

Columbus Metropolitan Club

‘The Newspaper is the News’ forum on March 23

So what's new in paper? Since the Wolfe family sold the Columbus Dispatch last summer and the dust has settled in their new office space on Broad Street, what can local readers expect? The next forum, on March 23, will feature Kirk Davis, CEO of GateHouse Media, Ray Paprocki, publisher and general manager of Dispatch Magazines, and Bradley Harmon, publisher of The Columbus Dispatch. Mike Thompson, chief content director-news and public affairs at WOSU Public Media will host.

The Columbus Dispatch was the last family-owned major daily newspaper in the United States until the paper was sold to New Media Investment Group last June. It was founded in 1971 as The Daily Dispatch, later renamed The Columbus Evening Dispatch, and purchased by the Wolfe Brothers in 1905. The Columbus Dispatch and the Wolfe family were power brokers in Columbus and generally supported conservative, Republican candidates and issues.

Under the investment group of

New Media, GateHouse Media's newspapers, websites and directories reach approximately 10 million people weekly, primarily in small to mid-size markets across the U.S. Ironically, each forum speaker has ties to central Ohio.

Kirk Davis, GateHouse CEO, originally from Lancaster, began his journalism career with the local paper in Lancaster, the Eagle-Gazette. He has held positions as CEO of Enterprise News Media in Quincy, MA., as president of Community Newspaper company in Boston and other senior management positions with Ingersoll Publications and Thomson Newspapers.

Appointed last October as president and publisher of the Dispatch Media Group, Brady Harmon oversees both print and digital products. Harmon's Ohio roots go back to Lake Erie College, where he received a bachelor of science degree in marketing. He began his career in Ohio at The Willoughby News-Herald and had positions with Thompson Publications in Mansfield. Prior to



Davis



Paprocki



Harmon



Thompson

joining GateHouse in 2010, he held positions in senior sales and marketing positions with The Oregonian in Portland, Rochester Democrat & Chronicle, Indianapolis Star and the Cincinnati Enquirer.

Readers of Columbus Monthly welcomed the magazine's former editor, Ray Paprocki, back to Columbus from Florida where he was publisher of the Gulfshore magazine division in Naples as well as interim publisher of Austin Monthly (both owned by Open Sky Media).

Paprocki will oversee Columbus Monthly, Columbus Alive and Columbus CEO, among other publications, in his new role with the Dispatch Media Group. Paprocki said "This is a great opportunity to help build a group of dynamic brands that can make an important impact through compelling and relevant journalism. The recent purchase of Dispatch Media Group by Gatehouse Media represents a new era and I am excited to become a part of it."

When asked about how Columbus

has changed, he said "I am also so impressed with the improvements of my hometown over the years. There is now a certain vibrancy and confidence that's moving the region forward."

CMC forums are frequently aired on the Ohio Channel via WOSU digital and Columbus Television at channel 3 on Insight and Time Warner and channel 99 on Warner, WOW and AT&T U-Verse. For schedule details, visit ctu.columbus.gov.

– Calendar of Events –

This Week

Wednesday, March 16

Cal Thomas

A conservative's conservative, syndicated columnist, pundit, author and radio commentator **Cal Thomas** will be interviewed by **Carol Luper**, retired television journalist

Upcoming

Wednesday, March 23

The Newspaper is the News

Featuring **Kirk Davis**, CEO Gatehouse Media, **Ray Paprocki**, publisher and general manager of Dispatch Magazines, **Brad Harmon**, publisher of The Columbus Dispatch, moderated by **Mike Thompson**, Chief Content Director - News and Public Affairs, WOSU Public Media

Wednesday, March 30

The Art and Business of Tourism

Featuring **Mary Cusick**, director of Ohio Tourism and other speakers TBA
In partnership with Experience Columbus

CMC moves to the Boat House in April

Tuesday, April 5

Crowdfunding Boom or Bust

Featuring **Susan Post**, reporter with the Metropreneur, **Kate Djupe**, owner/operator of The Commissary, **Ryan McManus**, founder and chief creative officer at ContentVia, **Christopher Hawkins**, founder & CEO of Trident Design

