

COVID-19's Effects on Ohio's Non-Profits: Michael Wilkos and **Michael Corey '01**

By DAN SKINNER & WCBE PODCAST EXPERIENCE

Prognosis Ohio

JUL 6, 2020

Ohio's non-profit sector is a backbone of Ohio's social and community services and it has been hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic. On Today's episode, Dan Skinner talks with Michael Wilkos of United Way of Central Ohio and Michael Corey of the Human Service Chamber of Franklin County about how the coronavirus pandemic has affected Ohio's non-profit sector, how it has adapted to the needs of the public, and how we can continue to recover.

\*\*\*[LISTEN TO THE EPISODE](#)\*\*\*

You can read more about the "Our Health and Human Service Agencies in a COVID-19 World" survey [here](#).

Produced by Dan Skinner and Mark Frantz

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<https://www.wcbe.org/post/covid-19s-effects-ohios-non-profits-michael-wilkos-and-michael-corey>

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DeWine mandate has Franklin Co. non-profits searching for masks

by: Shawn Lanier

Posted: Jul 7, 2020 / 11:07 PM EDT / Updated: Jul 8, 2020 / 10:42 AM EDT

COLUMBUS (WCMH) – Gov. Mike DeWine's mask mandate for seven Ohio counties comes as non-profits struggle to find masks during a time where everyone needs one.

There is some help on the way.

Franklin County just received 100,000 disposable masks that non-profits will give to under-served communities.

It's a big boost to non-profits that are struggling during this pandemic to buy PPE for people who simply can't afford the face covering to protect themselves.

"If you have to choose between a meal, or gas for your car, or a bus ticket, or a medical appointment bill you have to pay for your child, and a cloth mask, you're probably not going to choose a cloth mask," said **Michael Corey '01**, the executive director of the Human Service Chamber.

Corey said he has felt his privilege during this pandemic. He can buy masks whenever he wants without blinking an eye, but knows others cannot do the same.

"Can they afford, do they have it, do they understand," said Zerqa Abid with MY Project USA.

Through her non-profit, she has come face to face with people who struggle to get a face covering. Her organization faces pressure to find face coverings for these people who the pandemic has hit the hardest.

"There's a lot of responsibility on our shoulders," said Abid.

She has gotten her hands on personal protective equipment, and it's ready to go to community organizations that need it.

With DeWine's mandate for face coverings in seven counties in Ohio, including Franklin, her organization and others will need more than the 100,000 masks Franklin County just received.

"Question is, when is the next supply coming?" asked Abid.

It is a question Corey has as well. He knows in the coming weeks and months, more masks will be needed. It is why he is asking for community members to help donate what they can, to help keep people safe.

"100,000 disposable masks will make an infinitely larger number of people safer," said Corey. "This is incredible, this is enormously helpful. We need it to keep coming."

The Human Service Chamber is planning how it is going to get the masks to communities in need as soon as possible.

<https://www.nbc4i.com/community/health/coronavirus/dewine-mandate-has-franklin-co-non-profits-searching-for-masks/>

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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OHIO STATE BAR FOUNDATION WELCOMES NEW CLASS OF FELLOWS

COLUMBUS, OH (JUNE 24, 2020) – A new group of Ohio attorneys has joined the Ohio State Bar Foundation (OSBF) through its honorary Fellows Program.

"Over the last 18 years, the Foundation has welcomed more than a thousand Fellows to its family," said OSBF President Mark Kitrick. "Our Fellows are a diverse group of caring lawyers who have volunteered to help their communities in many excellent ways. From rural towns to big cities, large firms to sole proprietors, the OSBF Fellows Program brings them together to connect, volunteer, and create their own unique plan to improve the legal system. They work hard and selflessly to make the lives of so many Ohioans easier and more equitable."

The Foundation is thrilled to announce the members of its 2020 Fellows Class.

**Elizabeth Mote '03**, of Columbus, is a partner at Kitrick, Lewis & Harris Co, LPA. She focuses primarily on serious injury and wrongful death claims and other complex consumer matters. Mote serves as vice chair for the Ohio State Bar Association's Young Lawyers Section and is a member of Women Lawyers of Franklin County. She also serves on the Capital University Law School Alumni Board and the Columbus Academy Alumni Board.

"Our Fellows put the needs of others first by giving their time and talent to help other Ohioans understand and navigate our legal system," said OSBF Executive Director Lori Keating. "As a part of the OSBF, the 2020 Fellows will have the opportunity to volunteer with our grantees, present to students on important law-related topics, and directly contribute to the Foundation's grantmaking efforts."

A new class of civic-minded attorneys are welcomed into the Foundation each year. All Fellows must be nominated by a peer, or self-nominate, and be a member of the Ohio State Bar Association. All nominees are reviewed by the OSBF Board of Trustees before committing their time and pledging financial support to fuel the Foundation's statewide grantmaking program.

<https://osbf.org/news-events/news/53/>

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**DOUG MACKELCAN '93** PUBLISHED IN THE ABA'S TIP LAW JOURNAL  
June 10, 2020

Doug MacKelcan co-authored Recent Developments Affecting Professionals' Directors' and Officers' Liability for the American Bar Association's Tort Trial & Insurance Practice Law Journal, Spring 2020 Edition (Volume 55, Issue 2).

To read the article in entirety, please [click here](#).

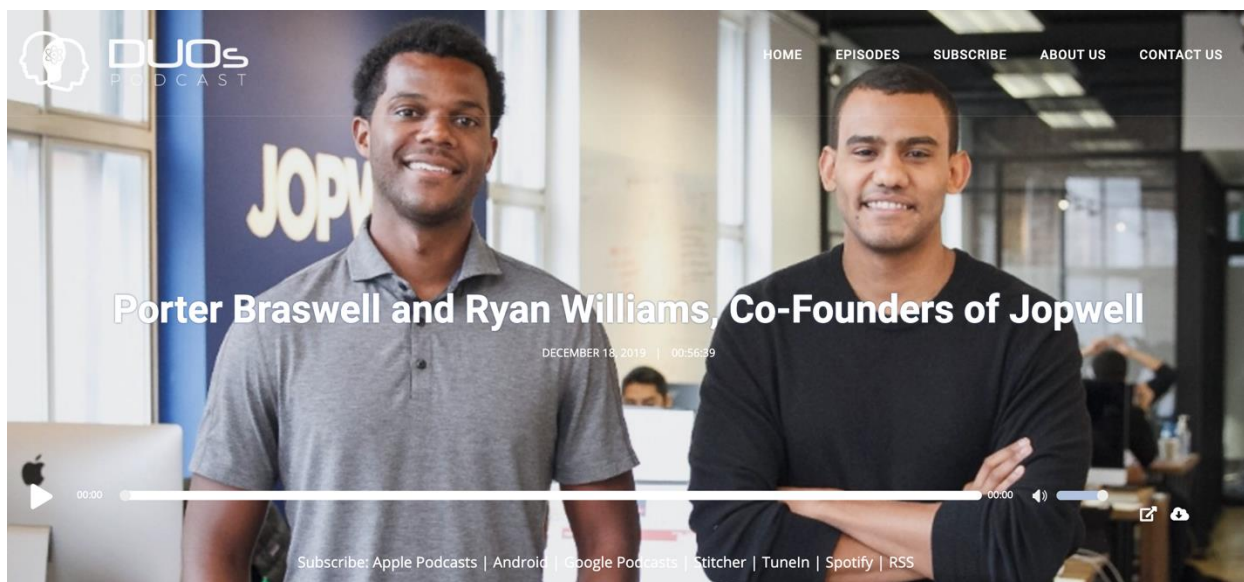
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<https://csl.law/publications/doug-mackelcan-published-in-the-abas-tip-law-journal/>

