

Facade Improvement

The Facade Improvement Program is a commercial storefront improvement grant initiative administered by the City of Cayce. The purpose of the program is to encourage and assist property and business owners located in the City's Program Area to restore and improve the appearance of the facades of their buildings. Information can be found at <https://caycesc.gov/grants.php>. Applications are due by May 31, 2024.

Muffin Cares Program

Muffin, a mini horse, is an ambassador for the fire and drug prevention education. While fire prevention education to the community is a high priority, Our Cayce Fire Department is also working to address a more prevalent risk in the community: substance misuse. The "Muffin Cares" program is about providing therapy and drug prevention services on the "one fake pill can kill" campaign, resiliency training, and community resources for substance use disorder (SUD) and families and friends. Muffin Cares program is about meeting a community need of connection, helping reduce stigma, and providing hope.



Council Corner



Mayor Pro Tem Tim James, District 1

It is an honor to call Cayce home! As the azaleas, dogwoods and flowers bloom, we are reminded of the beauty of our city! While just a short drive to the hustle of the capital, we here in Cayce retain and enjoy nature. A neighbor commented this week of the many benefits we have as citizens of Cayce, my response was a quick reminder that our enjoyment is because of the city staff and their tireless efforts. So, this week, please take a moment to wave at the sanitation team, the police officer and other city workers- just to say hello and thank you! Please contact me if I can ever be of assistance.



Byron Thomas, District 2

It's a blessing to represent the Second District on City Council! I've had the honor of meeting so many beautiful, amazing people, not only in my district, but the entire city. The City of Cayce has so much potential, and I'm honored to work with Mayor Partin and Councilmen James, Carter, and Sox, to continue to bring out that potential! I'm blessed to announce that I've partnered with The Center for Heirs' Property Preservation to host Lexington County's first-ever Wills Clinic. This FREE event will be held at Mt. Zion Church of Cayce on Saturday, May 4. Don't wait to make estate plans or get your will drafted. Call Ms. Ariel Ellerson at 843.745.7055 to reserve a time slot. It's an honor to serve the City of Cayce! Remember, the "C" in Cayce, means Community! I will work to uplift and bring our community together. Because "Together Everyone Achieves More!"



Hunter Sox, District 3

It is my honor to serve the City of Cayce and the residents of District 3. I have recently started a newsletter to keep you informed of what is happening in Cayce and at City Hall. Council and staff are working on many great projects right now, and I don't want you to miss any of it. Never hesitate to contact me to voice your opinion or concern, as I value, appreciate, and welcome your feedback. Please email me at HunterSoxforCayceCouncil@gmail.com or call/text my cell at 803.479.2784 to join my newsletter distribution list.



Phil Carter, District 4

As we head into summertime, I can't say enough about how much I enjoyed seeing many of you at the Soiree on State just a few weeks ago! Our Cayce staff works so hard on this event each year and it is a great opportunity for local vendors, artists and businesses! As the school year starts to wind down, I want to say thank you to all of our teachers and staff members of our wonderful schools. Special thanks to our School Resource Officers for keeping our schools safe. As a former school board member, I know how hard you work all year long! It is my pleasure to serve our Cayce citizens and I am always available. You can email me or give me a call anytime, phillipacarter@yahoo.com or 803-518-9384.

Cayce Times

Summer 2024

City Reflections

A Letter from Mayor Elise Partin

Thank you to everyone who came out to Soiree on State last month, as well as everyone who made it happen. Despite a rainy forecast, we had a big crowd and an enjoyable time. Community festivals like this are more than just a good time. They draw people closer together, foster goodwill among neighbors, and help inspire community pride. Soiree on State also has another important purpose—showcasing the State Street corridor—a critical part of our efforts to revitalize the area. If you haven't already, check out the small businesses that have located in the Cayce River Arts District:

- Dialed Bicycles
- Hair on State
- MPA Strategies
- Piecewise Coffee
- Salvage Sisters
- State and Frink
- State of the Art Gallery and Pottery Studio
- Swatch Graphics
- Trini Lime Caribbean Cafe

Again, a heart-felt “thank you” to everyone who helped make this year's Soiree on State a success.

