Greetings!

Mayor Mark Mallory and Hamilton County Commissioner David Pepper did the honors Feb. 11 at the SWORWIB’s Annual Meeting, handing out SuperAwards that honored 20 individuals, three companies, and six organizations for their leadership in the workforce system.

Our region is blessed to have an abundance of talent working toward the goals of getting more people into more jobs and making sure those people have the proper training. These talented individuals and organizations have shown sustained leadership in making good things happen in Greater Cincinnati, and I am grateful to them.

For a list of winners, click here.

Sincerely,

Sherry Kelley Marshall/President/CEO

Mayor Mark Mallory and Janice Urbanik, honored as
ALL ABOUT EMPLOYERS:
SJC OFFERS TOPICAL SEMINARS

Your company just was notified it is being sued for discrimination. Now what?

It’s not the kind of news employers want to hear, but it’s essential they know what steps to take when that happens, said Lee Geiger, Chair of the Labor and Employment Practice Group at Graydon Head, at an employers’ seminar Feb. 18 at the SuperJobs Center.

About 20 HR professionals attended the seminar, organized by Sheila Roth, marketing manager at the SuperJobs Center, Cincinnati and Hamilton County’s one-stop center for job seekers and employers. Roth holds an employer seminar each quarter and looks for subjects that will be relevant to Human Resource staffs. These seminars, which have covered subjects such as social media and hiring foreign nationals, are just a sample of the services offered for employers at SuperJobs.

At this seminar, about 20 HR professionals showed up, representing such companies as Home Depot, Convergys, the Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber, and Cincom.

The topic -- on discrimination investigations by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission -- clearly engaged the audience, who were quick to ask questions. "Is e-mail admissible?" one participant asked. "Yes!" Geiger answered emphatically; he covered that subject in more detail later. (Above, Matthew Hannahan of Graydon Head, Sheila Roth and Lee Geiger.)

"The audience asked great questions," said Geiger, who has spoken on other employer topics at the SuperJobs Center, including "at will employment." "These types of seminars are a very useful service offered by the SuperJobs Center."

Robyn Randall, Human Resources Manager at the Home Depot, Cincinnati/West, agreed. It was her first employer seminar at the Super Jobs Center. "It’s a very important topic," she said. "It can be intimidating to many people. But to get this first-hand knowledge, and this very relevant information on how to handle such incidents, is so helpful."

Roth uses the SuperJobs e-mail contact list to get the word out on her seminars. She’s already planning her next one - the topic will be hiring those with disabilities.

For more information on employer seminars at SuperJobs Center, contact Sheila Roth at 513-458-7051 or sroth@superjobs.com.
SWORWIB SHOWS STRONG GAINS IN 2 YEARS

The Southwest Ohio Region Workforce Investment Board has improved its performance significantly in two years, according to The Center for Workforce Learning, which assesses Workforce Investment Boards for the State of Ohio and throughout the country.

The SWORWIB was evaluated by the Center for Workforce Learning in June 2007, and cited for performance gaps in eight areas. All performance issues have been resolved or significantly improved, said Mary Ann Lawrence, President/CEO of the Center. “The SWORWIB has an extraordinary list of improvements that have taken place in a relatively short period of time,” she added, giving credit to the leadership of Sherry Kelley Marshall. Marshall became President/CEO of the SWORWIB in December 2007.

Among the high points:

-- Showing community and regional leadership by pursuing a Regional Innovation Grant from the Department of Labor with other Workforce Investment Boards in the Tri-State area; and for working with faith-based leaders on workforce issues.
-- Collaborating with two local UAWs and the State of Ohio to obtain funds to establish a “Bridge to Work Transition Center” in Evendale (2008-09) to ease the transition of Ford workers dislocated by the shutdown of the Ford plant in Batavia.

For more details, click here.

EMPLOYERS FIRST TOURS TOTAL QUALITY LOGISTICS IN BATAVIA

The Employers First Workforce Consortium -- comprised of the SWORWIB, the Northern Kentucky Workforce Investment Board, Workforce One Investment Board of Southwest Ohio, Indiana Region 9 Workforce Board, and the Northern Kentucky Chamber's Workforce Division -- paid a visit to one of the Tri-State’s fastest growing companies, Total Quality Logistics (TQL) in Batavia, Ohio, on Jan. 15.

“The Consortium visits a different company in the region periodically to get a better understanding of staffing demands,” said Sherry Kelley Marshall, President/CEO of the SWORWIB.

TQL is a third party freight-broker whose sales people arrange truck shipments for customers across the country. Founded by Ken Oaks in 1997, TQL has grown to a company with more than $400 million in revenue. In 2007, it moved to a new 100,000-square-foot corporate headquarters in Batavia, and now has more than 1,000 employees. (Pictured above at TQL, from left: Ted Groman, Director, Workforce One of Clermont County; Kathleen Williams, SWORWIB; Laura Kramer, TQL's Senior HR Specialist; and Barbara Stewart, Director of the Northern Kentucky Workforce Investment Board.)

SHORT TAKES: WINBURN & JOBS, CHAMBER & WIA

WINBURN & JOBS: City Councilman Charlie Winburn, who took office in December, is chairman of the city’s Jobs Creation Committee, and will address the Spring Workforce Partners Council Meeting March 9 at Scarlet Oaks.

He hopes to work with the Partners Council on a large workforce event to be held later this year that would bring together job seekers from across the region and allow them to find out what resources are offered by agencies and non-profits involved in workforce development.
Winburn toured the SuperJobs Center Feb. 3 with City Councilwoman Laure Quinlivan, also newly elected.

(Charlie Winburn, left, and Laure Quinlivan listen to Business Services Manager Chuck Walters during a tour Jan. 15, 2010.)

CHAMBER SUPPORTS REAUTHORIZATION: The Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber heads to Washington, D.C., March 9-10 for its annual D.C. Fly-In to ensure its voice is heard on issues vital to the area. Among the topics to be broached on Capitol Hill is reauthorization of the Workforce Investment Act, which the Chamber supports, says Tom Ewing, senior policy analyst at the Chamber.

JOIN US ON FACEBOOK, FOLLOW US ON TWITTER

Smoke signals, telegraph and Pony Express. These were all methods used at some point in history to get a message to someone. In the 21st Century, a new form of communication has taken root -- social media. Love it or hate it, it’s here and growing in popularity.

The SuperJobs Center recognizes the value in social media in communicating with workforce development professionals and employers. The Center makes weekly posts to Facebook and Twitter about events, media coverage, and relevant workforce information. Those in the workforce community benefit from these posts through information that could help them serve their clients, and employers benefit through information on human resources issues and how the Center is serving employers. One recent post included the Top 10 Blogs for Job Seekers. Another post highlighted how the Center is recruiting applicants for job openings of its employer customers: having them aired on Channel 12’s Neighborhood Job Tracker. More than 160 people have made a connection with the Center through social media in the last several months, and that number keeps increasing.

The SuperJobs Center invites you to become a fan and follower. To join us on Facebook go to www.superjobs.com and click on the Employer tab. Follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/SuperJobsCtr.

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