

Asian Longhorned Beetle *New Most Wanted in Clermont County*

Of the 2,942 trees surveyed in Tate Township so far, 87 trees have suspected damage from the destructive Asian longhorned beetle (ALB). "This beetle attacks and kills trees and has no natural enemies," said United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) ALB Program National Director Christine Markham. Surveyors from the USDA, Ohio Department of Agriculture, and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources are using binoculars, and in some cases, climbing trees to determine the extent of the infestation locally. "Because they are looking for dime-sized

exit holes on the trees, it is a long and time consuming process," she said.

In Clermont County to review the ALB situation, Markham stressed the importance of community members looking for signs of the beetle. "Unfortunately, the beetle spends most of its life burrowing and eating the inside of the tree," she said. "There is only one way to stop the ALB and that is to cut down and put it through a wood chipper. If the ALB has attacked a tree, it will not stop until it kills the tree. If we don't find the beetle and address the problem, the ALB will move on to other trees." Homeowners are encouraged to call the ODA at 1-855-252-6450 to report any possible sightings.

Ohio is the fifth state to detect the destructive ALB; it was discovered recently in the Bethel area. According to the USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, the beetle is an invasive insect that kills a variety of



species of hardwood trees, maple being one of its preferred hosts. As a result of the discovery of the ALB, the state of Ohio is restricting the movement of ALB host material and all hardwood firewood out of Tate Township and East Fork State Park. That means that it is illegal to move regulated logs, firewood, stumps, roots, or branches, and any life stage of the beetle, out of those two areas.

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Asian Longhorned Beetle Invades Clermont County

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Markham said that surveyors have to determine the size of the problem, before the agency can lay out a response plan. “The ALB poses a very serious problem, but it is one we have been able to control,” she said. “The most important thing is to find the impacted trees, before the ALB can destroy even more.”



Harmony Hill Vineyards owner Bill Skvarla stands beside a Maple tree that has been infested by the Asian Longhorned Beetle

For more information about the Asian longhorn beetle visit the website www.BeetleBusters.info.

New Emergency Notification System for Clermont

If a child is reported missing or there is a major disaster in the area, Clermont County citizens can now be notified within seconds of the situation on a variety of electronic devices, including home telephones (land lines), cell phones, internet-based “smart” phones, PDA’s, and computers. “This is an excellent way to quickly notify the community should a dangerous situation occur,” said Board of Clermont County Commissioners President Ed Humphrey. “It takes less than five minutes to register for the Codespear system and you can specify which types of alerts you would like to receive.” Sign-up for the Clermont County emergency notification system by visiting the website <https://sosink.smartmsg.com>; there is no cost to register for the service.

The Codespear emergency alert notification system is made possible

through a grant obtained by Southwestern Ohio Southeastern Indiana Northern Kentucky (SOSINK) agency; Clermont County is part of SOSINK. Through the alert system, 9-1-1 dispatch supervisors at the Clermont County Communications Center can send a recorded or text message to specific areas of the county where the situation is warranted. Emergency notifications by phone or text could be made for things like a natural disaster, a man-made disaster, a missing child report or a public safety emergency. Citizens may cancel the service at any time.

For additional information or to register for cell phone or email alerts, go to the website <https://sosink.smartmsg.com>. If you have questions, call (513) 732-7777.



Clermont Second-Half Property Taxes due July 7

“Approximately 40,000 second-half 2010 real estate tax bills are in the mail to taxpayers without bank/mortgage company escrow accounts,” said Clermont County Treasurer J. Robert True. The deadline for payment is July 7, 2011. Taxes can be paid in person; payments are accepted Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. at the Clermont County Treasurer’s Office, located on the second floor of the Clermont County Administration Building at 101 E. Main in Batavia. For citizen convenience, a night deposit is also available at the Main Street entrance of the Clermont County Administration Building (101 E. Main in Batavia) for payment of taxes after regular business

hours.

Taxes can be mailed to the Clermont County Treasurer’s Office, 101 E. Main Street, Batavia, Ohio, 45103. Taxes can be paid over the internet or phone utilizing credit card or e-check at www.ClermontTreasurer.org or call 1-800-272-9829.

Tax payments can also be made at the following Clermont County banks: Park National Bank, Fifth Third Bank, Lebanon-Citizens National Bank, National



Bank and Trust, RiverHills Bank, and U.S. Bank N. A.

Taxpayers with questions may call (513) 732-7254, e-mail treasurer@co.clermont.oh.us, or visit the website www.ClermontTreasurer.org.