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Porter Braswell and **Ryan Williams '08**, Co-Founders of Jopwell  
DECEMBER 18, 2019 00:56:39  
Season 2 of Duos – The Co-Founders Podcast

In this episode we sit down with Porter Braswell and Ryan Williams, cofounders of Jopwell, the leading career advancement platform and end-to-end solution for companies committed to diversity and inclusion. Jopwell helps companies authentically engage and connect with Black, Latinx and Native American candidates, striving to build more representative and inclusive workforces.



<https://duospodcast.com/episodes/porter-braswell-and-ryan-williams-co-founders-of-jopwell/>

Central Ohio auto dealers hope economic recovery bodes well for the industry

By Dan Eaton – Staff reporter, Columbus Business First

Jun 14, 2020, 7:00am EDT

Veteran auto dealer Steve Lindsay is thinking about V's and W's, and it doesn't have anything to do with Volkswagen.

Like other dealers, Lindsay Honda and Acura on Columbus' east side is seeing sales return after a few lean months, but two key questions have him and his colleagues tempering any excitement and positivity.

Will a second wave of Covid-19 hamper business again?

Even if demand keeps creeping back, will there even be enough cars to sell?

"The pent-up demand is now materializing," Lindsay said. "But what is that going to look like in June, July and August? Is this return going to be a V or is it going to be W? It's too early to tell."

The state's 800 or so auto dealerships generate more than \$40 billion in annual sales and employ more than 55,000, according to the Ohio Auto Dealers Association. As with many industries across the country, sales and employment took a big hit during the pandemic.

It wasn't just that customers were holding off from shopping for autos during the past few months. That drop in demand led manufacturers to freeze production.

Marysville-based Honda, for instance, halted production from March 23 until May 11 at all of its North American facilities, including auto plants in Marysville and East Liberty, furloughing thousands of employees during that time.

To rebuild supply, many manufacturers are cancelling traditional summer breaks. Honda, BMW and Mercedes-Benz all have said they will remain open on some summer days that traditionally would have been time off in normal years. Toyota Motor Co. has returned to production, but is working at two-thirds the normal level.

Another potentially positive sign is that Covid-19 hasn't halted acquisitions and expansion. Performance Columbus last month bought Bobby Layman Cadillac GMC just outside Lancaster. Actor Mark Wahlberg and business partner Jay Feldman still expect to close on its acquisition of Hayodcy Buick GMC in Columbus, which was announced prior to the pandemic.

Leaner, more efficient

**George Kauffman '92**, co-owner and vice president of the eight-store, 14-brand Byers Auto Group, was on a March conference call with Lt. Gov. Jon Husted during which auto dealers made the argument that their business was essential and should remain open.

"That was great that we could stay open," he said. "But now what do we do? How can we make our employees feel safe? Because if they don't feel safe, customers sure as heck won't."

Kauffman said Byers was down to a skeleton crew for nearly two months as many employees were furloughed. Sales dropped 65%, though that was actually better than expected.

"We thought service would drive business, but we actually saw the opposite," he said. "People still needed to buy cars."

Customers are seeing low interest rates and a number of incentives as manufacturers attempt to drive demand.

"That's a recipe to buy," Lindsay said.

Byers and others put new cleaning and sanitization standards in place and pushed as much business to digital as possible to minimize contact and time on site.

Ricart Automotive, which has seven brands at its sprawling Southeast Franklin County complex, saw its express online services rise 300% in the past few months.

"Before it was two or three a day, maybe a 60 a month," said President **Rick Ricart '98**.

"Now we're at 250 a month. We're able to take care of most of the customer's needs without them physically coming to the dealership. We know that number won't stay like that, but it's not going to go back to two or three."

Sales are down, of course, versus 2019, but Ricart's Ford dealership is the fifth best-selling Ford dealership in the U.S.

"We're seeing demand shift from more expensive new cars to late-model used," Ricart said. "People want less expensive, older models."

Ricart employs 550 to 600. He declined to share the number of workers he furloughed, but said he's started to bring workers back.

"We want to be back to maximum capacity by July," he said. "That's our goal."

Lindsay employs around 300 and said only a handful of jobs have been permanently eliminated since the pandemic started.

"We're a little bit leaner," Lindsay said. "We're trying to be efficient, less redundant."

Byers, with the backing of Paycheck Protection Program funds, has begun bringing back furloughed employees as well, but that doesn't mean business is normal.

"I think it's going to be a full year before any normalcy returns," Kauffman said.

A double dip?

One side effect Covid-19 might create problems for dealerships later in the year.

"You can't take two and a half, three months of production out and not expect that create an issue," Kauffman said.

"If the trends stay good and there's no second wave, there could still be severe inventory problems in the fall."

Scarce inventory will drive prices up, which provides some benefit to dealers. But volume is still the name of the game.

"You can't sell something you don't have," Kauffman said.

Lindsay has experience with short supply. As a Honda and Acura dealer, he went through 2011 when an earthquake in Japan wrecked Honda's supply chain and created production pauses and delays as the system reestablished itself.

The dealership was down to 30 cars at one point – about a two day supply.

Lots won't be empty and used cars will be available, but the selection of new vehicles might be limited.

"We had nothing but Elements in 2011," he said. "So we sold Elements. We'll sell what we can control and we won't worry about the rest."

Ricart said he isn't as worried about the inventory issue because many dealers had too many vehicles going into the pandemic.

"Manufacturers were begging us to take more inventory back in February," he said. "We haven't cycled through that yet."

It might get tight by the fourth quarter, he said, but that's when the model year changes, and manufacturers will focus on that rather than ramping up work for the last gasps of outgoing vehicles.

Ricart said he typically carries a 90-day supply of vehicles, and can stretch to 120 days if need be.

"But we don't feel the need to stockpile," he said. "One of our biggest costs is floor plan loan interest, so that would be catastrophic for us if the economy turns."

Kauffman said Byers actually quit taking new inventory during the pandemic for just that reason.

"The largest risk we could take would be to bring in new inventory and not be able to sell it," he said. "I almost wish we hadn't done that now. Things were bad, but it wasn't the worst. I'll take it."

