



www.ClermontCountyOhio.gov

On the Move

a newsletter for citizens
March 2010

Commissioners: Bob Proud, Scott Crosswell, and Ed Humphrey

Become a Fan of Clermont County

Clermont County government is now reaching out to citizens by utilizing Facebook, a social networking Web site that has over 350 million active users worldwide. Citizens can go to the Web site www.facebook.com/ClermontCounty for current information on a variety of events and issues that impact

those living and working in the county and the region. "Visitors to the Facebook site can check out the latest local news releases, event calendars, videos,

and pictures," said Clermont County Communications Director Kathy Lehr, who updates the site, along with Clermont Webmaster Tom Doepker. "We encourage the community to become fans of the site to stay posted on all the exciting things going on locally," she said. "Social media is another great way to communicate with the citizens of Clermont County," added Doepker.



"The Facebook site is a logical next step in our outreach efforts," said Board of Clermont County Commissioners (BCC) President Bob Proud. "The county received over 41,000 visitors to the Web site www.ClermontCountyOhio.gov during

January as

an increasing number of people rely on the internet to obtain their information."

In addition to the county Web site and Facebook

page, Clermont County also has a You Tube channel, www.youtube.com/clermontcounty and a Twitter account, www.twitter.com/ClermontCounty. The county also broadcasts BCC meetings, Clermont Planning Commission meetings, and the twice monthly *Clermont County Today* news magazine on television cable access channels throughout Clermont County.

"We welcome citizen input on our



C L E R M O N T
C O U N T Y

programming, and our outreach," added Lehr. Contact the Clermont County Office of Public Information at (513) 732-7597 or e-mail klehr@co.clermont.oh.us.

New Monthly Feature!

Beginning this month, Clermont County Permit Central will provide an insert in this publication updating you on building-related issues.

This month, find out why building permits are important, the role of the Clermont County Planning Commission, and get an overview of the CHIP program.

Check it out!

Judge Shriver Selected New Leader of State Judicial Organization

Clermont County Municipal Court Judge James A. Shriver is the new president of the Ohio Association of Municipal and County Judges; Supreme Court of Ohio Justice Maureen O'Connor administered the oath of office to Judge Shriver during the association's annual three-day winter meeting in Dublin, Ohio in early February.

"I am honored to serve as president of an organization that represents over 120 municipal and county courts across Ohio," said Judge Shriver. "The presidency of this organization will require me to review and respond to a variety of issues that are faced by county and municipal courts. It is a privilege to have this opportunity to serve the citizens



Judge Shriver is administered the oath for his new state position by Supreme Court of Ohio Justice Maureen O'Connor

and the court system in this new capacity."

Judge Shriver has served for 15

years on the municipal bench in Clermont County; his many accomplishments include starting the first DUI Court in Ohio.

Town Meeting on April 19

Citizens living in Jackson, Stonelick, and Wayne Townships, and the villages of Owensville and Newtonsville are invited to attend the first in a series of town meetings the Board of Clermont County Commissioners will hold in 2010. The Monday, April 19 meeting will be held from 6:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. at the Clermont Northeastern (CNE) Early Childhood Education Center, located at 2792 U.S. 50 in Stonelick Township.

Topics of community and county-wide interest, along with presentations from various township and village governments, and CNE

school leaders will be on the agenda. There will be an opportunity for citizen questions and concerns. For additional information, contact the Clermont County Office of Public Information at (513) 732-7597.

Saint Paddy's Info....

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, 34 million United States residents claim Irish ancestry, or nearly ten times the entire population of Ireland today, which stands at 3.9 million.

March Commissioner Sessions

Wednesday, March 3	1 p.m.
Monday, March 8	1 p.m.
Wednesday, March 10	1 p.m.
Monday, March 15	1 p.m.
Wednesday, March 17	2 p.m.
Wednesday, March 24	1 p.m.
Monday, March 29	1 p.m.
Wednesday, March 31	1 p.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. Call (513) 732-7300 for additional information.

