



Clermont County On The Move

a newsletter for citizens

March 2006

Commissioners: Mary Walker, Bob Proud, and Scott Crowell

Clermont Mock Trial Competition *Summit Country Day and Batavia High Winners*



By: Judge Jerry McBride, Common Pleas Court

Mock trial teams from Summit Country Day (Silver) and Batavia (White) High Schools won the Clermont County District Mock Trial competition held on February 10, 2006 in Batavia. The winners will now advance to the State Mock Trial Competition in Columbus in March; the winner of that contest will represent Ohio at the National High School Mock Trial Competition in Oklahoma City in May.

The Mock Trial program helps students to develop critical thinking skills by analyzing a problem and developing arguments for each side of the issue. It also promotes citizenship and active participation in the democratic process.



Eighteen teams from area high schools competed in the district competition representing: Batavia, Eastern Brown, Fayetteville-Perry, Georgetown, Glen Este, Milford, North Adams,

Ripley Union, Summit Country Day, Western Brown, and West Union High Schools.



*Budding Lawyers from
Summit Country Day*

ing the jury in a capital murder case from considering whether he should be sentenced to death. In this hypothetical case, Bale had been found guilty, by a jury, of aggravated murder that rendered him eligible for the death penalty. In his motion, Bale requested the court take the death penalty option away from the jury, on the grounds that executing him would violate the Eighth Amendment's protection from "cruel and unusual punishment" because he suffered from paranoid schizophrenia. The defendant's argument followed two recent United States Supreme Court rulings that have held the death penalty

may not be imposed on juveniles or on mentally retarded persons

Each student team took part in two trials; over 40 local attorneys volunteered to participate as judges in the competition.

The District Competition was sponsored by the Clermont County Common Pleas and Municipal Courts. The Bar Association provided lunches for all the participants, case stipends to the two winners, and plaques for the top five teams.

The Mock Trial program is conducted by the Ohio Center for Law-Related Education, which is sponsored by the Ohio State Bar Association, the Supreme Court of Ohio, Ohio Attorney General James Petro, and the ACLU of Ohio Foundation. Additional funding is provided by the Ohio State Bar Association.

Special thanks to Tom Blust, who served as the official event photographer.

14th Annual East Fork River Sweep

By: Paul Berringer, Soil and Water

Volunteers are needed for the 14th annual East Fork River Sweep. This yearly event will be held on Saturday, April 29, 2006. Cleanup efforts will focus on selected segments of the East Fork of the Little Miami River. We will also “sweep” the shoreline areas at William H. Harsha Lake at East Fork State Park, and Stonelick Lake.



Volunteers can either walk the riverbanks or use a (free) canoe to collect litter. Free T-shirts will be given to all volunteers and a picnic lunch will be provided at the conclusion of the cleanup.

Got a group? We encourage you to organize a group at work, at church, or in your club or civic organization for the River Sweep. Your “team” can have fun while helping to protect the river.

Contact East Fork State Park at (513)734-4323 to register. Information will also be available on the East Fork Watershed website at www.clermontswcd.org

Note: Children under 18 must have a waiver signed by their parents to participate.



March Commissioner Sessions

Wednesday, March 1	1:00 p.m.
Tuesday, March 14	1:00 p.m.
Wednesday, March 15	1:00 p.m.
Tuesday, March 21	1:00 p.m.
Wednesday, March 22	1:00 p.m.
Tuesday, March 28	1:00 p.m.
Wednesday, March 29	1:00 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.

Clermont Park District Naturalist Keith Robinson demonstrates how to transform maple sap into syrup!



Great American Clean-Up

Join Clermont Clean and Green, your friends, coworkers, and neighbors for the annual Great American Clean-Up on Saturday, April 22, and celebrate Earth Day! This annual event brings the community together at sites located throughout Clermont County to clean up roadways, parks, and school yards.



After the litter pickup, refreshments will be provided. To register, visit the Clean and Green website at www.clermont2020.org, or call 753-9222.

