



Photo by Roger Smith

Local 12 Newsmaker host Dan Hurley moderated a 90-minute dialogue with Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport CEO Candace McGraw at Northern Kentucky University on March 12.

## Bridge ranked No. 1 need Online and audience polling agreed

Our recent meetings have focused on transportation, with speakers on the Brent Spence Bridge, bus rapid transit and, more recently, the challenges facing CVG.

Which of those should be the No. 1 transportation priority in our region? If two polls associated with last month's event are correct, the answer is, hands down, the Brent Spence project.

Cincinnatus partnered with the

Northern Kentucky Forum for the CVG dialogue, and the Forum conducted an online public opinion poll in advance.

Asked which transportation need should be our priority, the 166 respondents answered in this order: the Brent Spence Bridge project (40.4%); a "thriving, robust CVG" (34.3%); light rail (19.3%); and bus rapid transit (1.8%).

A live audience poll using "clickers" brought similar results.



### 21c EPITOMIZES DOWNTOWN'S RENEWED ENERGY

#### NEWEST JEWEL HAS QUEEN CITY SPARKLING

When the 21c Museum Hotel opened at 609 Walnut Street last November, the buzz was immediate. Here's a sample:

##### HOTELCHATTER.COM:

"Since curator Alice Gray Stites likes to mix it up, you'll witness some truly beautiful works on view ... like Ryan Wolfe's 'Field of Grass' in the stairwell leading up to the spa and rooftop terrace, which uses a computer to coordinate the movement of each synthetic blade of grass with the wind outside."

##### CITYBEAT:

"A hybrid of a boutique hotel, a fine dining restaurant and a museum, downtown Cincinnati's 21c Museum Hotel is a jaw-dropping, sui generis masterpiece."

##### SOAPBOXMEDIA.COM:

"Shrug no more, Cincinnati. After a striking and exhaustive renovation of the former 100-year-old flophouse known as the Metropole, the 21c effortlessly bridges the gap between historic hotel and cutting edge accommodations."

## AN EDUCATION AWARD WINNER SAYS THANK YOU

If ever we question the meaning and value of our education awards, we should keep this letter in mind. It's from Leroy Carter, a volunteer at Riverview East Academy. Mr. Carter won the John E. Pepper Outstanding Volunteer in Public Education Award. The letter that follows is his thank you to Mr. Pepper.



Dear Mr. Pepper,

Meeting you and winning the award that's named after you was the best thing that ever has happened to me in my life, and I want to thank you so very much.

I am going to keep helping kids until I can't anymore. Kids are my life.

Please let me know if you need my help in any way. My kids are still telling me how nice you were to the four who were there; but that was not all of them; another four were missing, but all of them were very happy for me.

Please take care of yourself and bless you and your family.

Respectfully,  
Leroy Carter

If you would like to send Coach Carter a note:  
CoachCarter\_1@yahoo.com

## THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

A WORD FROM  
**MARK SILBERSACK**

This message will follow up on issues I addressed in last month's column.

**First**, as mentioned then, our association continues to have higher annual member turnover than we would like. While we're working to fix that problem for the future, we also need to deal with the current low Active member census. In other words, we must bring in some good new members.



Vice President Barbara Henshaw heads up our membership recruiting. One of our newer members, George Wharton, has agreed to assist her. Please contact Barb or George if you can help with this work or have ideas to share with them. And all members, consider this a standing request to suggest good candidates.

**Second**, as a volunteer organization, we will only be as effective as our members make us. So we are always looking for members willing to take on leadership roles, whether as officers, as panel or committee chairs, or on special projects.

It's difficult for the officers to identify who may be interested in stepping up into a more active role. I'm confident we have lots of future association leaders in our ranks. After all, each member was admitted based largely on such potential. So if you would like to take on greater responsibility, please contact me and we'll talk about what you have in mind.

## NOMINATING REPORT THE SLATE FOR THE COMING YEAR

For officers: **Mark Silbersack**, president; **Barbara Henshaw**, vice president; **Mark Neikirk**, secretary; and **Bob Schrage**, treasurer. For at-large members for the executive committee are: **Dorothy Battle**, **Peter Djuric**, **Elliot Grossman**, **Mike Rozow** and **Judith Wilson-Warren**.

Be sure and thank the members of the nominating committee for their hard work. They include: **Dorothy Battle** (chair), **Arlene Hermann**, **Peter Hoyt**, **Lee Robinson** and **Alan Vicory**.

## GOVERNMENT PANEL REVISITING THE PARKING ISSUE

The panel is involved in two studies of significance. First, the city's **parking lease plan** is being scrutinized. Look for a recommendation that Cincinnatus take a public position on the referendum opposing that plan. The second topic is a potential full-scale **review of the city Charter government**. Also, the panel is in the early stages of planning for mayoral debates.

## MARKETING COMMITTEE WEBSITE DONATIONS NEEDED

The online payment system brought a lot of new donations but we aren't there yet. Checks accepted. Give yours to **Roger Smith** tonight.

## LIVING LIFE IN LIMBO

What's it like to grow up in America yet feel unwelcomed here?

The Inclusion Panel has been meeting to plan the May program for Cincinnatus on "Living Life in Limbo: What Does it Mean?"

Two local Latino High School students, one from Purcell and one from Northern Kentucky, will tell their stories. Don Sherman, retired executive director of Interfaith Alliance and now a volunteer at Su Casa, along with Sister Margarita Brewer from Cincinnati Public Schools will explain the DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) program, which is under the Dream Act Executive Order.

Our goal is to start a dialogue on a subject which has become more pertinent to all of us in our daily lives. This group of young immigrants who have grown up in America, but were not born here, have issues that we (the Inclusion Panel members) had not been aware of prior to hearing the students speak.

*Come and listen: Tuesday, May 14, at the University Club.*

## WELCOME BRIAN, KATE AND PETER

Welcome our three newest members: **Brian MacConnell**, VP of Communications & Planning for Freestore/Foodbank, **Kate Bonansinga**, new director of UC's School of Art; and **Peter Draugelis**, a partner in the corporate law department at Dinsmore Shohl.