

the ywca news

YWCA

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Hamilton, Ohio 45011
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www.ywcahamilton.com

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YWCA

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2009 YWCA WOMAN OF THE YEAR ZELLENE MILLER



The YWCA Board and staff are proud to name Zellene Miller as the 2009 Woman of the Year. All are invited to join us to honor Zellene at the May Morning Breakfast on Wednesday, May 27.

For the past 18 years, Zellene Miller has been a driving force behind the success of numerous Hamilton High School graduates. When a student is unsure about his or her direction and future, Zellene, the high school's career development coordinator, steps in, helps them form a plan, and shows them how to achieve their goals.

Her warmth and attention have put many students at ease, bolstered their confidence, and made them realize that they can attain goals that they had not imagined.

A transfer student in her program stated, "She was the first person I met [at HHS], and I'll never forget how welcome and how special she made

me feel. I didn't have any idea what I wanted to do before I met her. Mrs. Miller molded me and pressed me, and I consider her my mentor."

These are the words that make her glow.

She says, "When a child comes back after graduating from college or completing a technical program and says, 'If it weren't for you, I probably wouldn't have been this successful,' that is just so touching..."

Born in Hamilton and a New Miami graduate, she had 20 plus years business experience with Diebold, Inc.

She also worked with a group of girls at Wilson Middle School. The former technical education director Todd Matthews saw something special in her and asked her to move a career development program forward for the school system. She accepted the challenge and began her journey into career development,

(continued on page 2)

*"I enjoy my job,
and I have a passion
for what I do.
To be able to nurture and
inspire and impact lives,
my goodness,
there isn't anything better."
– Zellene Miller*

Be sure to mark your calendars! Make your reservations today!



May Morning Breakfast

Wednesday May 27, 2009

\$15.00 per person

7:00 - 9:00 a.m. Breakfast • 8:00 a.m. Presentations

Call 856-9800, or clip and mail the form on page 3 to
YWCA, 244 Dayton Street, Hamilton, Ohio 45011

≡ Around the “Y” ≡



Right: ALTRUSA threw a Valentine's Day Party for YWCA residents, pictured here, in February 2009.



Left: Martin Luther King Day March, YWCA participants, January 2009.

WOMAN OF THE YEAR *(continued from page 1)*

which was a brand new field for her. She went to Columbus and began her research. Since then she has gone from researching the field to defining it. She also re-defined her own career in the process.

When asked if she had had any idea that she would be mentoring young people, she responded, "As a longtime Sunday school teacher, I knew I would probably be working somewhere mentoring and inspiring children."

Her program is the first of its kind in a high school in the Tri-State and leads the way in helping students set goals for themselves while researching careers and colleges and becoming aware of what their interests and skills are. Most of these programs are overseen by representatives from joint vocational schools. Volunteering is an important aspect of the program and is called A.S.T.R.A. - Ability, Service, Training, Responsibility and Achievement. It is a program that partners with Altrusa of Hamilton and helps instill value of community service in youth. It is the first service program of its kind in the area.

Zellene's eyes sparkle when she talks about "her kids." "I love a challenge. We have some great children here, and I really enjoy working with them." They love working with her, too.

They are not the only ones who benefit from her caring and passion. When she is not putting in long hours at the high school, she finds time to serve on the board and work with the Angel Food Ministry at her church, the Mt. Zion Apostolic Temple in New Miami. Zellene has also been a YWCA Board member, and was selected in 2000 as a YWCA Outstanding Woman of Achievement.

When asked about her commitments, Zellene commented, "These are things that are very important to me; God, who is the head of my life, my family, and my friends."

Zellene and her husband Rick have two grown children, Angela Howard and Raanell Miller, and six grandchildren. ▲

Hamilton's YWCA: an Incubator for Community Theatre

Submitted by Pat Irwin

HISTORIC MOMENTS
YWCA
CHARTERED IN 1902

As Greater Hamilton Civic Theatre drops the curtain on its' 50th year of incredible dramatic productions, it

is worth remembering that a troupe of visionaries began practice in the YWCA's building in 1958. Initially the group was known as Hamilton Little Theatre. As Henry Cepluch noted in the recent program for "Putting It Together", the GHCT has put together..."a range of plays season after season that entertain and enlighten, comfort and provoke, that engage and delight audiences".

Pat Ganz, current chairperson of the GHCT board of trustees, fondly remembers many original one act plays that were performed in the Y's auditorium. She also recalls the Rotary Club practicing in our historic building as they "birthed" Rotary Revels in the late 50s.

Celebrating Spring, we acknowledge the seeds that were planted in the heart of 244 Dayton Street, for the shows have not only survived but have thrived in our memories. ▲



2009 Annual Membership Meeting & Dinner

Members and friends of the YWCA are invited to enjoy a festive meal with piano music by Treva Boardman at the 2009 Annual Membership Meeting and Reception on Tuesday, April 21, at the YWCA in Hamilton.

The meeting will open with welcoming remarks by Lee Sanders, YWCA Board

President, and a brief business meeting to report the election of new board members and Nominating Committee members. Treasurer Karen Baker will present the FY08 Financial Statement.

Dr. Wanza Jackson, Board member and Warden at the Warren Correctional

Institution, will present, "The Power of Purpose." Her presentation will address the challenges and opportunities that arise in our lives.

We welcome all and look forward to seeing many more of you in the years to come. Call 856-9800 to RSVP. ▲

The Board of Directors of the YWCA invites you to attend

MAY MORNING BREAKFAST

honoring



ZELLENE MILLER

YWCA WOMAN OF THE YEAR 2009

Wednesday, May 27, 2009

Breakfast served 7-9:00 a.m.

Reservations: \$15.00



Awards presented at 8:00 a.m.

244 Dayton Street, Hamilton, Ohio

eliminating racism
empowering women
ywca

Call 856-9800 to submit reservations by Friday, May 22, 2009.

Make your May Morning Breakfast reservations now!

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

Please reserve _____ seats at \$15.00 each. Enclosed is \$_____.

I understand that my paid reservations for the May Morning Breakfast will be available at the door on Wed., May 27, 2009.

I am unable to attend but have enclosed \$_____ as a donation.

Please make checks payable to The YWCA and send to:
May Morning Breakfast, YWCA, 244 Dayton Street, Hamilton, Ohio 45011

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www.ywcahamilton.com

**DON'T FORGET
MAY MORNING BREAKFAST
WEDNESDAY, MAY 27
7:00 -9:00 AM**

**109 YEARS OF CARING FOR
BUTLER COUNTY WOMEN AND FAMILIES!**

New Board Members

The Board and staff of the YWCA welcome the slate of new and re-elected members:

Margot Halcomb
Ericca Keith
Regina Johnson-Phillips
Victoria Ryan

We also wish to congratulate the Nominating Committee slate:

Anne Fiehrer Flaig, Chair
Regina Johnson-Phillips
Kathy Dudley

Thank You

to the following businesses
for their prize donations for the

Fantasy Ball 2009

Kona Bistro	Manchester Inn
Ryan's Tavern	Grand Finale
Flower Corner	Jag's Steak & Seafood