Did you know Board of Clermont County Commissioners sessions are now available on demand?

Visit the Clermont County online video library at www.ClermontCountyOhio.gov/videos.aspx



Board of Commissioners July Sessions

Wednesday, July 6	10 a.m.
Wednesday, July 13	10 a.m.
Wednesday, July 20	10 a.m.
Wednesday, July 27	10 a.m.

All meetings are held in the third floor session room of the Clermont County Administration Building, located at 101 E. Main Street in Batavia

Honor a Veteran on Election Day

The Clermont County Board of Elections encourages community members to write a short tribute in honor of a veteran (who can be a family member or friend) and then that voter will receive a special “Honor a Veteran” pin to wear on Election Day. This symbolizes the bond between the veterans of this country and democracy; organizers hope it will encourage more people to go to the polls to vote, a way to help preserve our democracy. To receive a tribute card to complete, call the Clermont County Board of Elections at (513) 732-7275 or request online at elections@co.clermont.oh.us.



UC Clermont Dedicates LED Sign and Lights Up Campus through a Donation from the Sporty's Foundation

By: Mae Hanna, UC Clermont

Through a gift from the Sporty's Foundation, UC Clermont College has unveiled a new digital LED sign that will dynamically enhance the way the college is able to communicate events and accomplishments to students, employees, and campus visitors.

The sign was used for the first time during a year-end cookout and celebration honoring the donors Hal and Sandy Shevers.

“We want to take this time to celebrate and thank the Sporty's Foundation for their support to UC Clermont College. We are very grateful for their contribution of this LED sign. Their generosity provides the college with a strategic communications tool that will go a long way in helping us share our story and telling people what

is happening on campus each day,” said Dean Gregory Sojka. “This is a significant gift to the Proudly Cincinnati Campaign, transforming the campus in a bold new way.”

“We are hopeful, that the sign made possible by Sporty's, will help bring the entire campus and college community together as one and help foster a sense of community,” said Hal Shevers, Founder and Chairman of Sporty's.

Sporty's is located at the Cler-



UC Clermont Dean Dr. Gregory Sojka at the June sign dedication

mont County airport and is the world's largest pilot shop, offering high quality aviation products and supplies for more than 50 years.

Vote for November Voting Sticker!

Ohio Secretary of State John Husted invites you to practice a little democracy before Election Day, November 8, 2011. You are invited to vote on the next "I Voted Today" sticker; in this particular election you don't have to be 18 to participate and you can vote as often as you like!

Visit the website www.ElectYourSticker.com and make your vote count through August 8, 2011!



Goshen Welcomes Movie Starring Val Kilmer

"Everyone in Goshen is talking about this movie. We hope it will put Goshen on the map," said Goshen Township Trustee Jack Kuntz, looking out over a large pond that will be used during filming of the thriller being shot in Goshen this summer and tentatively called *Seven Below Zero*. "This is a wonderful opportunity for the community, the county, and the state to show we are film-friendly. This is a wonderful place to live and grow a business, plus we have lots of great places that make excellent shooting locations for movies."

Producers of the movie, starring Val Kilmer and Ving Rhames,

say it will be shot entirely in the Goshen area. "We have worked with the producers to come up with an old house, a large pond, and a gas station where scenes will be filmed," said Kuntz.

What if you meet one of the actors having dinner? Producer Eric Fischer with Efish Entertainment suggests letting them finish their meal before asking for



Goshen Township Trustee Jack Kuntz stands in front of a township pond that will be used during filming of the Val Kilmer movie in the community this summer.

an autograph or a picture. "Most are very accommodating and appreciate the opportunity to meet you."

New Way to Check CTC Bus Schedules

There's a new way to check Clermont Transportation Connection (CTC) bus schedules; a Quick Response (QR) code has been added to CTC signs on busses and at bus stops across the county. "Anyone can utilize smart phone technology to connect with CTC and obtain information about our bus routes," said CTC Director Ben Capelle. "This will make it easier for our customers to find out about the services we provide." The entire QR code project cost CTC \$280.

CTC is the primary provider of public transportation in Clermont County. Founded in 1977 as CART (Clermont Area Rural Transit), CTC has continued to evolve and now offers three fixed routes in addition to its Dial-A-Ride services. CTC also provides the funding for Metro Route 82X and some of the funding for routes 28 and 29X.

For more information about CTC, call (513) 732-7433 or visit the website

www.ctc.ClermontCountyOhio.gov.



