

Cristo Rey appoints chief operating officer
The Catholic Times
The Diocese of Columbus' News Source
November 22, 2020
Feast of Christ the King
Volume 70:4

Carly (Hammond) Miller '98 has been appointed as the first chief operating officer of Cristo Rey Columbus High School.

This new position will streamline the school's organizational structure and advance the impact of its current resources, the school said in a release. Miller has served in the school's advancement office and as leader of its strategic planning program. "A five year veteran here at Cristo Rey, Miller is the perfect candidate for this newly created role," said school president Joe Patrick. "Her legal background, experience at Cristo Rey Columbus and passion for our staff and students are a powerful combination."

The move is one of several administrative changes being made to continue the growth the school has demonstrated since it opened in 2011. "Jim Foley (who retired as school president in July) left us on incredible financial footing when he retired," Patrick said. "With Carly as chief operating officer and our other school leaders, we are poised to help Cristo Rey Columbus take the next steps."

Miller received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Swarthmore College in ancient history and a Juris Doctor degree from Ohio State University. Her legal career includes eight years practicing intellectual property and business litigation law. She had 15 years of volunteer experience working with young people in educational settings before coming to Cristo Rey.

<https://d2y1pz2y630308.cloudfront.net/15206/documents/2020/11/November%2022%202020.pdf>

Central Ohio's E.E. Ward, America's oldest Black-owned business, responds to corporate America's new diversity focus

By Hayleigh Colombo – Staff reporter, Columbus Business First
Feb 2, 2021, 1:58pm EST

For Grove City-based moving and storage company E.E. Ward Moving & Storage Co., diversity is more than a slogan or PR campaign.

The company has been federally recognized as the country's oldest continually operating Black-owned business. E.E. Ward's founder John T. Ward served as a conductor on the Underground Railroad, using his horses and wagon to help slaves escape to freedom. In 1881, he founded the moving and storage company with two horses and a wagon.

Today, the firm has nearly 100 employees and manages corporate and residential moves across the U.S.

Owners **Brian '87** and Dominique Brooks say the statements from corporate America against racism since the summer's protests against racial injustice have been encouraging to see. But next steps are vital, they say.

In Columbus, for example, nearly 1,000 businesses, including many top Central Ohio employers, signed a letter in June declaring racism a public health crisis, days after the police killing of George Floyd in Minnesota, causing protests throughout the U.S. and in Columbus.

What will be even better, though, the E.E. Ward owners said, is actual action taken to increase diversity and eliminate racism.

Brian Brooks said the recent public commitments to end racism are "promising."

"The question is, will it stay? Will it stick beyond 2020? Will it stick beyond a PR campaign? Will it stick beyond a commercial? To say it is one thing, but to do it is another," Brooks said.

Brian Brooks said even prior to 2020, there were companies that showed dedication to improving diversity within their workforces or supplier bases.

"I've seen some of those increase it, and I've seen some who may not have been as dedicated," Brian Brooks said. "You just hope that it stays with us for the long run and it wasn't just a reaction to a social movement that came about because of many unfortunate circumstances."

Dominique Brooks said consumers today, especially racial minorities, are watching what companies do beyond posting a black box on social media on #BlackoutTuesday, or posting that they are against racism.

"Actions speak louder than words," Dominique Brooks said. "Everyone's watching. If you're not doing what you said you're going to do, it's going to become very apparent and obvious."

Dominique Brooks said saying "diversity matters" is not enough anymore.

"Show me," Dominique Brooks said. "What actions have you taken? List the steps and actions you have taken to ensure that diversity matters in your organization and your company. What are you doing and who has benefited?"

https://www.bizjournals.com/columbus/news/2021/02/02/diversity-black-owned-business-trend.html?ana=e_ae_prem&j=90548921&t=Afternoon&mkt_tok=eyJpIjoiT1RJNE1USXpNak14TmBeSisInQiOiJscVwvZnJuNVhqSUltMzMzVE1lUlBySjZKTzE4QUp2TTQrTzc0eFFNQ0hPN2F1cEdZ

Giving blood can reveal serious health issues donors didn't know about

Allison Ward

The Columbus Dispatch

Published January 26, 2021

By scheduling an American Red Cross blood drive at his car dealership in Groveport, **Rick Ricart '98** thought he could make an impact on others and save some lives.

Instead, it might have just saved his.

Ricart, who hadn't given blood in nearly a decade, signed up to be the first person to donate during the August event. But after the pre-donation screening, which includes taking vitals such as temperature and blood pressure as well as a finger prick to check iron levels, Ricart was disappointed — and shocked — to learn that he couldn't donate because his iron levels were below the required threshold.

"I thought, 'What are you talking about? Who wouldn't want my blood? It's Viking blood,'" Ricart, 41, said with a chuckle.

Worry set in, and he immediately called his primary care physician to follow up on the results.

Over the next few months, Ricart met with various specialists and eventually received the devastating news in November that he had stage 1 colon cancer. A week and a half later, he had surgery to remove a foot of his colon.

These days he is considered cancer-free — back to work full-time and riding dirt bikes with his kids. He recognizes just how lucky he is.

"If it hadn't been for the Red Cross event and if I hadn't gotten a blood test for another six months or a year, we wouldn't have caught this so early," Ricart said, adding that a later diagnosis could have meant chemotherapy and poorer outcomes. "This was very, very close to being a critical situation."