Tuesday, April 12

CMC 40th Bonus Event

Dr. Lori's Antiques Appraisal Comedy Show

At Franklin Park Conservatory's new Wells Barn
7:00 p.m. dessert and cash bar
In partnership with Goodwill Columbus and Grandview Mercantile
With Support from Franklin Park Conservatory
Sponsored by 40th Celebration Honorary Founders Dispatch Media Group, American Electric Power and WBNS-10TV

Tuesday, May 17

CMC Members First Event

Dirty Dancing

Join CMC members and guests at opening night at "Dirty Dancing" at the Ohio Theatre with a pre-performance reception sponsored by PNC Bank
Main Floor seats and Reception \$80

CMC forums are held at the Athletic Club of Columbus, 136 East Broad Street, through March 30 and then forums will be at the Boat House at Confluence Park, 679 West Spring Street, Columbus, OH 43215.

Check-in for forums at is at 11:30 a.m. with lunch served at noon. The program concludes at 1:15 p.m. and guests are encouraged to continue the conversation in the lobby with coffee and cookies.

CMC members please note that the early-bird registration deadline has moved. The new deadline is Friday at midnight, prior to the standard Wednesday forum.

Pre-paid reservations are required. The price is \$23 for CMC members; \$33 for CMC members' guests; and \$45 for the general public.

Reservations can be made online at www.columbus-metroclub.org or by calling (614) 464-3220. Anyone requesting additional information may contact Jane Scott, President and CEO; Andrew Campbell, Vice President of Programming; Debby Rosenthal, Vice President of Member Relations and Marketing, or Lanie Cuthbert, Event Coordinator.

Comedy appraisal show with Dr. Lori set for April 12

Do you have a priceless antique or just junk? Ask Dr. Lori. CMC is hosting Dr. Lori's Antiques Appraisal Comedy Show at the Wells Barn at Franklin Park Conservatory on April 12, from 7 to 10 pm.

Dr. Lori Verderame's engaging personality, combined with her extensive knowledge, will make the CMC event fun and informative. Introducing Dr. Lori will be Scott Light from WBNS-10TV. This CMC 40th celebration bonus event includes a dessert buffet and cash bar.

Best known for her hit TV show on the Discovery Channel, Auction Kings, Dr. Lori also writes a syndicated column and appears regularly Fox Business Network's Strange Inheritance. Dr. Lori has written 30 books and several blogs for Lifetime Television.

She is a graduate of the University of Michigan and Wesleyan University and earned her Ph.D. in

art history from Pennsylvania State University. Dr. Lori has served on the faculty at Penn State, State University of New York and several others. She has held museum positions at the Yale University Art Gallery, the Allentown Art Museum, Muhlenberg College and the Palmer Museum of Art at Penn State.

This event is sponsored by 40th celebration honorary founders Dispatch Media Group, American Electric Power and WBNS-10TV, with support from Franklin Park Conservatory. Partner organizations include Goodwill Columbus and Grandview Mercantile.

Member tickets are \$35, general public tickets are \$45 and can be purchased at www.columbus-metroclub.org. For anyone interested in bringing an item to be appraised as part of the show, reservations for that appraisal are \$30 and may be arranged by calling (614) 464-3220 ext. 1.



Verderame

Columbus Metropolitan Club's March 9 forum focused on the regulated electricity industry



Photos by Rick Buchanan

Participating in the forum were CMC Chair Mo Wright, CMC CEO Jane Scott, sponsor representative, speaker Pablo Vegas, from sponsor AEP Renee Shumate, speaker Sam Randazzo, from sponsor Columbia Gas Kate Bauer, speakers Gene Krebs, Andy Chow and Ned Hill.



Daniel Johnson (left) and Weiner Niehaus (right) had questions for the panelists.



RE-TWEETS FROM THE MARCH 9 CMC FORUM – @CMCFORUM



*New hashtag #cbsforum - looking forward to new conversations!
Don't pretend to know who's right, but love that #cbsforum is debating data!*
— Community Research Partners

*Sam Randazzo: people need to chill - spend less time running TV ads!
Why is energy so expensive in Ohio? @GO_GeneK says something's horribly wrong. #cbsforum*
— Kelly Atkinson

Ned Hill suggests we must determine appropriate regulation role for govt entities including state and federal. #cbsforum
— Ned Hill



Marty Rosenthal and Earl Goldhammer reconnected at the CMC forum.