Try It Local and Save!

By: Julie Graybill, Clermont Chamber

The Clermont Chamber of Commerce is launching a new program called *Try It Local*, an electronic discount program featuring local retailers, restaurants, service providers, and more. New deals are offered two days a week at a deep discount of 40-90 percent off regular price (i.e., \$20 of food and drink at a restaurant for \$10). The offers are delivered to *Try It Local* subscribers via email, social media, and www.TryItLocal.com. There is no cost to sign up for *Try It Local*; there is also no cost for companies to offer a deal. Businesses interested being featured can visit www.TryItLocal.com for details.

"*Try It Local* is an exciting way to



explore new businesses and experiences in Clermont County, while at the same time supporting the local economy and area companies," said Matthew Van Sant, President and CEO. "The *Try It Local* program not only supports local retailers themselves, but the work of the chamber as well."

Try It Local works like this:

- A local business offers a product or service at 40 percent off or more. Deals could include discounts at local retailers, bars, salons, dry cleaners, attractions, and special events.
- The deal program is offered to participants by email, on www.TryItLocal.com and via social

media sites like Facebook and Twitter.

- Interested buyers click through to purchase the offer. Anyone can participate. There is no cost to sign up for *Try It Local*.
- Buyers print off the voucher and redeem it at the local business.

Clermont residents and business owners can visit www.TryItLocal.com/Clermont for more information and to sign up. Or, to speak to someone at the Chamber call (513) 576-5000.



OKI Annual Luncheon at the Oasis Convention Center in Miami Township



OKI Board of Directors President (and Clermont County Commission President) Ed Humphrey with Congresswoman Jean Schmidt and Clermont Commissioner Bob Proud



Clermont Chamber President Matt Van Sant and UC Clermont Dean Dr. Gregory Sojka



Clermont TASC Director Dee Hargitt and Clermont Director of Utilities Tom Yeager



The annual Clermont County Fair will be held July 24-30, 2011 in Owensville. For more information visit the website www.ClermontCountyFair.org.

Check out the historical fashions on display at Promont House Museum in Milford. Visit the website www.MilfordHistory.net.



Clermont County Master Gardeners' Annual Plant Sale

By: Leah Donohoo, OSU Extension Clermont

On May 21, 2011, The Clermont County Master Gardener Volunteers (CCMG) held their annual plant sale at the Clermont County Fairgrounds. As usual, the turnout and sales were extremely successful.

Each year, the CCMG volunteers divide plants from their own gardens, place them in containers and sell them. Since everyone's gardens are very different, there is a wide selection to choose from.

The CCMG volunteers also sort through their outdoor inventory to locate items they no longer use and put them in the sale as well. There were lots of books on gardens, wildlife, trees, plants, and flowers. They also had gardening tools, planters, and an assortment of other items for sale. All proceeds from the sale go to supplies and ma-

terials for several gardens the CCMG volunteers maintain throughout Clermont County, The Cincinnati Nature Center Butterfly Garden and Herb Wall, Clermont County Juvenile Detention Center, and The Matt Maupin Memorial at East Fork State Park in Bethel.



Special thanks to the following for donating items for the annual plant sale: Sporty's, Natorps, Valley of the Daylilies, Greenfield Plants and Nursery, The Flower Bed, Bard Nursery, and Grant Vocational.

The Master Gardener Program provides intensive training in horticulture to interested gardeners who then volunteer their time assisting with educational programs and activities for Ohio residents through their Ohio State University County Extension Office. If you would like to become a

Clermont County Master Gardener, please visit our website www.clermont.osu.edu, download and complete the application, download and sign the 'Master Gardener Volunteer Standards of Behavior' form, have a background check completed, and turn in all forms to the Clermont County Extension Office by December 1, 2011.

The classes will start in February/March of 2012.