While the vast majority of people who donate blood through the Red Cross won't receive information that leads to a diagnosis of a serious disease, there are numerous potential health issues that they could be alerted to during the process.

The organization follows multiple layers of safety protocols to ensure that any person is healthy enough to donate and that the blood product they provide is safe for transfusing into someone

else, said Rodney Wilson, senior biomedical communications specialist for the Greater Columbus chapter of the American Red Cross.

Being denied the ability to donate doesn't necessarily mean that something serious is to blame. Low or high iron levels could mean something as simple as looking at one's diet, Wilson said.

Regular donors can track changes in their blood pressure using an online patient portal, and that can offer insights into a person's health, too.

"One of the benefits of being a blood donor is having that consistent baseline of information on what is a healthy state for your body," Wilson said. "Having that history of information and then knowing that if there is a change, it could be an indicator of something to look into."

Each donor gives five test tubes of blood at the end of each donation that are screened for roughly a dozen blood-transmissible diseases, such as HIV, hepatitis B and C, and West Nile virus.

Though rare — only 1 in 1,600 units donated nationally each year tests positive for one of the infectious diseases they screen for — Wilson said that donors can learn whether they have one of these diseases through the donation process, which can allow them to begin accessing treatment for it. He cautioned, however, that false positives do happen, and people should not take the results as diagnoses.

"Our recommendation to the patient is that they follow up with their own doctor to do additional testing, and that can confirm either way whether or not our test was accurate," Wilson said.

The Red Cross does not test for COVID-19 because it's a respiratory-spread illness, but it does screen for coronavirus antibodies in order to determine whether someone's plasma, which the Red Cross can take from a blood donation, could be used to treat patients with the disease.

Dr. Ben Bring '03 said many patients at OhioHealth Dublin Methodist Hospital, where he is program director for the family medicine residency program, have been asking their health care providers whether they can receive COVID-19 antibody testing. He tells them the best way to find out if they have antibodies is to donate blood. (He gives the same answer when patients want to know their blood type.)

While Bring acknowledges that donating blood doesn't replace seeing a primary care physician regularly, he appreciates the health care metrics donors can receive through the process.

"It's another touchpoint in the health care system," Bring said. "It can be good to get the conversation started. Coming to a doctor's office can be a daunting task."

Even as a healthy 22-year-old, Olivia Howard appreciates the health information she can glean from donating blood, which she does six times a year. She especially appreciates keeping an eye on her iron levels — even if it's simply to alleviate concerns of some family members.

"I've been vegan for three years and (the Red Cross) always says, 'Oh, your iron levels are great,'" said the Ohio State University dental student as she was lying in a bed giving blood at the Red Cross' Broad Street location on Friday. "I should tell my grandmother that."

Howard has been donating blood regularly since the beginning of the pandemic, when the Red Cross experienced a national shortage of blood. Wilson said donations have stabilized a bit since, but donors are always needed.

"If you want to do something positive during this challenging time," Wilson said, "giving blood is something that is easy and needed and people are doing it, which is wonderful."

<https://www.dispatch.com/story/news/healthcare/2021/01/26/blood-donations-can-alert-donors-serious-health-issues/4238368001/>

Advertiser editor **Bro Krift '95** named senior news director of Indianapolis Star

Brad Harper

Montgomery Advertiser

Published 11:48 a.m. CT Jan. 22, 2021 Updated 11:53 a.m. CT Jan. 22, 2021

Montgomery Advertiser Executive Editor Bro Krift has been named the senior news director of the Indianapolis Star, also a Gannett-owned paper and one of the chain's five largest properties.

Krift was the managing editor of the Corpus Christi (Texas) Caller-Times before arriving at the Advertiser in August 2016. Once in Montgomery, he led a shift to more in-depth, community-focused coverage.

That included the launch of the Community Heroes series to honor the work of unsung locals and a push toward solutions journalism, which focuses less on the problems and more on the path forward. The Advertiser's 2018 series on lynchings and an editorial apologizing for how the paper covered the issue in the past gained national attention.

"The response to (the lynching series) within the community and then outside of it, from the nation, was a bit overwhelming," Krift said. "I'm proud that we took the risks that we did in terms of examining ourselves and being honest. That's what people want from news organizations. They want honesty."

He said he's also proud of "big J journalism" handled by the staff in his time with the Advertiser, including coverage of problems in state prisons, building inroads with aspects of the community that had been ignored and the work to shine a light on historical figures like Jeremiah Haralson.

"I love the energy of this newsroom. I love the spirit of this newsroom, the willingness to work together," Krift said.

In 2019, the Advertiser grew the most in page views by percentage of any Gannett paper. It was able to add positions through grants facilitated by the Solutions Journalism Network and Report for America to help bolster the new approach to coverage.

During the past two years, he was given oversight of newsrooms in two states, while remaining in charge of the Advertiser.

Krift said he's thankful that the staff and the community embraced him here, praising local readers such as Charlie Casmus, who regularly called him to offer criticism or advice. "That shows they care," he said.

Krift will remain with the Advertiser until Feb. 12. He takes over duties in Indianapolis starting Feb. 22. "It's a great opportunity to hopefully do similar things that the staff has done in Montgomery," he said. "I want to put in place a plan that allows people to shine."

<https://www.montgomeryadvertiser.com/story/news/2021/01/22/montgomery-advertiser-editor-bro-krift-leave-indianapolis-star/6669433002/>

Columbus Young Professionals picks 63 community leaders for new Leadership Council
By Doug Buchanan – Editor in chief, Columbus Business First
47 minutes ago

The Columbus Young Professionals Club has formed a new advisory board with 63 up-and-coming community leaders to advise the networking organization on upcoming initiatives.

