

Follow the Leader

A Publication for the employees of the Columbus Recreation and Parks Department

December, 2014



2014 is rapidly drawing to a close. It has been a great year – all of you have accomplished a lot.

2015 will be a year where we will see a lot of changes.

Michael Coleman has announced he will not seek a 5th term as the Mayor of Columbus. Next year will be his last year in office. There are many of you who have never worked for the city when Mike Coleman was not Mayor. While this is a significant change for the city, Recreation and Parks should not see any significant changes to our operations.



Alan D. McKnight
Director

Councilman Hearcel Craig will also be stepping down from City Council and as Chair of the Recreation and Parks Committee as he takes on new responsibilities at the Statehouse. Congratulate him if you get the chance on his new role. He has been a big supporter and friend of our department over the years. Sometime after the first of the year, we will find out who will chair the Recreation and Parks Committee on Council.

As 2014 comes to an end, we are also wrapping up the department Master Plan. It has been over 10 years since we last took on an effort such as this and it was long overdue. The plan takes a critical look at our department, programs and operations and makes a number of recommendations. We will begin taking a look at the implementation of some of the recommendations in the near future. The plan is posted on the department web site. Take a look at it when you get a chance.

As the Holiday Season approaches, please take some time to reflect on the past year and all of your accomplishments. Every day, you make a difference in the lives of our citizens.

Happy Holidays!



THE CITY OF
COLUMBUS
MICHAEL B. COLEMAN, MAYOR

RECREATION AND PARKS
DEPARTMENT

CRPD Staff News....

Congrats to **Kevin Ohms**, Sports, (and former CRPD staffer Danielle) on the birth of their 3rd child, Sammie Jo, on September 24.

Congratulations to **Luke Edelbrock**, Therapeutic Rec, who was married on October 11!

Our sympathy and thoughts are with **Charles Malone** (Mentel Memorial Maintenance) and his family after the passing of his wife.

Condolences to the family of former CRPD employee **John Blubaugh** who passed in October.



A salute and thanks to some of our department's veterans! Each received a medal from the Mayor at the Veterans' luncheon held on November 11. Standing l—r John Wright—Army, Warren Love—Navy, Tom Moore—Navy, Ralph Wagenhofer—Army, Aaron Harple—Air Force, and Carl Miller—Marines. We appreciate your service!

Insights from the OPRA Leadership Summit

The 2014 OPRA Leadership Summit was held on Nov. 18 – 19 here in Columbus. Several staff had the opportunity to attend and wanted to share some insights.

From Jeff Derr –

I recently attended the Ohio Parks and Recreation Association *Leadership Conference* and this educational session provided me with a great opportunity to hear from experienced leadership professionals in the area of government, private consultation and business. Professionals should consistently strive for development and advancement; and to hear individuals with vastly different backgrounds and experiences provided me with an opportunity to assess, grow and understand what it takes to be a great leader and mentor. OPRA conferences and educational sessions are outstanding ways for anyone to gain knowledge and experience; they are excellent resources of development and learning.

Former Columbus Mayor Greg Lashutka gave great insights into building trust and relationships. Beginning with knowing people you work with and for, respecting all individuals and views, listening intently to their ideas, communicating effectively and finally building quality and lasting relationships – these are all traits that build trust and make you a great leader.

From Willie Crawford –

The Ohio Parks and Recreation Association Leadership Summit was a great source of beneficial information. The session on the Art of Mentoring was particularly interesting. Much of what employees of our recreation department do involves mentoring people in one way or another. Dr. George Flanagan stressed how important trust is in the mentoring process. He also pointed out the importance of giving respect to those who you work with and mentor.

Neelay Bhatt, conducted a session on Customer Service. Mr. Bhatt offered a lot of good information about the importance of excellent customer service. He pointed out how the first 60 seconds of meeting with a customer can make or break the deal. In addition, he highlighted how you should always be aware of how you treat people, because someone is always observing your behavior. He concluded the session by stating, to continue to offer excellent customer service try to avoid going down the path of “we’ve always done it this way”, be authentic and original. The Summit had other knowledgeable speakers including Mr. Curt Moody, and Mr. Greg Lashutka, who both shared excellent information they have garnered thru their years of service.

The Leadership Summit was a great source for continued professional development and provided good ideas and advice.

PLAY Deadlines

Winter 2015

January 31

Spring 2015

April 11



Have you Seen Me?

