

Hello, Hamilton County



January 31, 2005



E-News for Hamilton County Residents and Staff

www.hamilton-co.org

Quote of the Issue

Bite off more than you can chew, then chew it.

~ Peter Brock
~ Ella Williams

Article submission deadlines

February 7 and 17
March 17 and 31
April 14 and 28
May 12 and 26
June 9 and 23
July 7 and 21
August 4 and 18
September 15 and 29
October 13 and 27
November 10 and 24
December 8 and 22

Correction

The January 14 issue reported the Board of Commissioners passed a resolution accepting the resignation of Administrator Krings. The vote was 2 to 1 – Commissioners Heimlich and DeWine voted to accept Krings' resignation and Commissioner Portune voted against.

Commissioner Portune's second term



Commissioner Todd Portune was sworn in earlier this month for a second term.

Following the ceremony, Commissioner Portune presented his agenda for 2005 and beyond.

Budget Goals. To develop a series of goals that outline linkage between the county's budget and policy performance measures. Support spending on initiatives that will make a positive difference to those performance measures. Continue the county's policy of

keeping locally controlled taxes and spending from increasing in the aggregate above the rate of inflation.

Other agenda items presented by Portune embrace **tax reform** and **Rebuild Hamilton County**, an initiative to take specific and concrete steps toward implementation of various components of the ReBuild plan beginning with the crafting of the 2005 All-Funds County Budget. **Infant mortality and insurance for the working poor**, taking on short and longer term strategies to reduce the county's high infant mortality rate, and developing a funding stream to support a health access project supporting small businesses and providing a measure of health care for the county's 35,000 working poor

households. **Public safety** which comprises Communications Center fragmentation, an emergency warning system, jail expansion and patrol hot spots; **environmental issues** consisting of household hazardous wastes and recycling food waste among others; **poverty eradication** and **statewide issues** such as Board of Elections voter turnout, every vote counts, and transit including 3C and D Connector; **Citizen Corps**, a strategy in partnership with the Cincinnati Chapter American Red Cross.

Commissioner Portune's agenda is designed to continue the progress already begun in the county, and to embark on strategies that will move the county forward.

Ralph Linne elected Vice President of CFM

County Facilities Director Ralph Linne was elected Vice President of the County Facilities Managers Association (CFM) for 2005. CFM is an organization of Ohio county facilities management professionals promoting the interchange of ideas and successful work applications in county government, as it relates to the management of public facilities.

Ralph brings to the position a strong facilities management background in both the public and private sector. He has served in a number of key management positions during his extensive career in facilities and construction management.

For more information about the county's Facilities Department, visit www.hamilton-co.org.

We will serve the residents of Hamilton County by providing the best and most responsive county government in America."
— Hamilton County Vision

Mahaffey named Communication Officer of the Year



Robert Mahaffey, pictured with Communications Center Director William Hinkle, was nominated by his co-workers and named 2004 Communication Officer of the Year. Mahaffey was honored for his outstanding

performance, knowledge, dependability and courteousness.

The award is presented to a communication officer who most exemplifies personal qualities and attributes that represent outstanding individual performance. Robert is a leader on his shift, and inspires those around him with his enthusiasm and positive attitude. He has received perfect attendance awards and letters of commendation throughout his employment. He has served as a volunteer training officer, dedicating six to nine months to each trainee.

Robert recently celebrated his 25th anniversary with the county. He is well liked and respected by his supervisors and coworkers alike.

Kirkendall joins JFS' Executive Team



Ron Kirkendall joined the JFS executive team as Director of Project Management. Kirkendall was a former JFS information systems manager and has served as project management consultant for the agency since 2003.

Kirkendall has guided a variety of top-priority projects such as the Corrective Action and Resolution Plan, the Children's Services Visitation Receipt initiative and an operational review of the entire Child Support program. Ron assisted Income Maintenance in the development of solutions to eliminate and prevent backlogs.