Derek Grosso, CYP Club founder and CEO, said the organization is 15 years old and needed to think about what it will look like over the next 15 years.

"It was the result of a mindset reset ... about where the CYP Club organization truly needs to go and can transform to become," he said in an email.

Grosso said the new Columbus Leadership Council was the result of planning over the past year for what the organization's future and mission should be. He said CYP is transitioning from an events-based club to "more of a regional hub for emerging leaders" that focuses on the "four pillars" of careers, community, culture and conversations.

The council is diverse, Grosso said, in keeping with efforts to move the organization toward stronger diversity and inclusion recruitment. The membership is 35% Black, according to the organization, and 60% female.

Here are the members of CYP's Columbus Leadership Council:

- Jay Pullen, president and CEO, A Tribute To African Americans Committee Inc.
- Alex Reese, marketing & communications Specialist, Mount Carmel College Of Nursing
- Alex Slaymaker, Smart Columbus, The Columbus Partnership
- Ameerah Harris, product operations specialist, Beam Dental
- Andrew Kozak, TV meteorologist, Spectrum News 1
- Anthony Granitsas, CEO/founder, Source Restaurant
- Bailey Hanley, business development coordinator, Wright-Patt Credit Union
- Caroline Bennett, CEO/founder, Caroline Inspires LLC
- Casey Sudzina, account executive, Geben Communication
- Cassy Patterson, programs & events specialist, Better Business Bureau of Central Ohio
- Chanie Scott, AVP, outreach & recruitment, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Ohio
- Charles Hill, grants management coordinator, City of Columbus
- Charlotte Smithson, information & event assistant, Barnes & Thornburg LLP
- Christopher Jones , co-owner & COO, Warhol & Wall St.
- Christopher Wyche, director of external affairs, AT&T Ohio
- David A. Ingram, attorney, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter
- David Polakowski, executive director, Tri-Village Chamber Partnership
- Derek Grosso, founder & CEO, Columbus Young Professionals Club
- Gabrielle Solange Travis, multimedia artist, entertainer & creative coach
- Habiba Bankston, senior community relations specialist, L Brands
- Hilary Stone, manager of donor stewardship, The Columbus Foundation
- **Isabel Graham-Torrez '13**, account specialist, CoverMyMeds
- Jenese Wallace, regional marketing partner, Medvet
- Jerry Tsai, director of operations, Acceptd Inc.
- Jordan Gomes, assistant director of leadership annual giving, OSU Alumni Association
- Kayleigh Bowe, community development and event specialist, Gahanna CVB
- Keiana Mitchell, partnerships manager, Experience Columbus
- Kelly Renner, assistant dean of academic operations, Franklin University
- Kristin Harper, CEO, Driven To Succeed LLC
- Laura Charney, VP of Columbus operations, Hagerty
- Lexi Petrella, mobility coordinator, Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission
- Lolo Smith, founder, Urban Accelerator X
- Lubna Najjar, CEO, Il Modabrand Development
- Lyric Fields, relationship manager, Bank of America
- Malissa Galiffo Garcia, owner, Columbus Futsal Club
- Manny Larcher, CEO, Stopwatch Creative
- Matt Lofy, director of marketing & community outreach, Westerville Chamber of Commerce
- Maxwell Christian, product manager, Mettler Toledo

- Melanie March, decision engine support specialist, Huntington Bank
- Merry Ellen Austin, navigator, Can't Stop Columbus
- Michael Cao, CEO, Ic3d Printers
- Mimi Webb, senior business developer, Blue Label Packaging Co.
- Muimtaz (Mimi) Shalash, network director, Women In Technology International
- Nick Bankston, manager of neighborhood transformation strategies, City of Columbus
- Nick Potts, CEO, GiftHealth
- Priyam Chokshi, director of community & legislative strategies, Celebrate One
- Robert Koehler, chief operating officer and co-founder, Flavvr
- Roman Woods, department manager, Discover Financial Services
- Samantha Thompson, project manager, CAS
- Samuel Davis, founder & CEO, Benevolence Holdings Ltd.
- Sherry Lloyd, co-owner, Columbusblack.Com; Co-founder, Myle
- Solonas Karoulla, relationship manager, Leadership Giving, United Way of Central Ohio
- Stephanie Page, head of outreach & partnerships, Point
- Terry Green, founder And CEO, Think Make Live Youth
- Tia Revell, associate underwriting specialist, Encova
- Tonnisha J. English, founder, TJE Communications
- Tony Mazziotti, membership manager, Tri Village Chamber Partnership
- Travis Copeland, manager of hospitality and concierge services, OhioHealth
- Tristan Navera, development reporter, Columbus Business First
- Valerie Joseph, lead, Emerging Professionals Business Resource Group, Huntington
- Vishal Patel, owner, VPR Group/Curry Up Indian Grill
- Yasmin Jimenez, HR generalist, Woda Cooper Companies Inc.
- Yiema John, founder, She Radiates; account manager, Involve

https://www.bizjournals.com/columbus/news/2021/01/11/columbus-young-professionals-leadership-council-in.html?ana=e_colum_bn_editorschoice_editorschoice&j=90545726&t=Breaking%20News&mk_t_tok=eyJpIjoiTnpKbE5tVTBPVE5tTURBNCIsInQiOiI3XC82TU1lUTJPMTFRCGpONjlyNTZhUVpwZmI5WURHdU9ORWt5bkgyTHlZVVRPUjRWdkJPZ3BhVGI4QnpCYXozdGpVM3V3R3lwWndYbFVQUHFoMGQ3RFFQU0hYWkxIcXlvOGorbkthRkpMc0RLdFZcl1pXdU5NVVJTUHVlRldYN2VxIn0=

