



RISE TOGETHER - MAY 14, 2024

SPOTLIGHT ON DE&I

CELEBRATE OLDER AMERICANS MONTH WITH COLUMBUS RECREATION AND PARKS

May is Older Americans Month, and it's as good a time as any to talk about some of the many services our department offers to residents aged 50 and up, some of which you may already know about.

Our [FiftyPlus](#) program grants residents access to moderate- to high-activity programs and active relaxation programs designed just for them. This includes creativity, nature, wellness and special interest classes, as well as community events such as the upcoming 50+ Craft and Yard Sale and the 50+ Spring Mixer at Dodge Community Center. [Check the schedule for the community center near you for a complete list of activities and events.](#)

FiftyPlus members also have access to senior fitness centers and senior sports programs. Some members may be eligible for a free one-year fitness pass and an adult sports pass if they have certain [insurance-sponsored programs](#).

In addition to the FiftyPlus program, our department also features the [Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging](#) (COAAA), which is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year! As part of its mission, COAAA plans, funds and delivers services that help older adults and individuals with disabilities remain safe and independent in their homes. The agency serves eight counties: Delaware, Fairfield, Fayette, Franklin, Licking, Madison, Pickaway and Union.

Last but not least, our community centers also offer [Walk With A Doc](#), where participants walk with a doctor and learn about health while earning points they can redeem for prizes at the end of the year. These events are held every Saturday from April 6 to Oct. 26 at various community centers.

As you can see, there's plenty we offer to older residents, so spread the word!

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WHAT KNOW!

IMPORTANT DATES

- **Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month (May):** Recognizes the contributions and influence of Asian Americans and Pacific Islander Americans to the history, culture and achievements of the United States. President George H. W. Bush initially designated May Asian Pacific American Heritage Month in 1992 before renaming it to its current moniker on May 1, 2009.
- **Jewish American Heritage Month (May):** An annual recognition and celebration of Jewish Americans' achievements and contributions to the history, culture and achievements of the United States. President George W. Bush first proclaimed the month on April 20, 2006.
- **Mental Health Awareness Month (May):** Helps raise awareness about mental health and encourages individuals to talk openly about it. It was started in the U.S. in 1949 by [Mental Health America](#). Each year, Mental Health America releases a [toolkit of materials](#). This year's theme is *Where to Start*.
- **Older Americans Month (May):** A national month recognizing the achievements and vitality of older people. President John F. Kennedy established the month in May 1963.

CULTURAL EVENTS AROUND TOWN

- **[Community Conversations: Systemic Conventions of Gender Explored in Current Exhibitions](#)**: May 16, 6-8 p.m. at the Columbus Museum of Art (480 E. Broad St., 43215)
- **[2024 Haitian Flag Day Celebration](#)**: May 18, 2-8 p.m. at Ascension Lutheran Church (1479 Morse Road, 43229)
- **[Reimagining Columbus: Design Your Own Monument Family Workshop](#)**: May 18, 12:30-2 p.m. at Columbus Metropolitan Library's Driving Park Branch (1422 E. Livingston Ave., 43205)
- **[Echoes of Tradition](#)**: May 19, 3-4:30 p.m., at Fort Hayes Career Center's Performing Arts Center (546 Jack Gibbs Blvd., 43215)
- **[Asian Festival](#)**: May 25-26 at Franklin Park (1755 E. Broad St., 43203)
- **[Ohio Black Expo](#)**: May 25-26, Downtown Columbus and Genoa Park (303 W. Broad St., 43215)

NEWS AND INFORMATION

SUPPORT YOUR COLLEAGUES AND OUR COMMUNITY: VOLUNTEER FOR CAP CITY FESTIVALS

We need your help! Volunteers aged 12 and up are needed to make the [Cap City Festivals](#) successful.

Cap City Festivals are planned by our Youth Development team to empower families and reconnect our communities by bringing free festivals to their backyards. The festivals aim to strengthen engagement between families and service providers, promote healthy community relationships, and provide a safe and fun environment for the community. These vibrant community events feature free food, live music, games and activities.



The first festival is quickly approaching.