Clermont County is on You Tube!

check us out at www.youtube.com/clermontcounty

1st Annual Clermont County Fair Run/Walk 2011

Saturday, July 23, 2011
Gauche Park in Owensville, Ohio

Registration begins at 7:30 am
Run/Walk Starts at 8:00 am

Register online at
www.clermonthhealthdistrict.org
or call the Health District at 513-732-7491

**1st 100 participants to register and complete
the run/walk will get a
FREE T-shirt and a FREE Pass to the Clermont
County Fair!!**

**The Family Fun 1 is a FREE 1 Mile Run/Walk
promoting physical activity as a fun family
activity, local parks as great places for healthy
activities, and to encourage people to check out
the wonderful county fair.**

Organized by the Clermont County Health District and
Clermont CAN (Coalition for Activity and Nutrition)



Family Fun
one



1st Annual Clermont County Fair Run/Walk

Clermont Seniors Golf Outing

By: Frankie Hughart, Clermont Seniors

What a beautiful day Clermont Senior Services' had for their 12th annual golf outing on Thursday, June 2, 2011. "I can't take credit for the weather, but I will!" says Frankie Hughart, Events and Communications Coordinator for the agency; 106 golfers turned out in support of Clermont Senior Services outing held at the Stonelick Hills Golf Club. "This was our first year at Stonelick Hills. The new venue turned

out to be excellent! Mike Sowards, General Manager of Stonelick Hills, runs a tight ship. Adam Gleason, Head Golf Professional, Gary the "Grilling Entrepreneur" and all the staff were so nice and helpful," says Hughart.

"I have played in a number of golf outings over the years and would have to say, the Senior Services' was one of the better ones. From the locale (Stonelick, a great golf course choice), the hospitality of the golf committee members and the food, everything was excellent," remarks Jim Oppold, a first time player in this event.

Congratulations to the top three teams: First Place



Meteorologist Jeff Creighton from Channel 12, Robin Casada, Key Bank Anderson Branch and Jim Meyer, Trail Management Services enjoy the day

Team, Performance Lexus's Ralph Sells, Greg Sullivan, Todd Geers, and Dan Vosel; Second Place Team, Rocklin's Ted Groman, Rick Hemmer, Brian Bode, and Mark Fynewever; Third Place Team, Midwestern Plumbing Service's Jim Bushman, Jim Armstrong, Tom Carr, and Derrick Gardner.

Interim Health Care and Jake Sieber, Sieber Construction, Inc. were the two major event sponsors this year. The Clermont County Convention and Visitors Bureau, E.C. Nurre Funeral Homes, Midwestern Plumbing Services, National Bank and Trust, RiverHills Bank, American Modern Insurance Group, and Angelo Santoro, Santoro Engineering,

also provided additional supporting sponsorships. Many thanks to Home Depot of Milford, George Brown, Golden Rule Catering, Lee and Jack's TV and Appliances, the Board Members of Clermont Senior Services, United Health Care, and the Gift In Kind donors for their generosity, and the 24 volunteers that showed up to help out.

Over \$17,000 were raised in support of the programs of Clermont Senior Services. Programs such as Meals on Wheels, Home Repair, Transportation, Adult Day Services, and much more improve the quality of life for Clermont County senior citizens. For additional information on services provided, please visit www.clermontseniors.com or call (513) 724-1255.





Clermont Park Events

By: Keith Robinson, Park District

Preschool Story Time: Snakes

Wednesday, July 13, 1:30 p.m. – Sycamore Park
Bring your preschooler for a special program in the park. Enjoy stories, crafts, and hikes with Naturalist Laura and Librarian Angie.



Slimy or Scaly?

Thursday, July 21, 6:30 p.m. – Pattison Park
Join the naturalist to get an up close and personal look at some of our native reptiles and amphibians with a live animal demonstration. Meet at the picnic shelter.

Butterfly Walk

Saturday, July 23, 1 p.m. – Shor Park
Take advantage of the hot summer days and follow a naturalist through the fields of Shor Park in search of the butterflies that call the park home. Meet by the information kiosk.



“Where liberty dwells, there is my country.”

~Benjamin Franklin

Enjoy Your Summer Garden This Winter!

Make your summer garden last through the year! The Ohio State University (OSU) Extension Clermont is holding workshops designed to help you cultivate and preserve the delicious items from your garden. Preserving the Harvest: From Plant to Plate workshops will be held on August 18, and September 12, 2011 at the Clermont County Fairgrounds, located at 1000 Locust Street in Owensville. The classes will run from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. “In each class, we will discuss basic fruit and vegetable gardening, do some hands-on water baths and pressure canning, and prepare some easy,

healthy, delicious recipes,” said OSU Extension Clermont Director Margaret Jenkins.

Jenkins said that home gardening has really taken off in recent years; individuals are sowing container gardens, first time gardeners are tilling small plots and families are enlarging their traditional plots. “By learning how to grow and can your vegetables and fruits, you can eat healthy all year long and save money,” she said.