Presenting the 2021 SCCA Hall of Fame Class
 December 4, 2020 at 4:17 PM
 Sports Car Club of America

Five individuals compose the 2021 Sports Car Club of America Hall of Fame class named today, recognizing their significant contributions to the Club's history and the world of motorsports, and adding their names to a timeless list of motorsports superstars.

Tom Campbell, John Fergus, R. Bruce Gezon, Lloyd Loring and Donna Mae Mims will officially join the SCCA Hall of Fame during a virtual induction on January 23, 2021 — the opening day of the 2021 SCCA Virtual Convention. An in-person induction ceremony is being planned for the SCCA National Championship Runoffs at Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

Read more about this year's class, which features a Regional and National leader, an all-time great road racer, the winningest participant in SCCA history, a legendary voice and a true pioneer.

Tom Campbell

Tom Campbell has served the Sports Car Club of America in a variety of capacities at the Regional, Divisional and National level, for both SCCA Inc and SCCA Pro Racing. Campbell is a longtime member of the Mohawk Hudson Region SCCA, beginning as a competition driver and as an engineer by training has built and maintained a number championship caliber race cars. Campbell served two terms on the SCCA Board of Directors, including as Treasurer and Chairman. At the Regional and Divisional level, he was Chairman of the Northeast Division. He served as SCCA Pro Racing Chairman of the Board before becoming President/CEO of the subsidiary and leading it through a period of financial stability. Campbell oversaw the first set of Spec Miata rules for inclusion in the GCR and was instrumental in the move of the SCCA archives to its current home at the International Motor Racing Research Center in Watkins Glen, New York.

John Fergus '70

John Fergus is nearly synonymous with SCCA Road Racing's Sports 2000 class. The Ohio Valley Region member actually began his SCCA career as an autocrosser, winning Solo National Championships in 1977, 1978 and 1979 before turning his attention to road racing. With seven wins at the SCCA National Championship Runoffs, all in Sports 2000, he trails only nine others in the history of the Club. In addition to his Sports 2000 Runoffs Championships, he also won three Pro Sports 2000 Championships. Elsewhere, Fergus also scored 13 wins in IMSA GTU competition, winning the championship in 1991. While a successful driver, Fergus was also active in his home region, establishing worker awards, worker parties and training seminars and strengthening the Region during the 1990s when it also hosted the Runoffs annually. Fergus' respect stretches beyond the SCCA, as evidenced by his role as Vice President and Treasurer of the Road Race Drivers Club (RRDC).

R. Bruce Gezon

Bruce Gezon becomes the first SCCA Hall of Famer to have predominantly built his SCCA legacy in road rally, rather than following in the footsteps of those who also competed in performance rally. Gezon, who is still competing at 80 years of age, is believed to have won more SCCA National Championships than any other member, credited with 43 National Championships between 1968 and 2020. Currently a member of the Philadelphia and Allegheny Highland Regions, Gezon's SCCA record includes the most United States Road Rally Championship wins, a record 15-consecutive wins in National Rallies, the 1974 National Class A Championship by allying a perfect 50 points with 11 different rally partners (driving in six events and navigating in

five), and being a member of the five-car Ford Rally team from 1969-1970, winning the Manufacturers' Championship for Ford. Behind the scenes, Gezon is Points Keeper and also co-editor of the SCCA RoadRally rule book and has served as Rally Master of National Rallies for three different SCCA Regions and Rally Master of Divisional Rallies for five different Regions, spanning more than 50 years.

Lloyd Loring

Seldom does an individual contribute to the Club in such a way that he starts a worker specialty based on his talents, but such is the case for South Bend Region's Lloyd Loring. While participating as a successful driver in a Porsche 356 and working on South Bend's traveling tech team, Loring discovered his skill and passion for announcing. Serving first at local events and in the CENDiv Solo series, Loring quickly became the first announcer at Solo Nationals. Although largely retired from announcing, the 92-year-old Loring continues to call select South Bend Region road races and autocross events. Loring is a member of the CenDiv Hall of Fame and a Curt Thews Award winner from his home Region for the member who has given unselfishly to the success of the Region. The Great Lakes Division has recognized his legacy by awarding the Lloyd Loring and Jeanne Ruble Achievement Award annually at the Great Lakes Division Solo Championships Spring Training weekend. Still known as "The Voice of Solo," his trademark "Are you ready for this?" remains music to National autocrossers' ears.

Donna Mae Mims

Known as the "Pink Lady" of racing, Steel Cities Region's Donna Mae Mims established herself as a formidable competitor in sports car racing, and an active participant in Region activities and leadership before becoming the first woman to win an SCCA road racing National Championship in 1963. Though known as a Chevrolet fanatic, Mims' 1963 National point championship came in H Production behind the wheel of a pink Bugeye Sprite. Mims was also a licensed grid worker, a member of the Region's Board of Directors, a driving instructor, and editor of the award-winning Region magazine, "Drift." Easy to spot in her pink driving suit, pink helmet and pink wig, with "Think Pink" emblazoned on the back of her race car, Mims also competed (with Suzy Dietrich and Janet Guthrie) in the Rolex 24 At Daytona and the 12 Hours of Sebring. At her passing in 2009 at the age of 82, her viewing at the funeral home had her seated in her race-winning 1979 Corvette.