Are you interested in helping to create more walking and biking options in Cayce? The Active and Accessible Community Transit Coalition is working to do just that. Join us for a Community Walk Audit Wednesday, May 8 at 5:30 p.m. at Granby Gardens Park by City Hall. Thanks to staff for grants that provided colorful bike racks in the Cayce River Arts District and a huge thanks to the Lexington Two Innovation Center's Welding Class for the new bike rack in Guignard Park.

Citizen-input is an important part of policy-making. Folks who take the time to share their views, ideas and concerns – and even criticisms – help improve the quality of their government. Please contact us to sound off on any issue that's important to you. The Meeting with the Mayor event is designed for such a purpose. Be on the lookout for those at our area businesses soon!

UPCOMING EVENTS

City Council meets Tuesday, May 7 at 6 p.m. and Wednesday, May 15 at 5 p.m. Both meetings will be held at City Hall, 1800 12th Street. As a reminder, you can follow Council meetings



online at [youtube.com/@cityofcayce1137/streams](https://www.youtube.com/@cityofcayce1137/streams).

B-C High School graduation is Wednesday, May 22 at 8 a.m. at Bearcat Stadium.

Airport High graduation is Thursday, May 23 at 8 a.m. at the school. Congratulations to all our graduates. Great job working so hard to achieve this milestone!

Elise Partin

PIO Perspective: External Communications in the City of Cayce

The City of Cayce strives to “overcommunicate!” We thought it might be helpful for you to know more of what goes into this process. Cayce’s strategic communications and coordination of public engagement efforts are always rooted in transparency, professionalism, and public input.

Let’s use our City General Fund Budget process as an example. Our city holds public input sessions for the city budget, and then distributes a detailed flyer on expenditures to every Cayce home. We do this in a unique way that keeps costs low: by coordinating with our sanitation staff to place the flyer on trash receptacles at each home. We also place this budget information on our website and social media.

The city has a Public Information Officer who serves as the city’s marketing professional and as the liaison between the city and the media. Cayce uses the city website, caycesc.gov, as the central hub for information and communications. There, you will find the latest news items, press releases, riverwalk status, agendas, minutes, important phone numbers, the Waste Wizard, links to our social media sites and so much more!

On social media, we have several pages you should follow! We publish information daily on @cityofcayce and @caycehappenings. We share this information to local neighborhood pages as well as @caycehistoricalmuseum, @cayceriverartsdistrict, @cityofcaycepolicedepartment, @12000yearhistorypark, @cityofcaycefiredepartment. Our Mayor and Council also have their own pages and accounts that they manage or share information. Follow along on our city social media platforms and show us your #caycepride!



Year Three of Steel Paws Initiative Set for May 10-11

The Cayce Police Department will introduce the newest member of its K9 team in conjunction with the two-day Steel Paws festivities at Steel Hands Brewing on May 10-11. The success of the initiative and the importance of our local K9 programs continues to draw community partnerships: Jim Hudson Automotive, the Cayce Public Safety Foundation, the Lexington and Richland County Sheriff’s Departments, and Steel Hands Brewing, just to name a few.

Cayce Police Chief, Chris Cowan, stated, “Police K9s provide an irreplaceable service to our communities. From apprehending criminals, finding drugs, and locating missing children to improving community relationships.”

In the past two years, the Steel Paws Initiative has raised more than \$160,000 for K9 programs across South Carolina. Items purchased with the funds include K9 training, K9 tactical vests, K9 dog food and medical care, cooling vests, ballistics vests, handler trainings and more. This year, the proceeds from the events will benefit the Cayce Police Department, Richland County Sheriff’s Department and Lexington County Sheriff’s Department canine programs.



Steel Paws Kickoff Event: “Bowties & Blue Jeans” VIP Event - May 10 from 6-9 p.m.

Tickets are required. The event will feature a BBQ Smokeshow Feast, Local Vendors, Live PD Patrol Officer, Special Auction, and Live Music.

Puppy Therapy/K-9 Yoga: May 11 from Noon-1 p.m. Tickets for this event sold separately: <https://tickets.coladaily.com/events/steel-paws-puppytherapy-dog-yoga-5-11-2024>

Steel Paws Celebration: The Main Event - May 11 from Noon - 4 p.m.; live music will continue into the evening at Steel Hands Brewing.

