



OCT. 28, 2025

## SPOTLIGHT ON RISE

### WHAT IS INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR TOLERANCE?

Nov. 16 marks the International Day for Tolerance, a global reminder that our differences make us stronger. Created by the United Nations in 1995, this day encourages respect, inclusion and open-mindedness across cultures and communities.

Tolerance isn't about agreeing on everything but recognizing that every voice has value. In the workplace, it means making space for different voices, perspectives and experiences. Remember: tolerance is not passive; it's an active choice in every meeting we attend and every message we craft.

### COLLECTIVE CONVERSATIONS: HELP SHAPE FUTURE RISE COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES!

Join us for an engaging guided discussion on Tuesday, Nov. 18, at the Jerry Hammond Center (Citywide Training, Room 9). Share your experiences with past RISE events and have your say in future RISE activities. We want to hear your ideas, so [register now!](#)

### EVENTS

- [World War I-Era Collections Display, 1914-1919](#): Throughout November, at Ohio History Center (800 E. 17th Ave. | 43211)
- [Veterans Day Lunch](#): Nov. 6, 11 a.m., at Gillie Community Center (2100 Morse Rd. | 43229)
- [The Hopewell Ceremonial Earthworks UNESCO World Heritage Site – Indigenous Wonders of the World](#): Nov. 10, 6 p.m., at Ohio History Center (800 E. 17th Ave. | 43211)
- [Milvets Veterans Day Rally](#): Nov. 9, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., at National Veterans Memorial Museum (300 W. Broad St. | 43215)
- [Veterans Day Ceremony](#): Nov. 11, 11 a.m., at National Veterans Memorial Museum (300 W. Broad St. | 43215)
- [Collective Conversations](#): Nov. 18, 12 p.m., at Jerry Hammond Center, Citywide Training Room 9 (Lower Level, 1111 E. Broad St. | 43205)

### OBSERVANCES

- **Native American Heritage Month (November)**: Honors the history, culture and contributions of Native Americans, as well as their impact on the nation.
- **All Saints' Day (Nov. 1)**: Christian holiday that honors all the saints in the church. Some Christian denominations consider all Christians as saints. Also known as All Hallows' Day.
- **Día de Los Muertos (Nov. 1-2)**: Remembers loved ones who have passed away by sharing a meal with them as they would have when they were alive. Celebrated by Mexicans and those of Mexican heritage.
- **Veterans Day (Nov. 11)**: Honors all who have served in the U.S. armed forces. This federal holiday is observed on the anniversary of the end of World War I.



- **Transgender Day of Remembrance (Nov. 20):** Memorializes those who have been murdered as a result of transphobia. Started in 1999 to honor Rita Hester, a transgender woman who was killed in 1998.
- **Thanksgiving (Nov. 27):** Federal holiday marked by religious observances and a traditional meal commemorating a harvest festival celebrated by the Pilgrims and Native Americans in 1621.

## NEWS AND INFORMATION

### COMBINED OPEN ENROLLMENT IS HERE: REVIEW CHANGES AND MAKE YOUR ELECTIONS

For the first time, the City of Columbus is moving to one combined Open Enrollment for PPO and HDHP medical plans – no more separate spring PPO enrollment. From Oct. 27–Nov. 30, you can add or remove covered dependents, enroll in coverage, switch plans or waive coverage, and update your 2026 HSA contributions.

In addition to a new enrollment date, the City is moving to a new medical insurance carrier, Anthem BCBS, so it's important to thoroughly review your options this year.

Here's what you need to do:

1. **Review the 2026 plan information.** You can find this in the [Open Enrollment Home Mailer](#), which was mailed to you (if you don't receive this mailer in the coming days, check to make sure your home address is current in Dayforce). Please note: 2026 premiums are being finalized and will be shared around Nov. 1. You'll soon be able to access a list of in-network providers. Watch for emails from Employee Benefits and Wellness with this information; we'll also share information with all staff.
2. **Make your elections in Dayforce.** The type of medical coverage you're currently enrolled in will determine if you need to take action:
  1. If you are currently enrolled in a PPO option and don't take action, your current coverage will roll over.
  2. If you are currently enrolled in an HDHP plan, you must re-elect your HSA contributions each year.
3. **Review beneficiary designations.** Even if you don't make changes, log in to Dayforce to ensure the information is current.

To help you understand these changes, the Employee Benefits and Wellness Office is hosting virtual and in-person information sessions to walk you through your options. The virtual sessions will be recorded and available for playback. [Register to save your spot.](#)

Have questions or need help? Check out the FAQs at the end of the Open Enrollment home mailer or call the Employee Benefits and Wellness Office at 614-645-8624 (Monday through Friday). You can also reach out to your Benefits contact, Kori Hetrick (KMDeFelice@columbus.gov, 614-645-7570) or Eric Potts (EEPotts@columbus.gov, 614-724-5549).

