All CMC forums are open to everyone! Reservations at www.columbusmetroclub.org or 464-3220.

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The mission of the Columbus Metropolitan Club is to connect people and ideas through community conversation.

False Justice: Eight Myths that Convict the Innocent

THIS WEEK AT CMC Ferrijary 2

Fueling Ohio's Future Series

Electric Cars Might Drive our Future

Featuring Dr. Giorgio Rizzoni, Director, Center for Automotive Research, The Ohio State University; Brandon Perkins, Project Manager, the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) Office of Innovation, Partnerships, & Energy; John Pohill, Venturi North America CEO; Ram Sastry, Distribution Research & Technology







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 11:30AM, with lunch served promptly at noon and closing at 1:15PM.

False Justice: Eight Myths that Convict the Innocent

Presented in partnership with the Columbus Bar Association Featuring Jim and Nancy Petro interviewed by Alan Johnson, The Columbus Dispatch.

"Wrongful criminal conviction is much more frequent than most Americans believe. The thought of imprisoned innocent people haunted me. I became determined to try to do something about it." - Jim Petro, Former Attorney General of Ohio.

With support from The Columbus Dispatch

FEBRUARY 16

One Girl: The Status of Girls in Central Ohio

Featuring Kelly Budros, Director of Programs, The Women's Fund; Dr. Lisa Hinkelman, Executive Director of the Interprofessional Commission of Ohio and Founder/Director of Ruling Our Experiences (ROX) and moderator Ann Fisher, WOSU Public Media.

With support from Girl Scouts of Ohio's Heartland, Greater Columbus Sports Commission and Limited Brands

In partnership with The Woman's Fund of Central Ohio

FEBRUARY 23

To be announced.

Weather waylaid Kathryn Lawler from being at CMC on January 12, so make sure you reschedule to catch her as we do...

Global Preparation for a **Demographic Tsunami:** Communities for Longer Living-Part 2

Kathryn Lawler, External Affairs Manager, Atlanta Regional Commission, the Metropolitan Planning Organization and Area Agency on Aging.

With support from AARP

In partnership with Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission



Kathryn Lawler

MARCH 9

CMC & Bricker & Eckler Present

Leadership Legacies

Lewis R. Smoot, Sr., President and Chief Executive Officer of The Smoot Corporation, with a special interview by Mike Curtin









Thousands of speakers, thousands of events, tens of thousands in the audience.

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View CMC forum videos in their entirety at www.columbusmetroclub.org and at www.cml.lib.oh.us

CMC event and executive board photos by Rick Buchanan 893-7425



Insight Digital Ch 765 WOW Digital Ch 150

The Ohio Channel

Wednesday, February 9_

Presented in partnership with the Columbus Bar Association In 2010, it was estimated that 2.3 million

inmates are housed in the nation's prisons; 50,000 of them being in Ohio. But not everyone is guilty of the crimes they were put away for. Since 1989, DNA evidence has proved 255 people wrongly convicted and saved 17 of those peoples' lives from death row. In Ohio alone there have been nine

inmates exonerated since 1994. Join CMC as it hosts Jim and Nancy Petro, interviewed by Alan Johnson to learn more of this shocking issue.

Wrongly convicted prisoners like those attracted former Ohio General Attorney Jim Petro to shift his attitudes and further investigate the criminal justice system and its potential wrong doings. In 2001, after serving 13 years for a crime he did not commit, Michael Green was released from prison when DNA tests declared him innocent. Petro was astonished and states Green was his "introduction to the travesty of wrongful criminal conviction." From then on, Petro led a strong nationwide movement to systematize current prisoner's DNA samples into a database to use as reference in several cold case files as well as future crimes. Petro's stance on this issue was the backbone of his career as

Ohio General Attorney and remains so today. He and his wife, Nancy, were awakened by their findings and inspired to co-write the book, "False Justice", raising awareness to the faulty system which places so many innocent people behind bars. In the book, the Petros point out eight commonly misconceived myths about the criminal justice system and emphasize the importance of improving convictions' accuracy. The eight myths are as follows:

- Everyone in prison claims innocence.
- Our system almost never convicts an innocent person.
- Only guilty people confess.
- Wrongful convictions result from innocent human error.
- An eyewitness is the best evidence.
- · Conviction errors get corrected on appeals. • It dishonors victims to question a conviction.
- If the justice system has problems, the pros will fix them.

"False Justice" was the idea of Nancy Petro, who claims it came to her in an eye-opening dream. She encouraged her husband to further his ability to educate the population about this phenomenon and together they completed the project. The book goes into detail debunking these myths with an attempt to put meaning back into the term "innocent until proven guilty." It has even proven a useful text book in several Law School classes.

Jim Petro earned his Bachelor of Arts degree at Denison University and afterwards attended the Case Western Reserve University School of Law. In 1994, he became the Ohio auditor, where he was in charge of the second largest auditing agency in



Jim and Nancy Petro



Interviewed by Alan Johnson, The Columbus Dispatch

"Wrongful criminal conviction is much more frequent than most Americans believe. The thought of imprisoned innocent people haunted me. I became determined to try to do something about it."

— Jim Petro, Former Attorney General of Ohio.



the nation and successfully convicted 110 public officials. After elected Ohio Attorney General in 2002, Petro made his mark by being the nation's first Attorney General in 30 years to argue a case in the Supreme Court and also the first to intervene on behalf of the Innocence Project, a New York organization dedicated to stopping wrongful convictions. Petro is currently a managing partner at the law firm, Roetzel & Andress and a probono lawyer for the Ohio Innocence Project.

Nancy Petro graduated from Denison University with a Bachelor of Fine Arts, and continued into thirty five years of work in marketing, publishing, and business management. "False Justice" is the first book she has written.

Over the course of 26 years with *The Dispatch*, Alan Johnson has covered five governors, traveled to more than 20 countries on city and state trade missions, reported from three national political conventions, and stumped through dozens of national, state and local political campaigns. He received the 2008 Thurgood Marshall Award from the Death Penalty Information Center, was nominated for an Ohio Emmy, and is the recipient of numerous Associated Press and other awards in two decades covering state government. Johnson has reported on nearly ever execution since capital punishment resumed in Ohio in 1999 and witnessed more than a dozen lethal injections. He is a graduate of Indiana University. He previously worked at newspapers in Dayton and Springfield.

By Annie Carruthers, Student Intern, OSU

RECAP - JANUARY 26

TechColumbus Rising Stars

Hosted by Ted Ford, President & CEO, TechColumbus

Featuring discussion from entrepreneurs Rich Housh, President & CEO, Plug Smart Solutions and Ray Shealy, former CEO of HTP (now RelayHealth – part of McKesson)

Sponsored by *GBQ*, *Help* Wizards and Franklin University

In partnership with *Columbus* Young Professionals Club



CMC President Teresa McWain, speakers Ted Ford, Ray Shealy and Rich Housh and from sponsor GBQ Darci Congrove.



Mike Kehoe and David Kandel.



Mike Canter and Sue Real.

CMC Forums are available for viewing on: CHANNEL

W@SUTV/DT Fridays @ 4 pm & Midnight Sundays @ 4 pm & Midnight Mondays @ 11 am & 7pm



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