

Helen Petersen wins Eve Kraft Award

USTA award honors her work with Hamilton Co. CTA

The USTA has announced that Helen Moser Petersen has been selected as a 2010 USTA Eve F. Kraft Community Service Award recipient. Petersen will be honored at an awards banquet during the annual USTA Community Tennis Development Workshop held January 22-24, 2010 at the Sheraton San Diego Hotel & Marina in San Diego, Calif. The award is bestowed upon individuals who perpetuate Kraft's selfless mission to bring the game of tennis to everyone who wants to play. Eve F. Kraft was a tennis pioneer whose ability to touch people's lives exceeded the boundaries of the tennis court. As a teacher, coach, author, USTA staff member and volunteer, Kraft was a lifelong champion of recreational tennis in the United States until her death in 1999. Petersen has been at the forefront of tennis in Indianapolis. In 1990, she organized and incorporated the Hamilton County Community Tennis Association (HCCTA), and she currently serves as its president. During the school year, HCCTA sponsors after-school tennis programs in six public school systems involving more than 500 elementary students, and in the summer months, tennis programs continue in various locations for kids and adults. HCCTA awards college scholarships and offers opportunities for education and community service activities. Four years ago, Petersen launched the "Community Reads" program to reinforce the value of reading, build team unity and foster a sense of community by reading books such as Arthur Ashe's autobiography, *Days of Grace*, among others. (1-13-10)