The 2021 class joins the list below of previously selected SCCA Hall of Famers:

2005: Cameron Argetsinger, A. Tracy Bird, John Fitch, Arthur Gervais, Harry Handley, Vern Jaques, Bill Milliken, Sue Roethel, Art Trier, Rob Walker

2006: John Bornholdt, John Buffum, Mark Donohue, Denise McCluggage, Grant Reynolds

2007: Marge Binks, Marc Gerstein, Carl A. Haas, General Curtis E. LeMay, Theodore F. Robertson

2008: Roger E. Johnson, Don and Ruth Nixon, Kjell Qvale, Robert Ridges, Fred Schmucker

2009: Bill Chambres, Bill Johnson, Jim Kimberly, Paul Newman, John Timanus

2010: Nick Craw, Briggs Cunningham, R. David Jones, Burdette "Berdie" Martin, Wayne Zitkus

2011: Karen Babb, John Bishop, Jim Fitzgerald, Tracer Racing, Harro Zitz

2012: Charlie Earwood, Jim Hall, Gene Henderson, Dr. Peter Talbot, Bryan Webb

2013: Skip Barber, Bill Noble, Bobby Rahal, Carroll Shelby, Andy Porterfield
2014: Kathy Barnes, Robert “Bob” Bondurant, Dan Gurney, Dr. Robert “Bob” Hubbard and Jim Downing, Pete Hylton
2015: Roger H. Johnson, Oscar Koveleski, Ron Sharp, Dr. George Snively, Bob Tullius
2016: Hubert Brundage, Bob Henderson, Roger Penske, Randy Pobst, Alec Ulman
2017: Pete Brock, Dennis Dean, Larry and Linda Dent, Joe Huffaker Sr., Lyn St. James, Phil Hill, Jim Kaser
2018: William C. Bradshaw, Peter Cunningham, Janet Guthrie, August Pabst, Dave Stremming and Loren Pearson, Bob Sharp, Dr. Dick Thompson
2019: David Ammen, Dr. Frank Falkner, George Follmer, Patricia "Patc" Henry, John McGill, Dorsey Schroeder, Henryk Szamota
2020: Bill and Jane Goodale, Walt Hansgen, Scott Harvey, Joe Huffaker, Jr., Cat Kizer, Bob and Patty Tunnell, Dave and Sherrie Weitzenhof

<https://www.scca.com/articles/2014512-presenting-the-2021-scca-hall-of-fame-class>

The Biden-Harris FDA should make friends with independent researchers

By CHRISTI GUERRINI, ALEX PEARLMAN, and **PATTI ZETTLER '98**

JANUARY 26, 2021

STAT News

Support for open science — accessible, collaborative, and radically transparent research done outside of traditional science venues — has been growing. During the Covid-19 pandemic, you might even say it is having a moment.

Networks of amateur and professional researchers around the world have emerged to help develop and disseminate solutions for preventing Covid-19 and gathering data relevant to managing the disease.

As these efforts begin to achieve milestones and mature — possibly spinning off into small companies — some are certain to attract the attention of the Food and Drug Administration, which has regulatory authority over biomedical interventions and health products, as well as food and additives.

The bioeconomy is not homogeneous, and neither are independent scientists, also known as biohackers, DIY-ers, community biologists, and biomedical citizen scientists. Many within these rapidly growing communities are seeking access to scientific tools and informational resources to facilitate their participation in the development, testing, and marketing of novel consumer products created with things like genetically modified organisms, cybernetic implants, or synthetic biological parts, emerging fields in which regulation can be opaque.

Their broader objective is to promote creative approaches to research that are accessible, affordable, and community-driven. If these movements are successful at moving the epicenter

of research — or even just a handful of important projects — from academic labs to the network of independent scientists working across borders and disciplines, the regulatory apparatus will also need to shift to accommodate the products that will inevitably emerge. For this to happen successfully, regulators and researchers must understand and respectfully work with one another.

In a recent commentary published in *Science*, two of us (C.G. and P.Z., along with co-authors) explored the FDA's authority as it generally applies to independent biomedical research and argued that further clarity from the agency on how it will enforce its authority would help "give fair warning to those who might underestimate the scope of FDA jurisdiction as well as reassure those who are not likely to face enforcement actions."

Although the FDA has made isolated overtures in this space to help communicate its authority and regulatory intentions, the agency should establish new channels of communication with citizen scientists, especially during the pandemic. Specifically, the *Science* commentary proposed that the FDA set up an office staffed by individuals knowledgeable about independent science that the community can contact with questions or to share information with regulators.

There are many reasons why this suggestion might not be implemented, at least not any time soon. These include significant resource constraints and the FDA's focus on more pressing matters, such as overseeing Covid-19 vaccines.

But the idea is worth exploring now, perhaps even especially during a pandemic.

Public dissemination and consumption of scientific information appears to be at an all-time high, fueling interest in participating in scientific research and discovery that was growing even before the pandemic. Yet as more individuals become independent scientists, confusion and misunderstanding of the ways in which their activities might run afoul of public health and safety regulations increases rather than subsides. Designating one or more FDA staffers to field questions directly from such researchers would, we believe, go a long way toward helping them navigate the complex regulatory thicket they might be skirting.

