



Smoke Alarm Blitz
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5th Annual Columbia's Lifesavers
Blood Drive
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Inside Columbia



2014 EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

On Tuesday, January 26, 2015 LaWana Robinson-Lee was recognized as the 2014 Employee of the Year. Ms. Robinson-Lee has worked in the Purchasing Division of the Finance Department for over two years but has provided behind the scene support to many departments/ divisions within the city in such a short time. She is a true team player and does not mind taking on new and exciting challenges. LaWana can quickly turn any challenge into an opportunity to excel and to further the goals and objectives for the City of Columbia. Congratulations Ms. LaWana Robinson-Lee.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Derek Dozier on the birth of his daughter, 8lb 3oz. born on Friday, January 9, 2015.
 - Officer Allen Sharpe and his wife Juliann, on the birth of their daughter, Abigail Sharpe. Baby Abigail was born on January 30, 2015 ,weighing 9 lbs. and 14 oz.
-

CITY MANAGER SPEAKS AT LEADERSHIP COLUMBIA ALUMNI EVENT

City Manager Teresa Wilson was the keynote speaker for Leadership Columbia Alumni Association's Luncheon Series on Tuesday, January 20. During the event, she spoke about the Build Columbia model and the ongoing initiatives that are being implemented.

The Leadership Columbia (LC) program provides existing and emerging leaders with opportunities to enhance their civic knowledge and network. For over 40 years, the program has helped participants better understand how our community works, build relationships with the region's current and future leaders and become inspired to focus their talents in a way that will best serve the community.



30+ YEARS OF SERVICE!

Congratulations to Fanessa Pinckney on her retirement!

Thank you for your 30+ dedicated years of services to the City of Columbia!

CONDOLENCES

- Fire Engineer, Mike Burke in the death of his mother. Services were held on Monday, January 18, 2015.
- James Pringle in the death of his brother-in-law on Tuesday, January 13, 2015,
- Battalion Chief David E Reed II in the death of his grandfathers David E Reed on January 22, 2015 and Charles Edwin Simmons on February 5, 2015.
- Fire Engineer Kenneth Johnson in the death of his aunt, Minnie L Sumter. Services will be held on Monday, February 2nd.
- Michael Edwards of the Street Division passed away on Thursday, January 29, 2015.
- Marvis Myers, an employee of Wastewater Maintenance passed away on Friday, February, 6, 2015. The viewing for Mr. Myers will be held Friday, February 13, 2015, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at St Paul Baptist Church, 4517 North Main Street in Columbia. Services will be held Saturday, February 14, 2015 at 2 p.m. at New Mt. Zion A.M.E Baptist Church in Jamestown, SC.

Please keep these employees and their family members in your thoughts during this difficult time.

2015 SMOKE ALARM BLITZ

Chief Aubrey D. Jenkins and the Columbia Fire Department held its “2015 Smoke Alarm Blitz” on Saturday, January 24, 2015 in the Standish Acres community. Chief Jenkins said, “We are excited to be a recipient of this year’s Smoke Alarm Blitz and I would like to thank State Fire Marshal Bert Polk and his office for their continued efforts to save lives by placing smoke alarms in homes across South Carolina.”

The Columbia Fire Department was one of ten fire departments selected to participate in the grant-funded “2015 Smoke Alarm Blitz” by the South Carolina Division of Fire and Life Safety, Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM). The OSFM was awarded by Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Assistance to Firefighters Grant through the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Chief Jenkins said, “The goal of the “Smoke Alarm Blitz” is to save lives.” Chief Jenkins continued to state “We, as a Department, responded to six residential fires that resulted in seven deaths in 2014 and of those fires only one residence had a working smoke alarm. This is why we urge citizens to install smoke alarms and to check them monthly to ensure they are working and if they are more than ten years old to replace them.”



The Columbia Fire Department distributed 400, 10-year lithium battery smoke alarms and over 100 carbon monoxide alarms to the Standish Acres community. The Standish Acres community was selected based on National Fire Incident Reporting System (NIFRS) data, social vulnerability index score, fire fatalities (per capita) and other application information. If residents were not home, during the blitz, information was left at their residence that explains how to schedule a fire alarm installation.

Chief Jenkins would like to thank all of our partners in this life-saving endeavor: South Carolina Division of Fire and Life Safety, Office of the State Fire Marshal, Greater St. Luke Baptist Church, American Red Cross, Charles Divita Firehouse Subs Owner and Chick-fil-a Five Points.

For additional information or questions please contact the Columbia Fire Department’s Public Fire Education Division at 803-545-3717 or to request a smoke alarm installation visit columbianrichlandfire.net/request-a-smoke-alarm/.

Thank You

Dear Ms. Wilson:

Last year, the SC Department of Employment and Workforce reached out to you to request that a speed bump be added on Wayne Street in front of our C. Lem Harper building. Our staff and customers walk across Wayne Street daily to park. There was nothing to caution drivers to slow down for pedestrians and the safety of our staff and customers became a concern.

