that in the new year, Black Rooster would switch to an Italian menu. We sat down with him to ask a few questions.

What was the reasoning for going Italian?

SCRATCH N’ SPIN RECORD SHOP IS A UNIQUE BUSINESS IN WEST COLUMBIA’S TRIANGLE CITY



Owner Eric Woodard with a turntable.

the records. Woodard said the market for turntables spans a wide range of buyers.

“Anywhere from college-age to middle-age are in the market for turntables and vinyl records these days,” Woodard said. The store also sells vintage record albums. Anything from KISS and Bob Dylan to Michael Jackson and The Rolling Stones.

Records and players are not the only thing you’ll find at Scratch N’ Spin. The business is full of inventory and also sells movies, TV series on DVD, action figures, and more. The store can get any ordered item, overnight, if it’s not in stock. Woodard said the fact that his shop does not specialize in any one type of item is an advantage.

“We’re not a specialty shop where you just buy one thing,” he said. “We have a diversity of items and because of that we have a solid and steady clientele.”

Scratch N’ Spin record shop is in West Columbia’s Triangle City at 513 12th Street. It’s been there for 20 years and it’s here to stay.

“We’re at the ideal location in Triangle City,” said Eric Woodard, owner of Scratch N’ Spin. “There is a downtown feel in Triangle City and there are a lot of vital businesses in the 12th Street area. Everyone knows where Zesto is and we get a lot of traffic here.”

What will you find there? Scratch N’ Spin’s storefront is adorned with images of: Super Mario; Taylor Swift; Spider-Man; The Hulk; Jimi Hendrix; and X-Men.

Scratch N’ Spin sells vinyl record albums and the turntables to play

VIVID FINISH AND FILM HAS BECOME A WELCOME NEIGHBOR IN THE SUNSET BOULEVARD CORRIDOR



Owners of Vivid Finish and Films
Greg Capps and Tye Steuck

Tye said since opening, many of the businesses around his shop do business with Vivid, including DeLuca’s Italian Restaurant; Lexington Medical Center; Moore Bradley Myers Law Offices; and Ricky Branham of Precision Tune.

“We have a large clientele but we are glad to have such friendly neighbors in the West Columbia community,” Tye said. Many of the neighboring businesses recommend Vivid to their friends. Tye said that has been a welcome benefit to Vivid. The goal at Vivid is to make a vehicle look like it’s new, Tye said. After the vehicle is brought back to shiny and new, the protective coat keeps the car looking new.

“We provide a high-quality, professional look to your vehicle,” he said. “We have a high rate of customer satisfaction. Much of our business comes from repeat customers.”

Vivid Finish and Films opened at 1705 Sunset Blvd. in West Columbia in August of 2021, and the business is thriving. Greg Capps and Tye Steuck are the owners. Greg is Tye’s father-in-law. It’s a family-owned business.

Vivid specializes in automotive window tinting, ceramic coatings, and paint and protection installations. The business is also known as Ceramic Pro Columbia because it represents the Ceramic Pro brand for the Midlands of South Carolina.

“We love this location in West Columbia,” Tye said. “We get a lot of traffic. We’re convenient to West Columbia, Lexington, Columbia, Cayce, and Irmo. We’re in a sweet spot on Sunset Boulevard.”

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
BUTTERCREAM DREAMS
THE CAKE HOUSE CASA DE PASTEL
CABANAS
CAFE STRUDEL WEST COLUMBIA
CALLOWAY’S SPORTS BAR & GRILL
CHAYZ LOUNGE
CHINA HUT III
CITY LIMITS Q
COMPTON’S KITCHEN
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
LA CIENEGA MEXICAN GRILL & SEAFOOD
LA FOGATA
LA MORENITA
LIZARD’S THICKET
LOS PAISANOS
MAI THAI CUISINE
MANNY’S
MAURICE’S PIGGIE PARK
NEW BROOKLAND TAVERN
NICK’S HOUSE OF PIZZA
NO. 1 CHINA
ODALY’S BAKERY
THE ORIGINAL BRUNCHES
PERRY’S FLAMING CHICKEN
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
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
NEW BROOKLAND RAILROAD & HOBBY
OLD MILL ANTIQUE MALL
ROB SHAW GALLERY AND FRAMING
SCRATCH & SPIN
SIGHTLER’S FLORIST & MARKETPLACE
SPA 131
STATE STREET TRADING COMPANY
STONE BOOT COMPANY
THE WAREHOUSE
THREE RIVERS ANTIQUES
TROPIC AIRE PATIO GALLERY
WEST POINT COINS, LLC
WHITE ORCHID BOUTIQUE

