

# Tyson's Corner



SUMMER 2017

**WELCOME...**We've had a number of exciting events occur over the last several months. We've seen the seeds of our labor reap harvests in a number of areas that have improved the quality of life for Columbus residents!

Homeport, which Council funds, renovated 59 homes as a part of the Victorian Heritage Project. LifeCare Alliance recognized Columbus City Council with the Spirit Award for the support City Council has given the organization for their amazing work - supplying seniors and residents with critical illnesses with food that allow them to stay in their homes.

We've said thank you and farewell to Dr. Gus Parker III who served on the Board at Columbus Public Health. Dr. Parker is a champion in the fight against infant mortality, not only in Central Ohio, but nationally through his work with the Kappa Foundation of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc. The 20<sup>th</sup> graduating class of Per Scholas – celebrated 5 years in Columbus - providing technical training to individuals from overlooked communities – ultimately leading to job opportunities and professional advancements such as promotions. While this newsletter doesn't capture all the issues on which I am working it does highlight a few major initiatives, primarily in the Health & Human Services, Workforce Development and Finance Committees which I chair.



## Access to Affordable Healthcare in Columbus

### PrimaryOne Health Recognizing National Health Center Week

PrimaryOne Health has been a leader in offering affordable healthcare services to the Columbus community for more than four decades and will celebrate 20 years as the longest-standing Federally Qualified Health Care Center in Columbus this year. In addition, during the week of August 13-19 PrimaryOne Health will recognize National Health Center Week with community focused events that highlight the healthcare services of PrimaryOne Health along with other services that will benefit residents. Activities during the week include offering school supplies and well checks to students, hygiene supplies to the homeless, and a "Taco Tuesday" meal. The week will culminate in a ribbon cutting ceremony at the St. Stephens PrimaryOne Health location where the clinical site has been expanded. Below is a list of activities that PrimaryOne Health will host throughout the week. *\*Note President Pro Tem Tyson sponsored legislation providing \$175,000 for equipment and supplies associated with the expansion of the St. Stephens PrimaryOne Health clinical site. Call 614-645-5500 to schedule an appointment.*

#### Tuesday, August 15

**Well-checks and BackPacks, 10am-12pm—1905 Parsons Ave/1180 E. Main St/2300 W. Broad St/3433 Agler Rd/3781 S. High St**  
Students who are up-to-date on their immunizations are eligible to receive a book bag full of school supplies.

#### Taco Tuesday Happy Hour, 5pm-9pm- The Kitchen, 231 E. Livingston Ave

PrimaryOne Health invites residents to join them for a meal of tacos while supporting their mission to provide access to services that improve the health status of families. 10% of profits will be donated to PrimaryOne Health.

#### Wednesday, August 16

##### Hygiene Bag Distribution, 10am-12pm—Throughout Community

PrimaryOne Health will go out to communities where there are high populations of homeless citizens and distribute cinch bags with hygiene supplies. For more information, contact Brian Hall, [brian.hall@primaryonehealth.org](mailto:brian.hall@primaryonehealth.org).

#### Thursday, August 17

##### Ribbon Cutting of Renovated Linden Clinic, 10am St. Stephens Community House, 1500 E. 17<sup>th</sup> Ave

PrimaryOne is excited to share with the community the nearly double capacity and additional space for obstetrics and gynecology to better serve the Linden community and support the region's current campaigns to decrease infant mortality rates. Tours of the will be offered.

### Equitas Health Opens a New Location on the Near Eastside

President Pro Tem Tyson co-sponsored legislation along with Councilmember Hardin investing \$150,000 to support the new Equitas Health King-Lincoln Medical Center located at 750 E. Long Street. The medical center which opened in May of this year uses a patient-centered medical home model. There will be a multitude of services offered including: primary care, specialized HIV care, behavioral health, HIV health Navigation, HIV & STI testing, dental services, treatment adherence, and a pharmacy. A trusted medical provider such as Equitas is a valuable addition to the Near Eastside where the need for access to medical care is critical. Further, \$50,000 of the funding provided to Equitas will be used for their Greater Columbus MPowerment Center which seeks to address the prevalence of HIV in the Black and Latino male community. In addition to advocacy and education, the Center offers mental and social support for community members. **For more information on the medical center call (614) 340-6700. For the MPowerment Center call (614) 926-4132.**