You immediately responded to us and we began to work with Robert Anderson, the City's Public Works Director. Mr. Anderson listened to what we needed and worked with his staff to find the best solution for the situation. A crosswalk plan was developed and finalized. Our staff and customers are happily using the crosswalk and we immediately saw a difference in the speed of vehicles driving down Wayne Street.

Mr. Anderson and the City have provided us with exceptional customer service. You should feel very good knowing how Mr. Anderson is representing the City of Columbia.

You and your staff have certainly made a difference for our staff and customers and I wanted to let you know how much we appreciate your assistance.

On behalf of the SC Department of Employment and Workforce, thank you for your service to this agency and to all of the citizens in Columbia.

Sincerely,



Cheryl M. Stanton
Executive Director

Caught Doing Something Right

Dear Mayor Benjamin,

I'm a resident of the Hollywood Rose Hill community at 1727 Maplewood Dr. I know you monitor the HRH neighborhood emails. I'm happy to write the following email to the entire HRH email list if you prefer, but unless the topic comes up naturally, it seems appropriate just to let you know one on one. I think the trash collection and recycling crews do an incredible job here in our neighborhood.

Our recycling person especially, is extremely helpful, professional and thorough. He went out of his way to help my wife one day when she was struggling to get to work, saw his truck about to pass by and realized we had not put out the recycling. He could not have been more gracious and helped her to get it to his truck without blocking the driveway so she could also get right to work. He is gracious, easy-going and responsive. A GREAT reflection of the city.

When you watch the way he works – he is efficient, hardworking and always pleasant when spoken to. The trash collection guys are great too. When I speak to them they are pleasant and they are always hardworking. All of these guys never miss picking things up and clearing them out. While I'm at it, I have the same to say about leaf & limb collection crews.

So, if this topic comes up on the forum, I'll chime in! Please forward this to your city manager and to the trash collection department. They are doing things right!

Great job and thanks,
George Fulton



Job Well Done

Albert Humphrey, M.D.
Veronica Deas, MSN, APRN-BC, CDE
Roxie Chisholm, APRN, FNP-C
4100 N. Main St. Suite 101
Columbia, SC 29203
Telephone (803) 754-0006
Fax (803) 735-1635

Re: Antoine Williams

January 14, 2015

To Whom it May Concern,

This letter is being sent to commend the efforts of Officer Antoine Williams for his assistance in the removal of graffiti from the back wall of our building. He was very professional and knowledgeable, his explanation of the procedures we needed to enact allowed for a quick and smooth process. I thank him for all his help.

Sincerely,



Deborah Hunter
Building Manager
Standish Associates



Green@Work



We Are Columbia

GREEN@WORK

Sustainability News for City of Columbia Employees: February 2015

How to Recycle Your Old Phone Book(s)

It's now even easier to recycle your old telephone books! Thanks to upgrades at Sonoco Recycling's material recovery facility, telephone books can now be recycled year round, and in many cases, in your curbside recycling bin.

Phone books from City offices can be recycled in office recycling bins.

Residents of the following areas may recycle telephone books in curbside recycling bins, where available, and/or in newspaper containers at recycling drop-off facilities:

- City of Columbia
- City of Forest Acres
- Lexington County
- Richland County

Since other recycling options are available, Keep the Midlands Beautiful will no longer offer telephone book recycling in February and March.



Tips for Reducing Office Paper Use

- Use both sides of the paper; it can cut your paper use and costs in half.
- Set computer defaults to print double-sided.
- Make double-sided copies when possible.
- Before recycling paper used on just one side, use the other side as scratch paper.
- Preview documents before printing so you can proof your document for errors before you print. Always use the spell/grammar tool to help avoid errors that can cause documents to be reprinted.
- Print only the pages you need. If only a few pages of the document are needed, print only those pages instead of the whole report.
- Consider sharing some documents with co-workers.
- Print only the number of copies needed for the meeting, don't make extras.
- Route memos and newsletters that employees should see, but do not need to keep.
- Use revision features in word processing to edit draft documents on screen instead of printing out drafts and making hand-written comments.
- Send information electronically via email.
- Print more words on each page (e.g., smaller font, narrower margins). Change the default on your computer to reduce the margins a little or to use an efficient font like Times New Roman.

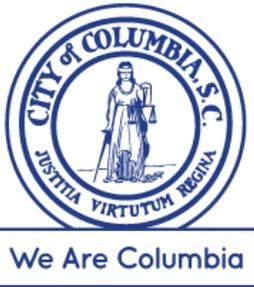


Photo Gallery

COMMUNITY LEADERS AWARD CEREMONY

Departments that were recognized:

Accounting

City Administration

Community Development

Parking Services

Parks & Recreation

Planning

Police

Public Relations

TN & Columbia Housing Development Corp





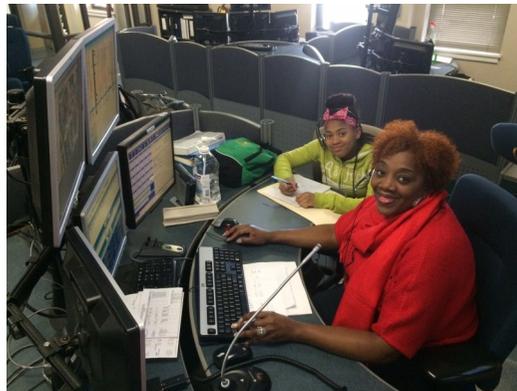
Photo Gallery

THE CITY OF COLUMBIA CELEBRATED NATIONAL WEAR RED DAY ON FEBRUARY 6TH.

