

The Bulletin

The Kiwanis Club of Columbus



"Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world - one child and one community at a time."

“Great yesterday, better today, better still tomorrow!”

Noon to 1 p.m. luncheon meeting at The Athletic Club of Columbus, 136 East Broad Street, Columbus, OH 43215

April 9, 2012



MICHAEL B. COLEMAN

Mayor, Columbus, Ohio



Since taking office in 2000, Mayor Michael B. Coleman has built Columbus' reputation as one of the best cities in the nation by building stronger, safer neighborhoods and creating jobs by maintaining a high quality of life.

Under Mayor Coleman's leadership, the City of Columbus has been recognized this year by NewGeography.com as the best city in the Midwest for job growth, and by Fox News, Forbes and *Bloomberg Businessweek* as one of the top 10 cities in the nation for college graduates. Columbus has also recently been recognized as one of the 10 best large cities and one of the 10 most affordable metro areas by RelocateAmerica. It was recognized as the nation's 8th best place to live by CNN and *Money* magazine, which also declared Columbus as the nation's safest big city. Underwriters Laboratories, a respected independent product safety certification organization, ranked Columbus second in its 2010 Safest Cities for Families with Young Children. Forbes has recognized Columbus as the top up-and-coming tech city and the top city in which to retire.

Columbus regularly makes top rankings as a hot destination for business locations: It was ranked as the 7th best metro area for business by *WSJ MarketWatch*; it was ranked the 7th best city for high-impact companies by the U.S. Small Business Administration; it was ranked as the 3rd "Big City of the Future" by international fDi Magazine and the 4th "most business friendly." In addition, Columbus continues to earn top rankings for its stable housing market, affordability and as a top city for African-Americans, young professionals, and members of the GLBT community.

Mayor Coleman has leveraged incentives to create and retain more than 92,000 jobs and bring more than \$6.4 billion in private investment to Columbus throughout his tenure. Growing companies enjoy an educated workforce from 18 regional colleges and universities. Columbus is centrally located to national markets and is a growing transportation, distribution and logistics hub. The city, currently the 15th largest in America, is also growing as a retail hub.

Today's Meeting

Greeters: **Okpara Rice** - Starr Columbus
Travis McIntyre - First City Bank

Invocation: **Bill Newman** - Lucas, Prendergast, Albright,
Gibson, Newman

Committee meetings: International Relations, Golf,
Homeless

Menu: **House salad, beef stir fry**

This week at a Glance

Birthdays:

04/09 – **George Ruff**
04/11 – **Nick Tomashot**
04/14 – **Fred Miller**

Tuesday – 04/12/1912 – 100 years ago - The Titanic left port in Southampton, England for her first and only voyage.

Thursday – 04/12/1945 - U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt died while in office; vice-president Harry S. Truman was sworn in as the 33rd President.

President's Corner



“CoCo Key, CoCo Key, CoCo Key,” the kids chant grew louder as we wended our way through Knox County into Licking County on our path to the Cherry Valley Lodge in Newark, Ohio. Our quest, the CoCo Key Water Park resort ... a sprawling collection of slides, wading pools and pirate ship shaped amusements. Given busy schedules, we decided our spring break ‘get away’ would be somewhat muted. Kate headed south with Mary Grace, our 7-year-old, and Finn, our 3-year-old to visit with her parents for a week or so, while I was holding down the home front with Brendan, 12, Chloe, 10, and Maggie, 5. So far, so good. I had only missed one dance class (Maggie’s on Thursday night) and had been relatively close to being on time getting everyone else where they needed to be.

So it was with some relief that Spring Break started and the day of our long awaited sojourn to the water park was at last upon us. Chloe quizzed us with trivia as we made our way down the path. “How did the 10 year old boy stay under water for 10 minutes without the use of special breathing equipment and survive?” Brendan cracked the code – ‘He held a glass of water over his head for 10 minutes!’ – the correct answer.

Finally we arrived, got checked in for our one night stay and were on our way down the hall to the water park emporium.

Now, let’s be honest. There is a point, somewhere between “just out of college” and true adulthood, when donning swimwear and jumping into the pool in a big public area comes with a smidge more trepidation than it did when in our early 20’s. At the same time, mocking the vanity of others, I found myself thinking nearly aloud as I removed my shirt and waded into the shallow end, “There’s a six pack in there somewhere...but more likely the one I drank on St. Patrick’s Day.” But that wasn’t the only reason for feeling vulnerable – I realized as an ‘older Dad’ accompanying his kids to the pool, I had far fewer piercings and tattoos than my “fellow fathers” gathered about.