[https://www.bizjournals.com/columbus/news/2020/06/14/economic-development-automotive-dealers.html?ana=e\\_colum\\_bn\\_editorschoice\\_editorschoice&j=90514258&t=Breaking%20News&mkt\\_tok=eyJpIjoiWkRaa1pHTTNNVFF3Wm1OayIsInQiOiJETFVVC9UkxVVC81ZXZnZHVVCXC93RTJZV2Vib1wveXo0YUFGSXZNQ3ZRdxdxMkxMcjF1XC9sRVlkR0FValNmSWVuVXR3TEFXZnV6ajJQWnpPVG9qMFAzVDBldHUXenZqdTI2UGFtOFppYVp3ZTINRE1VVjZkb2p4WXFOcEpvQThxUDhyIn0%3D](https://www.bizjournals.com/columbus/news/2020/06/14/economic-development-automotive-dealers.html?ana=e_colum_bn_editorschoice_editorschoice&j=90514258&t=Breaking%20News&mkt_tok=eyJpIjoiWkRaa1pHTTNNVFF3Wm1OayIsInQiOiJETFVVC9UkxVVC81ZXZnZHVVCXC93RTJZV2Vib1wveXo0YUFGSXZNQ3ZRdxdxMkxMcjF1XC9sRVlkR0FValNmSWVuVXR3TEFXZnV6ajJQWnpPVG9qMFAzVDBldHUXenZqdTI2UGFtOFppYVp3ZTINRE1VVjZkb2p4WXFOcEpvQThxUDhyIn0%3D)

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Motorcycle Industry Council  
RideReport  
May 13, 2020

#### THE GOOD NEWS FILE

##### Powersports Retailers are Reopening

The riding community is seeing some positive news, and just in time for riding season. Iron Pony Motorsports in Ohio is one of the latest dealerships and retailers to reopen since updated federal guidelines clarified that powersports businesses are considered essential.

"We are so happy and honored to open our doors again to the riding community of central Ohio," said Iron Pony Motorsports owners **Chris Jones '84** and Tammy Jones, Derek Jones, and Cory Atwood, in an email. "Never in our over 40 years of serving the motorcycle community did we ever think we would have to close. But with our incredible staff of passionate employees, we came together to ride out what seemed like a lifetime of uncertainty."

Iron Pony Motorsports, which has locations in Westerville and Mansfield, reopened May 1 and is following all Ohio guidance and protocols for essential businesses and operations. Among measures to keep employees and customers safe, the stores have installed Plexiglas partitions at all service counters and marked recommended physical distances on floors. The stores also offer curbside pickup and shipping.

"We initiated logs for cleaning all high-point touch areas and posted reminders of social distancing protocols," the owners stated. "A customer line has been put at the front of the store to limit the number of people who can enter at any one time. We have over one hundred employees who could not wait to help get the store open again. It just goes to show what a great team we have and the passion they bring every day to serve our community. We would like to thank everyone in the industry for the support through these uncertain times."

<https://mailchi.mp/58a4ae9907c6/mic-symposium-now-online-taxes-and-tariffs?e=f4484b5a3f>

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Anders wins Hearst writing championship  
Kara Williams  
INDIANA UNIVERSITY BLOOMINGTON  
The Media School  
June 8, 2020

Senior **Caroline Anders '17** won this year's Hearst Journalism Awards Program's national writing championship. She will receive an award of \$10,000.

"I honestly don't think I've totally processed winning yet. I'm so grateful to have even competed, so this feels surreal," Anders said. "To me, competing in Hearst was an amazing reminder of why I want to do this work."

Anders competed in last year's writing championship as well, and she placed second. This is the seventh time in 10 years that an IU student has won the championship.

"The main thing I really missed from last year was getting to know the other finalists," she said. "It's been so nice to follow the people I met last year and see what they've been up to, so I wish I'd gotten to connect with this year's group in person."

This year's competition took place virtually because of restrictions from the coronavirus pandemic. Anders said reporting her stories entirely remotely was one of the biggest challenges.

Students wrote three stories over the course of the contest: an on-the-spot feature about the effect of COVID-19 on the arts and entertainment industry in their hometowns, a profile of Harris County, Texas, judge Lina Hidalgo and a cover of a press conference with her.

Anders wrote about artists who were using their art to protest George Floyd's death at the hands of a former Minneapolis police officer rather than physically attending protests because of coronavirus concerns.

"When I started looking around for story ideas last week, it felt wrong to me to be working on anything unrelated to the protests," she said. "We're living through such a huge moment, and I wanted to put my energy toward telling those stories."

Junior Matt Cohen was also a finalist, and he will receive a \$1,500 award.

[https://mediaschool.indiana.edu/news-events/news/item.html?n=anders-wins-hearst-writing-championship#:~:text=Senior%20Caroline%20Anders%20won%20this,receive%20an%20award%20of%20\\$2410%2C000.](https://mediaschool.indiana.edu/news-events/news/item.html?n=anders-wins-hearst-writing-championship#:~:text=Senior%20Caroline%20Anders%20won%20this,receive%20an%20award%20of%20$2410%2C000.)

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The End of College as We Knew It?  
Restaurants get eulogies. Airlines get bailouts. Shakespeare gets kicked when he's down.  
By Frank Bruni  
The New York Times Opinion Columnist  
June 4, 2020



We need doctors right now. My God, we need doctors: to evaluate the coronavirus's assault, assess the body's response and figure out where, in that potentially deadly tumble of events, there's a chance to intervene.

We need research scientists. It falls to them to map every last wrinkle of this invader and find its Achilles' heel.

But we also need Achilles. We need Homer. We need writers, philosophers, historians. They'll be the ones to chart the social, cultural and political challenges of this pandemic — and of all the other dynamics that have pushed the United States so harrowingly close to the edge. In terms of restoring faith in the American project and reseeding common ground, they're beyond essential.

And I'm not sure we get that.

Colleges and universities are in trouble — serious trouble. They're agonizing over whether they can safely welcome students back to campus in the fall or must try to replicate the educational experience imperfectly online. They're confronting sharply reduced revenue, severe budget cuts, warfare between administrators and faculty, and even lawsuits from students who want refunds for a derailed spring semester. And a devastated economy leaves their very missions and identities in limbo, all but guaranteeing that more students will approach higher education in a brutally practical fashion, as an on-ramp to employment and nothing more.

"If one were to invent a crisis uniquely and diabolically designed to undermine the foundations of traditional colleges and universities, it might look very much like the current global pandemic," Brian Rosenberg, who just finished a nearly 17-year stretch as president of Macalester College, wrote in *The Chronicle of Higher Education* recently. That wasn't a renegade take. It was a representative, even restrained, one.

When I later exchanged emails with him, he expanded on it. He observed that the physically close-knit nature of the classroom and the campus puts colleges "not far behind cruise ships and assisted-living facilities" as ideal theaters of contagion. He noted that this contagion came along when higher education was already on the defensive — maligned by conservative politicians for its supposed elitism and resented by students and their families for its hefty price tag.

