



# Hello, Hamilton County

Quote of the week: "Flexible people never get bent out of shape!" — *Bits and Pieces*

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## Commissioners reward 12 lucky residents with GABP suite ducats

The Board of County Commissioners drew the names of 12 Hamilton County residents who will watch Reds' games from the County's Great American Ball Park (GABP) suite. The Commissioners held the drawing at Loveland High School as part of their monthly community meetings.

From 6,000+ telephone and online entries, the following names were drawn:

- ◆ Jeff Molski
- ◆ Martha Anhofer

- ◆ Becky Lister
- ◆ Dee Cohen
- ◆ Betty Koffman
- ◆ Barbara Holland
- ◆ Chris Waggel
- ◆ Julie Yorgovan
- ◆ John Torok
- ◆ Christine Edwards
- ◆ Tammy Jett
- ◆ Suzy Wood

The County's suite will accommodate 12 people, allowing six winners and his/her guest to attend a game.

The County will provide food and soft drinks to the winners and their guests.

The first six winners attended the April 23rd game and the second group attended the April 27th game.

The Board held the raffle to ensure that the people, the Hamilton County residents, who sponsored and are paying for the ball park, have an opportunity to experience the facility that they built.

### Corrections:

The April 10, 2003 issue reported Joan Gilmore as President of ASPA. Joan is President-Elect. She will take office as President on July 1, 2003.

## 2003 Amateur Photography Contest

The Soil and Water Conservation District is searching for images that capture the beauty of our waterways. Rules and guidelines for the contest are as follows:

1. Submit up to three color, high quality, close-up, mid-range, and landscape photographs of any stream in Hamilton County. Digitals must be on disk in .jpg format.
2. Junior category, students ages 14-19 in secondary school. Senior category, age 19 or older.
3. Judging based on composition, technical excellence, originality, color and overall impact.
4. Winners will be asked to provide a high-resolution file of their photograph.
5. Deadline, August 1, 2003. Mail photographs, with name, address, daytime telephone, and location of stream to: Hamilton County SWCD, 29 Triangle Park Drive, #2901, Cincinnati., Ohio 45246.

Winning photographs will be presented on the cover of SWCD's 2003 Annual Report, on the website, and in displays.

Contact person: Holly Utrata-Halcomb, Administrator, 772.7645.

## Green Products Expo At Sharonville

The Hamilton County Solid Waste Management District, in conjunction with the Greater Cincinnati Earth Coalition, is sponsoring the 2nd Annual Green Products Expo on May 21, 2003, at Sharonville Convention Center, 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

The goal of the program is to increase the use of environmentally preferable products which include recycled-content materials, nontoxic cleaning products, alternative fuels, and energy efficiency.

This year, the Expo will consist of a small exhibit hall, as well as a full day's worth of techni-

cal sessions featuring local and national speakers. This year's sessions include: cleaning products, alternative fuels, LEED and green building overview, cost-effective recycling programs, landscape design, and how to implement an environmentally preferable purchasing policy in your office.

There is no cost to attend the Expo and breakfast and lunch are included!

For more information and to register for the Expo, visit [http://www.hcdoes.org/sw/Green\\_Expo\\_register.htm](http://www.hcdoes.org/sw/Green_Expo_register.htm) or call the District's office at 946.7719.

## JFS Upgrades Web Site to Better Serve the Public

The Department of Job and Family Services launched a new, improved web site designed to better serve the needs of clients, students, researchers, job-seekers, volunteers, donors, foster and adoptive parents, the media and community providers.

The web site links to *Today at HCJFS*, the latest agency news, updated agency program descriptions, trends and statistics, press releases, job openings, and links to community resources. The web site has a powerful search engine.

Feedback about the web site is welcome at [comm.@jfs.hamilton-co.org](mailto:comm.@jfs.hamilton-co.org).

JFS programs include, Adult Services, Child Care Services, Child Support Services, Children's Services, Income Maintenance, Health Services/TB Control and Workforce Development.

Visit the new, improved web site at: [www.hcjfs.hamilton-co.org](http://www.hcjfs.hamilton-co.org).

## Thursday's Child – Adoption and Foster Care

**Call 513.632.6366 for information**



### Soniqua

**DOB: January 1989**

Once you meet Soniqua, she will be one of your favorite teenagers! This sweet and generous young lady interacts effortlessly with everyone she meets. Soniqua does well in school and her teachers report that she is a joy to have in class. After school her dedication to learning does not stop. She enjoys singing in the school talent show, where she does a "mean" Diana Ross, and she also is learning the art of Karate.

Like most teens, she enjoys clothes and has a collection of Mule gym shoes in several colors. This polite and talkative young lady is fond of younger children and likes to help take care of them.

Soniqua would be a wonderful addition to any family. She would like to find a loving family to call her own.

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Please consider opening your home as foster parents or adoptive parents.