### CELEBRATE THE SEASON AT THE STAFF HOLIDAY HOP

Mark your calendars for the staff holiday celebration on Thursday, Dec. 11, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Dodge Community Center!



Center events. Watch for more information.

Brought to you by the C.R.E.A.T.E. Committee, the Staff Holiday Hop is a chance to reconnect with friends and kick off the holidays on a high note!

## MIDDAY MOTIVATION: FREE GROUP FITNESS CLASSES

Need a midday energy boost? Join your colleagues for free 30-minute group fitness classes featuring HIIT and resistance training workouts.

No experience is needed—just bring your energy! All equipment is provided. Wear comfortable clothes and bring water and a towel. Classes are every Tuesday and Thursday, 11 a.m. through Dec. 31, at 1111 E. Broad St., Hungry Soldier Room.

Brought to you by Front Street Fitness, classes are led by OhioHealth and open to all City of Columbus employees; please get supervisor approval.

Questions? Contact James Sheridan at [JMSheridan@columbus.gov](mailto:JMSheridan@columbus.gov) or 614-645-8568.

## DON'T FORGET YOUR FLU SHOT

Employee Benefits and Wellness is hosting on-site flu shot clinics throughout October and November. [Check the schedule, and sign up today.](#) If you're unable to attend a clinic, staff and adult dependents (18+) covered by the City's health plan can get vaccinated for free at any Walgreens through March 17, 2026, [using a voucher.](#) [Separate vouchers are also available for employees age 65+.](#)

Email [EmployeeBenefitsandWellness@columbus.gov](mailto:EmployeeBenefitsandWellness@columbus.gov) with questions.

11/7/2025

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
26 ●	27 ●	28	29 ●	30 ●	31 ●	1 ●
2 ●	3	4 ●	5	6 ●	7 ●	8 ●
9 ●	10 ●	11	12 ●	13 ●	14 ●	15 ●
16	17	18	19 ●	20 ●	21 ●	22



30

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November 7

November 7 @ 10:00 am - 11:00 am 

Drop-In Cell Phone and Computer Support

November 7 @ 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Marion Franklin Mobile Produce Market

November 7 @ 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Scioto Southland Mobile Produce Market

[+ 1 More](#)

# KEY DATES

## OCTOBER

### Open Enrollment for ALL 2026 Medical Coverage

Oct. 27-Nov. 30

### [Extended Leadership Meeting](#)

Oct. 28 | 1-3 p.m. | 1111 E. Broad St.-Continental Room

## NOVEMBER

### [Friendsgiving Staff Lunch](#)

Nov. 14 | 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. | Champions Golf Course

### [Collective Conversations](#)

Nov. 18 | Noon-1 p.m. | 1111 E. Broad St., Citywide Training Room 9

## DECEMBER

### Staff Holiday Hop

Dec. 11 | 10 a.m.-1 p.m. | Dodge Community Center



## STAFF SPOTLIGHT

### JIMMY AMICK

#### BUILDING MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR-PARKS, FORESTRY AND BUILDING MAINTENANCE

He/Him/His



**Lift Each Other Up** – When the soccer goals at Whetstone were damaged, Jimmy and his team repaired the goals versus replacing them, saving the soccer season and saving the department money.



**How long have you been with the department?** 14 years

**What's your favorite aspect of working here?** My favorite aspect of work is the creativity it allows me.

**What's your favorite project?** The sawmill project.

**What's your favorite ice cream?** Chocolate

**What's your favorite movie?** Gangs of New York

**What's one piece of advice you'd share?** Treat others the way that you would want to be treated.

## NOMINATE A COWORKER FOR THE STAFF SPOTLIGHT

[Fill out this form to nominate a coworker.](#) The employee and their assistant director will be notified that they were nominated.

## LIVING OUR VALUES

### JAZZ & RIB FEST HITS THE HIGH NOTE AND LIFTS UP OUR COMMUNITY

Franklin County Auditor Michael Stinziano gave a special shoutout to the Jazz & Rib Fest team for being named Best Food-Themed Festival in *CityScene Magazine's Best of the 'Bus* 2025 reader poll.



music fades, and quickly start planning for the next year so Jazz & RnB Fest continues to get bigger and better. Their hard work lifts up our community by ensuring a wonderful experience for residents and garnering national recognition for the department and the City.

Congrats to the entire team for keeping one of Columbus’ favorite summer traditions sizzling!

# ARCHIVE

**2025**



**2024**



**2023**



**2022**



**NATURE**

- [Nature](#)
- [Conservation](#)
- [Educational Gardens](#)
- [Nature Preserves](#)
- [Outdoor Education and Recreation](#)
- [Parks](#)
- [Pollinator Habitats](#)
- [Trails](#)
- [Urban Forestry](#)
- [Summer Camps](#)

**WELLNESS**

- [Wellness](#)