

## Columbus Dedicates New Building to Former Mayor Michael B. Coleman



Director Davies

Mayor Andrew J. Ginther and the City of Columbus named a new downtown office building after the city's longest serving mayor on February 12. The Michael B. Coleman Government Center, 111 N. Front Street, is part of the Columbus Government Municipal Campus that includes City Hall, police headquarters and a renovated building at 77 Marconi Street.

campus of city government buildings," he said. "Not only is that vision becoming a reality, but it will bear my name. I simply do not have the words to express my gratitude."

The campus exterior features a central campus green with pathways connecting buildings, seating, lighting, art and a rain garden. Just north of the center is a new eight-story garage to provide the City Hall campus additional parking for employees, fleet vehicles and customers.

The eight-story, 180,000 square foot office building realizes the vision to create a "one-stop shop" that consolidates four departments: Building and Zoning Services, Public Service, Development and a portion of Public Utilities. Bringing these departments together into one location delivers convenience to residents requiring assistance from multiple departments on one visit. On March 19, the Department of Public Utilities' revenue reception and permit offices moved to the building, along with numerous staff members.

"Much of the city's success today can be traced directly to the courage and leadership of Mayor Coleman," said Mayor Ginther. "His vision catapulted Columbus to a top-tier city. I am proud to name the newest downtown building after him."

Coleman said he was thrilled and humbled by the naming honor. "I always dreamed of Columbus having a downtown



bring up subjects of your choice. The first meetings have touched on a variety of subjects, from ways to improve workplace communication to changes in testing policies, and of course, everyone's favorite purchasing system, DAX.

I am committed to making these meetings meaningful, and am pleased that attendees have been engaged and willing to share ideas to improve the department. I appreciate the frank conversations and look forward to meeting more of you in the very near future.

Additionally, as Assistant Director Roland Saunders mentioned in an email to staff, I have begun a series of roundtable discussions with department employees. This outreach began in April with the goals of identifying ways to improve the workplace experience, increase efficiencies, and expand understanding of DPU initiatives. These meetings are small group sessions with ten or fewer people, and last about an hour. You are encouraged to share your thoughts on discussion topics or

## Employee Recognition Ceremony

The 2018 employee awards ceremony was held on April 12 at the Police Training Academy. The following were recognized by Mayor Ginther and **Director Davies**:

### Director's Award

A new Director's Award and a \$350 bonus was given to **Tange Cox** of the Customer Service Center. This new program "recognizes an employee or team that demonstrates leadership, creativity, actions, behaviors, approaches, and accomplishments that foster and reinforce the ideals of America's Opportunity City and the commitment to continue to work with labor, business, faith and community leaders to promote opportunities for every resident in every neighborhood."



Mayor Ginther, Tange Cox, Director Davies

### Professional Development

**Darryl Buckler, Robert Fraley, Daniel Giesemann, Kevin Gleich, Scott Graff, Christopher Harper, Ernest Higginbotham, Adam King, Adam Marcum, Michael Pence, James Pirt, Susan Popp, Hal Richard, Paul Risko, Todd Sargent, Eric Scheffel, Jim Tindle, Joshua Thompson, Bee Tolber and Tony Vecchio.**

### Years of Service

Our department had two notable longevity recognitions: **Roger Smith** (DOSD/Jackson Pike WWTP) was recognized for 45 years of service, and **Dale Frazier** (DOSD/Southerly WWTP) for 40 years of service. Others

## Employee Recognition Ceremony

(Continued from Cover)



**Roger Smith** (left photo) and **Dale Frazier** (right photo) received longevity awards for their years of service to the city, presented by Mayor Ginther.

included:

### 35 Years

DOSD: **Mark Eckert, Gary Hickman, James McKnight, Paul Parsons, Benjamin Roth Jr., Mike Smith, and James Straight II.** DOW: **William Clark, Donald Green, Daniel Shepard, Randy Warner, and Ronald Whittington.**

### 30 Years

DOP: **Daniel Clark and Robert Schneider.** DOSD: **Rex Davis, Bret Opdyke, John Passmore Jr., and Will Roy.** DOW: **Michael Bretz, Dien Ba Do, Angelo Logiudice, Jeff Lucas, James Meekins, Gary Miller, Ronald Thomas, and Bruce Waugh.**

### 25 Years

Director's Office: **Steve Sammons.** DOP: **William Diamond and Keith Lahr.** DOSD: **Carmon Allen Jr., Preston Bailey, John Busic, Tonya Carter, John Christman, Michael Davey, William Malley, Tony Millsap, Robert Painter, Stacy Stewart, and Dwayne Taylor.** DOW: **Joseph Armstrong, Bob Arnold, Jeffrey Brown, Jaymes Kyre, Roger Lovsey, Olivia Morton-Young, Felix Mosley, Joe Richards, Sam Short, Miriam Siegfried, and Carla Staten.**