Columbus City Council

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FinanceHealth & Human Services  
Workforce Development**Member:**Economic Development  
Environment, Education, Veterans Affairs  
Public Service & Transportation, Recreation &  
Parks, Small & Minority Business**Oversite Includes:****Department of Development:** Grants, Emergency Human Services Fund, Social Service Contracts.**Health Department:** Divisions of Infectious Diseases, Planning & Preparedness, Environmental Health, Community Health, Maternal/Child Health, Occupational Health & Safety. **Office of the Mayor:** Homeless Advocacy Community Shelter Board**City Auditor:** Income tax; bond and note sales. **City Treasurer:** Banking, lockbox contracts, etc.**Department of Finance & Management:** Legislation and initiatives related to transition to work, job training, career and technical education, job placement, skill development and internship programs (i.e. Central Ohio Workforce Investment Corporation (COWIC))**Produce Markets Increase Access to Healthy Food**

One of the key goals of the Columbus Franklin County Food Plan which President Pro Tem Tyson co-sponsored with Franklin County Commissioner John O'Grady is access to healthy food, affordable food, and local food. Organizations such as Mid-Ohio Food Bank are essential to accomplishing this goal and have furthered their role in providing meals to food insecure families with Produce Markets which offer a variety of free produce, bread, and other bakery items. The food is given directly to individuals at select locations throughout the community. For a list of dates and locations where Produce Markets will be held [click here](#). There is approximately 10,000 pounds of food offered at each Produce Market providing food for about 200 families in two hours. President Pro Tem Tyson sponsored legislation for the City to fund the produce markets in the amount of \$184,000.

**Ikea Good For Economic Development In Columbus**

According to JD Power Columbus is ranked as the #1 City in the Midwest for visitor satisfaction - and the opening of the new IKEA store in the Central Ohio area has helped to solidify that ranking. IKEA opened its 44<sup>th</sup> store in the Columbus market on June 7<sup>th</sup> 2017. The retailer is recognized as one of the top 100 places to work and brings 325 new jobs to the area - offering competitive pay and benefits for part-time and full-time employees. The economic impact for Columbus will be tremendous.

IKEA is primarily a home goods and furniture retailer that offers a unique shopping experience. The company which has been in existence since 1943 has expanded to operate more than 392 stores in 48 countries and this is the second IKEA to open in Ohio.

**New Downtown Fire Station No. 2****Saluting the brave men and women of the Columbus Division of Fire**

The City celebrated the reopening of Fire Station Number 2 located at 4th and Fulton Streets this past June. Officially located at 150 East Fulton Street, Station 2 was named the busiest station in Columbus and in 2001 was the "BUSIEST STATION IN THE NATION" according to Firehouse magazine. This newly renovated station is dedicated to the memory of "Mr. John Nance," who faithfully served the residents of Columbus. The station is strategically located and not only serves downtown but it also serves the residents of German Village, the Near Eastside, the Near

Southside, Franklinton, Victorian Village, and more. The City is pleased to salute the service of the brave men and women who serve us at the Columbus Division of Fire! Thank you & congratulations! For more information please see: <https://www.columbus.gov/public-safety/fire/>.

**Tobacco Age Restriction Increased to 21 in Columbus**

Stickers are being posted in grocery stores, pharmacies, corner stores, and all other retailers making customers aware that tobacco products and paraphernalia cannot be sold to individuals under 21 in the City of Columbus. Moreover, stickers are up in many locations. This is a result of legislation that President Pro Tem Tyson sponsored which has been enacted into law prohibiting the sale of tobacco products and paraphernalia to anyone under 21. The new law also requires vendors to obtain a tobacco license which will be administered by Columbus Public Health. While the law is currently in effect it is anticipated that it will not be enforced until this coming October. Efforts will continue to educate the public and retailers about the law.

The tobacco 21 policy was developed in order to help reduce health hazards and early addiction to tobacco. The devastating health consequences of tobacco use have been well researched. Young people are a particularly vulnerable population. They are susceptible to becoming addicted to smoking and subsequently become lifelong users. National data indicates that 95 percent of adult smokers begin before the age of 21 - this shows that 18-21 is a critical period when youth transition from experimentation to regular use. People who start smoking by the age of 18 are almost twice as likely to become lifelong smokers when compared to individuals who start after they turn 21.