



October 29, 2004



# Hello, Hamilton County

E-News for Hamilton County Residents and Staff

[www.hamilton-co.org](http://www.hamilton-co.org)

## Poll Workers Needed on November 2

The Board of Elections needs inside poll workers for the November 2, 2004 presidential election.

Poll workers must:

- Attend a poll worker training class
- Be available for last minute election day assignment
- Have transportation
- Work Monday, November 1, 7:00–7:30 p.m.
- Work Tuesday, November 2, 6:00 a.m.–9:00 p.m.

Democrats should contact Gena Howard, 632.7041, to work in outlying areas of the county.

Republicans should contact Mike Schrader, 632.7042, to work in the City of Cincinnati and some areas of the county.

## Quote of the Issue

*"Help others get ahead. You will always stand taller with someone else on your shoulders."*

**Bob Moawad**  
Business Leader

# County Compass Wins ICMA Award

The Regional Planning Commission (RPC) has been named the 2004 winner of the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) Program Excellence Award for Citizen Improvement.

The award, presented at the ICMA Conference in San Diego, recognizes the county's groundbreaking comprehensive planning process known as Community COMPASS, and its innovation in citizen involvement, consensus building and community decision-making.

The ICMA award makes RPC and its alliances of local planning commissions, known as the Planning Partnership, one of the most recognized community planning organizations in the nation.

Besides the ICMA award, RPC and the Planning Partnership received fourteen additional awards in 2004 from the National Association of Counties, the National Association of County Information Officers, the Ohio City/County Management Association, the American Society of Land-

scape Architects, and the General Assembly of the State of Ohio.

The remarkable number and scope of awards in 2004 is a result of RPC and the Planning Partnership's innovative alliance of public, private and civic sector planning organizations, as well as teamwork, creativity, professionalism, and dedication of staff and volunteers.

Congratulations RPC and the Planning Partnership.

## Local Company and Area Intern Successfully Work Together

An Ohio University engineering student, Janae Csavina, and a local company, H.B. Fuller recently participated in the Solid Waste Management District's first Environmental Internship Program. Csavina and Fuller worked together to find ways to decrease waste and improve the company's bottom line. During her internship, Ms. Csavina found projects totaling a potential cost savings of \$32,000, and a waste reduction of 131,000 pounds per year. These projects would also save 100,000 pounds in raw materials, and no single project had a return on investment longer than four years. The District paid 75 percent of the project and the student was a county employee working at H.B. Fuller as a contractor.

Due to the success of the program, the District will fund four 12-week internships in the summer of 2005. Companies interested in details about the program and those interested in applying for an internship should call 946.7732. Applications are due by January 31, 2005.

## Public Records Seminar

The Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services is teaming up with the Ohio Auditor of State's Office to provide free statewide seminars on open government and public records.

The public records seminar, one of the free seminars, is an in-depth examination of Ohio's Public Records, which was designed to strike a balance between the public officials who are the caretakers of public records and Ohio's citizens to whom these records belong. The basic statutory requirements, exemptions and nuances of the act will be discussed fully. Attendees to this seminar will leave with a greater understanding of a public office's responsibilities under the Public Records Act and citizens' rights when requesting public records. The seminars are open to law enforcement, elected officials, media and interested private citizens.

To register online for either of the following seminars, visit [www.ocjs.ohio.gov/training.htm](http://www.ocjs.ohio.gov/training.htm) or call 614.728.8732.

November 9, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. — Dayton  
Centerville Police Department  
155 W. Spring Valley Road  
Centerville, OH 45458

December 1, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. — Cincinnati  
Great Oaks Institute of Technology and Career Development  
3254 E. Kemper Road  
Cincinnati, OH 45241

## Flu Shots

Hamilton County offered flu shots to all of our high risk employees who chose to get one. The final count was 280. Thanks to Gary Berger and the Personnel staff and Tim Ingram and the Health District staff.

On October 16, the General Health District staff and volunteers from several organizations vaccinated 1,800 citizens for influenza. Many of those who received the vaccination and those who volunteered, complimented the staff on how well the clinic operated.



"It was OUTSTANDING!!!" — Steve

"We were fully expecting long lines, angry people, etc. Instead we found helpful workers, a well run operation and were in and out in fifteen minutes ..."  
— Paul and Joseph Brinkman

"A job well done." — Mildred Kabitzy

## Influenza (The Flu)

Due to the shortage of flu vaccine this flu season, healthy adults have been asked to forgo their vaccine to help ensure that those who truly need the vaccine are protected.

### What should I do if I get the flu?

Stay at home, rest and drink plenty of fluids. Agents containing acetaminophen, such as Tylenol, can be used for the symptomatic therapy of fever, headache and muscle aches caused by the virus.



The use of salicylates, such as aspirin, should be avoided, particularly in children under 18 years of age. This age group may experience an increased risk of developing Reye syndrome with the use of salicylates.

Four antiviral drugs (amantadine, rimantadine, zanamivir and oseltamivir) have been approved for **treatment** of the flu. If taken within 2 days of getting sick, these drugs can reduce the symptoms of the flu and shorten the time you are sick by 1 or 2 days. They also can make you less contagious to others. All of these drugs must be prescribed by a doctor and taken for 5 days.

Cough suppressants may be used if cough is particularly troublesome, but are usually not needed. Antibiotics should be reserved for complications of acute influenza, such as bacterial pneumonia, ear infections, or sinus infection.