## Volunteers at the Cincinnati Reds Game

A group of Hamilton County volunteers enjoyed cheering on the Reds on April 2 from the County suite at Great American Ball Park. The volunteers were invited to the game to thank them for the hours they contribute to Hamilton County.

Many thanks to the Hamilton County volunteers for their time and dedication!



## Managing Projects

The Miami Valley Resource Conservation and Development Council is sponsoring a one-day workshop, "Are You Projects Managing You?" on May 28, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Springboro, Ohio Hampton Inn. The training offers a variety of approaches to interactive project management tools and theory. Trainer, Marta Brockmeyer, has over 20 years experience and has worked in business, government, nonprofit, and higher education environments.

The workshop cost is \$75 which includes materials, continental breakfast, box lunch, and snack. Registration deadline is May 16. Contact Cindy Weitlauf, 946.4317 if interested.

## Department of County Facilities Wins Application Excellence Award

The Application Excellence Award was presented to Hamilton County for demonstrating a unique, innovative application of the ARCHIBUS/FM software to the organization's needs and overall structure.

The award was presented to Ralph Linne, Director of County Facilities, and Diana Weber, Facilities Project Manager, at the International ARCHIBUS/FM Users Conference.

County Facilities (they are pic-

tured to the right) has developed an electronic inventory of all major County office buildings spanning three million square feet and 50 locations using ARCHIBUS/FM and AutoCAD drawings.

During the conference Ralph gave a presentation on the "Development of a Space Inventory System at Hamilton County, Ohio."

Congratulations to Ralph and the staff of the Hamilton County Department of Facilities.



## Job and Family Services Shatters Accuracy Goal

Due to a strong effort by Job and Family Services (JFS) staff, Hamilton County shattered its annual food stamp accuracy goal. The agency recorded a 97.07% federal food stamp accuracy rate in the 2002 Federal Fiscal Year. Their target was 95%.

Everyone in Income Maintenance contributed, from file room staff, clerical support, eligibility workers, team leaders and section chiefs to TEER reviewers. Kevin Brewer of Food Stamp Quality Assurance deserves special mention for his diligent monitoring.

Hamilton County chalked up

the best food stamp payment accuracy rate of the state's largest five metro counties. JFS, in turn, played a significant role in helping the state achieve its best food stamp accuracy rate ever.

Ohio Department of Job and Family Services Director, Neva Terry, wrote a letter to Suzanne Burke, Hamilton

County JFS Director, expressing her happiness with the results and thanking Suzanne and her staff for focusing on food stamp payment accuracy which helped the state reach new levels.

Congratulations to Suzanne and all the JFS staff.

## ICMA Selects Dave Krings As 2003-2004 President

On May 2, 2003, Hamilton County Administrator Dave Krings was selected by the International City-County Management Association (ICMA) Executive Board to serve as the 2003-2004 President. Mr. Krings will take office at the ICMA annual conference in September and will serve a one-year term.

“Local governments are the front line of democracy,” said Krings. “I am honored that the association representing 8,000 local government professional managers and 16 counties has selected me.”

Mr. Krings further stated, “ICMA is important to spouses and families who share the stress the members face. In addition to maintaining ICMA’s quality member services, I want, during my tenure, to strengthen the services that ICMA has for those families and

spouses.”

As ICMA President, Mr. Krings will work closely with the Association’s executive board and executive director, establish the Association’s direction, oversee its management, and communicate with state and affiliate local government management associations.



Picture left: Cake presented to Mr. Krings by staff.

Top: Staff look on as Mr. Krings reads the writing on the cake, “Hail to the Chief, Congratulations Dave.”

Bottom: Mr. Krings thanks staff.



## ODD Announces Delay In Processing

The Ohio Department of Development (ODD) announced that due to the annual shutdown of Ohio’s Accounting Office at the end of June, the processing of Requests for Payment and Status of Funds Report forms will be delayed approximately two weeks beginning June 13. Award recipients must, therefore, submit draw requests by June 4. Payment for forms submitted after June 4 will be received after July 15.

Contact Cindy Weitlauf, Grants Coordinator, 946.4317 if you have questions.

## 2003 Employees of the Year

Congratulations to the following Hamilton County Employees of the Year:

Jeff Aluotto, Program Manager, Environmental Services

Ken Bullock, Head Custodian, Children’s Services

John Konerman, Personnel Director, Juvenile Court

Catalina Landivar-Simon, Senior Planner, Regional Planning

Pamela Sears, Chief Assistant, Prosecuting Attorney’s Office

Greg Wandstrat, Project Manager, Communications

Read more about the winners in the next issue of *Hello Hamilton County*.



Please remember to print and post *Hello, Hamilton County* in your areas so that everyone can see what's going on!

**Thank you** to everyone who contributed to this issue.

*Hello, Hamilton County* is published twice monthly on the County's web page. It is intended to inform both Hamilton County residents and staff. If you have questions or suggestions for future editions, please contact Sharon Booker (946.4428) or Peter Hames (946.4432) in the County Administrator's office.