



Heart of Sumter Neighborhood Association

join today 

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

\$20.00 Family Annual Membership

Please make Checks out to HSNA or  
Pay via HSNASUMTERSC.COM



Please Mail Checks to Annette Doyle  
28 Park Avenue, Sumter SC 29150

HSNA was formed for the benefit of the residents; to help them know one another better, to establish positive relationships, increase communication and work on issues of concern together.

Heart of Sumter Neighborhood Assoc.  
28 Park Avenue  
Sumter SC 29150

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE



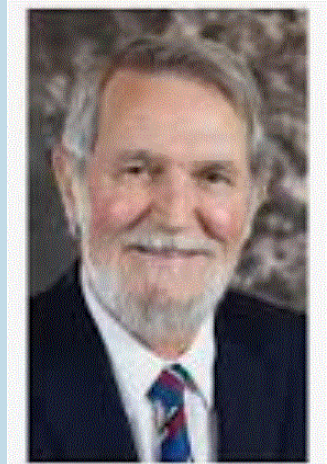
# Heart Beat

THE HEART OF SUMTER NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION (HSNA)  
NEWSLETTER

## Dr. Steve Corley

For the last eight years, *Dr. Steve Corley* has represented our neighborhood as Ward 4 City Councilman. His thoughtful leadership has greatly benefited the HSNA Ward 4 and the broader Sumter community.

As a longtime resident of our neighborhood, Steve's dedication has made a lasting impact, and we are truly grateful for his service.



## Congratulations R. Lynn Kennedy!



Sumter's new Councilwoman - Ward 4, *R. Lynn Kennedy* brings a wealth of experience and a deep commitment to her community. Born and raised in Sumter, she has dedicated her life to serving its residents. As the owner of *Carnivore Butcher & Bottle*, she expertly manages all aspects of her business, ensuring top-quality products, excellent customer service, and a welcoming atmosphere.

With over 17 years as the City of Sumter Events Manager, Lynn has successfully organized major city events, collaborating with vendors and sponsors to create memorable experiences for both locals and visitors.

Her passion for community engagement extends to the arts, including her collaboration with Axel Reis on the "Red Tail" project for the Iris Festival, honoring military service. Through her leadership, dedication, and numerous contributions, Lynn continues to make a lasting impact, strengthening the



**YOU'RE INVITED!**

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING  
**HISTORIC RESOURCES SURVEY OF THE WEST END, MASON CROFT, AND HAMPTON PARK NEIGHBORHOODS**

Tuesday, March 4, 2025  
 6:00 pm  
 The Meeting House  
 at Memorial Park  
 (110 N. Salem St)

**MEETING PURPOSE:**  
 Present project goals and objectives to interested members of the public, share initial observations about the architectural character of the study area, and host a Q&A session that allows community members to contribute information about the survey area's history.

**LEARN MORE ABOUT...**

- Historic Resource Surveys and how they aid historic preservation initiatives
- Historic architecture and the character defining features that make historic buildings unique

**PROVIDE YOUR INPUT!**

Long-time residents are invaluable sources of local history, and we would love to hear from you.



For more information contact the Sumter City-County Planning Department at 803-774-1660.



# Spring

Spring 2025 starts on Thursday, March 20th

Nominate a Yard or Porch of the Month!

Spring will soon be springing, flowers blooming, and let's be honest—some of our neighbors are out here making the rest of us look bad with their amazing yards and porches.

Do you know someone whose garden looks like it belongs in a magazine? A porch so cozy it makes you want to grab sweet tea and never leave? Now's your chance to show them some love!

Drop a nomination via email to [hsnapresident@gmail.com](mailto:hsnapresident@gmail.com). Let's celebrate the green thumbs and porch pros of our neighborhood!

Let's make someone's day brighter than their front yard!

## Building Community Brick by Brick

Just as bricks create strong foundations and pave new paths, so too can people build and strengthen their community. As a fundraiser, HSNA has been selling engraved bricks to be displayed in Memorial Park. Phase One is complete, with 39 bricks sold and ordered. Now, Phase Two is underway! We've reached out to city officials to finalize their placement in the park.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who purchased a brick in honor or memory of a loved one (or even themselves!). These personalized bricks will be a meaningful and lasting addition to our park.



## Art in the Park 2025

After years of hosting successful Art in the Park events, HSNA has passed the leadership to the Palmetto Optimist Club to continue this beloved tradition. The next event will take place on

**March 29, 2025, at Memorial Park.**

HSNA will continue its participation by selling beverages, and we'd love your help! If you'd like to volunteer, please contact

**Annette Doyle at (803) 316-6041 or [adjd28@yahoo.com](mailto:adjd28@yahoo.com).**

Mark your calendar. We look forward to seeing you there!



[facebook.com/HSNAsumtersc](https://facebook.com/HSNAsumtersc)

We are excited to welcome **Jeanne Hodge Griffith** and **Dr. Kay McCracken Rhoads** to the HSNA board. We are honored to have them both on the HSNA board!

## Dr. Kay McCracken Rhoads



Kay grew up on Swan Lake Drive but frequently took the bus to Memorial Park to enjoy the wading pool. She attended Mrs. Witherspoon's Playpen Kindergarten and has been part of Sumter life since childhood.

After time away as a graduate student and Army wife, she returned and built an impressive career as a faculty member and administrator at Central Carolina Technical College, USC Columbia, Golden Gate University, Troy State University, and Morris College.

Beyond academia, Kay has served on Sumter's Design Review Board, the Greater Sumter Chamber of Commerce Executive Committee, the Main Street Society, and the Sumter Rotary Club. She has also been deeply involved with Tuomey Hospital.



## Jeanne Hodge Griffith

A Sumter native, Jeanne spent decades working in retirement communities—and even with the Carolina Panthers—before returning home to join her family's business. She is also actively involved with the Sumter Museum and runs H.E.A.R.T.S. (Helping Elders and Retirees to Succeed).

## Memorial Park Update

Exciting improvements are underway at Memorial Park!

The current renovation project includes:

- ◆ New recreation equipment (Ribbon Cutting) →
- ◆ Upgrades to the gazebo
- ◆ Reconstruction of the restroom building

A huge thank you to the *City of Sumter* for its ongoing efforts to maintain and enhance our beautiful park!