Pancake Breakfast Set at Pattison Park

On Saturday, March 11, 2006, the Clermont Park District will hold a pancake breakfast at Pattison Park, with an opportunity to sample pure maple syrup.

The event will run from 8 a.m. until 11 a.m. and will also include demonstrations on how to tap a tree for sap, and how to cook it into real maple syrup!

Call the Park District to purchase advance tickets at 732-2977.

Help Build Hope

Volunteers Needed for Hurricane Katrina Homebuilding

Over 1,200 volunteers are needed for an ambitious framing project, scheduled for Saturday, April 1, 2006 in Milford. A local organization called *Help Build Hope* will join forces with Habitat for Humanity and Crossroads Missions to frame 20 homes for people impacted by Hurricane Katrina. The work will be done in the parking lot of the Eastside Christian Church, located at 5874 Montclair Boulevard in Milford.



The frames constructed will then be sent to the Gulf Coast and be completed by Habitat for Humanity in New Orleans.

There are three different building sessions:

- 8 a.m. until noon
- 1 p.m. until 5 p.m.
- 6 p.m. until 10 p.m.

No experience is needed; volunteers can register online at www.helpbuildhope.org, or you can call (513) 831-4373.

Celebrate National Nutrition Month®

Step Up to Nutrition and Health

By Stephanie Burke, MS, RD, LD, CLC

To encourage families to lead healthier lifestyles, March has been designated as National Nutrition Month®. This year's theme is *Step Up to Nutrition and Health* and is designed to encourage people to make healthier lifestyle choices. Making informed food choices and developing a regular schedule for physical activity can ensure long term health. Small steps now reap big rewards later.

Keep these National Nutrition Month® messages in mind:

Eating right and being physically active is important for a healthy lifestyle. The choices that are made today affect how you feel today and in the future.

Eat a variety of foods from all food groups every day. Give your body the balance of vitamins, minerals, and fiber it needs from nutrient-dense foods.

Discover your balance between food and physical activity. Regular activity is vital for your overall health and fitness, and it helps control weight. It also decreases the risks of developing chronic diseases.

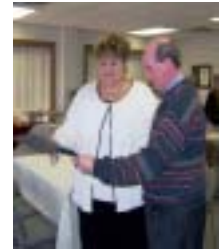
Be safe with foods. Follow appropriate guidelines for preparing, handling, and storing foods to keep your family from developing foodborne illness.



Thanks, Libby!

By: Lisa Davis, MRDD

Friends, family, and coworkers, as well as federal, state, and local legislators visited the Clermont County Board of MRDD on



Commissioner Proud presents Libby with a certificate from the BCC

February 21 to honor Libby Feck, a longtime icon of the MRDD program. Libby has retired after 30 years of dedicated service to people with disabilities in our community.

She began her career at MRDD on February 23, 1976. Libby had no idea how many twists and turns the agency would take during her employment, but she certainly has given a personal touch to each change that has come along. County MRDD programs were created in 1967, making Libby one of the first building blocks that assembled the foundation to form the current MRDD program that exists today.

Her passion to assist people with disabilities to become independent members of our community will continue long after she retires. We at MRDD know Libby will remain an advocate for people with disabilities and will always give 200 percent towards breaking down negative barriers and building up positive feelings for those who have disabilities in our communities.

The Clermont County Board of MRDD wishes Libby much success in her retirement!

Clermont Open House for Personal Emergency Cards

By: Debbie Hawkins, Coroner's Office

On Saturday, February 11, the Goshen Police Department held an open house for the citizens of Clermont County to complete their Personal Emergency Cards (PEC). The Goshen Fire Department was also on hand to give smoke detectors to residents.

Debbie Hawkins from the Clermont Coroner's Office and Kim Madden from Craver & Riggs assisted citizens in filling out their cards, while Goshen

officers Taylor and Poe fingerprinted the attendees.