This free event will feature Therapy Dog Yoga, Live PD Patrol Officer, Canine Meet & Greet, Live Music, Local Vendors and Steel Paws Treats.

Ticket Purchasing:

<https://tickets.coladaily.com/events/steel-paws-bowties-bluejeans-5-10-2024>



Fall Fest Scheduled for October 5

The City of Cayce's Fall Fest will return October 5, 2024. This free event is held 12pm to 6pm at Granby Gardens Park, located at 1800 12th Street in Cayce. You can join in on all the fun with live music, food vendors, craft vendors and a kid's area with face painters, balloon artists, inflatables, and more! This event is free and open to all, including friendly pets! Join the City of Cayce on October 5, 2024 for Cayce's Fall Fest!

Reminders...

From Sanitation:

Please ensure ALL household garbage is bagged. For recycling, NO Styrofoam or plastics bags are accepted.

From Parks:

Please check your cell phones to make sure that they are charged before heading out into one of the City's many parks or trails, and be aware of the heat in the summer. Our Park staff and Rangers are there to assist you if needed.

Remember you are taking a walk through nature. You may see many types of animals, such as raccoons, deer, turtles, beavers, snakes, and alligators. Please keep a safe distance from all wildlife and remain on the walkway.



African American Legends of Cayce Exhibit

The Cayce Historical Museum held a reception for the new African American Legends of Cayce Exhibit on February 8. It started with a single object, but with help from the community it was expanded to highlight experiences through items like artwork, photos, awards, and stories from the African American community of Cayce. A special addition to this exhibit is the tablet that has recorded interviews from Cayce residents.

This exhibit is a permanent feature of the Cayce Historical Museum, which is open Tuesday-Friday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturdays 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.



Calendar Photography Needed

The City of Cayce is holding its annual photography contest for its much-loved yearly calendar that showcases the beauty and charm of our City. This year's theme is Uniquely Cayce, so show us the sites that make Cayce so special. For example, do you know what local restaurant this mural is in? Along with gorgeous images from local photographers, the annual calendar also provides residents and visitors with information on City Council meetings, board and committee meetings throughout the year, special events, frequently used phone numbers, photos of Council Members, and more. A limited number of calendars are distributed for free to citizens at Cayce City Hall in December. Entries must be submitted in raw or jpg format, with landscape orientation and at least 3MB. For full release and rules, please email arowan@caycesc.gov.



Outstanding Employees

Betsy Catchings, the City's Director of Utilities, was recently awarded the Water Environment Association of South Carolina Capital District Engineer of the Year. This is a distinguished award and was even more special because she was nominated by one of her staff members. Betsy has a vast area of responsibility, to include a 25 MGD wastewater treatment facility, a 9.6 MGD water treatment facility, a 600,000 gallon pretreatment grease and septic facility, an extensive water and sewer distribution center, which covers over 70 lift stations, approximately 500 miles of force and gravity sewer lines and over 250 miles of potable water lines. She manages over 71 employees who all love working with her. Congratulations Betsy!



Chris Mills was selected as the WEASC Capital District Water Treatment Operator of the Year and in March he was chosen as the WEASC State Water Treatment Operator of the Year. Denis Bergeron was also named as the WEASC State Lab Analyst of the Year while Legrand June won the WEASC State Membership Award. The City is so fortunate to have such dedicated and skilled staff members. Congratulations All!

Thank You!

The City is so fortunate to have team members that have been with the City for many years. These team members have a combined 139 years of service with the City!

Nick Peay, Electrician: 5 years
Raymond Wagner, Operator C: 5 years
David Wakeman, Corporal: 5 years
Jorge Dominquez, Locator/Operator A: 15 years
Jamie Beckham, IT: 26 years
Mendy Corder, Municipal Clerk: 27 years
Keith Crawford, Sanitation: 28 years
Erone Edmonds, Operator A: 28 years

Bicycle Safety

Bicycling is a fun and eco-friendly way to enjoy the summer. In the City of Cayce, we want to make sure you stay safe while biking on our trails, streets, and in our parks.

