

News Release



City of Columbus

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 2, 2005

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FALL INTO FUN AT GRANGE INSURANCE FAMILY FUN FEST!

Join the Columbus Recreation and Parks Department and Grange Insurance for two days of fun the whole family will enjoy! Grange Insurance Family Fun Fest will be held Saturday, September 17th, noon to 9:00 p.m. and Sunday, September 18th, noon to 5:00 p.m. at the Riverfront Amphitheater and Genoa Park. Admission is free.

FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS

CHILD HEALTH STAMP

Saturday

U.S. Postal Service in cooperation with Columbus Recreation and Parks Department will dedicate the *Child Health* postage stamp during a Saturday evening ceremony. During the day, kids can stop by the U.S. Postal Service tent to design their own stamp, participate in a stamp treasure hunt and learn about stamp collecting.

COLUMBUS ALL-BREED TRAINING CLUB

Saturday & Sunday at 12:30, 2:00 and 3:00 p.m.

Watch the amazingly agile antics of the well-trained dogs from the Columbus All-Breed Training Club. These pups have no problem jumping through hoops, balancing on seesaws, dodging weave poles and other obstacles.

DUNE BUGGY THE CLOWN

Saturday at 1:30 and 4:30 p.m. and Sunday at 1:30 and 3:30 p.m.

Race around on Dune Buggy the Clown's Peanut Pedal Powered Tractor Pulls! Kids 3-12 years old will pedal his specially geared tractors. Those who pull the most weight the longest distance win their age class and receive a prize provided by the Georgia Peanut Commission and Funny Farm Clowns & Associates.

FROG JUMPING CHAMPIONSHIP

Saturday at 1:00, 3:00 and 5:00 p.m. and Sunday at noon, 2:30 and 4:30 p.m.

Fun is the name of the game when you hop on down to our Frog Jumping Championship. Children and those who are children at heart can try their hand at making a live bullfrog jump as far as it can in three jumps!

THE JUGGERNAUT JUG BAND

Saturday at 7:00 p.m.

Audiences are in for a treat as Louisville, Kentucky's Juggernaut Jug Band showcase their mind-blowing musicianship, incredible harmonies and zany sense of humor. Join in on the fun!

SATURDAY SPECTACULAR FIREWORKS!

Saturday night at dusk

Watch in amazement as Columbus' downtown skyline comes to life.

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ACTIVITY AREAS

TARGET AMAZING ARTS

Unleash your inner Picasso! Step inside and become an artist, create your own fall finger tree, pumpkin puppet or corn cob flower mural to take with you. Join the Girl Scouts and learn how to make masks, beaded bracelets and even design a greeting card with just your fingers! Let your imagination run wild – and try your hand at acting and turn into your favorite characters from Charlotte’s Web with **Candace Mazur**. Visit the **Phoenix Theater for Children** to learn how to make your own origami crane. Sail over to the Davis Performing Arts Programs to help you perfect your pirate moves as they get ready for their production of Treasure Island.

BOB EVANS FISHING POND

There will be no shortage of fish stories in this area! Visit this instructional fishing exhibit and learn how to become a successful shallow water angler. Stop in to catch some fish, make dream catchers and learn more about this environmental education center. Fly-tying on Sunday from noon to 2:00 p.m.

CITY SAFARI

Arthropods, snakes, hawks, dogs, porcupines, deer and turtles, oh my! Go on safari and get up close to a variety of wildlife! Richard English’s Wildlife will feature an African porcupine, wildcats and “Flag” – an all-American buck that is also a Hollywood film star. Make a new friend when the zoo brings some of its fascinating animals and create a conservation door hanger to take home.

CONSTRUCTION CORNER presented by The Grange Bank and Lowe’s

Build a project provided by Lowe’s Kids Clinics “Build It Workshop.” Kids work with their parents to construct a fun kit to keep and then visit The Grange Bank Decorating center to personalize the project. Quantities limited.

