



Clermont County On The Move

a newsletter for citizens

May 2006

Commissioners: Mary Walker, Bob Proud, and Scott Crowell

Commissioners Launch Series of Town Meetings

The Board of Clermont County Commissioners will take government to the citizens of Clermont County this year. The Board launched the first in a series of town meetings on Wednesday, April 28, 2006 at the Union Township Civic Center.



Clermont Administrator Dave Spinney reviews the town meeting agenda with Commissioners Mary Walker and Bob Proud



Citizens are invited to attend one of the upcoming town meetings to learn about projects and initiatives planned for individual communities and throughout the county. This is a great opportunity to ask questions about local issues of interest.



Board of Commissioners 2006 Town Meeting Schedule

Wednesday, April 26 at the Union Township Civic Center, located at 4350 Aicholtz Road in Union Township

Wednesday, May 31 at the Bethel Community Center, located at 135 North Union in Bethel

Wednesday, June 21 at the Amelia Branch of the Clermont County Public Library, located at 58 Maple Street in Amelia

Wednesday, June 28 at the Village of New Richmond Light-Ashburn Building, located at 102 Willow Street in New Richmond

Tuesday, August 15 at the Wayne Township Police Building, located at 794 Right Street in Wayne Township

Tuesday, August 22 at the Leming House, located at 5951 Buckwheat Road in Miami Township

Tuesday, September 19 at the Goshen Township Government Center, located at 6757 Goshen Road in Goshen.

Wednesday, September 27 at the new Batavia Township building, located at 1535 Clough Pike in Batavia

Tuesday, October 17 at the River Valley Community Center, located at 30 Wells Street in Moscow

Wednesday, October 25 at the Village of Williamsburg facility located at 107 W. Main Street in Williamsburg

Operation Spotlight Military

You might want to circle May 20 on your calendar. Operation Spotlight Military will be held on Saturday, May 20, from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. at UC-Clermont in Batavia, providing one stop services for veterans, current military personnel, and their families.



entitled to from a multitude of agencies,” said Clermont County Veteran Services Director Mark Coyle. “We know there are many service personnel unaware of the benefits they should be receiving.”

The event will also provide an opportunity for the community to learn more about the work of our armed forces. A question and answer session is planned with military personnel.

“This is a great opportunity for national guardsmen, reservists, and veterans to come and find out about the benefits they are

“I think this is an excellent opportunity for the entire community to

May 20, 2006 is Armed Forces Day

In 1949, President Harry S. Truman began working to establish a single holiday for citizens to come together and thank our military members for their patriotic service in support of our country.

The first Armed Forces Day, May 20, 1950, was celebrated by parades, open houses, receptions, and air shows. In Washington, D.C., 10,000 troops of all branches of the military, cadets, and veterans marched past the President.

The day was created to replace separate Army, Navy, and Air Force observances, and to unite the Armed Forces under one division – the Department of Defense. Armed Forces Day is celebrated each year on the third Saturday of May.

Commissioner Proud Goes to Boot Camp!

Commissioner Bob Proud recently had the opportunity to visit Parris Island, South Carolina, as part of the Marine Corps Educators Workshop.

“It was a great opportunity and one I will never forget,” said Proud. He enjoyed meeting with staff members and talking with local recruits.



find out what the military is all about,” said organizer Mia Supe, a member of the local group Military Support Connection. “We will have military equipment displays, a special operations slide show, guest speakers, live music, food, and a children’s boot camp.”



We’ll miss you, Cindy!
Clermont Assistant Administrator Cindy DeWitt has retired after 23 years of exceptional service to the county. DeWitt is pictured above with Sheriff Rodenberg.

Clermont Commission Sessions

Wednesday, May 3	1:00 p.m.
Wednesday, May 10	1:00 p.m.
Tuesday, May 16	1:00 p.m.
Wednesday, May 17	1:00 p.m.
Tuesday, May 23	1:00 p.m.
Wednesday, May 24	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.

What's Holding You Back?

By: Martha Enriquez, Health District

From May 22 through June 4, 2006, efforts to encourage you to wear a seatbelt will be ramped up as the statewide "What's Holding You Back? Click It or Ticket" campaign begins. In 2005, there were 28 traffic fatalities on Clermont County roadways. Over 50 percent of these fatality victims were not wearing their seat belt. Clermont County Safe Communities reminds you that wearing a seat belt can mean the difference between life and death in an accident.



Clermont County law enforcement officials will be paying special attention to the use of seat belts by motorists during this campaign. Safe Communities will be conducting a survey during May to see just how many Clermont County residents do wear seat belts. Be among those who make good choices. Wear your belt every trip, every time.

Bird Flu

By: Julianne Nesbit, Health District

Many people are questioning what the real threat of avian influenza "bird flu" may cause. Avian influenza is a virus that is found naturally in poultry and can cause varying degrees of illness. The current strain that is circulating in Asia, Africa, and Europe is H5N1. This strain may or may not cause the next pandemic, worldwide outbreak of disease. While H5N1 is circulating among wild fowl, migratory birds, and poultry, human-to-human transmission, which would be required for a pandemic, has not occurred. However, given the history of past pandemics it is possible for the bird flu virus to change and allow it to spread quickly among humans. There have currently been

about 200 cases of bird flu in humans as a result of direct contact with birds. In the cases in humans, there has been a death toll of 50 percent.



Bird flu is expected to enter the U.S. through Alaska in the next six months due to the migratory routes of birds. Surveillance has begun in areas where birds are expected to enter. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) will monitor farm animals for the presence of avian influenza and the U.S. Geological Survey's National Wildlife Center and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) will be monitoring influenza in wild and migratory birds. Another possible route of entry is through the illegal importation of birds, which is monitored by USDA.

