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# More Wetlands, Less Runoff, and Clean Water for All

August 9, 2023

DIVERSITY ■ DISCUSSION ■ DEBATE



**Anne Vogel**  
 Director, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency  
 Governor Mike DeWine appointed Anne M. Vogel as the director of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency in December 2022. She most recently served as Policy Director for Governor DeWine during his first term, driving implementation of the DeWine/Husted agenda for Ohio. Chief among them is the creation and launch of H2Ohio, the Governor's water quality initiative that brings together the Ohio EPA, Ohio Department of Agriculture and Ohio Department of Natural Resources to improve Ohio's water quality through the creation of wetlands, the reduction in phosphorus runoff, and access to clean drinking water and quality sewer systems. Vogel also served as Infrastructure Coordinator for Governor DeWine, overseeing a cross-agency team charged with securing federal grants for infrastructure improvements across the state.

Previously, Vogel worked at AEP, as a litigator at Porter Wright, and as a clerk for Judge Sargus, U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio.

Vogel holds a Bachelor's Degree from Bob Jones University, an MBA from The Ohio State University, and a Juris Doctor from Capital University.



**Brian Baldrige**  
 Director, Ohio Department of Agriculture  
 Brian Baldrige was appointed Director of the Ohio Department of Agriculture by Governor Mike DeWine in February 2023. In this position, Baldrige provides leadership for the agriculture industry and oversees numerous regulatory, food safety, and consumer protection programs.

Baldrige served two terms in Ohio House of Representatives, representing the 90th House District. During his tenure, he served on the House Agriculture Committee and advocated for programs supporting the agricultural industry.

As a life-long Southern Ohio native, Director Baldrige is no stranger to serving the public. He has served as both Adams County Commissioner and Wayne Township Trustee, prior to his service at the Ohio Statehouse. In 2020, he retired from the Anderson Township Fire Department after 25 years of service and is still a volunteer of the Wayne Township Fire Department in Adams County.

Baldrige attended Southern State Community College and Shawnee State University.



**Mary Mertz**  
 Director, Ohio Department of Natural Resources  
 Mary Mertz serves as Director of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, having been appointed by Governor Mike DeWine in January of 2019. Mertz leads and oversees 11 divisions that manage Ohio's state parks, preserves, and forests, analyze and report on geologic and water resources, protect and improve the Lake Erie coastline, conserve and manage Ohio's fish and wildlife, and regulate oil, gas, and mining industries.

Mertz has been instrumental in advancing Governor DeWine's initiatives in the H2Ohio water quality program by launching an ambitious effort to restore and create wetlands in key locations across Ohio, focusing on the Lake Erie watershed.

Previously, Mertz served as First Assistant Attorney General during DeWine's tenure as Ohio Attorney General. She has also served in many other government posts as well, including roles with Governor George Voinovich, Congressman Bob McEwen, and in the Office of Legislative Affairs at the White House.

Mertz earned her Bachelor's Degree at American University, a Master's Degree at George Washington University, and her Juris Doctor from the Ohio State Moritz College of Law.



**Natalie Fahmy**  
 Ohio Statehouse Reporter, WCMH NBC4  
 Natalie Fahmy joined the NBC4 team in July 2022 as the Ohio Statehouse Reporter. She previously reported for WKBW-TV in Buffalo, New York. There, she covered stories ranging from the Buffalo mass shooting to how snow impacts residents.

Fahmy graduated from the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse University.

# Today's Attendees

**B** CMC Board Member **LM** Lifetime Member  
**NM** New Member **LS** Livestream Supporter

## MEMBERS

George Arnold **LM**  
Doug Buchanan  
Rick Buchanan  
Nickolas Burner  
Katie Carter  
Emily Cooner  
Marissa Davis  
Sophia Fifer  
Warren Fishman **LM**  
Erin Flynn  
Sima Gellman  
Deb Hackathorn **B LM**  
Andrea Harless  
Niel Jurist **B**  
Allison Justice  
Thomas Kahler  
Andy Keeler  
Brian King  
Brian Kinzelman **LM**  
Bill LaFayette  
Patrick Losinski  
Carol Luper  
Luke Messinger  
Leigh Ann Miller  
Bill Mitsch  
Montra Moody  
Joan Marie Moore  
Michael O'Callaghan  
Lori Overmyer **LM**  
Mike Peppe  
Jason Rafeld  
Stephen Renner  
Cornell Robertson  
Calloway Robertson III  
Cheryl Roller