Saturday, May 18, 3-7 p.m.

Saunders Park | 1380 Atcheson Street, 43203

Please consider [signing up today](#) to support our community and our Youth Development team! If you can't make it this weekend, there are five more festivals this summer.

**Please note: Volunteers will participate on their own time; this is not paid work time.*

STEP UP FOR INCLUSION: JOIN CITY OF COLUMBUS STAFF IN STONEWALL COLUMBUS PRIDE MARCH 2024

Join us for the 2024 Stonewall Columbus Pride March on June 15! Walk with the City of Columbus in this vibrant celebration of diversity and inclusion. The Pride March will depart at 10:30 a.m. from the intersection of Broad and High. [Get more details and view the route map.](#)

[Register by May 17 at 5 p.m.](#): limited spots are available, so sign up now! City of Columbus employees may order up to four Pride T-shirts for their families and guests **participating** in the Pride March.

Questions? Contact Marshall Troxell at MJTroxell@columbus.gov.

ENERGIZED FOR SUMMER AT THE CREATE CULTURE STAFF COOKOUT

While we've already started gearing up for the busy summer season, let's take one last opportunity to energize each other before it's in full swing!

Join the CREATE Culture Committee for our next staff lunch fundraiser! Stop by 1533 Alum Creek Drive on Friday, May 31, from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. For just \$10, enjoy grilled hot dogs, hamburgers and BBQ chicken; each with sides and a drink. Socialize with your coworkers with some light games. All proceeds will support future staff appreciation events hosted by the CREATE Culture Committee.

To ensure we have plenty for everyone, [RSVP to let us know you're coming](#). You can pay on-site with cash, check or credit card, or you can [pay in advance online](#) through the CRP Foundation; note "CREATE Culture" in the Gift Designation section. If you pay online, please be sure to also RSVP!

Let's gather and get everyone pumped up for summer!

REMINDER: LET US KNOW WHAT YOU THOUGHT OF THE 2024 ALL STAFF MEETING

Remember to take a moment to complete a brief survey to share your feedback about the 2024 All Staff Meeting. Let us know what you enjoyed and what we can improve on for next year.

Were you unable to make it? Let us know why and what you want to see in the future!

[Share your thoughts today!](#)

5/28/2024



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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	1



There are no events on this day.

REINVESTING IN YOU

This year, one of our areas of focus is reinvesting in our staff. In this section, we highlight some of the ways you can grow, personally and professionally, and celebrate those who have reached a professional milestone.

CHECK OFF YOUR ANNUAL ETHICS TRAINING REQUIREMENT BEFORE SUMMER

As public servants, we hold ourselves to a higher standard. We serve our residents, and they expect us to operate in an ethical manner. That’s why every City employee completes ethics training each year.

This year’s course – 50 Years of Promoting Governmental Ethics – challenges you to apply your knowledge regarding the Ohio Ethics Law, including gifts, conflicts of interest, public contracts, nepotism, post-employment and representation. This one-hour online training is available through the Training Gateway, so you can set aside the best time for you.

If you still need to complete annual ethics training, you should have received an email assigning you to the training. If assigned, you must complete the training by July 29.

embedded in the course to apply for CLE/record completion for CEU consideration.

PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to **Morgan Castleberry** and **Carlos Mojica** for earning their Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Remote Pilot Certificate! This certificate is required to fly a drone under the FAA's Small UAS Rule (Part 107) and demonstrates an understanding of the regulations, operating requirements and procedures for safely flying drones.

[Have you recently earned a degree, award or certification? Let us know, and we will share your accomplishment in the newsletter!](#)

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

CHRISTOPHE MCGHEE

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Section: CWOW Recreation Assistant Manager, Youth Development

Length of employment: 1 year

What's your favorite aspect of working for the department? Introducing our children to the joys of this world.

What's your favorite project? Our Afterschool Programming is my favorite project with CRPD. The smiles on our kids' faces make it all worth it.

What's your favorite ice cream? Butter Pecan

What's your favorite book or movie? Inception

What's one piece of advice you'd share? Find that aspect of your job that makes you happy, and run with it.