The classes cost \$35 each, and include supplies. Bring a sack lunch; refrigeration is available. For more information about the Preserving the Harvest: From Plant to Plate workshops, contact OSU Extension Clermont at (513) 732-7070.

Be a Ballerina

Saturday, July 16, 10 a.m. – Milford-Miami Township Branch

Learn all about being a ballerina from Carol Kirkeng of the Broadway Bound Dance Academy. Ms. Kirkeng will be teaching basic ballet steps as well as showing costumes and props from her performances while teaching kids about a healthy lifestyle and exercise. For more information or to register, call (513) 248-0700.



Kids are welcome to stop into the library to make a fun craft to take back to school. This program will run through August 27. For more information, call (513) 724-1070.

Fraud and Theft Protection for Seniors

Thursday, July 21, 10:30 a.m. – Owensville Branch

Seniors are invited to learn how to become more aware of fraudulent scams and learn about free prevention awareness programs. For more information or to register, call (513) 732-6084.

Happy Birthday to Harry Potter

Saturday, July 16, 2 p.m. – Amelia Branch



Attendees ages 10 – 18 are invited to dress up and celebrate the movie release and birthday of Harry Potter with games and cake. For more information or to register, call (513) 752-5580.

Drop-in Writers' Group

Monday, July 18, 6 p.m. –
New Richmond Branch

Do you write in a journal? Have you written a short story? Ever thought about writing a memoir? Or, maybe you've never written at all! This informal group is perfect for aspiring writers at all levels. For more information, call (513) 553-0570.

Bored to Board

Fridays in July, 2 p.m. – Bethel Branch

Play scrabble and a variety of board games with your friends or other library customers; this program is open to all ages. For more information call (513) 734-2619.

Check it Out

Wednesday, July 13, 1:30 p.m. – Goshen Branch

Adults are welcome to join the Check it Out book discussion group. This month's selection is *Girl with a Pearl Earring* by Tracey Chevalier. Books are available at the library for check out. For more information call (513) 722-1221.



Animal Friends

Thursday, July 21, 1 p.m. –
Felicity Branch

The library welcomes Keith Robinson of the Clermont County Park District and some of his animal friends. Come learn all about animals! For more information or to register, call (513) 876-4134.



Make and Take Back-to-School Crafts

Begins Monday, July 18, (library hours) – Williamsburg Branch





Clermont County Animal Shelter Critters

call 732-8854 for more information



Molly



Champagne



Bubbles



Bert



Johnny



Ritz



Teena



Ernie



Caviar



732-8854



Clermont County Permit Central NEWS

2275 Bauer Road Batavia, Ohio 45103 Phone: (513) 732-7213 www.permit.ClermontCountyOhio.gov

Creating the Backyard of Your Dreams

By: Bruce Crase, Permit Central

Building a deck or installing a swimming pool this summer?

Is this the year you finally put in that new swimming pool, deck, or patio, turning your back yard into the outdoor living area you envisioned when you first bought your house? Great! As you design the space, here are a few enhancements to consider that can help you get the most out of your summer space. Whether for entertainment, family time, or just quiet enjoyment, a well-built deck offers a safe haven for outdoor living. A deck offers increased square footage and better pay back than a kitchen or bath remodel. As with any sound investment, it's important to do proper maintenance to preserve the integrity of the deck.



Light Up the Night!

If you plan on using your deck after dark, you should consider installing outdoor

lighting. For smaller decks, spotlights mounted on the house work fine. For larger decks, or for a more intimate feel, low-level indirect lighting can preserve the nighttime atmosphere while still allowing you and your guests to see what you're doing.

Have a Seat!

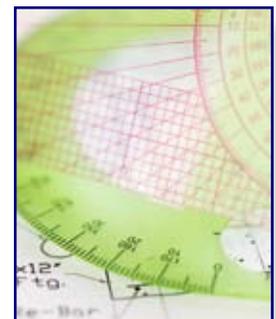
Patio furniture is a must, but it's not likely to provide enough places to sit if you plan to do a lot of entertaining. Built-in seating can solve this problem. Bench seating

installed instead of a rail along the edge of a deck or patio is a good way to make sure there are always plenty of places to sit.

Find a Good Contractor

The best place to start your search for a deck contractor is local phone directories and online websites. Using past customers' experience to rate contractors in your area is another good source. You can also use an internet search engine to find deck contractors but remember to limit your search to those that will work in your area.

Most established deck contractors now have their own websites offering an overview of their qualifications and pictures of their work. This will give you a chance to evaluate their abilities before you give them a call.



