



JAN. 27, 2026

SPOTLIGHT ON CULTURE

NEW YEAR, SAME VALUES

A new year doesn't mean our culture work is behind us. The values we built together in 2025 are still very much part of who we are—and they continue to guide how we show up every day.

The C.R.E.A.T.E. Committee is already hard at work bringing people together, with the book exchange underway and several favorite activities returning, along with a few new ideas in the mix.

We're also developing a new program focused on turning our values into action—making sure they don't just live on paper, but show up in how we work across the organization.

At the same time, we're taking a fresh look at internal communication to ensure everyone has clear, timely access to the information they need. A department-wide recognition program is also in development to better celebrate the contributions of our staff.

Our leadership team continues to use our values as a north star—aligning decisions, priorities and work across the department.

The work may evolve, but it isn't stopping. Our goal is simple: to make our values part of the everyday fabric of our organization—so ingrained that they guide what we do without us having to think twice about it.

How will you be B.O.L.D. in 2026?

NEWS AND INFORMATION

GETTING HEALTHY IS NOW EVEN EASIER

Signing up for the City of Columbus Employee Fitness Pass just got simpler with online registration. This free benefit gives you access to 20 Get Active Fitness Centers and open gyms at 27 community centers across the city. It's completely free for employees and cost-neutral for the department, with all discounts reimbursed. Even better—the more staff who participate, the better!

[Fill out this form to register online](#) (currently, this form is for Columbus Recreation and Parks staff only). You can also stop by any center with proof of employment (ID, pay stub, or work email).



professional communication across the department. [It's quick and easy to request business cards through the staff portal.](#) Please use the online form; emailed requests will not be processed.

Business cards are designated for staff who hold supervisory, management or professional positions. If you have questions about business card requests or usage, reach out to your supervisor.

HUNGRY? NEW LUNCH OPTION FOR STAFF

Looking for something new for breakfast or lunch? Check out the Taste and See Café at the Fran Ryan Center. The café offers affordable, healthy meals, light snacks, coffee, and more, with walk-up service available from 9 a.m.–3 p.m. (breakfast served until 11 a.m.).

It's also a great spot for a morning meeting or a casual team lunch. [Check out the menu and learn more!](#)

BUILD YOUR NETWORK: JOIN THE YOUNG PROFESSIONALS ERG

The new Young Professionals ERG is launching for staff ages 35 and under who want to build community, grow their skills and connect with peers across the city—no matter your role, tenure or career path.

Interested in learning more? Join an information session to explore what ERGs are, the purpose of the Young Professionals ERG, proposed focus areas, and how members can help shape the group's direction, programming, and leadership from the start. Join us on Wednesday, Jan. 28, from noon–1 p.m. at 1111 E. Broad St., Continental Room. [Register to attend.](#)

Allyship is encouraged across all ERGs, and allies are welcome to attend.

BE SOMEONE'S HERO: BLOOD DRIVE ON FEB. 11

One donation can save up to three lives—and yes, there's a perk.

Give blood on Feb. 11, at Columbus Public Health (Fitness Room) and receive a \$20 e-gift card to the merchant of your choice.

[Schedule your appointment now!](#) Enter sponsor code CPH.

CELEBRATE 25 YEARS OF BLUE JACKETS HOCKEY

Celebrate 25 years of Columbus Blue Jackets hockey with [discounted tickets to select home games.](#) Tickets start at \$47, and a portion of each sale benefits the City of Columbus Combined Charitable Campaign.

Big goals. Good cause. Solid night out.

HR UPDATES

YEAR-END TAX FORMS NOW AVAILABLE

Need your W-2 or other year-end tax forms? You can view and print them directly in Dayforce.

To get started:

1. Log in to [Dayforce.](#)
2. Go to Earnings and select the Year End Forms tab.
3. Choose the tax form you want to view. The form will note whether it's available electronically only or if you'll also receive a paper copy.
4. Optional: Click "Click here for additional information" to view form instructions.