DESTINATION FUN

Grange Insurance Fun Zone will be giving away three “Family Fun Packs” to see the Columbus Blue Jackets as they return to the ice for the 2005-06 season. Also, there will be a variety of activities to enjoy—face painting, balloons, a chance to get a family photo and more! Photos will be taken on Saturday from 2:00 to 3:00 and 5:00 to 6:00 p.m.

AMUSEMENT ADVENTURE

Bounce, slide, climb and crawl your way through this inflatable city. Amusements include: Big Bounce, Extreme Obstacle, Galaxy Explorer and Giant Slide. Tickets cost \$1.00.

GIANT EAGLE FALL INTO FUN

How about a pony ride? Get up-close and hands-on with **Dreams on Horseback**. Take a relaxing ride along the frontier and view the countryside from the back of a hay wagon. Come test your skills against other local farm hands when you compete in the sack race, the straw bale carry, stick pony races and some of our other wacky farm relays.

SPORTS SPOT

Come by to play interactive sports and visit Columbus sports teams. Sink shots from all of the hot spots, throw a wacky air ball and compete against the clock to score the winning goal.

JUST FOR FUN!

Test your skill at climbing Mt. Scioto, have a tasty lunch and visit Magic Mountain Fun Center for free face painting, balloon animals, games, prizes and more.

RIVER ROMP

Don't miss your chance to cruise the Scioto River Caribbean style. Relax in the summer breeze as you travel along the downtown riverfront. Free, courtesy of United Steelworkers, AFL-CIO. Brave the Scioto River in a kayak or river raft. Learn more about rafting excursions from Wilderness Voyageurs, Inc.

SAFETY ZONE presented by Children's Hospital and AEP Ohio

Learn about electricity safety, poison prevention awareness and railway safety. Check out real medical equipment, tour an ambulance, investigate backboards, heart monitors, blood pressure machines and other medical equipment from Medcorp. Meet and talk with "PC" the Police Car with the Columbus police.

RHYTHM AND CHILL AREA

Take a break in the Fun Fest Relaxation Area and enjoy the view of the downtown skyline while listening to musical performances.

SCIOTO STAGE

Head down to the big stage for more fun! Join us for Frog Jumping Championships, The Juggernaut Jug Band and the Saturday Spectacular Fireworks!

VERIZON WIRELESS READING CORNER

Join fearless superheroes as they share some of their favorite comic adventures with you and take the fun home with your very own comic book. Play a game of spelling out words that could win you a gift card to Barnes and Noble. Run, hop, skip and jump your way through the reading relay and watch the North American Taiwanese Women Association's puppet performances of "Zodiac Story." Free comic books provided by *The Laughing Ogre*. Costume characters provided by *Costume Specialists*.

A comprehensive list of activities and participants can be provided by request or visit our website at www.musicintheair.org.

Calendar Listing: Grange Insurance Family Fun Fest

Dates: September 17th noon – 9 p.m.
September 18th noon – 5 p.m.

Location: Riverfront Amphitheater & Genoa Park

Contact: 614-645-1654, www.musicintheair.org

Description: The Grange Insurance Family Fun Fest—Fun for the whole family. The festival features more than 50 interactive activities, river rides, artistic adventures and fireworks. Bring the whole family and enjoy the final days of summer!

Grange Insurance Family Fun Fest is produced by Columbus Recreation and Parks Department. Sponsors include Grange Insurance, The Grange Bank, WBNS 10-TV, Mix 97.1 FM, Time Warner Cable, This Week Community Newspapers, Target, Giant Eagle, Verizon Wireless, Children's Hospital-Education Partner, AEP Ohio, Lowe's, Bob Evans Farms, United Steel Workers AFL-CIO, Edy's Dibs, COSI and Columbus Parent Magazine.

Information: (614) 645-1654
Website: www.musicintheair.org

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