Home Shows can be an excellent one-stop resource for making face-to-face contacts

Permit Central News

Backyard Dream Projects (continued)

and collecting information from a number of contractors. Use only reputable sources to conduct your research. Try to narrow your search as best as possible. It is a good idea to interview a minimum of three different deck contractors for any project you may be considering.

Building Plans

Before you start it is necessary to have a plan. Homeowners may get design ideas from websites, magazine photos, draw their own, or use a design professional. Plans should be clear and concise, including accurate dimensions, a site plan, foundation, and framing plans. Any deck railings or steps may also require details necessary for building code compliance and construction.

Clearly outline the exact nature of the work your contractor is going to do for you. The more specific you make the details, the better. You will want it to include a scale drawing complete with dimensions to define the size and shape of the deck being built. This must be very accurate. Include the number of total square feet, the elevation, the direction of decking, and any other essential information. You will also need to establish the specific materials that are going to be used. Leave nothing to interpretation. Make sure the type, size, color, style, grade, name brand, etc. are listed to guarantee you get exactly what you are expecting and paying for. Your contractor will also need this document

when it comes time to ordering materials. This written information vastly outweighs any verbal agreement of what is going to be done. Make sure it is accurate, clearly written, and leaves nothing out.

Swimming pool plans should accurately show dimensions, distances to lot lines and buildings, any new electrical work, all appurtenances pertaining to the swimming pool. Water supply and drainage systems should also be considered. Pools should be installed per the manufacturer's specifications or by a professional installer per custom plans.

Permits

Always obtain approvals for your project prior to construction. The owner or the contractor can make their application to the building department for approval to construct, enlarge, alter, repair, or replace any residential building, mechanical, electrical, plumbing, or any other residential building system covered by the Residential Code of Ohio.

Inspections are required for footing/foundations after excavation, before concrete,



a rough building inspection, any electrical or other system inspection and the final inspection when the project is complete.

Start with applying for local zoning approval, most townships and villages have zoning regulations and require zoning approval prior to start of construction.

If the property has a septic system or a cistern, obtain approval from the Clermont County Health Department (513) 732-7499.

Make the building permit application, along with two sets of detailed construction documents, fees, and your local zoning approval to Clermont County Permit Central (513) 732-7213. You may visit the website www.clermontcountyohio.gov, under services, go to building inspections for a printable building permit application.

Question: How far away is a thunderstorm if you hear thunder 5 seconds after you see lightning?

Answer: One mile. Thunder travels at a rate of one mile per five seconds. Count the number of seconds between seeing a flash of lightning and hearing the sound of the thunder. Divide that number by five to determine how many miles away that lightning bolt was.

Source: www.almanac.com



Clermont Rain Garden Grants Available

As a way to help keep streams clean and reduce drainage problems, the Clermont Soil and Water Conservation District invites homeowners in the county to apply for a grant to plant a rain garden. Up to 10 grants of \$200 each will be awarded to Clermont County homeowners; assistance will be provided to teach you how to construct the garden.

Rain gardens are quickly growing in popularity among homeowners as a beneficial and attractive idea for landscaping. Rain gardens are landscaped areas planted with wild flowers and native plants, such as Blazing Stars, Lobelia, and Cone-flowers, that soak up rain water and filter it into the ground over a 24 to 48 hour period, instead of allowing it to run off into a storm drain or ditch. These types of en-



vironmentally friendly gardens allow about 30 percent more water to soak into the ground than a conventional lawn. Rain gardens also help remove pollutants. A substantial amount of pollution is carried into our waterways by runoff from our lawns, rooftops, driveways, parking lots, and roadways. Rain gardens capture the rain water runoff from those areas; the water is then absorbed by the rain garden plants and filtered into the

ground. Rain gardens are perfect for preventing pollutants such as fertilizers, pesticides, oil, and other hazardous fluids from entering our waterways.

If you are interested in applying for a rain garden grant, contact the Clermont Soil and Water Conservation

District at (513) 732-7075, or visit their website at www.clermontswcd.org. Applications will be considered until all grants have been awarded. If you would like to learn more about rain gardens, including ideal locations, plant selection and more, visit the Clermont Rain Garden Central website at www.clermontstorm.net/rain-garden.aspx.