Most citizen scientists will likely be eager to understand how to steer clear of FDA regulation. But others, including independent researchers developing Covid-19-related diagnostic tools and therapies in community labs or via Just One Giant Lab, will knowingly enter this thicket with the aim of obtaining FDA authorization to sell products to consumers or to partner with local governments. The problem for them is that no obvious regulatory on-ramp exists for research and development activities that originate outside the scientific establishment. To use the existing infrastructure requires deep pockets, which these projects rarely have. A dedicated liaison is an important first step in helping them understand what resources are required to move forward.

A dedicated liaison could also provide independent biomedical researchers with valuable feedback on experimental designs. The FDA employs some of the world's top scientific and

research design experts. Access to the agency's expertise could be a massive value-add especially for independent researchers looking to enter the startup space.

At the same time, the agency would benefit by staying up to date on scientific innovation occurring in nontraditional settings at a time when these communities are still emerging and potentially open to input from the agency. Although independent scientists face more practical barriers in their work than institution-based scientists, such as procuring equipment and materials, they are not constrained by the priorities of funders and institutions. This means they have the freedom to pursue exactly what interests them, including research questions or approaches that have been neglected by the scientific establishment.

And because they work outside institutions, they also have the freedom to experiment with new forms of governance. Some independent researchers, for example, have begun the process of establishing a community-run ethics review mechanism for biomedical citizen-science projects. Although this mechanism is still in the early stages of development, if successful it could be a significant innovation in research ethics to the extent that it thoughtfully prioritizes different objectives, concerns, and values than procedures followed in institutional settings. Given the FDA's role in overseeing biomedical discovery, commercialization, and the ethical conduct of biomedical research, it is in the agency's interest to remain apprised of the successes and failures of these efforts.

Reorganizing and creating new offices or divisions is a way the FDA can change its own internal culture and communicate the public health and scientific importance of new developments. The creation of an Office of Independent Science would be a way for the agency to signal to emerging research communities that their issues are important and the agency is serious about engagement. Trust between the FDA and the community can build a bridge, setting the stage for the development of a more robust infrastructure for independent biodesign and biomedical research and — who knows? — maybe even product approvals.

It would be a first step in a long path toward mainstream acceptance of independent science if the FDA created a way for small teams to get questions answered quickly and without having to pay lawyers to get the attention of what can seem like a faceless bureaucratic agency. This would require a commitment from FDA to be as transparent as possible and make it easy to engage — and recognition from both sides that trust will take some time to build.

In this vein, the agency could build on its work to better engage with patient communities that exist in institutional research spaces and that often cross pollinate with the open science movement, and expand on its work engaging with hacking communities in the device cybersecurity space.

Yes, we're dreaming big. But this is the right time for pie-in-the sky thinking. A new administration is now in place in Washington with fresh ideas and new perspectives. The FDA has made efforts to be more transparent and flexible during the pandemic and should want to

continue to do so. And independent researchers are increasingly coalescing into identifiable communities, opening the door for regulators to create more robust partnerships with them.

If the FDA made it easy to do so, more independent scientists would undoubtedly reach out for meetings, advice, and even offer useful input on ways the FDA could continue to best assist this growing scientific field. Trust is a two-way street, after all, and both regulators and independent scientists can be valuable to one another.

Christi Guerrini is a health policy researcher and assistant professor in the Center for Medical Ethics and Health Policy at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston. Alex Pearlman is a science and technology journalist and bioethicist. Patti Zettler is an associate professor of law at The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law who studies the FDA.

<https://www.statnews.com/2021/01/26/the-biden-harris-fda-should-make-friends-with-independent-researchers/>

'Power Quarter': Kick off 2021 with our lineup of top Central Ohio business leaders

By Doug Buchanan – Editor in chief, Columbus Business First

Jan 22, 2021, 1:16pm EST

As we all thankfully put 2020 in the rear-view mirror, we at Columbus Business First are looking ahead in 2021 to help set the agenda for how the state and region can respond to the past year and lead an economic recovery that could raise our profile as a great place to live and work.

The Business First Power Breakfast has been a winter tradition for more than 25 years, with more than 900 typically coming together to kick start the new year, but for obvious reasons we can't gather together this year. However, we are committed to providing the same business intelligence. So instead of an in-person Power Breakfast, we've set a series of online discussions with business and community leaders on topics of importance to the state and region.

We're going to kick off the "Power Quarter" on Jan. 28 with a special presentation by acclaimed urban studies theorist Richard Florida on the Future of Cities, immediately followed by a panel discussion on the Future of Columbus. In the following weeks, we'll discuss the forecast for commercial real estate, diversity in the CRE industry, the economic development outlook for Ohio and Columbus, and the state of Columbus' competitiveness.

Tickets can be bought for individual sessions or all-access passes are available. More information is [here](#).

