# COUMDUS the community's conversation metropolitan club

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Ph: (614) 464-3220 • Fax: (614) 464-9767 • E-mail: staff@columbusmetroclub.org • www.columbusmetroclub.org The mission of the Columbus Metropolitan Club is to connect people and ideas through community conversation.

#### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3

# "ODOT's Time to Shine"

Traffic must be heavy in ODOT Director Jolene Molitoris' office. Rail projects, highway projects, aging bridges, increasing vehicular flow and even increased demand for bike trails, fill the Director's transportation plate. How does the Director of ODOT pull all these pieces together and provide Ohioans with viable transportation solutions? Jolene Molitoris addresses the CMC audience to discuss ODOT's time to shine!

For example, Ohio's exciting 3C "Quick Start" Passenger Rail Plan is destined to connect Cleveland, Columbus, Dayton and Cincinnati with 79 mph passenger trains as part of President Barack Obama's nationally-prioritized Chicago Hub Network. The \$400 million heading to Ohio's checkbook from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act will create a 256-mile route across the Buckeye State, but is dependent on additional funds and support from the Ohio Transportation Controlling Board led by Ohio Senate President Bill Harris. Harris sent a letter to the Governor last week stating his skepticism of the plan.

With six million Ohioans living within 15 miles of the 3C corridor, our state one of the most densely populated intercity rail corridors in the US without rail service. While this might seem like a nobrainer, skeptics, such as Senate President



Harris, abound. Why take over three hours to get from Columbus to Cleveland when you could drive there in two? Who would ride this new rail and how would they get to there final destination when they got there? Why start so slow when other states have high speed rail traveling from 110 to 220 mph and our line would only average 79 mph?

If this isn't enough to occupy her time, there is rumbling about the latest fix for the infamous I-70-I71 split. Critics are crying foul, saying that the new administration flushed all the years of public comment and planning and come





Alex Fischer

All CMC forums are

open to everyone! Reservations at www.columbusmetroclub.org or 464-3220.

Director **Jolene Molitoris** 





up with its own version. As the budget for the state shrinks and faces huge deficits in the next planning cycle, the price tag for the new downtown throughway climbs higher and higher.

What route will Ohio take?

represents the third generation of the Bill Ingram III president and chief executive officer of the

Moderator Colleen Marshall; Anchor, NBC 4 WCMH.

With support from: Bricker & Eckler LLP, Limited Brands, Nationwide and Sequent

THIS WEEK AT CMC

**Greater Ohio: Prosperity for All** 

With Support from Hannan News Agency

"ODOT's Time to Shine"

Inc., Burgess & Niple and MS Consulting

CMC and Bricker & Eckler present

Bill Ingram III, White Castle, who

White Castle System.

Leadership Legacies

Ingram family to hold the position of

Featuring Greater Ohio Co-Directors Lavea Brachman and Gene

Krebs and a panel of top Ohio political leaders to be announced.

**Previews of Upcoming CMC Events** 

All CMC forums are held at the Athletic Club of Columbus,

136 East Broad Street unless otherwise noted.

Registration begins at 11:30, with lunch served

promptly at noon and closing at 1:15.

Featuring Director Jolene Molitoris. One year after taking the helm at

ODOT Director Molitoris will share news about passenger rail in Ohio,

what's going on with the I-71/I-70 interchange and other transportation

With support from M\* E Companies, PRIME Engineering & Architecture,

FEBRUARY 24

MARCH 3

matters.

MARCH 10

Second in our Leadership Legacies series.

Go to www.columbusmetroclub.org to watch the Leadership Legacies forum featuring Les Wexner on December 9 and you'll understand just how special this series is. You'll want to attend every one in this series.

FEBRUARY 10 **Rescheduled for March 31 Progress or Promised Land?** 

# **50 Years of Civil Rights in Ohio**

Eddie Harrell Jr., Chairman, Ohio Civil Rights Commission. With support from Athletic Club of Columbus

#### APRIL 14 **MORPC Regional Survey Results:** What Central Ohio Told Us.

Chester Jourdan, Executive Director, Mid Ohio Regional Planning Corporation will unveil and discuss the results of the regional survey conducted with thousands of central Ohio residents this winter.

Marshall

# **Progress or Promised Land? 50 Years of Civil Rights in Ohio**

and overt prejudice.

us?

election of our nation's first African-

pending civil rights legislation and its

Ohio Civil Rights Commission (OCRC) Chairman Eddie Harrell, Jr. explores the topic of civil rights and discusses whether we've made minimal significant progress or perhaps actually "reached the promised land" of which Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. spoke so many years ago.

Upon the 50-year anniversary of the creation of the OCRC, Harrell reflects on what steps have eluded the organization and society, as well as what progress has been made as documented in actual cases that

## **RECAP** - FEBRUARY 17

Wednesday, March 31

### Up & Coming Tech Companies

Hosted by Ted Ford, President and CEO of TechColumbus and growth stars Clevex, Inc. and Traycer Diagnostic Systems Inc.

With Support from *DeVry University*, SpeakerSite





# Join Today!

Visit www.columbusmetroclub.org for more information.

#### CMC Leadership 2009-2010

President, Kathy Fox Ohio Cultural Facilities Commission

Vice President, Teresa McWain American Electric Power

Secretary, Todd Tuney Limited Brands

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Jon Schwantes Dispatch Printing Company

**Rich Terapak** Porter, Wright, Morris & Arthur, LLP

Karen Twinem Paul Werth Associates, Inc.

Dawn Tyler Lee The Ohio State University

Mataryun "Mo" Wright RAMA Consulting Group, Inc.





#### Above:

Front: From sponsor SpeakersSite Artie Isaac, speakers H. Lee Mosbacker, R.C. Wheeless, Ted Ford, and CMC Trustee Carol McGuire. Back: From sponsor DeVry University Galan Graham and Amy Hall.

Left:

The audience was fascinated by the technology entrepreneurs.

# You are invited to join the Columbus Metropolitan Club today!

Please help support the Columbus Metropolitan Club by joining as a member today. Whether you attend forums in person or watch on TV your support assures you and others in our community that the tough issues will be brought to the stage discussed, debated and aired for everyone to hear.

CMC forums shape political candidates, attitudes and important issues that effect us all. You choose - do you care about our community? Do you want to hear what's happening from

those who make it happen, or prevent it from happening?

Join today and help support the continuing conversation and the community tradition that is the Columbus Metropolitan Club. When you visit www.columbusmetroclub.org and join for \$165 you will receive your first luncheon forum free! Those under 30 years old or over 70 can support Metro Club with membership for just \$100 per year.



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