### 20 Years

Director's Office: **Kim Barry, Tammy Brown, Lisa Campbell, Shelley Campbell, LaDonna Knight, and Annette Smith.** DOP: **Daniel Cramer, James Gross II, Patrick Henderson, Chris Vogel, and Larry Williams II.** DOSD: **Greg Barden, Beth Cottrell, Lisa Diller, Richard Dillon, Cynthia Gesick, Sabrina Gilliam, Matthew Hylton, Shaun Lathem, David Lindsay, Barry Niemeyer, Jeffrey Payne, Jerry Powell, Ken Rau, Stephen Scarberry, Mark Timbrook, and William Turley.** DOW: **Adam Binegar, Edward Bishop, Mark Bowen, Ted Dickerson Jr., Chris Dundon, Lewis Flemister, David Harris, Jodelle Holliday, Sandy Kehlmer, Alfred Matthews, Heather Milliron, Michael Neff, Richard Rutherford, Steven Smith, Tom Spiert, Kenneth Wells, and Roger Wilson**

Numerous DPU employees were also nominated for Mayor's Outstanding Achievement Award but ultimately the winners chosen this year were from other departments. Congratulations to all.

## DPU Pair Share OSU Award

**Mark Eppich** (DOW) and **Jason Sanson** (DOSD) were recently honored by The Ohio State University College of Engineering. They were presented with the dean's "Meritorious Service to Students" award, for "...outstanding long-term commitments to strengthen the environmental engineering capstone and boost the professional experience for environmental engineering students."



Eppich (right in photo) and Sanson (left) annually organize teams of practicing engineers to expose senior environmental engineering students to actual projects being implemented by the department. Each year a capital improvement project currently under design or construction is chosen. The goal is for students to develop a preliminary design report that is evaluated by city engineers and the Ohio EPA prior to construction. To familiarize students with as much of the industry as possible, a mix of consulting, city, and OEPA engineers provide information related to a certain aspect of the design project. The students are then tasked with performing a preliminary design on that aspect.

They work with the instructors well in advance to plan a project and work with consulting engineers. Once a schedule is set, they work with the practicing engineers to assure there is connection on the content from week-to-week, and also each presents during the course and participates on the panel to evaluate the projects.

At the end of the semester, the students bring together results of weekly tasks into a preliminary design report and present it to a panel of practicing engineers that have been involved in the course. The presentations are attended by Director **Tracie Davies**, DOSD Administrator **John Newsome**, DOW Administrator **Dr. Rick Westerfield**, Columbus City Council members, and the engineers who have worked on the project.

The presentations provide valuable visibility for the students in front of central Ohio environmental engineering professionals – not only a great educational experience, but also a chance to present their skills and impress potential future employers. Eppich and Sanson have created a unique partnership between the city and OSU, which is highly valued and greatly needed. This is a tremendous example of what can be accomplished when both academic and professional resources are leveraged. The value to OSU is obvious, but the importance to the city is that we have begun to provide better-trained graduates ready to tackle the environmental challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.



## DOW Administrator Update



Rick Westerfield

Algae in drinking water supplies can cause a number of problems for the water treatment plant as well as our customers. These include taste and odors, filter clogging, interference with the coagulation and settling process, and the production of algal toxins.

The DOW started monitoring algae in the source water in 1938, in response to a taste and odor event. Since that time, monitoring has expanded as additional water supply reservoirs

were constructed. Historically, the monitoring focus has been on organisms that cause treatment problems and taste and odors. However, over the last few years, harmful algal blooms in Lake Erie and in Grand Lake St. Mary's have made national news. In response, Ohio EPA now requires all surface water systems to test for algal toxins in the source and finished drinking water, as well as do molecular genetic testing in the source water to look for the genes that produce the toxins. Results from this weekly testing are used to track algal growth in the reservoirs and confirm complete removal through the treatment processes at the plants.

The multi-barrier treatment processes at the water treatment plants provide several options that are used in combination to address all the algae related issues. These include potassium permanganate which is a mild oxidant used early in the treatment process to kill algae cells and help them settle out. Powdered activated carbon is added to adsorb taste and odor molecules as well as any toxins present. Alum coagulation and settling removes the algae cells as well as any fine sediment in the water. This is followed with a strong oxidant called ozone. Ozone breaks large organic molecules like the taste and odor compounds and toxin molecules into smaller harmless pieces. These small organic pieces are then removed by the biologically active filters. After the biologically active filters, chlorine is added. Chlorine is a strong oxidant as well, and has been used by the division for over 100 years to disinfect the water and kill bacteria. An additional benefit of chlorine is that it destroys any toxins that may have made it through the other barriers.