Now, he said, he can detect people taking "a ghoulish pleasure" in its travails. Restaurants get eulogies. Airlines get bailouts. Universities get kicked when they're down. "That says a lot about our societal priorities," Rosenberg said.

But not all aspects of university life will be equally undermined. Homer could be in particular peril, dismissed along with the rest of the humanities as a fusty luxury, a disposable lark. And that chills Rosenberg.

"Here is the problem," he told me. "A society without a grounding in ethics, self-reflection, empathy and beauty is one that has lost its way."

"We are seeing that play out," he added — and this was before George Floyd's anguished pleas and the fury and the fires. He pointed to the empathy deficit in Americans openly hostile to social-distancing

directives, which was followed by the empathy void that put a knee to Floyd's neck. "I can only imagine how George Eliot or Shakespeare would write about such people," he said.

We don't have to imagine, because Shakespeare, Eliot and scores of the other writers and thinkers at the core of a liberal arts education lavished attention on the conflict between individual desires and communal obligations, on the toxic fruits of fear and on the dangerous lure of ignorance. That's why we read them. That's why we should continue to, especially now.

"This is not only a public health crisis and an economic crisis, though Lord knows it's both of those," said Andrew Delbanco, a professor of American studies at Columbia University and the president of the Teagle Foundation, a philanthropy that promotes the liberal arts. "It's also a values crisis. It raises all kinds of deep human questions: What are our responsibilities to other people? Does representative democracy work? How do we get to a place where something like bipartisanship could emerge again?"

The answers will sooner come from history, philosophy and literature than from drug companies, social media and outer space. Put another way, whom do you trust: Pfizer, Mark Zuckerberg and Elon Musk, or the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Plato and Jane Austen? It's not a close call.

What a mess we're in. What disruption we're in for. It will probably look like this in higher education: Dozens and potentially hundreds of small four-year colleges go under, some of them within the next year and others over the next five. Online instruction proliferates, because the pandemic has forced more schools to experiment with it, because it could be a way for them to expand enrollment and thus revenues, and because it's more accessible to financially strapped students who are wedging classes between shifts at work.

The already pronounced divide between richly endowed, largely residential schools and more socioeconomically diverse ones that depend on public funding grows wider as state and local governments face unprecedented financial distress. A shrinking minority of students get a boutique college experience. Then there's everybody else.

"We always knew that America was moving more and more toward very different groups of people," Gail Mellow, the former president of LaGuardia Community College in Queens, told me. Now that movement is accelerating.

And if the economy doesn't do some spectacular turnaround, more students will demand a financial payoff from college that's as immediate and certain as possible. For computer science and chemistry departments, that's a boon. For English, comparative literature, classics and anthropology? A bust.

They're already hurting: The percentage of college students getting degrees in the humanities has declined sharply over the past decade while the popularity of more obviously job-related majors connected to, say, health care and technology surged. And the pandemic provides extra incentive for schools to redirect money from the humanities to the sciences, because that's where big grants for biomedical research are.

To solve our short-term problems, that emphasis makes sense. But to solve our long-term ones? To apply the lessons of the Spanish flu of 1918 and the urban riots of 1968 to the misery and rage of 2020? I want as many broadly educated, deeply reflective citizens and leaders as possible.

Like Andrea Romero, 19, a computer science major at Purdue University who, as part of its Cornerstone program, which encourages all undergraduates to dip into the humanities, took a class in “transformative texts.” In an essay about being forced by the pandemic to leave campus, return home and linger there, she invoked Homer’s “Odyssey” — specifically, Odysseus’ consignment to the nymph Calypso’s island. The hero’s life there is pleasant, even good. But the ease of a given moment can’t — and shouldn’t — erase the commitments and aspirations beyond it.

“I look forward to my return to ‘Ithaca’,” Romero wrote, likening the Purdue campus to Odysseus’ destination. “Until this day arrives, I have learned that it is valid to feel disappointed and fortunate at the same time.”

Mrinali Dhembala, 21, told me that her double major in political science and Chinese language at Hunter College, which is part of the City University of New York, isn’t perfectly tailored to a given profession. But it has allowed her to see and evaluate America’s predicament through the lens of other struggles, taught her to watch for the way some people try to profit from others’ pain, taken her outside of her narrowest self and given her “more sensitivity and warmheartedness,” she said.

Lexi Robinson, 21, just graduated from Central Michigan University. Although her major was public and nonprofit administration, she also delved into the humanities, for example taking a religion and social issues course that she found especially meaningful. It sounded an alarm about moral absolutism. “Whatever side you’re on, you think the other is telling blatant lies,” she told me, adding that such a viewpoint is a dead end for democracy. “How do we ever come to a middle ground?”

At Ursinus College in Pennsylvania this spring, Stephanie Mackler, an associate professor of education, asked the students in one of her seminars to write about the merits of the liberal arts. **Matt Schmitz ‘17**, 20, who is majoring in psychology and educational studies, reflected on the story of Galileo. It’s about so much more than astronomy, he wrote; it’s a window into humans’ investment in established fictions over discomfiting truths. To study the humanities, Schmitz observed, is to connect to something grander: “Without it, humanity would be left to aimlessly wander from day to day and problem to problem.”

Rodrigo Vazquez, 28, is pursuing a master’s degree in applied mathematics at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, where he got a bachelor’s degree in economics. But he also majored in English, which opened vistas to him that he still savors. Confined like so many Americans to his house over recent months, he told me that he staved off loneliness with reading: not just Camus’s “The Plague,” an obvious choice, but also Proust’s “Swann’s Way” and Melville’s “Moby-Dick.” They made him feel connected to human struggle across time.

“Moby-Dick.” Now there’s a transformative text about our investments in — and responsibilities to — one another.

Consider the celebrated passage in which Ishmael describes being roped to Queequeg, who dangles over their ship’s side to attend to a whale carcass. If one man gets sucked into the heaving water, both men go under. And Ishmael reflects “that my own individuality was now merged in a joint stock company of two; that my free will had received a mortal wound; and that another’s mistake or misfortune might plunge innocent me into unmerited disaster and death.”

“This situation of mine,” he adds, “was the precise situation of every mortal that breathes.”

Or these days, that struggles to breathe.

A vaccine for the coronavirus won't inoculate anyone against the ideological arrogance, conspiracy theories and other internet-abetted passions and prejudices that drive Americans apart. But the perspective, discernment and skepticism that a liberal arts education can nurture just might.

Science may produce better versions of tear gas and lighter versions of riot gear, God help us. But it can't compete with the humanities for telling us how and why certain societies unravel and others thrive.

Maybe that's so obviously self-evident that amid all the raging need in our country, governments will dig deeper to expand the opportunity of college. Maybe college students will demand enlightenment on top of, or even before, job training.

"I think we're going to have a lot of surprises," said Christopher Newfield, a professor of literature and American studies at the University of California, Santa Barbara, who has written extensively about the degradation of higher education over recent decades. "People are not linear." They could well flock to Melville. "I wouldn't bet my house on it," he said, but added, "I'd bet a room of my house on it."