JFS Director Suzanne Burke commented, "His training, background and understanding of human services programs gives him a unique blend of skills and abilities." Kirkendall stated he looks forward "to joining an executive team dedicated to improving customer service, lowering costs, decreasing liability and focusing on other important priorities."

Employees recognized for years of service



Linda Papayiannis (pictured) has been employed by Job & Family Services (JFS) since 1980. Linda says it has been a pleasure working for JFS for the past 25 years. It has enabled her to interact with people, something she enjoys doing. Linda was presented 25-year service pin by Commissioner Phil Heimlich.

Cherie Lunsford has also been employed at JFS for 25 years. She is considered a great asset to the organization.

Rebecca Onderdonk is a 30 year employee of JFS. She began her career in 1974 and is a dedicated and valued member of the department. Rebecca is said to be the epitome of professionalism.

Congratulations to Linda, Cherie, and Rebecca.

County's Business Center Helping Entrepreneurs Succeed



There are 46 innovative and growing start-up companies open for business at the county's Business Center (HCBC). Nearly 200 early stage ventures have gotten their start at HCBC.

During its 16 year existence, HCBC has successfully launched approximately 70 percent of its participating businesses, with nearly 95 percent of those successful businesses locating in the county. To be deemed successful a company must survive to its fifth anniversary while creating jobs and operating profitably.

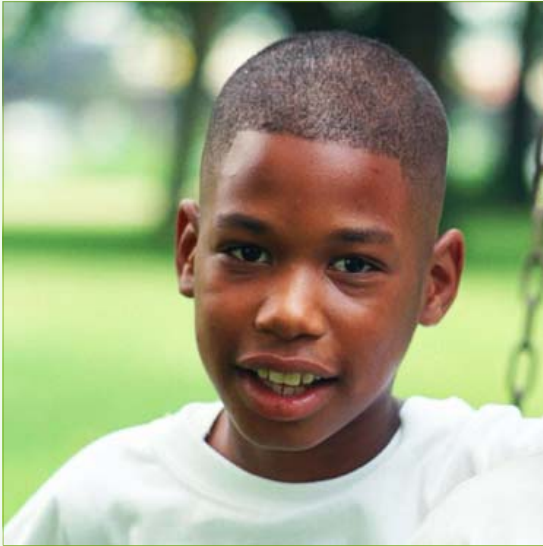
In the past 12 months, HCBC tenants generated on an aggregate basis over \$26 million in revenues, employed over 335 people, and received over \$5.5 million in capital funding. HCBC companies sell products and services utilized on six continents, and one company has had an experiment on the International Space Station.

For information about HCDC, contact HCBC at 631.8292 or visit www.hcdc.com.

Adoption For Information Call 513.632.6366

Sanchez

born: May 23, 1993



Sanchez likes playing with his friends, whether it's playing video games or engaging in a pick-up game of basketball or tag. If it's social and active, it's for Sanchez. After school and on Saturday's, you'll find him outside riding his bike, playing on a swing set and playing baseball.

Sanchez also has a quiet side. He enjoys reading fiction, adventure and fantasy books. Like most boys his age, Sanchez likes to watch television. Some of his favorite programs are Batman and Blues Clues. One of his favorite afternoons includes settling down with pizza and his favorite television show.

Sanchez likes school and makes good grades. He needs a family that can help him succeed in school and achieve his potential. Sanchez hopes to be an actor or a fireman when he grows up. He also wants to stay in contact with his siblings.

Help enrich the life of a child in need.

Communication Center Director honored by Fire Chiefs Association

The Hamilton County Fire Chiefs Association presented Communications Center Director William Hinkle with an award at their Installation of Officers Banquet held in Silverton. The award, presented by Fire Association President John Vail, Chief of the Evendale Fire Department, was given in recognition of Hinkle's efforts to promote passage of Ohio House Bill 361, the Emergency 9-1-1 Wireless Funding Legislation.