Through long term monitoring and investment in the treatment processes at the plants, the DOW has created a multi-barrier treatment system designed with multiple options to address anything that comes down the river, including algal toxins.

Thanks to all our employees for doing a great job monitoring and treating our drinking water.

## Water Festival Continues to Grow

Nearly 650 local fifth grade students enjoyed an educational field trip at this year's 11<sup>th</sup> Central Ohio Children's Water Festival on May 8, during recent Drinking Water Week. The festival, made possible by numerous agency volunteers and sponsors, was held at the Indoor Adventure Center at the city's Franklin Park.

It focuses on all things water, including conservation and protection. Councilmember Michael Stinziano addressed the students and presented the water conservation poster winner (photo), which many staffers particularly liked this year because of its message, "no amount of money can outrank the value of water" (we agree). Other speakers included DOW's **Danella Pettenski**, **Charles Moore**, and **Lorraine Winters Krzyzewski**, who serves as coordinator for our department's participation. Our tap team performed another amazing demonstration this year, which the children always enjoy.



Thank you to the many DOW and DOSD employees who help make this event more successful every year.

## In Memoriam

Our department lost one of its own when **Kenneth Grove** of DOSD passed away on January 31. He was a wastewater plant operator at Jackson Pike and had worked for the city for nearly 30 years. He is sorely missed by his co-workers, family and friends.



Also known as Ken, he dearly loved his family, especially his wife Lisa and daughter Erika, as well as numerous friends and extended family. Grove and his wife were about to celebrate 32 years of marriage. He appreciated life to the fullest, enjoying motorcycle rides, hiking, skiing, jogging, and being near the water, especially Buckeye Lake. He also enjoyed spending time with his church family at the Vineyard Church of Delaware County.

A creative man of many talents, he had a gift for drawing, taught himself the steel drum, played the ukulele and guitar, and practiced Taekwondo. He was also an avid sports fan, rooting for the Ohio State Buckeyes, the Columbus Blue-jackets, and the Cleveland Cavaliers. While in his teens, he kicked a 35-yard field goal during a high school football game, which became a record for his school that stood for 34 years. In addition to his hobbies and past-times, he enjoyed relationship-building interactions with family, friends and co-workers, and will be remembered for bringing joy to others with his kind words and smiles.

## Kudos

### Customer Service Center:

**Tange Cox:** a customer said she "was extremely helpful, very friendly and knowledgeable" while assisting with his stuck remote bill. Another said she is very patient, knowledgeable and he was happy with the service she provided.

**Tonisha Davis:** customers said that she is "very pleasant to work with, "she does an amazing job as a CSR," and "is very helpful and professional, giving exceptional customer service."

**Laura Denney** a customer said that Denney is "the most respectful, caring representative" she has ever spoken to. Other compliments: "Laura did a fantastic job" helping a customer on the phone; "she went above and beyond" with an issue getting water restored; and Success in Housing also wanted to commend her for doing a phenomenal job.

**Anita Hicks:** a compliment for being such a big help and for providing a customer with additional resources.

**Josh Miller:** a customer wanted to applaud him for being so helpful while discussing her mother's water account.

**Sandra Newton:** a customer stated he was pleased with the service he received; "she was very helpful, patient, and knowledgeable."

**Sandra Newton and India Tiller:** A caller wanted to express his appreciation to both for working so diligently to locate the reason the Torah Academy had no water.

**Marisa Price:** Mr. Wilcox said she is a great asset to the call center as she is calm, kind, thoughtful and very thorough.

**Samba Sangale:** a city electric customer raved about how helpful and great Samba was while assisting him with his account.

**Samba Sangale and Tange Cox:** a property owner complimented them, stating she owns a campus property that was scheduled for demolition in error so the water was turned off. She had six college students in the property; they both worked diligently to get the water restored.

**India Wilson:** the customer wanted to make it well known that she was very nice, helpful and a pleasure to speak to yesterday.

**Ashley Wise and Sophia Hicks:** Caller said both were very helpful regarding her water bill, making these last few calls "easy as pie."

### Other Sections:

A customer who had a water break on New Year's Day and had it fixed by 1/5 wanted to thank those who came and repaired the break in the frigid temperatures. "I also would like to mention **Adriana Eger** who was the emergency person-

nel who followed up . . . and thank **Jeff Black** who answered my questions. Hoping for a great and leak-free year!"