We need doctors, all right, but not all doctors are the same, as Benito Cachinero-Sánchez, the vice chair of the Library of America's board of directors, reminded me. If he were choosing between two physicians, he said, he would go with one who has read Chekhov, "because he's a fuller human being and he's going to treat me like a fuller human being."

Current events show that when it comes to treating one another like fuller human beings, we need all the help we can get.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/04/opinion/coronavirus-college-humanities.html>

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**Joel Pizzuti '90** comments on the partnership between Pizzuti Cos. and Haslam Sports Group on the development of Confluence Village.

**ARENA DISTRICT**

## Crew owners tap Pizzuti to create Confluence Village

Columbus Crew SC's new owners will work with Pizzuti Cos. on the commercial redevelopment project set to complement the new Crew's new Arena District stadium.

Haslam Sports Group and the Edwards family announced that they have created a joint venture with Pizzuti to shape the creation of the Confluence Village commercial development.

Together, the groups will "transform the surrounding area (near the stadium) that has been vacant for decades," according to a news release. The first phase of the development is anticipated to include office, commercial, residential and green spaces.

"We are thrilled to partner with one of the leading Central Ohio development firms that brings the wealth of experience that Pizzuti possesses," said Josh Glessing, vice president for strategy at Haslam Sports Group. "This development will be a year-round destination,



and workforce housing will be an important component of the residential piece."

The press release notes that 20% of an estimated 440 units will be "workforce affordable." Other details of the Confluence Village development will be announced "in the near future," according to the release.

"We are excited to partner with Haslam Sports Group and the Edwards family on Confluence Village," Pizzuti Cos. President Joel Pizzuti said in the release. "We look forward to developing what will be a dynamic environment where residents can live, work and be entertained year-round in a safe and fun environment."

Meanwhile, construction on the Crew stadium continues. It is set to open in July 2021.

maps4news/@HERE AND JOHN LAUER / CBF

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**Randy Schoedinger '86** is highlighted in Columbus Business First as he discusses the impact of COVID-19 on his business and in ColumbusCEO as Schoedinger Funeral & Cremation Services is named as one of the Top Workplaces in 2020.



## Special Awards

### LEADERSHIP

## Jumping in

**Randy Schoedinger makes sure employees are freed up to excel.**

By LAURA NEWPOFF  
+ Photo by ROB HARDIN

Across the company for years have taken turns taking night call, a process that requires them to spend the night in an apartment atop the company's downtown chapel to answer the phone from 7 p.m. until 7 a.m. It's a job that, while not loved equally among employees, has worked smoothly for the company that has to respond to deaths at all hours of the day. The emergence of the coronavirus pandemic, however, made rotating multiple people in and out of one space untenable.

Company leaders at first tried to come up with a way to set up a system so associates could handle the calls from their homes, but technology challenges made it more efficient to keep the current system in place. Not wanting to increase the odds of an employee contracting the disease from another person in the company, CEO Randy Schoedinger decided

to take on the responsibility himself, indefinitely.

"That's a perfect example of his leadership style," said Carley Childress, the company's human resources manager. "He genuinely cares about all of our employees."

### Staying accessible

Schoedinger got his start with the company working as a driver when he was in high school in the 1980s and then joined full time in 1994. He, along with his brother Michael, who serves as president, are sixth-generation leaders of a business that was founded in 1855, six years before Abraham Lincoln became president. Schoedinger, in fact, is one of the city's oldest family-owned businesses.

As CEO, Schoedinger says he spends at least 50 percent of his time focused

on company culture, whether through ongoing improvements to its wellness program or finding ways to be more accessible to employees.

"I'm a big believer that you can't be an effective leader unless you truly care about people," Schoedinger says. "I hope that comes across in the mutual caring and compassion we've established in our culture."

The company has a mix of employees of different ages and levels of experience, which keeps him on the hunt for new ideas that will help attract and retain workers. In survey responses for the Top Workplaces program, an employee commented that Schoedinger "makes good decisions after weighing the pros and cons." He's "open to new ideas and is willing to try something as a test project knowing there may be things we need to change or update."

He's worked with Childress to implement several initiatives to better connect with Schoedinger employees and make them feel appreciated, such as small group get-togethers to celebrate birthdays and anniversaries and associate appreciation events that highlight their accomplishments. He also makes himself accessible to employees through routine visits to the company's 10 locations where he speaks with them and the

grieving families they are serving.

"The (associates) value that time where they get to talk with ownership or leadership," he says. "It's important to be out there and asking them how they're doing and actually seeing what goes on in the facilities."

As the coronavirus outbreak worsened in March, Schoedinger made several operational changes. Services and visitation were made strictly private with the option of complimentary on-site video streaming. Families who choose to hold a private service will have the option to hold a public memorial service at a later date. For those families, the company will waive the memorial service fee. Schoedinger also emphasized good hand hygiene and cough etiquette habits to its associates and heightened daily disinfection practices for high-touch surfaces.

Childress, who shares an office with Schoedinger, says he wouldn't ask an employee to do anything at work that he wouldn't do. She says it makes him reliable and approachable.

"When he's around, he's the first person to say, 'Do you need help moving this?'" she says. "Or, 'I'll get the phone, you guys are busy.'"

*Laura Newpoff is a freelance writer.*



CEO Randy Schoedinger

### HIGHLIGHTS

**Schoedinger Funeral & Cremation Service**  
schoedinger.com

Founded	1855
Ownership	Private
Sector	Funerals
Employees	177

Headquarters

Columbus

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JEFFREY KONCZAL FOR ACBJ

*"So all of a sudden, our facilities aren't getting rented. Our vehicles aren't getting rented. People aren't purchasing printed goods."*

— **RANDY SCHOEDINGER**, chairman and CEO, Schoedinger Funeral And Cremation Service

## ■ SCHOEDINGER FUNERAL AND CREMATION SERVICE

# Without large 'events,' funeral home business deals with drop in revenue

BY DOUG BUCHANAN  
dbuchanan@bizjournals.com

**Y**ou might think that a pandemic would be good for the funeral business, but it turns out the industry isn't immune to the effects of the shutdown.

Randy Schoedinger, CEO of Schoedinger Funeral and Cremation Service, said it's a common misconception that people think they get the bulk of their revenue from, well, funerals and cremations.

"What they sometimes forget is taking care of the body is one part of funeral and cremation services," he said. "But the larger part of what we do is creating these events, these healing experiences."

And with social distancing guidelines in effect, that means large gatherings where friends and family members can come together to mourn and celebrate those who have died can't happen.

"So all of a sudden, our facilities aren't getting rented. Our vehicles aren't getting rented. People aren't purchasing printed goods. We're not having food and catered events. People aren't buying ... flowers," Schoedinger said.

"All the things that go around creating a special event aren't happening because we were just either burying the body quickly or cremating the body.