Tall Girl Series: A Body of Work at UC Clermont thru July 8

By: Mae Hanna, UC Clermont

In 1965 when artist Carol Larson was 17 years old 78.5 inches long (6'5") she was surgically shortened 6 inches with the intention of giving her a "normal" life. Additionally, she was forbidden by her parents from discussing it. By middle age, Larson found her voice through a four-year art project which became known as the Tall Girl Series: A Body of Work.

UC Clermont College presents Tall Girl Series: A Body of Work in the Park National Bank Art Gallery located on the Batavia Campus through July 8.

"My intention for the series was not one of laying blame but of understanding, grieving, and acceptance of the debilitation brought on by these surgeries. This series highlights the 40 years since the three surgeries that broke my body, nearly crushed my spirit, and forever changed my life. This is a story of courage, healing, and acceptance," according to Larson who is from Sonoma, California.

Completion of the Tall Girl Series: A Body of Work resulted in a self-published book, a Power-Point presentation, and a traveling exhibit of 15-23 textile art



pieces.

Larson's award-winning work is in the corporate collections of The James Irvine Foundation in San Francisco; Kaiser Permanente Hospital in Santa Rosa, Calif., and The John Muir Medical Center in Walnut Creek, Calif., as well as in several private collections in the US and abroad. Additionally, her work has been exhibited in museums and galleries worldwide.

The UC Clermont Art Gallery is sponsored by Park National Bank and is located in the Snyder building on the UC Clermont College campus in Batavia at 4200 Clermont College Drive. Summer gallery hours are Monday - Thursday 7:30 a.m. - 6 p.m., Friday 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. The exhibition is free and open to the public.

July is UV Safety Month

Skin cancer is the most common type of cancer in the United States. Ultraviolet (UV) rays from the sun are the main cause of skin cancer. UV damage can also cause wrinkles and blotchy skin.



These are just some of the reasons why Clermont County is proud to participate in *UV Safety Month* and help raise awareness of the risks of sun damage. During the month of July, join us in taking action to prevent skin cancer and reduce the risk of UV damage.

You can take steps today to protect your skin by staying out of the sun between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Employee News

Welcome New Employees!

CCSWRD

Joseph Hitt and
Kelly Haustetter

HR (Mailroom)

Drew Allen

DJFS

Abby Stacy
Chasity Kirker
Dara Geiger
Brittany Ballo

Building Dept.

Derek Spurling



David Scheibenzuber with the Office of Public Information puts a microphone on a visiting member of a New Richmond Boy Scout troop. The youngsters are working on their communications badge and learned about the various methods the county uses to communicate with citizens.

Tim Kelly is Top County Mover!

By: Donna Hart, General Health District

Permit Central's Tim Kelly is the top mover in Clermont County! Tim moved over 445 miles to win first place in the annual Clermont Move A Measured Mile program. A total of 205 individuals took part in the event, moving a combined total of 12,010 miles.

OTCS was the group with the highest average of miles moved, averaging 91.63 miles per mover.

Top departmental movers are: Jack Trainor (Auditor), Dave Spinney (BCC), Yvonne Smith (BCC-HR), Cindy Pitzer and Pat Seibenburgen (CTC), Debbie Phillips (Common Pleas-Adult

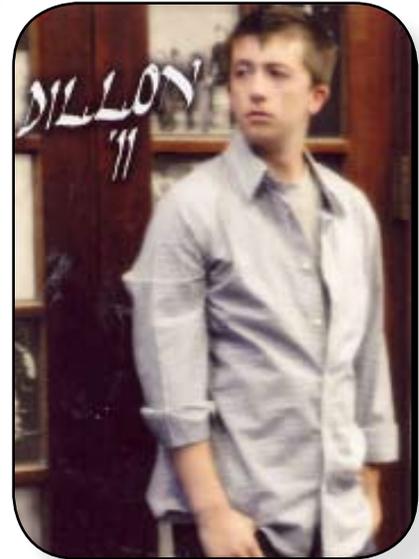
Probation), Sanna Gast (DJFS-CPS), Arleen Salyer (DJFS-ES), Teresa Cahall (DJFS-Fiscal), Mike Finney (Domestic Relations), Tonia Blackburn (Elections), Dave Stubblefield (Facilities), Jennifer Morgan (Fleet), Jennifer Vesper (GHD-Nursing), Michael Masterson (Juvenile), Gary Parker (Juvenile Probation), Gretchen Behimer (MHRB), Joe Schutte (Muni-Adult Probation), Ryan Robe (Muni-Clerk of Courts), Lois List (Muni-Prosecutor's Office), Mary Rains (OMB), Kathy Lehr (OPI), Jean Vallejo (OTCS), Ken Stewart (Parks), Romain Walker (Recorder),

Barb Brown (Records Center), Dee Hargitt (TASC), Diane Schaefer (Treasurer), and Virgie Luck (Water).



