



Clermont County On The Move

a newsletter for citizens

July 2005

Commissioners: Bob Proud, Mary Walker, and Scott Crowell

Safety Begins at Home

Message of Homeland Security Expo

“When it comes to homeland security, the best defense is an informed public,” says Clermont County Department of Public Safety Services Director Beth Nevel. “You are our eyes and ears. When you see or hear something in your neighborhood that doesn’t sound or look right, don’t get involved. Dial 9-1-1 immediately and let the trained professionals handle it.”



Nevel and emergency responders from throughout the area invite citizens to learn more about how homeland security dollars are being utilized locally, by attending the Homeland Security Expo. The event is scheduled on Wednesday, July 27, 2005, at the fairgrounds in Owensville, from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m.

The Expo will begin with a brief presentation on how security has intensified in Clermont County since the September 11 attacks on America. The event will

include several live demonstrations of the county’s two explosives detection dogs, and the activation of a decontamination unit. Citizens are invited

to ask questions of security experts and check out some of the equipment that is available to ensure our community is as safe as it can be.

“While we are better prepared to handle emergency situations than we were before 9-11, we can always do more,” adds Nevel. “It is not just the horrific situation that occurred then, we must be prepared to handle tornadoes, flooding, and ice storms. These situations can be deadly and cause widespread property damage. This past winter, we had ice storms that knocked-out power to numerous homes in the county,

prompting our emergency response system to shift into high gear.”



The Homeland Security Expo will be held in front of the grandstand at the fairgrounds. Please bring your family and

learn more about how you can get involved with homeland security on a communitywide basis. A free pamphlet is also available explaining the homeland

security advisory system; it is available by calling the Clermont County Office of Public Information at (513) 732-7597.



Faster, Simpler, Safer Child Support Payments

By: Annette Black, Child Support Enforcement

Clermont County Child Support is increasing their efforts to encourage support recipients that are currently receiving checks, to join the more than 140,000 recipients who conveniently receive their support payments electronically. Receiving support payments through Ohio e-QuickPay Debit MasterCard or Direct Deposit is **faster, simpler, and safer**. No more waiting for checks to arrive in the mail or having difficulty cashing your check, no more lost or stolen checks, no waiting in line, and no more check-cashing fees.

Enrollment is guaranteed in both programs and there are no credit checks necessary to receive the Ohio e-QuickPay Debit MasterCard.

The Ohio e-QuickPay Debit MasterCard is accepted at millions of locations worldwide wherever the MasterCard or Maestro emblem are displayed. For more information and to obtain an enrollment form visit www.ClermontSupportsKids.org or call your local child support office at (513)732-7248. We encourage you to make your life easier and enroll today!

Special Olympics Golf Outing: A Success !

By: Lisa Davis, MRDD

Many, many thanks to everyone who participated in the Clermont County Special Olympics Golf Outing on June 9! Whether you golfed, sponsored a hole or sand trap, or volunteered for the actual event, our heartfelt thanks go out to you.

Although the final tallies have not been announced, the entire event was very successful and raised monies that will be used to send children and adults with developmental disabilities to Olympic Games throughout the next year (including the State Summer Games at Ohio State University).



A word of caution before you consider setting off fireworks during July celebrations; every year 13,000 people are rushed to hospitals suffering from fireworks injuries. More than half of those injured are children. The most injuries are caused by malfunctioning bottle rockets, fire-crackers and sparklers.

Thanks, Nick



On Tuesday, June 21, 2005, The Board of Clermont County Commissioners held a Celebration of Life and Service of Lance Corporal Nick Erdy at the



Clermont County Fairgrounds. Several hundred citizens turned out for the event that included remembrances, music, and a balloon launch.



Erdy died recently while serving in Iraq.



July Commissioner Sessions

Wednesday, July 6 11 a.m.
Monday, July 11 9 a.m.
Tuesday, July 26 1 p.m.

All regular sessions are held in the third floor session room of the Clermont County Administration Building, 101 East Main Street in Batavia, Ohio. For agenda information, contact the BCC offices at (513) 732-7300.

Ohio River Sweep Keeps River Banks Clean

By: Julie Toren, Clean and Green

The 17th annual Ohio River Sweep was held on Saturday, June 18, 2005. Clean up locations in Clermont County included: New Richmond, Moscow, Neville, and Chilo. As part of a six-state effort, Clermont County hosted approximately 300 volunteers. Over 700 bags of litter were collected, in addition to 46 tires, one refrigerator, five propane tanks and over 100 five-gallon buckets. Many volunteers felt the river was cleaner this year, however, some locations found more trash than in years before.



