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Hamilton, daughter launching series

Service topic of luncheon speech

By BRANDY EMILY
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Leadership Jackson County will welcome Lee Hamilton and his daughter, Tracy Souza, as guest speakers when its Distinguished Speaker Series kicks off a new season Wednesday.

Ann Windley, executive co-director of Leadership Jackson County, said the decision to pursue Hamilton was based on his contributions to community service.

"(The decision was) not too much about his political arena but his strong belief in community service," Windley said.

Windley said the group was looking for someone who was active in community service and the father/daughter team will be speaking about why they believe in community service.

Hamilton served as the U.S. representative from Indiana's 9th District from 1965 to 1999 and now serves as director of the Center on Congress at Indiana University in Bloomington.

Hamilton also serves as president and director of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington, D.C., as well as vice chairman of the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks on the United States (the 9/11 Commission) and he co-chaired with Gov. Thomas Kean the 9/11 Public Discourse Project.

Souza is executive director of Corporate Social Responsibility and president of the Cummins Foundation. She's also on the board of Columbus Regional Hospital and the Heritage Fund, the Community Foundation of Bartholomew County and the Economic Development Board. She was also appointed by Indiana Gov. Frank O'Bannon and reappointed by Gov. Mitch Daniels to the Indiana Commission on Community Service and Volunteerism.

The speaker series, which is in its sixth year, benefits YoJACK, a youth leadership program for seventh-graders in Jackson County.

Leadership Jackson County will also welcome Pat Miller, a co-creator of Vera Bradley, and Phillip Gulley, an author, humorist and pastor, at the speaker series this year.

Windley said she appreciates the community's support in the entertaining and enlightening speaker series.

If you go

■ **What:** Lee Hamilton and his daughter, Tracy Souza, will speak at the Leadership Jackson County Speaker Series luncheon.

■ **When:** Lunch begins at 11:30 a.m. with the presentation beginning at 12:10 p.m. Wednesday

■ **Where:** Jackson County Education Center