"We still have services. We have them for 10 people or less. We've done a lot of webcasting," he said.

"But that's the main thing to happen in our business is ... a 25% drop in revenue."

The family-owned company's 15 funeral homes across Central Ohio have remained open but the impact has been felt by the company's staff.

Schoedinger said they have not had to lay off or furlough any of the company's 80 full-time employees, but all the 120 or so part-timers who mainly

assist with services are not getting paychecks during the slowdown.

"Our part-time folks in our organization are mostly senior citizens," he said. "Coupled with the fact that we weren't having services, and the fact that most of them are a high-risk population, we made the decision not to call them in."

Schoedinger said he's been in touch with industry contacts in hard-hit New York, where funeral directors struggled to keep up with the death rate from Covid-19 illnesses. He's hopeful that Ohio has avoided the worst of the pandemic, but said the possibility weighed on him early in the crisis.

"If we would have had anything that like what happened in New York or some other cities and you have 30% of your staff getting sick, but also you're serving twice as many families, we were really worried about what that

and we mutually decided that it might be best if we go to another institution.

Schoedinger called Heartland on a Thursday night and was approved the next night.

Schoedinger said the company's relationship remains solid with both their banks.

"It was an unusual time, right? I mean, SBA put this program out, this \$350 billion program, and then said to the banks, 'figure it out.'"

He declined to say the size of the PPP loan, but said he's confident it will carry the company through the crisis.

"We had projections based upon our revenue drop that we would run out of cash I think it was the middle of June, prior to the PPP," he said. "Now we are very optimistic that we'll have no problem getting through this."

"And we're not a restaurant, right? We still have revenue coming in," Schoedinger said. "We saw a drop, but not like some other companies - retail and things like that. But we're working hard. And so we are optimistic we'll get through and if we reopen business in the state in May like I think most people are predicting."

Like many other business owners, Schoedinger said he's concerned about what the reopening will look like, particularly wondering if people will be willing to gather in groups again.

"Most of the folks that had a loss during this time, that chose not to have a service, said we'll have a service at a later date," he said. "If all those people come back, or the significant majority of them come back and use us for those services at a later date, we should be OK."

But there is still some doubt, Schoedinger said.

"Our fear is that a couple months go by, and do people really want to have a service? And then how did this 60 to 90 days ... change any fundamental behavior?" he said. "That's what I think a lot of people are concerned about." Z

## ■ IN DETAIL

### SCHOEDINGER FUNERAL AND CREMATION SERVICE

**Chairman and CEO:**  
Randy Schoedinger

**President:** Michael Schoedinger

**EVP, Secretary and Treasurer:**  
Kevin Schoedinger

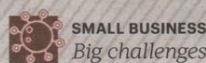
**Founded:** 1865

**Employees, pre-pandemic:**  
80 full-time, 120 part-time

**Employees today:** 80 full-time

**Revenue:** Would not disclose

**PPP loan?:** Yes; amount undisclosed





IN THE CITY

## IN THE SUBURBS

Rudler also points to several senior-friendly housing options (condos, patio homes or cottages) in communities such as Dublin, Powell, Delaware and New Albany.

ays. —Dave Ghose



"We put in all the hard work and watched the community grow, so why would we leave now?" the woman says.

New Albany, of course, isn't the only suburb experiencing a renovation boom. Just take in Bexley, Upper Arlington or other desirable communities or neighborhoods. Older homes in New Albany require updating to match how people live today. Rubey of The New Albany Co. says common renovations include additions, expanded great rooms and modified entrances, along with more standard projects like kitchen and bathroom updates. Compared to suburban peers, however, New Albany renovations tend to be less

Hinson and his wife, Lisa, bought a 28-year-old home in the Fenway area in September 2019 and then moved in three months later after completing a renovation of the whole interior of the house. Although New Albany still has some new construction, "we're really in the final push for those homes, and I think buyers are finding value in location and existing homes," Hinson says.

The trend seems to validate decisions made at the birth of the new community. Planners from The New Albany Co. founded by Weaner and his friend Jack Kessler to develop the area, chose Georgian architecture (bricks, columns, sash windows, symmetrical design) for its timeless appeal. "It goes back to the roots of the country and continues to this day," says Bill Ebbing, president of The New Albany Co. Adds Tom Rubey, the company's development director: "You don't drive through many of the neighborhoods here and attach it to a date."

But architectural appeal isn't the only selling point for existing homes. Within the New Albany Country Club area—the least expensive of the three—the community's "become harder to come by," says Ebbing. "We're going to build a new house on a 25-acre lot."

Alan Huckman says. Alan Hinson of New Albany Realty says this trend began to take hold about three years ago, spurred by the increasing value of existing homes in the city, the price list in Central Ohio, with an average home value of \$664,955, according to the real estate service Zillow. Naturally, hot spots for renovations are older areas, such as North Woods, Fenway, Planters Grove, Brandon and Keswick. "A 20-year-old home might have a location or size of lot that a new home might not have, and there's value in

Brian Tuckerman and his family go way back in New Albany—or rather, the modern version of the Franklin County community. When Les Westner decided to turn the sleepy village into the slice of suburban heaven, Tuckerman, his brother Craig and father, Steve, helped the billionaire Branda founder realize his vision, building many of the distinctive Georgian homes that have defined the area.

new homes, tucked into a new frame. He estimates renovations

COLUMBI IS MONTHLY JUNE 2020

## HOT SPOT:

# New Albany

Renovating Central Ohio's ritziest suburb

BY DAVE GHOSE



**Morgan Kauffman '89** and **Rick Ricart '98** comment on the future of electric vehicles in Columbus.



Morgan Kauffman,  
CEO and Owner of  
Columbus Yellow Cab



The City of Columbus  
bought 200 EVs for  
its fleets.

## COLUMBUS LEADS THE WAY IN EV FLEET ADOPTION

**E**lectrifying vehicle fleets is the most cost-effective way for our region to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. During the Electrification Program, 313 fleet electric vehicles (EVs) were procured by a diverse number of organizations, including Columbus Yellow Cab, the City of Columbus, The Ohio State University, the City of Dublin, Franklin County, Land Grant Brewing and the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium.

Over the next five years, the EV market will expand with viable electric heavy-duty vehicles, trucks, buses and other work machinery that will change the make-up of

transportation forever. Given the region's substantial logistics operations, significant automotive presence and experience with electrification, Columbus is well positioned to be on the forefront of EV fleet adoption in the next decade.

### Columbus Yellow Cab Reinvents the Taxi Industry

Columbus Yellow Cab has embraced a start-up mindset within a generations-old family business to take calculated risks that have kept the

company profitable and relevant in a rapidly changing industry.

The 90-year-old company, helmed by CEO and Owner Morgan Kauffman, pushes the boundaries of technology within their framework of customer-first thinking and empowerment, where customers are the passengers but also the drivers and co-workers.