Dillon Lee Bowling

Dillon Lee Bowling, son of Lori Bowling (Childrens' Services) graduated on May 27 from Western Brown High School in Mt. Orab, Ohio. He plans to attend Cincinnati Christian University in the fall of 2011, where he will major in Sign Language and Bible.



“He has accomplished so very much!” said his proud mom. “He was in high school choir all four years of high school. He was also involved in football and basketball. Dillon was involved in the JROTC program his senior year. He is highly involved in missions and has been on many mission trips during the summer. He is also holding down a part time job in the hopes of saving some money towards his college education.”



Kelcey Patrick

Kelcey Patrick is the daughter of Crystal Patrick (Deputy Director at the Clermont County Dept. of Job and Family Services). Kelcey graduated from Eastern High School in Brown County on Sunday, May 29, 2011. She was very active in the high school band, marching band, concert band, jazz band, and pep band. Kelcey plays the trumpet and was section leader her senior year. Kelcey has been a “PSO” (post-secondary option) student for the past two years and attended UC Clermont as a full time college student; she took no classes at her high school her junior and senior years. She was on the Dean’s List every quarter and maintained at 3.8 GPA. Her major is “Advanced Medical Imaging Technology”; she will complete her Bachelor’s Degree at the University of Cincinnati, Main Campus.

Cydney Hill



Cydney Moriah Hill is a 2011 honors graduate from Clermont Northeastern High School. She is the daughter of Karen Fishback (DJFS).

She has been a member of the National Honor Society and played volleyball, basketball, and softball throughout high school. She will be attending Berea College in the fall to study pre-veterinary medicine. She plans on playing sports at the collegiate level as well, possibly softball.

“Cydney is a very driven young lady and I am certain she will accomplish all the goals she has set for her future,” said her proud mom. “We are very proud of her.”



Cody Morehouse



Cody Morehouse graduated from Grant Career Center and Bethel High School. He was co-valedictorian at Grant and placed third in the Skills USA Competition, Carpentry Division for the State of Ohio.

He is currently working for ODOT for the summer, as well as for a local farmer. This fall, Cody will attend Hocking College for Environmental Restoration Technology (heavy equipment management). Cody is the son of Julie Morehouse (DJFS).



Balanced Growth Planning Continues

By: Becky McClatchey, Clermont Soil and Water

Members of the Middle East Fork Watershed Planning Partnership are continuing their work to develop a Balanced Growth Land Use Plan for the Middle East Fork Watershed, a sub-watershed of the East Fork Little Miami River located in Clermont County.

The Balanced Growth Program is a voluntary and incentive-based program that encourages local governments to prioritize areas for development and conservation, with the aim of balancing future growth and economic development with natural resource protection.

The partnership, which includes

representatives from each Middle East Fork community, along with public and private sector representatives, is working together to identify priority areas for development, conservation, and agriculture.

The "Priority Areas" are simply recommendations for those land uses and do not change the underlying zoning or affect property rights. The priority designations simply open up the possibility of utilizing state (and/or local) incentives if jurisdictions and landowners choose to implement the recommended land use.

This locally-led planning process is in its second year and will cul-

minate in January 2012 with a Balanced Growth Plan for the Middle East Fork. The Plan will include a map of priority areas and general recommendations for voluntary implementation of best local land use practices, along with potential local incentives. The Partnership will continue to work together beyond this initial planning process to develop local, optional incentives for Balanced Growth implementation.

For more information, please visit the project website at: www.clermontswcd.org.

Congratulations Sgt. Sellars!

On June 17, 2011, Clermont County Sheriff's Office Sergeant Jeff Sellars participated in the Ohio Police and Fire Olympic Games, held in Fairborn, Ohio.



Sgt. Sellars competed in the power lifting event, which consists of the bench press, the squat, and the dead lift. He lifted a total combined weight of 1,235 lbs., and won a gold medal in his age/weight division.

Jeff is an 18-year veteran of the Sheriff's Office and was proud to represent his department at this statewide event!



This newsletter is a service of the Board of Clermont County Commissioners.

For more information about the articles featured, contact Clermont County Communications Director Kathy Lehr or Rebecca Kimble at (513) 732-7597 or e-mail klehr@co.clermont.oh.us.