Far fewer? Okay. I have neither tattoos nor piercings at this point. When I was a kid, if you saw someone with a tattoo, there was a 97 percent chance it was a mark of pride from time invested serving our country in one of the branches of the military. But the tattoo art around the pool at CoCo Key had nothing to do with the Army, Navy, Air Force or Marines. It was like graffiti art – a wild assortment of images from dancing bears to moving billboards and Egyptian ankhs. And while at first I found it puzzling, it dawned on me that for this generation, it is a mode of expression – of seeking to declare and share identity.

I found myself thinking, “If I did get a tattoo, what would it

be?” The first idea that came to mind is one I’ve pondered before ... perhaps a permanent tattoo mirroring the Celtic knot of my wedding band, just beneath the ring. *(I vowed to Kate when we were married on May 30, 1997 that I would never remove the ring. I haven’t once since she put it on my hand nearly 15 years ago.)* Another tattoo consideration is one I’ve discussed with my brother-in-law. We’ve thought about going for a White Castle logo tattoo at some point, although we keep postponing it for fear the logo design might change in the future.

Sitting pool-side in my lounge chair now, I saw my 5-year-old Maggie squeal with delight as she catapulted down a slide, and landed frozen for a half-second atop the water before laughing still, she darted below the surface. Within a half second she jumped porpoise-like above the plane and exited the pool to do it all again.

I was struck by two thoughts ... What’s the emotional tattoo we seek and display as the positive mark of identity we make on our communities as Kiwanians? Do we celebrate the art of what we do and seek to make a permanent difference, or go for the Cracker Jack variety where it’s temporary and more about appearances? And secondly, are we jumping in with both feet to make the most of the precious time were granted? Not whining or complaining, or worrying about the little inconveniences – but truly seeking those magic moments where caught in mid-air we defy the laws of physics and make a memory that will last a lifetime and beyond?

For now, I think I’ll start with “S” in the Yellow Pages rather than “T” -- for a full-body swimsuit, rather than tattoo parlor.

Time to renew ...



Each year, during April, participants in the Kroger Community Rewards program must renew their participation in order for our Club to continue to receive a benefit from your shopping at Kroger.

Signing up or renewing can be done by visiting their site at www.krogercommunityrewards.com, clicking on “Ohio” and clicking on “enroll.” All participants must have a valid online account at Kroger and must sign up online to participate. Our organization number is **80249**.

Once signed up, every time you shop at Kroger and swipe your Kroger Plus card, your purchases will go toward our Club’s total. Then, based on our collective efforts and how we stack up against other organizations, we will receive a proportional amount of the funds being awarded by Kroger each quarter. It is an almost effortless way of supporting our Club.

Mayor Coleman initiated Neighborhood Pride, a proactive effort to engage residents and businesses to repair thousands of homes and clean up their neighborhoods. The mayor's Pay as We Grow annexation policy requires developers to bear the costs of extending water, sewer and electricity. Under Mayor Coleman's leadership, Columbus has reinvested in older Columbus neighborhoods such as Franklinton, the King Lincoln District, South of Livingston, Northland, Olde North Columbus and South Linden. Columbus also is embarking on revitalization strategies for the Near South Side, the Far South Side and the West Broad Street Corridor.

In 2006, Mayor Coleman created the Home Again program and set aside \$25 million to acquire, rehab and tear down vacant and abandoned houses in Columbus neighborhoods. To date, more than 1,000 homes have been impacted. In 2001, Mayor Coleman created the Affordable Housing Trust Corporation to provide more housing options to inner-city residents. He has increased the development of new homes for families, spurring construction through city incentives of more than 12,500 new housing units. In addition, Mayor Coleman led the restoration of the historic Lincoln Theatre, the linchpin of the King Lincoln District, which has been revitalized after decades of neglect and blight. The area is rebounding, with seven major commercial and residential projects totaling \$30 million in new private investments.

Mayor Coleman worked with business leaders to start a massive Downtown revitalization initiative. Since 2002 more than 5,500 new apartments and condominiums have been built or are under development, a new Downtown park system is being designed; 3,000 jobs have been moved into Downtown; and there has been more than \$2.18 billion in new investment. In addition, the long-vacant former City Center mall site has been developed into Columbus Commons, a central park space with opportunities for business, residential and retail development.

