THE CRC NEWSLETTER Volume II, Issue 8 * August 2017 COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCILS

Promoting harmony & respect among a diverse citizenry of our state

South Carolina Human Affairs Commission www.schac.sc.gov

Rock Hill CRC Holds First Summer Retreat at Winthrop Lake

The Rock Hill Community Relations Council held its First Annual Summer Retreat on Sunday, July 30, 2017, from 2-5 p.m. at The Shack overlooking the Winthrop Lake on the campus of Winthrop University. Shelby Patterson, Chair of the Council, said the purpose of the retreat was to evaluate the CRC's purpose while fostering new bonds among members, to understand the CRC's purpose and how it intersects with the S.C. Human Affairs Commission, and to discuss training for present and new members to develop skills to meet the CRC's purpose and to be effective in carrying out its goals.

Agenda items included icebreakers on what drew members to the council, what the members hoped to contribute to the community, background information that members felt was important to share with other members, and each member's experience and training which are relevant to the council's purpose. There was a discussion of goals, history of committees which had combined to form the present council (i.e., Martin Luther King Jr., No Room for Racism, and Human Relations), future training opportunities, website updates and how to address citizens' concerns during CRC meetings.



Saundra Ligon, Senior Consultant with the S.C. Human Affairs Commission, shared with the group information about the next state conference to be held in Myrtle Beach in early 2018, along with updates on the training modules from consultant Graeme Coetzer, Ph.D., Associate Professor at the College of Charleston.

Member, Gigi Anderson, stated that the retreat was a great opportunity for all members to get to know one another on a personal level and to clarify concerns many members had about their role in the CRC. Staff Liaison, Dayna Johnston, received heartfelt thanks for her hard work with the council over the years. Johnston's last day with the City of Rock Hill was July 31, 2017. Most all of the membership (15 members are appointed by Rock Hill's City Council) attended this successful retreat, which will likely become an annual event. Everyone left with a feeling of camaraderie and a better understanding of each other, the goals and mission of the Rock Hill CRC.

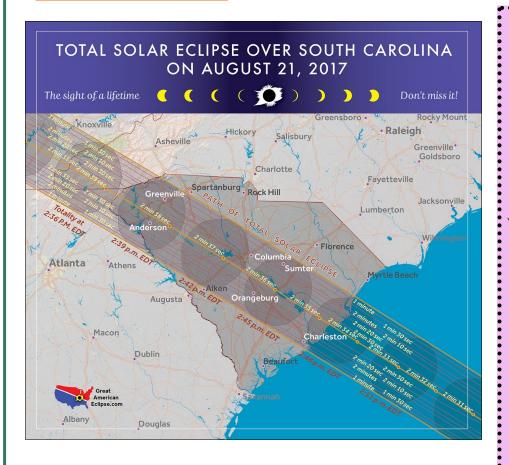


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Current CRCs:

Columbia, West Columbia, Lee, Allendale, Hampton, Beaufort, Jasper, Berkeley, Myrtle Beach, Georgetown, Lancaster, Rock Hill, Greenwood, Greenville, Anderson, Laurens, McCormick, Aiken



from http://scemd.org/TotalEclipse

On August 21, 2017, a total solar eclipse will be visible along a thin, roughly 100 mile-wide path that runs diagonally across America from Oregon to South Carolina. Beginning around 2:38 p.m. on Monday, August 21, 2017, viewers who have gathered in areas like Greenville, Columbia and Charleston, S.C., will experience the longest period of 100% total eclipse for a metro area on the entire East Coast of the United States — ranging from two minutes and 30 seconds to two minutes and 36 seconds of total darkness.

Emergency managers are planning for an estimated influx of more than one million visitors into South Carolina for several days on either side of the eclipse. Expect nearly everything to be above capacity for nearly a week total. Residents, businesses and visitors should all be prepared for this historic event by keeping safety in mind. Annual Event Calendar for COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCILS

> **January** MLK/Interfaith Awareness

February African American History

March Women's History/End Racism Day

> **April** Fair Housing

May Law Enforcement/ Community Relations

June Disaster Preparedness/Emanuel 9 Remembrance, Peace & Reconciliation

July Employment Discrimination/ Economic Opportunity

August Youth Project/Back to School

> **September** Hispanic Heritage/ Cultural Diversity

October Disability Employment Awareness

November American Indian Heritage/ Veterans' Appreciation

December Aging & Poverty Issues

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