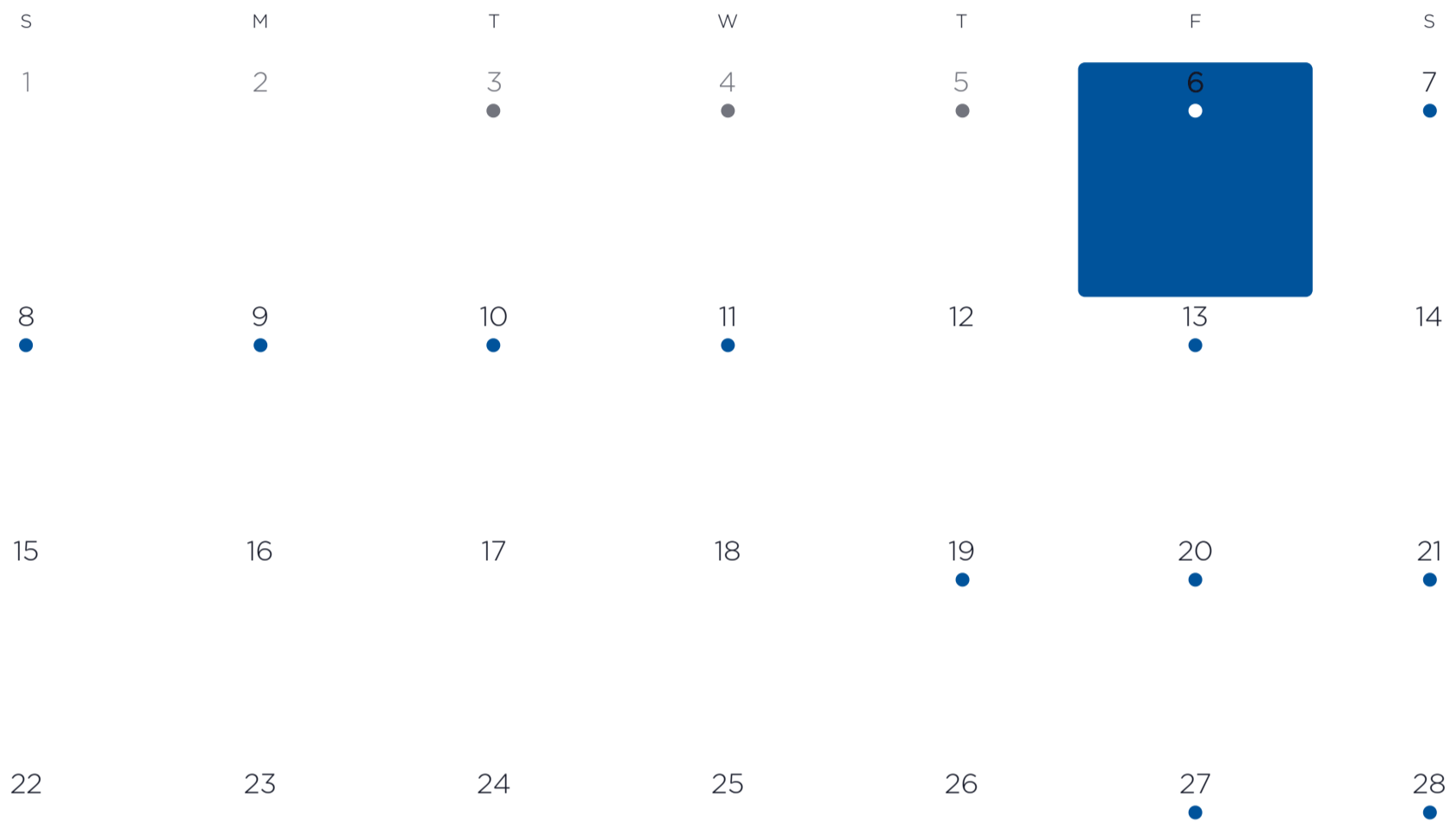


iReports Tip: Choose the Right Injury Category

When reporting injuries involving participants or visitors, please select the “3rd Party Injury” category instead of “General Incident.” Using the correct category helps ensure more accurate tracking and reporting across the department—and saves everyone time on follow-ups.

Quick fix. Better data. Everyone wins.

2/6/2026



February 6

February 6 @ 10:00 am - 11:00 am

Drop-In Cell Phone and Computer Support

KEY DATES

JANUARY

C.R.E.A.T.E. Book Exchange

Jan. 12-30 | 1111 E. Broad, First floor east lobby

Free Fitness Classes

Tuesdays and Thursdays | 11:25 a.m.-noon | 1111 E. Broad St., Hungry Soldier Room



STAFF SPOTLIGHT

SHINING A LIGHT ON CHAD HOFF AT SCHILLER PARK



The Friends of Schiller Park recently recognized Chad Hoff, assistant city forester, with the Village Light Award for his outstanding care of the trees in Schiller Park. If there's a tree with a story, Chad probably knows it. His deep knowledge, thoughtful approach and genuine respect for the park's landscape make him a trusted partner and a steady presence behind the scenes.

Chad's dedication helps keep Schiller Park healthy, beautiful and welcoming for everyone who enjoys it. Thanks to his work, this beloved neighborhood park's trees continue to thrive.

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

LIFTING OUR STAFF



Recently, the Office of Diversity and Inclusion (ODI) held its annual banquet to celebrate the work of the Employee Resource Groups (ERGs). As part of the event, a select few individuals were awarded the Recognition of ERG Excellence awards, recognizing staff who best exemplify the pillars of their respective ERGs.

Through their involvement in the ERGs, they are lifting up staff in the department and across the city.





REINVESTING IN YOU

UPCOMING TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

- [NRPA Coach-Mentor Training Webinar](#) | Jan. 29, 2:30 p.m.
- [Ohio Ethics Law](#) | Feb. 5, 10 a.m.-noon | 1111 E. Broad St., Continental Room

EARN YOUR DEGREE WITH PHOENIX

Want to gain new skills and enhance your career? Explore how you can earn your degree while balancing family, work and life.

The City of Columbus has partnered with the University of Phoenix to provide city employees with expanded access to higher education opportunities.

To learn more about the University of Phoenix and what they have to offer, [register for an informational webinar](#) on Feb. 26, from noon to 12:30 p.m.

ARCHIVE

2026



2025



2024



2023



2022