CRC 9-1-1



PARKING SERVICES



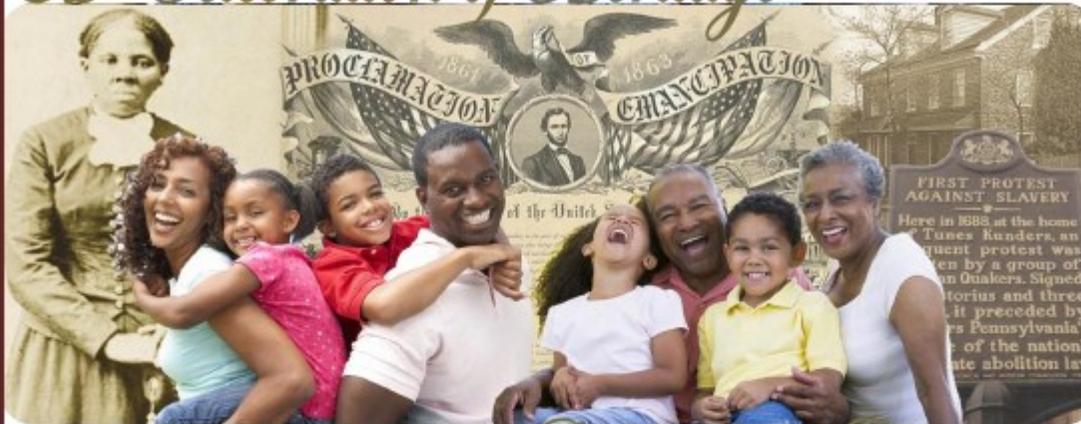
NATIONAL WEAR RED DAY PRESS CONFERENCE



To view more photos visit the [City of Columbia's Tumblr page online](#).

Black History Extravaganza

A Celebration of Heritage



from Generation to Generation

A Black History Extravaganza

Monday, Feb. 16, 2015

Greenview Park

6700 David Street, Columbia, SC

10am - 3pm

\$5 adults & \$2 children (12 & under)

(Deadline to purchase tickets: February 11th)

Join us as the elders and the youth of our time come together to celebrate the African-American culture through song, dance, games, prizes, exhibitors & more! Lunch will be provided.



Guest Speakers:
Dr. Cleveland L. Sellers, Jr.
& The Honorable Bakari Sellers



Sponsored by
City Parks & Recreation

For tickets see your park representative or contact
City Parks & Recreation at 803.545.3100

Go Red Walk

City of Columbia's 1st

Go Red Walk



When: February 20, 2015 at 12 p.m.

Where: City Hall, 1737 Main Street

#GoRedColumbia



For more information visit, columbiasc.net or call Public Relations at 803-545-3020

Go Red Fashion Show

The City of Columbia's 1st

Go Red Fashion Show

When: February 27, 2015

Where: Convention Center—1101 Lincoln St



Time: Reception begins at 5p.m.

Fashion show begins at 6p.m.

Tickets: \$30 per person



#GoRedColumbia



Hosted by:
City Councilwoman
Tameika Isaac Devine



*A majority of the proceeds will be donated to the American Heart Association.

For more information visit, columbiasc.net or call Public Relations at 803-545-3020

5th Annual Columbia Lifesavers Blood Drive

LIFE SAVER

5th Annual Columbia Lifesavers Blood Drive



SAVE THE DATE

Friday, February 27

7 a.m.- 3 p.m.

Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center

To schedule your donation appointment, please visit
redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS.



Sponsored by Mayor Steve Benjamin, the City of Columbia and the American Red Cross S.C. Region Board of Directors

TEAM CAPTAINS

Administration

Whanna Bouknight

Human Resources

Connie Cauthen

Business Opportunities

Nicholas Nance

Information Technology

Teresa Colbert

911 Communications

Shenique Loyd

Legal

Geraldine Pleasant

Community Development

Jeff Rainwater

Municipal Court

Dana Turner

Development Services/Planning

Andrew Livengood

Parking Services

Paul Eller

Eau Clair Development Corp.

Felicia Maloney

Parks & Recreation

Stephanie Belvin

Economic Development

Brenda Jones

Police

Jimmy Auld

Finance

Latisha Grice

Public Works

Gina Sample

General Services

Della Waden

Utilities & Engineering

Kimberley Roof

Meetings

DATE/TIME	TYPE OF MEETING	LOCATION
February 17 at 2pm	WORK SESSION	1737 Main Street Council Conference Room
February 17 at 6pm	COUNCIL MEETING	1737 Main Street Council Chambers



City Media

www.ColumbiaSC.net



TWC Ch.2 City Talk

We Are Columbia

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