1. **Wear a Helmet:** Helmets significantly reduce the risk of head injuries in the event of a crash or fall. Make sure your helmet meets safety standards and fits snugly on your head, with the straps securely fastened.
2. **Follow Traffic Rules:** Cyclists are considered vehicles on the road and are required to follow the same traffic rules as motorists. This includes stopping at stop signs and traffic lights, yielding to pedestrians, using hand signals to indicate turns, and riding in the same direction as traffic flow. By obeying traffic laws, cyclists can reduce the likelihood of accidents.
3. **Stay Visible:** Wear bright colors and equip your bicycle with front and rear lights and reflectors to make yourself visible to motorists and pedestrians.
4. **Stay Alert:** Stay vigilant and aware of your surroundings at all times while cycling. Check the road for potential hazards such as potholes, debris, parked cars, or pedestrians and keep your eyes on traffic movements to anticipate the actions of other road users.
5. **Maintain Your Bicycle:** Regular maintenance is crucial for the safety and functionality of your bicycle. Check your brakes, tires, gears, and lights regularly, and address any issues promptly. Keep your bicycle clean and properly lubricated, and replace worn-out components as needed.



City of Cayce
 PO Box 2004
 Cayce, SC 29171

www.caycesc.gov

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Calendar of Events

New Cayce Event

Summers are brutally hot in South Carolina and for that reason Cayce has a new event - the Cayce Cool Down. Picture water slides, water balloons, water soakers, slip and slides and sprinklers all laid out in Granby Gardens Park for you and your family's enjoyment.

This free event is being held Saturday, July 27 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and will be a blast for kids of all ages. There will be free sno cones as well.

Come join us for the Cayce Cool Down!

May

- 1 Museum Commission Meeting, 4 p.m.
- 7 Meet with the Mayor, 5 p.m.
- 7 Council Meeting, 6 p.m.
- 9 Events Committee Meeting, 5:30 p.m.
- 13 Beautification Foundation Mtg., 5:30 p.m.
- 15 Council Meeting, 5 p.m.
- 20 Zoning Board Meeting, 6 p.m.
- 20 Planning Commission Meeting, 6 p.m.
- 27 City Offices Closed - Memorial Day
- 28 Public Safety Foundation Mtg., 5:45 p.m.
- 29 Bulk/White Goods Collection Day

June

- 4 Meet with the Mayor, 5 p.m.
- 4 Council Meeting, 6 p.m.
- 5 Museum Commission Meeting, 4 p.m.
- 10 Beautification Foundation Mtg., 5:30 p.m.
- 13 Events Committee Meeting, 5:30 p.m.
- 17 Zoning Board Meeting, 6 p.m.
- 17 Planning Commission Meeting, 6 p.m.
- 18 Housing Authority Meeting, 5 p.m.
- 19 City Offices Closed - Juneteenth
- 25 Public Safety Foundation Mtg., 5:45 p.m.
- 26 Council Meeting, 5 p.m.*
- 26 Bulk/White Goods Collection Day

July

- 2 Meet with the Mayor, 5 p.m.
- 2 Council Meeting, 6 p.m.
- 3 Museum Commission Mtg., 4 p.m.
- 4 City Hall Closed - Independence Day
- 8 Beautification Foundation Meeting, 5:30 p.m.
- 11 Events Committee Mtg., 5:30 p.m.
- 15 Zoning Board Meeting, 6 p.m.
- 15 Planning Commission Mtg., 6 p.m.
- 17 Council Meeting, 5 p.m.
- 23 Public Safety Foundation Mtg., 5:45 p.m.
- 31 Bulk/White Goods Collection Day

Note: Zoning Board of Appeals only meets when a zoning appeal needs to be reviewed. If they do not meet, the Planning Commission meets at 6 p.m. rather than 6:30 p.m.

**The June 19 Council Meeting was rescheduled to June 26.*

May 27 Garbage, Yard Trash and Recycling will be picked up on Wednesday, May 29.

July 4 Garbage, Yard Trash and Recycling will be picked up on Wednesday, July 3.