Mayor Coleman has a proven record of balancing budgets and reforming government. Columbus is the only large city in the nation to maintain an Aaa credit rating from all three major rating agencies. Since 2009, Mayor Coleman has taken steps that will save more than \$144 million over the next decade, by getting employee benefits in line with the market while reducing unnecessary overtime, increasing the use of technology and making the city more energy efficient. Mayor Coleman, City Council and Auditor Hugh Dorrian have committed to additional savings through their 10-Year Reform Plan.

Columbus has made tremendous strides protecting the environment under Mayor Coleman, who created the ongoing "Get Green Columbus" campaign. The mayor has made a commitment to improving energy efficiency in older city facilities while requiring that every new city construction project be LEED-certified by the U.S. Green Building Council. The mayor's Bicentennial Bikeways Plan calls for an additional 36 miles of off-road trails and 58 miles of on-street bike lanes and routes by the year 2015. In addition, more than 100 bike racks have been placed in and around Downtown, and 54 Share the Road signs have been installed on North High Street to remind motorists and bicyclists of their rights and responsibilities. In 2008 Mayor Coleman created the GreenSpot program to inspire, educate and recognize residents and businesses making efforts to protect our environment. The mayor also promised a comprehensive curbside recycling program by 2012 and pledged to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from city operations by 40 percent before 2030.

Mayor Coleman was first elected in 1999, re-elected in 2003 and won a third term in November 2007. He was born on November 18, 1954. He has three children, Kimberly, a private banker in Chicago; Justin, a Columbus police officer; and John-David, a student at Ohio State University. Prior to becoming mayor, Coleman served as President of Columbus City Council from January of 1997 to November of 1999, and as a council member from February of 1992 to December of 1999. Coleman graduated from the University of Cincinnati in 1977 with a degree in Political Science and earned his law degree from the University of Dayton Law School in 1980.

Recently, I submitted ten puns into a contest hoping one would win. No pun in ten did.

Auction update ...



Invitations for this year's Charity Auction have been distributed. If you have not yet received yours, please let us know. Or, if you would like to send a personalized invitation to some friends, neighbors or co-workers, we have extras available for that purpose.

This year's event is scheduled for Saturday, May 19, and will be held at the Ohio History Center, beginning at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$55 each, with a \$5 discount if purchased by April 30. Checks should be made out to the Columbus Kiwanis Foundation and sent to P.O. Box 20334, Columbus, OH 43220-0334.



Division 10-W Council meeting ...

The quarterly meeting of the Division 10-W Council will be held on Wednesday, April 11 at the Crown Room (1801 Columbus Avenue) in Washington Court House. The cost is \$19 per person and will include dinner comprised of chicken Marsala, roast beef, dirty mashed potatoes, vegetable medley, salad, bread or rolls, assorted desserts and drinks.

The meeting will be hosted by the Grove City, University and Hilliard Clubs thus awarding each attendee with three attendance credits.

Reservations are due in now, so please let Secretary Paul Bohlman know immediately if you will be attending, but absolutely no later than Friday, April 6. Part of this meeting's agenda will be the election of the 2012-13 Lt. Governor for our Division.

Once we know who will be attending, we will coordinate transportation so that we only have to take one or two vehicles.

A universal paradox ... You are free to choose, but you are not free from the consequence of your choice.

Kiwanis One Day ...

Plan on joining fellow Kiwanians in our annual world-wide day of community service on Saturday, April 21.

Our Club will be lending our hands and skills to the Boys and Girls Club located at 115 S. Gift Street. Depending on the weather, we will either be targeting some much-needed outdoor clean-up and landscaping work, or covering a number of inside areas with a fresh coat of paint.

We will be working from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., and lunch will be provided. Contact **Kathleen Roberts** (robe369@sbcglobal.net) to sign up.

**I didn't make it to the gym today...
that makes 5 years in a row.**

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**“When you rise in life, your friends know
who you are! When you fall down, you
know who your friends are.”**

Next week's meeting

(April 16, 2012)

Speaker: Janet Blank – Health care legislation

Greeters: Kristin Gintz

WesBanco Bank

Cindy Sturni

United Way of Central Ohio

Invocation: Fil Line

ROI Realty Services

Committees: Music & Arts, Youth Opportunity

Menu: Pecan chicken, wild rice, apple gastrique

Kiwanis Club of Columbus

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