"As part of the Columbus Yellow Cab growth and sustainability strategy, we have created programs committed to the common-sense use of EVs in taxi and transportation network company fleets," Kauffman says. "Solar charging, partnerships for EV charging locations, a decentralized taxi model, a keyless entry and reservation mobile app for drivers, a mobile app for customers to summon a vehicle, and smart car washing that limits water and organic waste are just the start to create mobility value equity for everyone in Columbus."

The company plans to transition its 200-car fleet to EVs, starting with 10 Tesla Model 3s placed into operation in 2019.

**"We must continue to be on the forefront of change, as EV adoption is projected to increase sharply."**

**RICK RICART**, President of Ricart Automotive Group



**Tim '73** and **Jim Keny '73** are profiled in the May issue of Columbus Monthly as they celebrate forty years of Keny Galleries.

## Arch City ARTS



Brothers Jim (left) and Tim Keny with a George Bellows print that will be part of their 40th anniversary exhibition.

# Forty Years with the Masters

*Keny Galleries' milestone marks a career devoted to timeless art.*

BY PETER TONGUETTE

In February of 1980, James and Tim Keny found a home for their new art gallery. The fraternal twins decided a 19th-century brick building tucked away in German Village would be the perfect place to showcase their artistic treasures. Plus, if the gallery failed, the building could serve other purposes.

"We thought, 'Well, the worst that could happen would be, if the business doesn't work out, we'll have a place to live,'" says James Keny.

Four decades later, Keny Galleries is not only still in operation at 300 E. Beck St. but has carved out a distinctive niche in the Columbus arts community. While many galleries are focused on the latest contemporary art, the Keny brothers, 64, take the long view, keeping one eye on the present and another on the past.

During any given year, the gallery might display works by its roster of current artists alongside masters of years gone by, including such iconic figures as Mary Cassatt

and Edward Hopper. A 40th-anniversary exhibition—*An American Album: 150 Years of Masterworks on Paper: 1870–2020*, planned for May 1 to July 1—will highlight the full range of the gallery's offerings.

"It's a wonderful community of gallerists here, but much of that is contemporary," says Nannette Maciejunes, the executive director of the Columbus Museum of Art, which has both acquired works from and made works available to the brothers. "One of the things that distinguishes the Keny Galleries is that they do have that piece that goes back to the early 20th century, even at times into the 19th century," Maciejunes says.

Two of six children born to Gebhard and Julianne Keny, the twins were raised in a household with art in the air. The renowned Alice Schille, a former CCAD teacher, painted the boys' maternal grandmother. "We grew up surrounded by some pretty amazing things," James says.

Deviating from their initial professional paths—James was studying law and Tim was pursuing a career in business—they used family funds to purchase works of art and began to place some major pieces, mostly with art dealers. Assessing the local artistic landscape, the brothers judged there was room for a new gallery. "We only felt there were two significant scholarly galleries in the state, which was pretty amazing to us given the wealth in Ohio," says Tim Keny.

The gallery, which also functions as a brokerage arranging sales of art between clients and collectors, beat the drum for the works they considered undervalued, including works on paper by past masters. The brothers describe several areas of focus, including not just historic American art but female artists, folk artists and Ohioans past and present; local artists featured in the new exhibition include Schille and George Bellows.

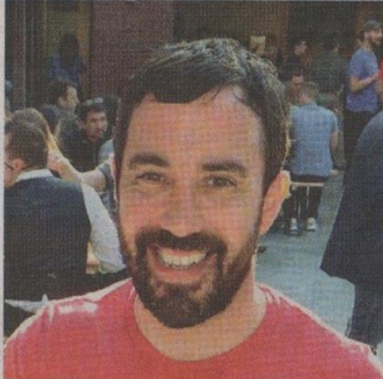
They also praise the advancement of the local visual arts scene, noting the emergence of the Wexner Center and numerous commercial galleries since they opened.

Forty years in, the brothers continue to follow their own muse, as James describes: "It is important to create a niche of expertise and stick with it." ♦



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**Collin Castore** attended '90-'92, **Jim Merkel** '92, and **Joel Pizzuti** '90 were all selected as a part of the 2020 *The Power 100: Columbus' most influential leaders* by Columbus Business First. The Power 100 highlights those people driving the economic and community development conversation across the region, with the ability to influence policies and initiatives.



DAN TRITTSCHUH FOR ACBJ

## Collin Castore

**Co-owner, Seventh Son Brewing Co.; president, Ohio Craft Brewers Association**

Craft beer is an increasingly important part of the Columbus identity, both as a gathering spot for local individuals and groups and as a tourism driver.

Castore was on the forefront of the local movement (not to mention the redevelopment of Italian Village) with Seventh Son, which opened in 2013. The sour beer-focused Antiques on High opened in 2018, again staking out an innovative space.

Beyond his own business, Castore has industrywide importance as well. As president of the Ohio Craft Brewers' Association, he leads the charge for national and state regulatory changes.



CHRIS WALKE

## Jim Merkel

**CEO, Rockbridge**

Merkel's firm has a hand in some of Central Ohio's most closely watched projects. The hotel developer, financier and owner is part of the team behind the \$192 million North Market tower, which will include a 210-room boutique hotel. It's also involved in the \$250 million first phase of the Scioto Peninsula project, where its planned 180-room hotel would complement office, residential and retail space.

Merkel is among the largest individual fundraisers for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Ohio and through his leadership, Rockbridge has raised more than \$5 million for Pelotonia and is consistently Central Ohio's most-generous philanthropic company for its size in *Business First's* annual rankings.



PIZZUTI COS.

## Joel Pizzuti

**President, Pizzuti Cos.**

Pizzuti Cos. develops just about every kind of real estate, putting Joel Pizzuti at the heart of many of the city's building fronts.

His company this year is overseeing multiple mixed-use projects near the main branch of the Columbus Metropolitan Library along with warehouse developments around the region's outer ring, furthering the local logistics and transportation business.

Pizzuti oversees all of this activity as president of the company, and his efforts have expanded the developer nationwide to cities such as Nashville and Orlando.

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**Ali Haque** '01 and **Nick Jones** '01 share personal insights via a Q&A with Columbus Business First as members of its "2020 Class of 40 Under 40."



37

Hometown: Dublin



## Ali Haque

Partner | Bricker & Eckler LLP

**NOMINATOR'S COMMENTS:** Ali is one of the top young litigators in the state of Ohio, and is believed to be the first Muslim partner at any major law firm in Columbus as well. Ali's keen intellect, precise attention to detail, and uncanny ability to both craft and deconstruct arguments has been on display since I first met Ali at age 6 in the kindergarten classroom at Columbus Academy.

