CCN Courier

April 2025

CCN Executive Committee 2023-2025

President
Harrison Greenlaw
President-Elect
Kay Patterson
Vice President
John Tyler
Secretary
Pat Brown
Treasurer
Denise Wellman

Upcoming CCN Elections

Please consider nominating yourself (or another qualified neighbor) for office. If you nominate another, please share with them why you believe they would be a strong candidate and share the officer duties shared in this newsletter. **Deadline for nominations is the CCN meeting on May 22, 2025.** Also encourage the person you nominate to talk with CCN officers about roles and responsibilities.

Expected duties of all officers:

- Attend and participate in 10-12 officer meetings per year, 3-4 committee meetings, 4 meetings with the mayor and the 10 monthly CCN meetings (4th Thursday of each month except Nov/Dec)
- Officers also respond to communications sent by fellow officers and neighborhood leaders
- Note the <u>term of office is for two years</u> starting July 1, 2025

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April Meeting - New Location

Thursday, April 24 | 6pm | Busby Community Center, 1735 Busby Street, Cola Speaker – Katy Renfroe, Marketing Professional

You'll learn how to set up a free email account, a neighborhood Facebook page, and go over login details for the CCN website! Please bring your laptop to navigate along with the training.



CCN's New Branding



CNN is pleased to announce the launch of our new website, logo, and social media handles. Thanks to Katy Renfroe, our new communications and marketing administrator, each element of our new brand was launched on 2/28/25 and can be found at ccnsc.org.

Resources

Digital Literacy - Camerin Aull CAull@ors.sc.gov

Digital Access, Broadband Office Broadband@ors.sc.gov

Free Cell Phone

https://lifewireless.com/#:~:text =Lifeline%20is%20a%20governm ent%20benefit,qualify%20for%2 Othis%20FREE%20benefit.

Affordable Connectivity Program Has Ended

Free internet has ended-for now-as of June 1, 2024:

https://www.fcc.gov/sites/default/files/ACP-Fact-Sheet-Post-ACP-Ending.pdf



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Neighborhood Leaders - Immediate Action Needed!

- 1. Check Out Our New Website Note the "Members-Only Login" in the upper right hand corner. This will allow you to connect with other CCN neighborhood leaders and submit neighborhood events, meetings and photos. You can only access the members-only section and submit neighborhood events and photos if you have joined CCN in 2025. The membership process is now a calendar year process (January December), so to ensure we are only providing member-only access to current neighborhood leaders, each neighborhood must complete the membership process for 2025.
- 2. Join CCN for 2025 If you have not already joined for 2025, please do so now! Go to Membership>Join">CCNSC.org>Membership>Join, and complete the online form or download the fillable form and bring it to the next CCN meeting. New incentives for joining are listed below this section.
- **3. Follow CCN on Social Media** Follow our new socials by scanning the QR codes to the right.
- **4. Submit Your Comments/Suggestions** Send comments and/or suggestions to CCN's Executive Committee in the lower right hand corner of each page on the website or by emailing info@ccnsc.org.







Incentives for Joining CCN

CCN needs the involvement of all Columbia neighborhoods!

Benefits of CCN membership can be found at CCNSC.org>Membership>Benefits.

Additionally, because you are so important to our capital city and also to CCN, there are new incentives for neighborhoods who complete the CCN membership process in 2025. Please complete the membership process described above to become eligible for **one** of the following grants:

City of Columbia Incentive

The City of Columbia is offering a grant of up to \$100 for neighborhoods who have not been active with CCN for two years. These funds can help defray the cost of City of Columbia special event fees (street barricades, trash roll carts, special event processing fee) associated with an approved neighborhood event. This grant is awarded by the city; however, when eligible for the incentive, CCN will notify both the neighborhood and the city's Office of Special Events. Eligible neighborhood events must be in 2025, and the neighborhood must work directly with the Office of Special Events to utilize this incentive.



CCN Incentive

CCN is offering a reimbursable grant up to \$100 toward a neighborhood activity that does NOT qualify for the city incentive. These funds are to help cover any non-food/drink related costs associated with a neighborhood activity.

To qualify, neighborhoods must be active with CCN (joined CCN in 2025 and frequent attendance at CCN meetings), and submit receipts and photos of the activity which



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Incentives for Joining CCN Cont...

occurred between 1/1/25 and 6/15/25 to be eligible. Examples of reimbursable expenses include things such as a neighborhood gathering, newsletter, website development, neighborhood clean-up, plants for neighborhood public space, etc. Awarded neighborhood must identify CCN as a sponsor of the funded activity.

How Can You Help CCN Grow?

You likely know someone who lives in a neighborhood that is not involved with our organization, and we want to ensure that all neighborhoods receive timely and important information from CCN, the City of Columbia and Richland County. The CCN Executive Committee is looking for individuals who can help us reach those neighborhoods.

We believe that all neighborhoods contribute to building a thriving capital city; therefore, we are looking for volunteers to help us reach every neighborhood in Columbia. We will provide the script to use and ideas on how to find neighborhood leaders, but we need your help to make a few phone calls so CCN can continue to grow and benefit from the diverse voices across our city.

Please volunteer today by contacting a member of the CCN Executive Committee at info@ccnsc.org.

Showcase Your Neighborhood's Meetings, Events and/or Special Projects

Each issue of the *CCN Courier* will provide an opportunity to showcase neighborhood events or projects! Each submission must be no more than 300 words, and this opportunity is only available to neighborhoods whose 2025 membership is currently active with CCN.



Richland Library Main's Business & Careers Center

Diane Luccy
Business and Careers Manager
803.929.3464
dluccy@richlandlibrary.com

From job seekers to small business owners, students and families, Richland Library's Business and Careers Center offers a wide range of career and small business-related services that help customers learn and grow while strengthening the connections that join them together as a community.



















CCN Elections in June Cont...

The Positions Open for Nominations Include:

- **President-Elect** Drives annual membership process and assists the President with meetings and agendas
- **Vice President** Serves as CCN Parliamentarian and helps with membership and committees
- **Treasurer** Maintains all financial accounts and records, files 501(c)3 documentation and other financial documents to manage nonprofit status and reports on expenditures, income and allocations
- **Secretary** Manages member attendance and minutes of CCN monthly meetings and assists in the management of the CCN website and social media
- Assistant Secretary Takes minutes of the monthly CCN Executive Committee meetings and assists in the management of CCN website, social media and communications



The Columbia Council of Neighborhoods election will be at the June 27, 2025 monthly meeting. Each nominee will have one minute to speak to attendees stating why they are interested and qualified. Each CCN registered neighborhood will receive one ballot to complete, then all ballots will be tabulated, the results announced and the new officers will receive a brief oath of office.



CCN Sponsors



Thanks to CCN's newest sponsor, Huntington Bank, who will be coming to Columbia in late 2025-early 2026!