Most people with the flu can take care of themselves at home and do not need to seek medical care. Individuals without risk factors for complications should contact their doctor if the following symptoms develop:

- Trouble breathing
- Severe sore throat
- A cough that produces a lot of green or yellow mucus
- You feel faint
- Dehydration and unable to drink fluids, or lack of urine output
- Develop symptoms of pneumonia — severe cough that brings up phlegm, high fever and a sharp pain in your chest when you breathe deeply

Prevent the spread of the flu by using good respiratory hygiene:

- Frequently wash your hands
- Cover your mouth and nose when sneezing and wash your hands after you cough or sneeze
- Avoid touching your nose, mouth or eyes
- Do not share utensils or cups
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- If you are sick, try to stay home as much as possible

**Thursday's Child  
For Information Call  
513.632.6366**



**Shianne**

**birthdate: October 22, 1991**

Shianne is an athletic young lady who enjoys various sports and outdoor activities. She is aided in school with an IEP to address academic and behavioral difficulties.

Shianne is in need of a family that will show her unconditional love and the ability to participate in therapeutic services to address her issues.

**Help enrich the life  
of a child in need.**

Print and post  
*Hello, Hamilton County*  
in your area!

**November is  
National Adoption Awareness Month  
JFS children featured on tray liners**

National Adoption Awareness Month is a time to focus attention on boys and girls in the child welfare system waiting for adoption.

During November, adoption month, the Department of Job and Family Services (JFS) is, once again, teaming with the Tri-State Adoption Coalition to place photos of children available for adoption on tray liners at 48 area Wendy's restaurants. Approximately 230,000 photos will be distributed in Hamilton County, Northern Kentucky, and Southwest Indiana.

Three JFS children will be featured on the tray liners — Sylvia and brothers, Travonne and Tramaine. Children waiting for adoption will also appear in the Aronoff Center for the Arts' programs during the run of *Riverdance*, November 16 through 21.

On October 30, JFS will set up a booth at the Tri-State Adoption Fair and Conference. In addition, JFS will update a videotape titled, *Making Dreams Come True*, showing children available for adoption and will be made available to cable stations.



Sylvia



Travonne and Tramaine

Channel 12 features children each week on *Thursday's Child* and this newsletter focuses on a child or sibling group in each issue. Video clips also appear on the JFS adoption website at [www.hcadopt.org](http://www.hcadopt.org).

More than 100 children are available for adoption. JFS is looking for parents for older children and sibling groups. To learn more about adoption, visit [www.hcjfs.org](http://www.hcjfs.org) (click on adoption) or call 632.6366.

**Foster Parent Forum**

Job and Family Services updated 111 foster parents about several exciting improvements, new state laws, and other pertinent information in a forum held October 7, at the North College Hill High School Auditorium. Staff from Children's Services, Communications, Information Systems, and Building Services planned and staged the forum. Check out the improved foster care website at [www.hcfoster.org](http://www.hcfoster.org) which was unveiled at the forum.

## Do you have a home emergency kit?

Every home should have an emergency/disaster supply kit. Your kit should contain:



1. A first aid kit.
2. A NOAA weather radio.
3. A battery-operated radio.
4. Flashlight and extra batteries.
5. Bath size towels.
6. Wide tape.
7. Plastic sheeting, such as paint drip cloths.
8. Canned and ready-to-eat food and bottled water.
9. A non-electric can opener.
10. A list of family medications, eye-glasses, or hearing aids.

For more information about a home emergency/disaster supply kit, visit [www.hamilton-co.org/ema/](http://www.hamilton-co.org/ema/) or call 851.7080.

## County Awarded ICMA Certificate of Distinction

The International City/County Management Association (ICMA) recognized the county with a Center for Performance Measurement (CPM) Certificate of Distinction for continuing efforts in measuring and improving local government performance.

The certificate of distinction is the higher of CPM's two levels of recognition. It pays special tribute to the county's efforts to incorporate performance data into decision-making, nurture the county's program through training and process improvement, and share the county's successes via networking with others.

The certificate recognizes the hard work of the entire county team. Special recognition goes to Administrative Services Deputy Director, Lois Reynolds and Management Systems Supervisor, Jim Cundiff, for coordinating this effort – collecting, verifying, and analyzing the data.

The presentation was made October 17, at the ICMA annual conference in San Diego, as part of the CPM Stakeholders Meeting. During that meeting there was an opportunity for jurisdictions being honored to share accomplishments and lessons learned.

Congratulations to the county team. The awarding of the Certificate of Distinction is an honor.

## Charlie Perry Receives OEPA Award

The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency awarded the 2004 "Dan Riestenberg Memorial On-Scene Coordinator Award" to Charlie Perry at the Ohio Spill Prevention and Emergency Response Conference in Mason, Ohio.

Perry received the award for outstanding leadership, dedication and teamwork during environmental emergencies. A retired Cincinnati District Fire Chief, Perry is now serving as Director of the Greater Cincinnati Hazardous Materials Unit.

## Word for this Issue

October surprise  
(ok-TOH-buhr suhr-PRYZ)

A last minute surprise, especially one orchestrated by a candidate to influence an election.

A.Word.A.Day  
<http://wordsmith.org>

Can't attend the Wednesday public meeting? We would still like to hear from you.



Commissioner John Dowlin  
[john.dowlin@hamilton-co.org](mailto:john.dowlin@hamilton-co.org)



Commissioner Phil Heimlich  
[phil.heimlich@hamilton-co.org](mailto:phil.heimlich@hamilton-co.org)



Commissioner Todd Portune  
[todd.portune@hamilton-co.org](mailto:todd.portune@hamilton-co.org)

**"Got News?" Email [sharon.booker@hamilton-co.org](mailto:sharon.booker@hamilton-co.org). Deadline for next issue: November 8.**

*Thanks to those who contributed to this issue.* If you have questions or suggestions for future editions, please contact Sharon Booker (946.4428) or Cheryl Willis (946.4324). To subscribe or unsubscribe visit <http://www.hamilton-co.org/newsletter/>.