All volunteers received a commemorative T-shirt for their efforts, as well as the satisfaction of contributing to the beautification of our community. Minta Herron, Village of New Richmond administrative assistant, commented, "The Ohio River is such an important asset to New Richmond, and the Ohio River Sweep brings people from all over Clermont County to help care for the river banks."

This event is sponsored locally by the Board of Clermont County Commissioners, the Office of Environmental Quality, and Clermont 20/20, Inc., in partnership with the Clean and Green Collaborative. For information on the Ohio River Sweep, please visit www.orsanco.org. For more information on cleanups in Clermont County, visit Clermont County Office of Environmental Quality's web site at www.oeq.net.

Juvenile Court Probation and Placement Wins CASA Derby Trophy Two Years in a Row!

By: Karey Ringland, CASA



CASA for Clermont Kids! proudly presented Juvenile Court Probation and Placement with the traveling derby trophy on Thursday, May 26, 2005. This is the second year in a row this department won the award. As part of CASA for Clermont Kids! annual spring charity benefit, county offices were invited to enter the competition by donating themed raffle baskets.

At the event, raffle tickets were sold and the basket that received the most raffle tickets won the trophy. This year, Juvenile Court Probation and Placement had a Derby themed basket, full of DVD's, including Seabiscuit and Vengeance Valley, bids on a Kentucky Derby horse, candy, roses, and many other race-related items. (*cont'd*)

CASA (continued)

"The good natured competition between the county offices has become a great way for employees to support the abused and neglected children that we serve," said CASA for Clermont Kids! Executive Director, Karey Ringland. "It's really exciting to see the participation and support from so many Clermont County offices."

*Find a new
"best friend"*



**Clermont Animal
Shelter**

732-8854

July at the Library

By: Tammy Craig, Clermont Library

Crafty Kids Club

Milford/Miami Twp. Branch

Thursdays in July, beginning July 7, 2 p.m.
Children in grades kindergarten through five are invited for a fun afternoon of making craft projects together. Call 248-0700.



Alpaca Appeal



Goshen Branch Library

Saturday, July 9

Frances Johnson of Brushy Fork Farm will visit with an alpaca to discuss benefits of the animal's wool. Call 722-1221.

Summer Camp at the Library

Williamsburg Branch

July 11-15, 9:30 a.m.-noon

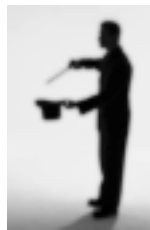
Children in grades kindergarten through third are invited for a fun-filled week of crafts, reading, and snacks! Call 724-1070.

Attention All Muggles!

Batavia Branch Library

Tuesday, July 19, 2 p.m.

A Harry Potter Party will be held to celebrate the release of the latest book in the series. Games, food, and some magical surprises! Call 732-2128.



Teen Mystery Night

New Richmond Library

Friday, July 22, 6:30 p.m.

Solve the mystery of the Pharaoh's Curse! Be prepared for lots of fun, and food. Call 553-0570.

Book Sale

Milford/Miami Twp. Library

Friday, July 22 and Saturday, July 23

Gently used books, puzzles, and audio/visual materials for all ages will be available. Call 248-0700.

Park District Projects Near Completion

By: Keith Robinson, Park District

The Clermont County Park District is nearing completion of two major projects this summer. The first



and biggest project is the completion of the visitor center and museum at Chilo Lock #34 Park. The park sits on the site of an old Army Corps of Engineers Lock and Dam. Built in 1925, the 3 story operations building, which will serve as a museum, previously housed machinery for the lock and dam. The project received the majority of its funding from a \$732,845 Federal Highway Administration Scenic Byways Grant. When completed, the visitor center and museum will house many interpretive exhibits and displays showcasing the history and natural beauty of the Ohio River.

The Park District's other project is the expansion of Sycamore Park. The current 23 acre park will soon increase its size to a total of 53 acres. The new 30 acre section of the park was purchased in 2003, with a Clean Ohio Fund grant of \$222,000. By the end of August, a footbridge should be completed connecting the two parcels of land. Foot trails are also to be constructed in the new section of the park. Come out to one of your Clermont County Parks this summer to see what's new!



On the Move is a service of the Board of Clermont County Commissioners. For more information about any of the articles included in this publication, contact Kathy Lehr or Bobbi Padgett at **732-7597**.