Heather Schreiber  
Jane Scott **LM**  
Jack Shaner  
Dan Sharpe  
Bruce Smith **LM**  
Larry Smith  
Susan Smith  
Tricia Strahler  
Brian Tornes  
Marshall Troxell  
Brian Urbanski **LM**  
Jody Urbanski **LM**  
Denny Vincent  
Diane Vincent  
Dan Williamson

## GUESTS

Mat Aldridge  
Laura Arenschiold  
Marc Armstrong  
Manal Assaad  
Bill LaFayette  
Justine Baker  
Brian Baldrige  
Stephanie Bayne  
Frances Beasley  
David Bender  
Jonathan Bentley  
Dustin Bolek  
Mike Born  
Julia Brown  
Shana Byrd  
Joe Campbell  
Shane Clark  
Brian Coghlan  
Steve Compton  
Jennifer Conroy  
Doug Dawson

Mike Dickey  
Mark Dille  
Rick Dunlop  
Kris Dye  
Jill Evans  
Natalie Fahmy  
Laura Fay  
Margaret Findley  
Jennifer Fish  
Krystina Garabis  
Joe Gioffre  
Michael Guastella **LS**  
David Hanselmann  
Kristy Hawthorne  
Bill Heck  
Kevin Kasnyik  
Chelsea Keefer  
Brad Kendall  
Danny Ketzner  
Matt Keyes  
Lorraine Krzyzewski  
Kim Landsbergen  
Rebecca Longsmith  
Jimmy Lump  
Tom Maish

Trish Mayhorn  
Mary Beth McNamee  
Kirk Merritt  
Mary Mertz  
Vince Messerly  
Kathy Milenkovski  
Marcus Miller  
Nat Miller  
Michael Myser  
Ian Nicky  
Stephanie O'Grady  
Stephanie Page  
Staci Perkins  
Adam Porter  
Victoria Prokup  
Dan Ream  
Katelyn Riffel  
Eric Robinson  
Jenna Roller-Knapp  
Bruce Savage  
Crystal Scales  
Kori Sedmak  
Kyle Seitz  
Marcey Shafer  
Lindsey Shapiro

Nicholas Sheriff  
Alana Shockey  
Jerry Smith  
Joey Smith  
Greg Snowden  
Aaron Stamper  
Roberta Stewart  
Mike Studer  
Seth Swearingen  
Andrea Taglione  
Callia Tellez  
Edwina Teye  
Mary Turocy  
Mary VanHaaften  
Anne Vogel  
Jim Wasil  
Andy Weeks  
Brandi Whetstone  
Marty Wicks  
Kyle Wilson  
Devon Wood  
Betty Zimmer

Thank you to our Table Hosts

Advanced Drainage Systems

Burgess & Niple

The Columbus Foundation

Del-Co Water Company

Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District

Paul Werth Associates

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**BURGESS & NIPLE**



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

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## More Ways to Catch CMC Forums

WCBE 90.5 Radio airs CMC Forums on Saturdays at 7:00 AM. CMC Forums are available on the WCBE Podcast Experience website.

Forum podcasts can also be heard on the CMC website or via your favorite podcast app.

WOSU Public Media, CMC's broadcast partner, televises CMC Forums on the WOSU Ohio digital channel and over-the-air on channel 34.2. The most recent Forums air on Mondays at 9:00 PM, Tuesdays at 5:00 AM, and Thursdays at noon.

CTV, Columbus Television, airs CMC Forums on Spectrum Channel 1024, WOW Channel 3, and AT&T Channel 99. You can also watch CTV over the air on WCIZ Channel 22.4.

Forums can also be seen on the CMC website at [columbusmetroclub.org/archive/](#) and on CMC's YouTube channel.