Please keep an eye out for a missing vertical banner last lent out by Development. It pulls up from the floor and attaches to a hook and has various pictures of department activities featured. Please return to Development ASAP!

New! You Can Use from Development



Having trouble locating the CRPD logo? Use-
P:_Common\LOGOS\2012-New Department Logos



The 2014-2015 Class of Mayor Mike's City Leaders had the opportunity to meet with Mayor Coleman on Monday, Oct. 6. In addition, they also had the experience of attending a City Council meeting and learning more about the legislative process.

CRPD can be your Fitness Partner in 2015!

Ready...Set... Get Fit — at the 2015 Fitness Resolution Solution event at Westgate on January 10 from 10am—2pm and sample the fitness classes we offer throughout the city. Jump in and give a try to classes in Zumba, Boot Camp, Spinning, Yoga, Complete Physique, Floor Hockey and more! Try out the newly equipped Fitness Room. Visit the "Healthy You" area for health screenings and healthy news you can use. Enjoy some tasty nutritional treats during segments on healthy cooking. Sample fitness activities and become eligible to win great prizes!

2015 is the year to make it all happen!

Indian Village Featured on Good Day Columbus

Indian Village Outdoor Education Center was featured on Good Day Columbus with Dana Turtle on November 12. It was a great way to highlight our facility, park, and programs. Check out our photos! If you have never visited Indian Village; we highly recommend that you come see us. Did you know that between 2010 and 2014, the Outdoor Education program reached 45,593 participants via its camps, after school enrichment classes, evening and weekend CRPD sponsored programs, private programs, and school field trips. On average, we help create 26 new stewards of the environment every single day.



Grand Illumination Lights Shine Bright Through the Holidays!

The Grand Illumination continues throughout the holidays and features decorations and lighting in Bicentennial Park, along the Scioto Mile Promenade and City Hall grounds. In keeping with the city's green initiatives, all seasonal decorations feature energy efficient LED lighting, including more than 200,000 LED lights on 150 trees. The Scioto Mile Fountain, presented by the American Electric Power Foundation will come alive for the winter with holiday imagery projected onto the fountain "blossom." The fountain will be illuminated with large lighted spheres suspended from each of the five fountain "halos."



Lights will *twinkle* until January 25, 2015 in celebration of the NHL All Star Game held in Nationwide Arena.

Happy Holidays!



FOUR SECONDS FOR SAFETY

This time of the year it is especially important to take four seconds for safety. When you find yourself working away and your thoughts running wild with all the plans and activities of Holiday Season, **STOP**. Take those four short seconds to look around and come back to the present moment. Look for a hazard in the middle of your activity. Are you standing on a ladder? Are you in an awkward position or about to trip on something lying on the floor? Hazards do not go away. Only our awareness of the hazards goes away. And when we ignore hazards, we tend to get injured.

Holiday injuries tend put extra stress on everyone. Imagine yourself sitting around the Christmas table in a leg cast because you fell off a ladder or tripped over something. Unfortunately, these stories are more common than all of us might admit. Injuries the holidays seem to magnify how many people are affected by an injury to one person. How many people count on you each day to come home safely? If you add them all up you might be surprised.

Taking four seconds for safety may seem unimportant to you yet it is the one activity, the one action you might take during a busy and distracted day which will have the most benefit in keeping you safe. Think of it as your Christmas, Hanukkah or Kwanzaa present to yourself. In fact, you can think of each of those people who would be affected by an injury to you every time you take four seconds to refocus.

Think about this when you are about to drive away to some holiday gathering. The noise, the excitement, the distraction! Take a moment, take a big breath, count slowly to four, and then drive away. Chances are that you will arrive safely once you focus for those four seconds.

Again, "Seasons Greetings" to everyone. May the Blessings of this season warm the hearts of you and your families. If we would use the blessings of the season we can turn those Four Seconds for Safety into the safest year that Recreations and Parks has ever known.