Communications Center Director William Hinkle

Over the past seven years, through Hinkle's leadership as chairman of the Ohio Public Safety Communications Task Force and his perseverance, he worked to get this legislation enacted in Ohio, one of only two states left in the country that had not passed the legislation.

The legislation will provide the state's 9-1-1 centers with the funding necessary to purchase new telephone technology that will help emergency service responders locate people when calling 9-1-1 from a wireless telephone. The Communication Center provides emergency 9-1-1 service to 40 municipalities, and plans to have this technology in place before the end of 2005.

Did you know?

County employees have at their fingertips access to all kinds of information related to health care benefits and special programs, training opportunities, employee discounts to special events, and the Board's personnel policy manual?

All this and more is available to county employees on the Intranet site. From your county pc, visit <http://hcnet/xpersonnel>.

Be sure to check out the latest discount offer to attend a Cincinnati Mighty Ducks game on February 26, or the Ringling Brothers & Barnum and Bailey Circus at the US Bank Arena in March.

Word of this issue

Hubble-bubble

(HUB-buhl—BUB-buhl)

Noun

Commotion; uproar; turmoil.

To submit a *word of this issue*, send an e-mail to sharon.booker@hamilton-co.org.

Harrison Commerce Center breaks ground



l-r: Mike Schueler, Developer, David Main, HCDC, Eric Stuckey, Assistant County Administrator for Department of Administrative Services, County Engineer Bill Brayshaw, Harry Blanton, HCDC and Joe Kramer, Henkle Schueler/Bunnell Hill Development

Hamilton County Development Company (HCDC) and county officials joined leaders from the city of Harrison and Harrison Township and representatives of developer Henkle Schueler to break ground on the Harrison Commerce Center.

Henkle Schuler is developing the industrial/office park on a 160-acre tract acquired by Cinergy Corporation over 30 years ago.

HCDC met with several developers to generate a buzz about the location and was informed by Henkle Schueler Executive Vice President Joe Kramer that interest had already been expressed by at least two dozen companies from inside and outside the county.

HCDC, CIC and Henkle Schueler have partnered with the city of Harrison and Harrison Township to implement several programs, including establishing a Joint Economic Development District to help pay for a sewer to the site and a Tax Increment Financing District to pay for a road and utilities to the site. HCDC also administers the Enterprise Zone program for the site and markets available land through the SiteTracker and Procure databases.

The Harrison Commerce Center will serve as an effective tool to help retain existing businesses and to provide another accommodating option for new businesses thinking of venturing into the county. For more information about the Center, contact Joe Kramer, 800.589.7535 or at jkramer@henkleschueler.com. For information about sites in the county, contact Dan Ferguson or Harry Blanton at HCDC, 631.8292 or visit www.hcdc.com and click SiteTracker.

County Walk Club looking for new members

Are you age 50 or older and looking for an easier way to stay active and enjoy the outdoors? The county walk club is an easy way for you to establish a regular walking schedule with your friends and neighbors in a safe, scenic location near your home.

The walk clubs meet at 8:30 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays for a self-paced walk at five county parks: Sharon Woods, Winton Woods, Miami Whitewater Forest, Farbach-Werner Nature Preserve and Woodland Mound.

The program is free and members enjoy the added motivation of being part of a group exercise program.

For more information or to join a walk club, call the county's General Health District at 946.7807 or the county's Park District at 521.PARK. Information is also available at www.hamiltoncountyhealth.org.

February Holiday Observances

President's Day

Monday, February 21, 2005

County offices will be closed.

Print and post

*Hello,
Hamilton
County*

in your area!

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



Commissioner Pat DeWine
pat.dewine@hamilton-co.org



Commissioner Phil Heimlich
phil.heimlich@hamilton-co.org



Commissioner Todd Portune
todd.portune@hamilton-co.org

"Got News?" Email sharon.booker@hamilton-co.org. Deadline for next issue: February 7.

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