Here is the lineup:

01/28: Future of Cities/Future of Columbus. Renowned urbanist and thought leader Richard Florida will share his insights on the sustainability of America's cities, including the

opportunities and difficult choices ahead as cities navigate unprecedented challenges amid a global pandemic. We'll also get an update on the city's outlook, followed by a panel discussion with three distinguished city leaders on what we need to build a better future for Central Ohio: Opening introduction and update from Columbus Mayor Andrew Ginther

Trudy Bartley, associate vice president of local government and community relations, The Ohio State University

Alex Fischer, president and CEO, The Columbus Partnership

William Murdock, executive director, Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission

02/11: Commercial Real Estate Forecast. The coronavirus pandemic's upending of the nation's economy is changing the commercial real estate sector as work for most Americans has shifted forever. Not only will the trend toward working from home impact the demand for office space, but it will drive changes to office design and workflow. Developers have to take these and other evolving factors into account as they design future projects, a task made more difficult by the events of the past year. We'll start with a 2021 economic forecast, then hear from several industry leaders on their thoughts for the year:

Opening keynote from economist Bill Lafayette, owner of Regionomics

Sandy Doyle-Ahern P'20 '22, president, EMH&T

Paul Krimm, managing director and principal, Colliers International

Jim Merkel '92, founder and CEO, Rockbridge

Joel Pizzuti '90, president and chief operating officer, The Pizzuti Cos.

02/25: Women in Commercial Real Estate: The commercial real estate industry has many women among its executive ranks, a presence that belies the industry's male-dominated reputation. Still, there can be challenges as well as opportunities as gender diversity remains an issue. In this panel, we'll hear from several successful women in the industry in a discussion moderated by Eleanor Kennedy, host of Business First's Women of Influence podcast:

Bhatki Bania, CEO, BBCO Design

Amanda Hoffsis, president, Campus Partners

Amy Taylor, chief operating officer, Columbus Downtown Development Corp.

03/11: Ohio's Economic Outlook. "Never let a crisis go to waste" may be the theme for the state's economic development professionals, who are out in force selling the message that Ohio is the place to be for those looking for a better place to live. Some of the state's other advantages, including a central location, robust logistics networks, sophisticated tech sector, large workforce, etc., fit well in the emerging post-Covid economy. Hear from the head of JobsOhio and the leaders of the economic development organizations for the Columbus, Cleveland and Cincinnati regions on their strategies in 2021:

Bill Koehler, CEO, Team NEO

Kimm Lauterbach, president and CEO, REDI Cincinnati

Kenny McDonald, president and chief economic officer, One Columbus

JP Nauseef, president and CEO, JobsOhio

Nick Akins, chairman, president and CEO, American Electric Power Company Inc.
Steve Steinour, chairman, president and CEO, Huntington Bancshares Inc.
Kirt Walker, CEO, Nationwide

Ryan Huyghe '92 was named as one of the January 2021 “People on the Move” in Columbus Business First.

26

COLUMBUS BUSINESS FIRST

VIEWPOINT

MORNING RUN

Forgetting things we used to worry about pre-Covid

Mark Somerson

do while I'm at work. Not so much any more. Bob and Jerry visit my office every few minutes.

► **Loud music.** I used to worry about listening to music while I write this column. Now, there is nonstop music, often played loud.

And there are things that I think about now that would have seemed absurd pre-Covid.

That list includes:

► **Connecting with people.** Anyone. Any time. There are people who I used to see daily, weekly or monthly who I have not talked to face to face since March.

► **Nap time.** Closing my eyes at work for 30 minutes? Never. No way. Snoozing in the home office? You bet I do.

► **Missing events.** *Business First* is really, really good at putting on events. Big events. I still remember all the fun in-person shindigs.

► **Who in the world is at my front door at 2 p.m.?** And are they wearing a mask? They are. And are they wearing a fat?

► **Do these sweatpants make me look fat?**

It was a just fine. Interesting model that did just fine. Until it didn't. The valley that I now sleep in every night is deep and wide, and getting out of it in the morning is becoming a chore.

We are *Consumer Reports* members, so I have spent a lot of time on its website comparing its testing results with customer reviews.

And yet I am still quite confused.

I'm leaning toward a foam mattress, and most of the companies that sell them let customers sleep on their beds for 100 days or so, with the option of returning it if it doesn't grow on you. I like that idea.

Then again, will it be too hard to go from a 100-day spring to a new and slowly wear ourselves?

I would love to hear about what you have in your bedroom and why you like it. And if you want to invite me for a sleepover, that's cool, too.

I'll bring the popcorn and my *Consumer Reports*.

Mark Somerson is managing editor of Business First. His column runs daily in the Morning Edition newsletter.

The worst choice: Buying a mattress

I would rather buy a new car than a mattress. In fact, I would rather buy anything other than a mattress.

It is an impossible job. Totally insane. How do you do it? Are there mattress whisperers, if you will?

Is it best to go to one of those Insufferable mattress stores and lie down for a minute or two on this model, then repeat the process over and over? That doesn't replicate a night's sleep. Not even close.

Do you find out what beds your friends own and ask if you can spend the night? That's not going to work.

And since foam mattresses became a thing, the playing field is so much larger and infinitely more complicated. What about hybrids? Innersprings and latex foam all wrapped up in one neat package. And don't get me started on those air-filled, adjustable mattresses that promise the best night's sleep.

So, which one of these mattresses is right for me and Jackie?

Our current mattress is about a decade old and is ready for retirement.

PAID ADVERTISING

PEOPLE ON THE MOVE

PROMOTION

Christopher Tackett
Realtor and President of the National Association of Realtors
Rottel & Andrews is proud to have announced Christopher W. Tackett as its new President to Shareholder Litigation Group, Mr. Tackett

represents businesses in a wide range of commercial litigation, as well as employment and general corporate defense. He frequently handles complex contract litigation and appeals matters involving complex contract disputes, partnership/partnership disputes, and other business-related litigation, and disputes regarding non-compete violations.