The PEC is a great tool for anyone to have, but can be especially helpful to law enforcement, fire, and EMS personnel in an emergency situation. The elderly, people who live alone, and people with medical conditions are urged to have PEC's,



so if a situation arises where they cannot speak for themselves, the cards will be able to speak for them. Cards

should be updated annually and posted in a prominent place in the home.

The cards are available at various small businesses, police, fire, and EMS departments throughout Clermont County. For more information, call the Goshen Police Department at 722-3200, or the Clermont County Coroner's Office at 732-8117.

Domestic Court Magistrate Also Accomplished Photographer

By: Denis Murphy, Domestic Relations



Penny Gates, a magistrate in Domestic Relations Court, is one of seven photographers whose work is included in an exhibit at Gallery Salveo, located at the Health Foundation, on the fifth floor of the Northwestern Mutual/Fidelity Investments office building at the Rookwood Shopping Center (3805 Edwards Road, Cincinnati, Ohio). She has 14 images in the exhibit.

Penny has been an amateur photographer for almost ten years. She has studied with locally and nationally renowned photographers. She has also participated in local and regional photography competitions, and in local exhibitions. For Penny, the joy of photography is about the art of "seeing." "What I try to 'see' is the detail that creates the whole, or the detail of



a nearly unnoticed moment.," said Penny. "There is a certain grace in those details, those moments, that speaks to me."



The Gallery Salveo exhibit continues through the end of April. The gallery is open to the public, free of charge, Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For directions, see www.healthfoundation.org/directions

Hold the Bus! *More are Riding in Union Township*

More of us are riding the bus; Metro reports that ridership at the new Metro-Union Twp. Civic Center park-and-ride was up 22 percent on the Rt. 82X Eastgate Express this January, compared to last year at the same time. Over 7,000 rides were provided by Metro to and from the site in January.

The new park-and-ride is located at 4350 Aicholtz Road. Parking is free and the fare is \$2 to downtown Cincinnati. The route is funded by Clermont County.



March 17, 2006

There are nine places in the United States that share the name of Ireland's capital, including Dublin, Ohio!

February Events

By: Tammy Craig, Library



Anatomy of a Quilt

March 18, 2 p.m., Amelia Branch
Teens and adults can join Theresa Morales as she teaches beginning quilt maker terminology, design, and techniques. To register, call 752-5580.



Crafting for Charity

March 15, 6:30 p.m., Bethel Branch
Teens and adults will learn to crochet a granny square. Completed projects will be donated to charity. Craft donations are appreciated. Call the library at 734-2619.

Paper Clip Jewelry

March 11, 2:00 p.m.
Felicity Branch
Learn to make different types of jewelry using paper clips and beads. All materials will be provided by the library. Call for more information, 876-4134.

Family Fun Night

March 13, 7:00 p.m.
Goshen Branch
Families are invited for stories, crafts, hands-on-activities, and playing. For more information or to register for the program, call the library at 722-1221.

My Medicare Matters

March 1, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.
Milford-Miami Township Branch
A representative from the Council on Aging will explain the new Medicare prescription plan. To register for the program, call the library at 248-0700.



Tax Help

Month of March
Milford-Miami Township Branch
AARP Tax-Aide Volunteers will provide free tax assistance to citizens with low to moderate income levels. Bring 2005 tax forms, all sources of 2005 income (including social security and pension payments), 2004 tax return, any other necessary documents, and change for photocopies. Call to schedule an appointment, 248-0700.



Who Wants to be a Puppy?

March 11, 2 p.m.
Union Twp. Branch
Children, ages 3-6, can make puppy ears, a collar, and a puppy tail. Call 528-1744.

Find a new "best friend"



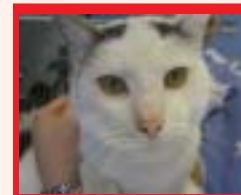
Buddy



Babe



Penelope



Heathcliff

Clermont
Animal
Shelter

732-8854

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 Beth Rawdon at 732-7597.