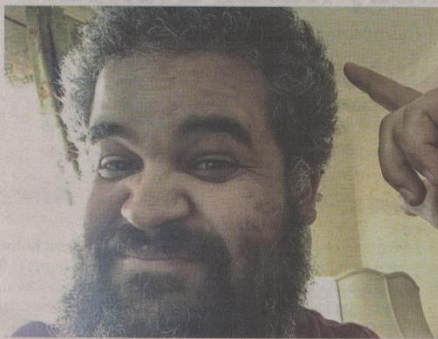
— **MICHAEL COREY**, executive director, Human Service Chamber of Franklin County

**Q&A** If you could go back 10 years and send yourself a text, what would it say? You're going to have two amazing daughters, who will completely change your worldview. Embrace it. Make sure to take a minute every once in a while and enjoy the journey. 2020 will be strange, so buckle up. Always keep two months' worth of toilet paper at home.

**What's a childhood memory that still resonates with you?** Backyard birthday football games and traveling to away tennis matches and basketball games with the same people I'm texting and Zooming today.

37

Hometown: Columbus



## Nick Jones

Director, Healthy Neighborhoods Healthy Families | Nationwide Children's Hospital

**NOMINATOR'S COMMENTS:** Nick is the fulcrum of myriad efforts and millions in resources supporting and rebuilding the South Side, in particular, through the partnerships and relationships Nick has built from the ground up.

— **MICHAEL COREY**, executive director, Human Service Chamber of Franklin County

**Q&A** What's a childhood memory that still resonates with you? As a father now, I appreciate even more the walks I took with my mom to school at Indianola Elementary. Even though I eventually went to Columbus Academy and a walk to school was no longer possible, the moments I got to spend in the car with my mom (and sometimes dad) taught me so much. Now, I find myself in the car listening to NPR's *Morning Edition*, looking at the "rosy fingers of dawn" or showing my son what momentum means by pressing on the brakes.

**What have you learned from being forced to work from home?** I have learned to appreciate all those moments I don't get to hold my son or spend uninterrupted time with my wife. I have learned that no matter how old I get, I will always be my parents' child and to treasure any minute I get to spend with them. I have learned that my brother and I have a bond that will carry our family legacy to future generations, including my son. And, I have learned how incredibly thankful I am to work for an organization, Nationwide Children's Hospital, that puts its patient and people first.



**Stu Harris '80** as a member of Dublin City School's Board of Education congratulates the Class of 2020.

## Dublin City Schools: Class of 2020

Dear Dublin community,

On behalf of the Dublin City School Board of Education, I would like to offer my heartfelt congratulations to the more than 1,200 graduates of the Dublin City Schools Class of 2020. This is a time of celebration for all you have accomplished, for all the friendships made, and for the exciting next chapter in your lives. I also offer congratulations on this accomplishment to the parents of our seniors, and to our dedicated K-12 teaching staff for everything you've done for our students during this journey.

As educators, the members of the Class of 2020 represent the essence of the profession we dedicate our lives to. These students are now ready to move on to higher education, employment, and military service. It provides us all with a tremendous feeling of pride. Graduation serves as a true transition point in the lives of our students and we wish them all of the best as they pursue their futures.

About 90% of our students will go on to higher education. Some will enter the military and we released a special video honoring their willingness to serve.

The Class of 2020 enjoyed many successes in and out of the classroom. This year's graduating class has been involved in some of the best bands and choirs in Ohio and superior ratings at music competitions have been regular occurrences. Theater students and staff produced dramas, comedies, and musicals which have been enjoyed by thousands of people during the past four years. In the visual arts, students have produced an extraordinarily wide array of artwork earning them many state and national awards.

On the fields and the courts, the Class of 2020 has earned Ohio Capital Conference championships in a wide variety of sports during their careers. District, Regional and State championships have been won on the courses, courts, fields, rinks, and in the pools.

Community service has been a constant theme for the Class of 2020. This past school year, students collected thousands of dollars, toys, blankets, food, and other items for worthy causes all over Central Ohio. Thank you to the senior members of my Superintendent's Student Advisory Committee as you have been in planning the District-wide dodgeball fundraiser that has generated more than \$160,000 to date.

Of course, this year, we were unable to have our tournament due to the global COVID-19 pandemic. Our entire community realizes all the things our seniors have lost this year. From proms and athletics, to senior class activities, to social time with your friends. The reality is, these experiences simply can't be replaced. But this is a time for celebration and while there has been loss, when you look back, you will see you lost the last 40 days of your senior year, and the previous 12 plus years of experiences will far outweigh the challenges of 2020.

Superintendent, Todd F. Hoadley, Ph.D



Board of Education: Front row - Brian Kern (Treasurer),  
Lynn May (Vice President), Todd F. Hoadley (Superintendent).  
Back row - Rick Weininger, Scott Melody, Stu Harris, Chris Valentine (President).

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## In Memory

**Frederick M. Luper '58**, age 80, passed away on June 4, 2020. Fred Luper graduated from the Columbus Academy where he lettered in football and was a National Merit Finalist. He served on the Alumni Board for many years. He went to Cornell University where he majored in English and minored in theater. Acting was his joy and he shared his passion for theater with the love of his life. Fred met Carol Perlmutter at Cornell and it was love at first sight. He graduated and came home to go to The Ohio State College of Law. Carol transferred and enrolled at Ohio State University. They married and had Steven, Douglas and Betsy. He was so proud of his three children. Fred performed in community theater from the 1960's on. In 1986 He played the role of Ben Franklin in the Columbus Bar Association's performance of 1776. It remained one of his favorite roles! Through the years he became a supporter and Board member of Gallery Players at The Columbus Jewish Center. He also had a lifetime appointment as a member of the Jewish Center Board of Trustees. He created and produced the show "Legends of Gallery Players". He performed in many shows at Gallery Players, most recently in Funny Girl. He also performed at Actors Summer Theater, Weathervane Playhouse, and Hilliard Arts Council. For many years Fred and Carol spent several weekends in New York City, enjoying theater, restaurants and spending time with friends. Fred was a well-known and highly respected bankruptcy and reorganization lawyer, and a founding partner of the firm Luper Neidenthal and Logan. He was one of the longest serving Bankruptcy trustees in the United States. He served as President of The Commercial Law League of America in 1994 and spent several years on the organizations' Board of Trustees. His eight grandchildren brought him so much joy, and he loved attending their sporting events and concerts. He will be remembered for his sense of humor and his love of telling jokes. Preceded in death by his parents Samuel and Eva Luper. He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Carol Luper; sons, Steven (Brenda) Luper and Douglas Luper; daughter, Betsy (Mark) Luper Schuster; grandchildren, Nathan (Ruth), Jessica, Abigail, Lainey, Michael, Ally and Eric; sister-in-law, Barbara (Wayne) Freid; niece, Cathryn (Kamryn Eddy) Freid; nephew, Matthew (Reanna OrRico) Freid; cousins and friends. Private graveside will be held on Sunday, June 7 at New Agudas Achim Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, contributions in Fred's memory may be made to The Columbus Jewish Community Center, [www.columbusjcc.org](http://www.columbusjcc.org) or charity of donor's choice. Online guestbook at [www.epsteinmemorial.com](http://www.epsteinmemorial.com)

<https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/dispatch/obituary.aspx?n=frederick-m-luper&pid=196301683&fhid=8669>