



# NEWS & UPDATES

HAMILTON COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE COMMISSION

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## Three Join Veterans Service Commission Board in January

Hamilton County Veterans Service Commission (HCVSC) recently welcomed three new commissioners to its board.

**Commissioner Bill Burwinkle** started his sales career in 1970, after serving with the U.S. Army in Vietnam. He founded National Marketshare Group Inc. in 1983.

Burwinkle served with the Boy Scouts of America on the 1997, 2001, 2005, and 2010 National Jamboree Committee and served on the Council Board of Directors for 21 years.

He received the Council Scouter of the Month Award on several occasions and was awarded the Silver Beaver Award, scouting's highest non-scouting award. Burwinkle has also been active throughout the Greater Cincinnati community, having served on the board of Price Hill Will, the Lower Price Hill Community Council, as co-chair of the Oyler School LSDMC, as chair of the Oyler Renovation Design Team, and as chair of the Oyler Green Initiatives Committee. He currently serves on the Board of Golden Gloves and as a commissioner for the board of Great Parks of Hamilton County.

**Commissioner Victoria Parks** is an enlisted United States Air Force veteran, having served honorably from 1976-1980, and earning the Air Force Longevity Service Award and Air Force Good Conduct Medal.

She started her term on Cincinnati City Council in January 2022. Before that, she served as Commissioner Todd Portune's chief of staff from 2016-2019, and then was appointed to fill his spot on the Board of County Commissioners after his retirement. As a commissioner, Parks led numerous initiatives focused on equality and community health.

Parks led the charge in passing Racism as a Public Health Crisis in Hamilton County. She also spearheaded #513survive, which provided a voice for youth to express how they were feeling about COVID-19. She introduced, and passed, Juneteenth as a paid holiday for Hamilton County employees. She also introduced several proclamations to raise awareness for community health and equality. Parks actively volunteers for numerous local organizations in a variety of capacities.

**Commissioner Lincoln Ware** was born and raised in Cincinnati and is a proud alumnus of Woodward High School. He enlisted into the United States Marine Corps, and as a Marine, was a member of the Armed Forces Radio and Television Service. He served a three-year tour aboard the USS Midway Aircraft Carrier, where he worked as a DJ.

Ware officially began his radio career in 1973, when he joined the staff of WCIN-AM, at 106 Glenwood Ave., as a disc jockey. He started hosting The Lincoln Ware Show in 1993. He later worked at the WIZ, WPFB-AM, and 700 WLW-AM. Today, he hosts The Lincoln Ware Show on WDBZ, as well as Cincinnati Issues with Lincoln Ware, a television show aired every Sunday at 6:20 a.m. on WSTR 64. Ware also makes appearances nationally on CNN, FOX News, and MSNBC.



From L-R: Bill Burwinkle, Victoria Parks, Lincoln Ware

# Inaugural Financial Literacy Workshop a Major Success



Local veterans took their money mindfulness to new levels at the first Hamilton County Veterans Service Commission Financial Literacy Workshop. The event, which took place on January 23, 2025, at Klekamp Family Military and Veterans Center, was at capacity. Participants enjoyed a catered meal from Mission BBQ at no cost and professional guidance about VA home loans, credit repair, investments, and banking options. And yes, there were cookies, too.

## New Billboards Increase Service Commission's Visibility

Hamilton County Veterans Service Commission (HCVSC) will soon have a greater presence in communities across the area it serves. A series of billboards will show HCVSC's core purposes and connect veterans to resources they need. Thirteen strategically placed billboards will be on display across Hamilton County, giving HCVSC's mission significant street and highway exposure.

Shown at right: HCVSC's billboard on Glenway Avenue