Another water break customer who is 90 years old wrote to thank **Brian Pemberton** and **Danny Roth** of DOW for their great work on quickly fixing the line in front of her home.

**Carmen Dandridge** (DOW-Watershed) "I have to tell you how impressed I am with the City of Columbus' response to my inquiry. I am very grateful for you and the follow up with me. Please let your supervisor know how impressed I've been with the responses from both of you. I don't live in Columbus, but your community should be proud of their hard working city/government workers."

**Shawn Wolfenberger, Jason Wilke, Troy Shepherd, Robert Walker, John Moore, Rich Fischer, Kyle O'Reilly and Joe Little** (DOW): a customer wanted to share how pleased she was with the supervisor that came out to assess the situation and the work that the crew performed.

Kudos to DOW Watershed employees **Greg Bogdan** and **Phil Courtright** for going above and beyond. They witnessed a UPS truck pulling out and noticing that the driver had left his back door open and a couple of boxes fell out into the middle of the street. They picked up the boxes and located the driver, who was very appreciative to get the boxes back, undamaged.

**Watershed Maintenance** staff (led by **Matt Lovsey, Dennis Clayton** and **Derek Baymiller**) received compliments from park visitors for their efforts to keep the reservoirs accessible after the many snow and ice events this winter."

DOW repair crew **Dan Roth, Jason Wilke, Keith Moore, Logan Berger** and **Ron Thomas:** "I want to commend each of the water employees who worked to repair the water main leak affecting our home. Beginning with the employee who checked the water line determining the break was the city's responsibility, to the individuals who deemed our situation an emergency . . . and the crew who spent 3.5 hours repairing the breakage well after the sun set. Everyone I spoke with was professional, knowledgeable and informative of our situation."

**Greg Jones** (DOW): A very satisfied water leak customer contacted the department to say that he was "totally courteous, friendly, and professional . . . congratulations to the hard-working folks at Columbus Public Utilities for jobs well done!"

**James Brown, Daniel Sliemers** and **Shawn Nixon** (JP Inventory Team): Andrea Pesta was asked to help out in paying the invoices for DOSD while another Fiscal staff member was on leave. "They have been nothing but incredibly helpful, flexible and understanding in her absence . . . they all response quickly and respectfully. Too often our employees do amazing things that we never hear about so I felt the need to share," Pesta said.

# Transitions

From January through June 2018

## New Hires

<u>Classification</u>	<u>Division</u>
Brooke Agnew	Cust Srvc Rep (PT) DPU
Susan Ashbrook	Dept Asst Dir (PT) DPU
Ryan Barber	Swr Maint Wrkr DOSD
Aaron Bickman	Lamp Srvcr DOP
Deon Brown	Swr Maint Wrkr DOS
Dale Campbell	PI Maint Mech DOSD
Shawn Campbell	Pwrlne/Cable Wrkr Tr DOP
Benjamin Castle	Swr Maint Wrkr DOSD
Wanda Chambers	HR Analyst DPU
Elizabeth Darnell	Wtr PI Mngr DOW
Kathleen Devine	Student Intern II (PT) DPU
Marvin Farmer	Swr Maint Wrkr DOSD
Dylan Fisher	PI Maint Elec I DOW
Ryan Gaston	Pwrlne/Cable Wrkr Tr DOP
Richard Gardner	PI Maint Mech DOSD
Kelsey Hall	Admin Sec DOP
Joshua Hoffman	PI Maint Hlpr (Temp) DOW
Sean Kacir	Op in Training DOSD
Timothy Kazee	PI Maint Hlpr (Temp) DOW
Dustin Merkel	Bldg Maint Wrkr DOW
Dylan Miller	Swr Maint Wrkr DOSD
Lauren Morris	Lab Assist (PT) DOW
Margaret Nunley	Outreach Wrkr (Temp) DOP
Justin Ray	Pwrlne/Cable Wrkr Tr DOP
Mark Righman	Pwrlne/Cable Wrkr Tr DOP
Michael Reese	Student Intern II (PT) DOSD
Joshua Reincke	Eng I DOSD
Joshua Rutter	Pwrlne/Cable Wrkr Tr DOP
Matthew Saracina	WW PI Op DOSD
Veronica Sellers	Security Spec DPU
Aaron Storks	Security Spec (PT) DOSD
Alexander True	Pwrlne/Cable Wrkr Tr DOP
Shannon Voit	Wtr Srvc Tech I DOW
Eric Walters	Swr Maint Wrkr DOSD
Thomas Wills	PI Maint Mech DOSD