Pet birds are unlikely to be infected if kept inside. Birdbaths and bird feeders

in the yard are considered safe if kept clean since bird flu has not entered the U.S. However, precautions should be taken to avoid droppings and contaminated water. Avian flu is currently not known to infect dogs, but cats have contracted it by being exposed to contaminated birds. For more information on avian flu in cats, visit <http://www.avma.org/>. While bird flu is spread through direct contact with birds, current information indicates that proper cooking of eggs and poultry, above 165°F, will destroy the flu virus.

The Clermont County General Health District will again be monitoring for West Nile Virus in songbirds this summer; however, these are not the birds of concern when considering bird flu. Sick farm animals should be reported to ODA at 1-800-282-1955 and sick wild migratory birds should be reported to ODNR at 937-372-9261 or 1-800-945-3543. For more information on avian flu, visit the health districts Web site at www.ClermontHealthDistrict.org.



May Library Events`

By: Tammy Craig, Library



One on One Internet Training

Weekdays in May
Amelia Branch Library
Learn the basics of using the Internet or how to setup and use email. Teen and adult patrons can schedule a session for one-on-one instruction. For more information or to register, call the library at 752-5580.



Yoga for Everyone

Monday, May 1, 7 p.m.
Amelia Branch Library
Join yoga instructor Julie Toren for an introductory class of Ananda Yoga, a classical style of Hatha Yoga. The class is suitable for all abilities. For more information or to register for the program, call the library at 752-5580.

Memorial Day (Monday, May 29) was officially proclaimed on May 5, 1868 by General John Logan, national commander of the Grand Army of the Republic. It was first observed on May 30, 1868, when flowers were placed on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery.



Email in 30 Minutes

Weekdays in May
Bethel Branch Library
Learn how to setup a free email account and how to use email. Adult patrons can schedule a session for one-on-one instruction. Call the library at 734-2619.

Building Safety Week is set for May 7-15, 2006 in Clermont County. Visit one of the following building supply stores for informational displays: Carter Lumber (Batavia), Carter Lumber (Georgetown), Kibler Lumber (Mt. Orab), Home Depot (Withamsville), Home Depot (Milford), Lowe's (Withamsville), Lowe's (Milford), and Owensville Supply (Owensville).

Drop-In Story Time

Tuesdays in May, 10 a.m.
Williamsburg Branch Library
Children, from birth through age 5, will listen to stories, sing songs, and play games. Parents do not have to register in advance to bring their child. For more information call the library at 724-1070.



Clermont Park Events

By: Chris Clingman, Park District

Kid's Fishing Derby

Saturday May 13, 11a.m. - 2 p.m.

Pattison Park

Children 15 and under are invited to Pattison Park for a day of fishing fun. Prizes will be awarded for the biggest fish, smallest fish, and most fish caught in each age category. A free lunch will be served to each of the participants.



Locks and Dams, Past and Present

Friday May 26, 1:00 p.m.

Chilo Lock #34 Visitor Center

Visit the Chilo Lock #34 Visitor Center as you go back in time to discover how this unique site was formerly a lock and dam along the Ohio River. After a tour of the visitor center, follow the Naturalist to the Meldahl Locks and Dam to see firsthand how this structure works, and why it replaced Chilo Lock and Dam #34.



Matt Maupin Welcome Pavilion

A groundbreaking ceremony will be held at 2 p.m. on Sunday, May 7, at William H. Harsha Lake in Bethel, for the Matt Maupin Welcome Pavilion. The large open pavilion, to be constructed at the center of the beach lawn, will feature beautiful and durable stone supports with a stone fireplace and cooking area in one corner and a slightly elevated stage for awards, ceremonies, performers, or speakers in another corner.

This pavilion will honor Sgt. Matt Maupin, the only U.S. soldier currently listed as missing-in-action in Iraq. Matt was a rower for the Clermont High Schools Crew in May, 2001, when he and his crew won a gold medal at the Midwest Championship at Harsha Lake. He went missing April 9, 2004.

High school students from throughout Clermont County have been involved in "Rock-On Matt," an effort to collect rocks to build the pavilion. The Matt Maupin Welcome Pavilion will be a gathering place for families and friends to meet, eat, and celebrate.

The speakers for the groundbreaking will be East Fork State Park Manager Chris Dauner, Clermont Commission President Mary Walker, and a representative from the Maupin family.

Paying Tribute to Veterans

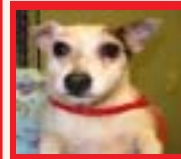
The Clermont County Veterans' Service Office provides markers and flags for the graves of Clermont County veterans. Each cemetery handles the placement of the flags and markers independently; please contact the cemetery to find out the specifics of their policy. The Veterans' Service Office will provide a free flag and marker to family members who wish to mark the grave themselves. You can contact the Veterans office at 732-7363.

Park District Photo Contest

The Clermont County Park District is sponsoring an amateur photography contest. All photos must be taken in one of the Clermont County Park Districts' parks. Photographers of all ages are encouraged to participate. The deadline for entries is May 17, 2006. Visit the Park District's Web site for more information, www.ClermontCountyOhio.gov/parks.



*Find a new
"best friend"*



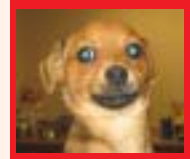
Bugsy



Buster



Oreo



Pepe

**Clermont
Animal Shelter**

732-8854



Memorial Day (Monday, May 29) was originally called Decoration Day; it is a day of remembrance for those who have died in our nation's service.

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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**.