TOM MOORE, SAFETY

CRPD Service Awards — * Part-Time Employees



5 Years

Andrea Goehring
Jeanette Hamilton
Terri Miller
Erica Peecook
Tobin Shepherd
Lindsay Soma
Lara Wright
Mary Burnside
*James Downey
*Michael Marsh
*Robert Taylor
*Dianne Weber
Jaclyn Bowman
*Dijon McDonald
*Stephen Baxter
*Landon Boyd

10 Years

Eric Grant
Rae Nutter
Richard Arnold
Janice Dunham
Deborah Eyer
Rebecca Heitz
Sharon Levy
Leslie Miller
Camille Peterson
Carol Philbrick
Carol Judith Schenck
William Hodge
*William Neff
*Felisa Provo
David Wehner
Cleotha King Jr
Antony Brodie
*Frances McDonald
Kinta Mitchell
Wesley Russell

15 Years

Erika Healy
Rhonda Hoopes
Cheryl Martin
Margaret Centofanti
Chad Hoff
Scott Stone
Carl Miller
John Wright
Paula Burkey-Plageman
Mandy Garrett
Philip Rollins
*James Davis
Luke Edelbrock
Max Underwood
Paul Parsons
Michael Smith

20 Years

Teresa Blackwood
Holli Hoyles
Kathleen O'Brien
Raquel Paez-Satala
Melinda Rummel
Jodie Smith
Kimberly Wall
Kathy Wright
Brenna Gardner
Jacqueline Marie
Marchan Rish
Jerry Buckley
Pamela Schooley
John Snyder
Malik Willoughby
James Whetstone
Jean Winters
Adelaide Dobbins

25 Years

Wendy Norris
Dana Roby
Renee Riley
Scot Rice
Scott Jones
Douglas Hogle
Donald Watkins
Kimberly Johnson
Pamela Peterman
Matthew Kasper
Ronald Becker
Timothy Rose

30 Years

Mollie O'Donnell
Maureen Murphy
Teresa Featherstone
Cedric Anderson
John Haferman

35 Years

Rodney Pritchard
Steven Aumiller

Thanks for your service!



MARTIN JANIS 50+ CENTER

Columbus Recreation and Parks Department

Presents:

CBUS Big Band Holiday Concert -Free

**Wednesday, December 17, 2014
2:00**

**Martin Janis 50+ Center
600 E 11th Ave.
On the Ohio State Fairgrounds**

**614-645-5954
Please RSVP by 12-16-14**



Concert sponsored by:



Refreshments provided by: Michael Virgin
Virgin Financial Group



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**Save the Date:**

Join us for our *Valentine Day Sweetheart Dinner Dance*  
*Featuring the CBUS Big Band*  
Thursday, February 12, 2015 ~ 5-9pm  
Tickets \$13.00 each or \$25.00 per couple ~ Dinner Served 5:30-6:30



# Holiday Jazz

## Juice & Jam



**Tony Monaco Trio**  
National Recording Artist



**Men In Black**  
All Male Dance Group

*Live Entertainment*

*All you can eat Breakfast  
& Bazaar*

*Sponsored by Chris Cakes Pancakes*

**Monday December 15, 2014 \* 9:00am-1:00pm**

**Admission**

**\$15**

*Tickets available at*

**Marion Franklin Community Center**

**2801 Lockbourne Road**

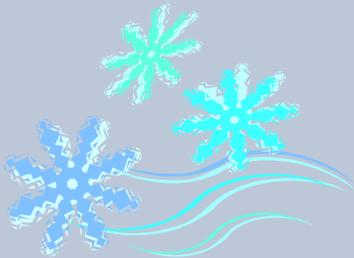
**Columbus, Ohio 43207**

**614.645.3612**



THE CITY OF  
**COLUMBUS**  
MICHAEL B. COLEMAN, MAYOR

RECREATION AND PARKS  
DEPARTMENT



GRANDVIEW CARRIAGE PLACE PLAYERS PRESENTS ROALD DAHL'S

# WILLY WONKA

Based on the book  
*Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* by Roald Dahl

Adapted for stage by  
Leslie Bricusse  
and Tim McDonald

Music and Lyrics by  
Leslie Bricusse  
and Anthony Newly

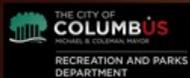


December 12th & 13th ~ 7pm  
December 14th ~ 2pm

Adults \$5 ~ Students & Seniors \$3

Van Fleet Theatre in the Columbus Performing Arts Center  
549 Franklin Ave., Columbus, Ohio 43215

Information Contact:  
Marta Durban~614.488.3111  
John Heisel~740.248.3139



Willy Wonka is presented through arrangements with Music Theatre International (MTI).  
All authorized performance materials are also supplied by: MTI, 421 54th Street,  
New York, NY 10019, Tel: (212) 397-4684, Fax: (212) 397-4684, www.MTIShows.com



For more information on Willy Wonka, please call John Heisel at Carriage Place at 645-3715. Thanks!

*Fa La La La La... La La La La!*