## Separate/Retire

<u>Classification</u>	<u>Division</u>
Daniel Anders	Swr Maint Wrkr DOSD
James Ballenger	Parks Maint Wrkr DOW
Rondell Champion	Swr Maint Wrkr DOSD
Austin Clarridge	Wtr Protect Spec I DOW
Don Cleland	Wtr Srvc Tech II DOW
Steve Clipner	Bldg Maint Wrkr DOW
Hal Conrad	Wtr PI Op II DOW
Duane Crabtree	Elec Mtring Supv II DOP
Max Dauberman	Wtr Srvc Tech II DOW
Robert Dominguez-Gadson	Pwr Dist Load Op DOP
Von Downing	Elec Mtr Tech DOP
Shaun Frame	PI Maint Asst Mngr DOW
Monte Francis	Laborer (480 Temp) DOW
Kenneth E Grove Jr	WW PI Op DOSD
James Hahn Jr	Auto Mech DOSD
Shawn Hanning	Laborer (480 Temp) DOW
Laurel Helber	Off Assist III DOW
Brian Howard	Elec System Tech DOSD
Guy Jamesson	Eng IV (PT) DOSD
Richard Kent	WW PI Mngr DOSD
Lars Larson	Excavator DOP
Shaun Lindon	Lamp Srvcr DOP
Neil Marquard	Industrial Hygienist DPU
Tiffany Mason-Williams	Cust Srvc Rep I DPU

## Separate/Retire Cont.

<u>Classification</u>	<u>Division</u>
Mary Miller	Mgmt Analyst I DPU
Sarah Moore	Emergency Prep Chief DPU
William Payne	Cable Wrkr Supv I DOP
Jason Pruski	Invntry Control Mngr DOW
Justin Ray	Pwrlne/Cable Wrkr Tr DOP
Mark Righman	Pwrlne/Cable Wrkr Tr DOP
Daniel Rinehart	WW PI Op DOSD
Will Lamont Roy	WW PI Op DOW
Megan Sayre	Cust Srvc Rep I DOP
James Schall	Substation Maint Supv DOP
Robert Schneider	Eng Assoc III DOP
Veronica Sellers	Security Spec DPU
Barbara Smith	Cust Srvc Rep II DPU
Aaron Ulrich	Pwr Dist Load Op DOP
Tyler VanHouten	Swr Maint Wrkr DOSD
Ellen Wholihan	Cust Srvc Rep I DPU
Kevin Wolfe	Machinist DOSD
James Young	Wtr Protect Spec II DOW
Michael Yurkovic	Swr Maint Wrkr DOSD
Howard Zimmerman	Elec System Tech DOSD

## Promotion/Change

<u>From Classification</u>	<u>To Classification</u>
Derek Anderson	Dept of Neighborhds
Ronette Barrowman	Off Assist I/DOW
Susan Brickner	WW PI Op/Southerly
Eugene Borders	HR Mngr
Jeffrey Carter	Mgmt Analyst II/DPU
Daniel Cramer	Substation Maint Supv
John Curtis	Elec System Spec
Roger Connor	Wtr Srvc Tech I
Joseph DeLuca	Const Insp I
Zachary Garven	PI Maint Elec I/DOSD
Michael Eseman	Swr Clean Equip Op
Paul D Fannin II	Swr Srvc Supv
Cara Flannery	HR Analyst
Donald Green	Wtr Srvc Supv
Michael Griffith	Eng Assoc I
Thomas Groseclose	Swr Maint Work
Monica Hawkins	Mgmt Analyst II
Patrick Henderson	Elec Eng Assoc II
Markies Holmes	Laborer
Mary Holmquist	WW PI Op
Shannon Howard	Wtr Research Analyst I
Chad Holtzapfel	Eng II/DOSD
Aaron Howes	Pwr Dist Load Trainee
David Kalb	EO II/Public Srvc
Grace Lange	Eng I
Yuley Logsdon	Wtr Srvc Tech I
Adam Marcum	Auto Mech/DOSD
Michael Metzger	Pwr Dist Load Op
James M Muskera II	WW PI Op
Jason Peterson	Eng II
James Price	Wtr Srvc Tech I/DOW
Clinton Prysock	Laborer
David Reeves	Laborer
Jason Sanson	Eng IV
Donald Shook	Police Prop Tech/PS
Ellen Wholihan	Cust Srvc Rep I (PT)
Doug Wilson	Cust Srvc Mngr
Edward Wilson	Elec Mtr Tech
Jennifer Wolfe	Cust Srvc Rep I