NEW HIRE

Eric Holmes
Assistant Vice President of First Community Mortgage
First Community Mortgage has hired mortgage veteran Eric Holmes as its Assistant Vice President, establishing FCM in Central Ohio. He has 25 years' experience in the mortgage industry and can serve consumers in FC's

"It's to Eric's credit that challenging cases are often referred to him by Realtors, financial planners and CPAs," says Dan Smith, President of FCM. "My clients trust me to provide honest answers and straight advice on mortgages." Holmes says.

PROMOTION

Ryan Huyghe
President of Mr. Roof and Able Roof Crane Renovation Group
Ryan Huyghe joined the company as Executive Vice President of Mr. Roof and Able Roof in 2019. A Crane Renovation Group employee, he has the company's ability to develop new opportunities for employees and partners, and foster a collaborative and trusting environment that values results-driven performance.

NEW HIRE

Brent Downing, PE
Vice President and Managing Director of Great Lakes East Area TransSystems
TransSystems Corp. welcomes Brent Downing, PE, as Vice President and Managing Director of the Great Lakes East area. Brent Downing has been with TransSystems for more than 25 years.

Downing brings more than 25 years of project management, design and surveying experience on major highways and roadways within Ohio. He most recently managed a portion of the Ohio DOT District 17 MOT-17 project. He also managed the Ohio DOT District 17 project.

PROMOTION

Drew Vennemeyer
President of Contractors Inc. Crane Renovation Group
Drew Vennemeyer joined Crane Renovation Group in 2018 as Executive Vice President of Contractors Inc. Vennemeyer will continue to lead the strategic growth of the business, making sure we give our clients an unparalleled customer experience and provide robust professional development opportunities for team members.

PROMOTION

David Richards
Chief Executive Officer of Claremetry Biosciences
David Richards has been appointed CEO to lead the organization on all aspects of the corporate fundraising and development strategy. He has founded Claremetry Biosciences, a foundation, where he has co-led

in-licensing, pipeline prioritization and commercial strategy, and ongoing strategic planning efforts. Now, Mr. Richards looks forward to leading the next chapter as the company pursues its mission to deliver a game-changing technology for preclinical, life

SUBMIT YOUR INFORMATION ONLINE:

bizj1us1pmmqz

SEAN BURNS SEAN@BUSINESSFIRSTONLINE.COM 614-425-5490

In Memory

Jonathan London Zerkowitz '82, of Las Vegas and formerly of Los Angeles and Orange County CA and Columbus OH, passed away Monday, January 4, 2021. Jonathan was born April 4, 1964 in Mount Vernon OH to the late Stephen and the late Donna (Rikin) Zerkowitz. He moved to Columbus at an early age and graduated from Columbus Academy. He continued his education by attending college at the University of Southern California where he majored in International Relations. Always community and philanthropic minded, Jonathan will be remembered as a kind gentleman, always willing to help others and the greatest uncle ever. Each year, he would go shopping specifically for the fire department toy drive, and in more recent years he took his nieces with him to let them pick the presents and introduce them to the same spirit of giving. Jonathan is survived by his sister Juliet McCarthy; and nieces Helen and Kathleen McCarthy, all of Las Vegas. A graveside service will be held 10:00 am on Sunday, January 10, 2021 at Agudas Achim Cemetery in Columbus, OH. Due to COVID restrictions, if you would like to attend, please contact Juliet at 702-449-9307. The service may also be seen via Zoom with this link. Contributions in Jonathan's memory may be made to Columbus Academy or University of Southern California.

Douglas Oldfather Abbott '59 was a man of many interests and talents and enjoyed expanding these interests and sharing his talents.

He was born on November 30, 1941 in Columbus, Ohio, the youngest of three children of Dr. Kenneth Abbott and Helen Oldfather Abbott. He graduated from the Columbus Academy in 1959 and completed his undergraduate degree in Zoology at the University of Wyoming. He received his PhD in Microbiology from the Ohio State University in 1972 and accepted a teaching position at the Murray State University in Murray, Kentucky

His love of the West, from the years he spent in Wyoming, motivated him to accept a position in the Montana Department of Health and Environmental Sciences. He became the Bureau Chief of the Laboratory Service Bureau prior to retiring in 1997. He also taught as an adjunct faculty member at Carroll College.

His retirement was brief and he accepted a position with the U.S. Department of Agriculture as Director of the Food Emergency Response Network in Athens, Georgia. He retired from his position in 2009 and began his third career.

As a lifelong member of the American Society for Microbiology, he volunteered to share his expertise in a variety of projects in Tanzania and Ethiopia for the past eleven years.

Douglas was a proud member of the Helena Kiwanis Club and served as president in 1990.

He enjoyed music and sang bass in various community organizations such as the Helena Symphony Chorale, Musikanten Montana and in the choir at St. Mary Catholic Community where he was a parishioner.

His hobby was target shooting at the ranges around Helena.

He is survived by his wife Mary Lou, son Raymond and daughter-in-law Jilann and their children Matthew and Ashleigh; son Michael and his daughters Cassie, Noelle and Emily. He is survived by his brother William and sister Ann as well as nieces and a nephew.

Please visit www.aswfuneralhome.com to offer a condolence to the family or to share a memory of Douglas.

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/helenair/name/douglas-abbott-obituary?pid=197526115>