## Upcoming Forums

Unless otherwise noted, all forums are 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM.  
For Ticket info, visit [columbusmetroclub.org](#) or call 614.464.3220

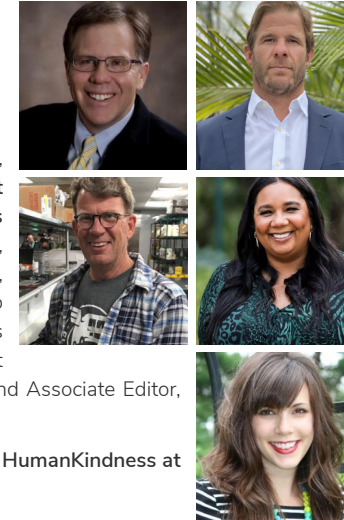
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16, 2023

### Ghost Kitchens, Virtual Restaurants, & Delivery Apps: How Tech is Disrupting Dining

Featuring **John Barker**, President & CEO, The Ohio Restaurant Association, **Bennett Goldberg**, Partner, Maker Kitchens, **Chris Baggott**, Co-Founder and CEO, ClusterTruck, and **Lisa A. Gutierrez**, Founder and CEO, Dos Hermanos Taco Truck, Founder and Food-Based Business Coach, Food Truck Millionaire, with host **Susan Post**, Editor, The Metropreneur, and Associate Editor, Columbus Underground.

Livestream sponsored by: **The Center for HumanKindness at The Columbus Foundation**

Livestream in partnership with: **The Columbus Dispatch**



WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23, 2023

### Black Mothers Matter: Combatting the Maternal Mortality Epidemic

Optimal Health Series

Featuring **Erica Crawley**, Franklin County Board of Commissioners, **Jatu Boikai**, Nurse Manager, Maternity Services, Mount Carmel Health System, and **Shawnee Benton-Gibson**, Co-Founder and CEO, Spirit of a Woman Leadership Development Institute, and Co-Founder, ARIAH Foundation, with host to be announced.

Series sponsored by: OSU Wexner Medical Center and Nationwide Children's Hospital

Sponsored by: **Cardinal Health** and **Mount Carmel Health System**

Livestream sponsored by: **The Center for HumanKindness at The Columbus Foundation**

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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30, 2023

### Affirmative Action At The Crossroads

Featuring **Ankit Shah**, Supervisor, Talent Development, Columbus State Community College, **Cynthia W. Turner, Ph.D.**, Assistant Dean and Chief Diversity Officer, Fisher College of Business, The Ohio State University, and **Margaret Finley**, Director of DEI and Head of Corporate Affairs, Advanced Drainage Systems, with host **Sherrice Sledge-Thomas**, Vice President of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Access, Columbus Chamber of Commerce.

Sponsored by: **Thanks Be To God Foundation**

Livestream sponsored by: **The Center for HumanKindness at The Columbus Foundation**

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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2023

### Ohio From the House Speaker's Chair

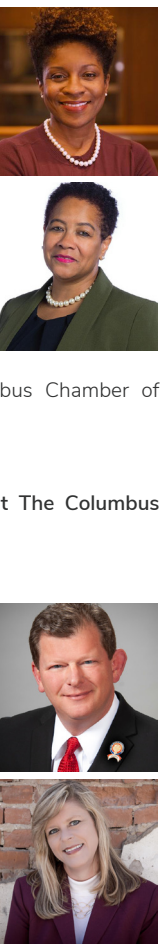
Steven & Vanessa Marks Legacy in Civic Engagement Fund Focusing on Civility in Politics

Featuring **Jason Stephens**, Speaker, the Ohio House of Representatives, and Representative for District 93, with host **Karen Kasler**, Statehouse News Bureau Chief.

Sponsored by: **The Center for Community Solutions**

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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2023

### Gravitational Pull: How Creative Culture Makes Neighborhoods Great

Developing a Dynamic Downtown Series

Featuring **Brett Kaufman**, Founder, Kaufman Development, with host **Bonnie Meibers**, Commercial Real Estate Reporter, *Columbus Business First*.

Series presented by: **Columbus Downtown Development Corporation & Capitol South**

Series sponsored by: **Thompson Hine** Sponsored by: **REALM Collaborative**

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