Wipers On.....Headlights On

By: Chief Deputy Rick Combs, Sheriff's Office

A new law was enacted in June 2009 requiring the use of headlights when driving a vehicle with windshield wipers in operation. Although the law was enacted by the Ohio General Assembly as part of a transportation bill, in mid-year 2009, the enforcement of the new law took effect Friday, January 1, 2010.

Local officers have been stopping and issuing warnings to motorists of the law change for about six months. Some passenger cars and trucks come equipped with daytime running lights. There is some debate whether the daytime running lights are sufficient, or if the headlights and taillights must be turned on.

According to State Representative Joe Uecker (R-66) the law was intended to include daytime running lights; Todd Stoffel, assistant prosecuting attorney, who handles these types of cases in municipal court, has indicated to law enforcement that the daytime running lights are sufficient if the headlights and taillights are illuminated. If the daytime running lights are only on the front of the vehicle, the lights must be turned on so that both headlights and taillights are on. Members of law enforcement agree with this assessment. Rep. Uecker, a former police officer and Deputy Sheriff, is researching the intent of the bill and has also contacted motor vehicle manufacturers in an attempt to clarify the issue.

Until recently, I thought the federal government mandated daytime running lights. While researching this article I found that there is currently no federal requirement



for automatic daytime running lights, though it has been discussed. Many vehicle manufacturers do install daytime running lights, but not all. Although this new law is a secondary violation, meaning drivers cannot be stopped for this alone, the fine for such a charge can range from \$100 to \$150.

The new law does not require points to be added to the driver's license for such violations. Though I was not contacted prior to the new law, I understand the Ohio Department of Transportation pushed the addition to existing traffic laws citing "safety" concerns. Apparently out of the traffic accidents investigated in Ohio, one out of five accidents occurred when conditions were rainy and wet reducing visibility of approaching vehicles. Research has revealed sixteen states have, and enforce, a similar law.

Also included in this bill is a new law establishing transition zones when posted speed limits drop by 20 mph or more. The intent is to prevent speed traps. Additionally the speed limit for trucks has increased from 55 mph to 65 mph on many Ohio interstate highways, if posted.

Satellite Pet Adoptions

The Clermont County Humane Society will hold satellite pet adoptions on the following dates in March at the Eastgate Petsmart store:

Saturday, March 6
10 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 20
10 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

The satellite adoption events are a great opportunity to meet some of the wonderful animals available for adoption at the Clermont Animal Shelter. Volunteers from the Humane Society will be available to answer any questions you may have.

If you are unable to come to the satellite adoptions, the Clermont Animal Shelter is open Monday through Saturday, from 11:30 a.m. through 4 p.m. The shelter is located at 4025 Filager Road in Batavia.

For more information, call the shelter at (513) 732-8854 or visit the Web site www.ClermontAnimalShelter.com.

***"Change is the law of life.
And those who look only to
the past or present are cer-
tain to miss the future."***

John F. Kennedy

Don't Fall for Aging Myths

By Denise Franer, General Health District

Some older adults believe that frailty, decreased strength, being inactive, and falling are an inevitable part of the aging process.

The cost of being frail and not being able to be active is high and impacts individuals physically, emotionally, and financially.

One in three older adults fall every year and the average cost of treating a hip fracture in an adult over 72 years is approximately \$14,900. Research on healthy aging and injury prevention has shown that improving strength, being active, and independent can be achievable goals for many older adults and help them live full productive lives.

Moderate exercise, good nutrition, taking medicine correctly, regular vision and hearing exams, and home safety consultations are the key to keeping older adults safe and independent in their own homes. Home safety consultations are done by local Clermont County Fire/EMS staff that visit the home of the senior who is requesting the consultation, and at a prearranged time, along with the senior, look for any fall or fire risks and discuss how to reduce or eliminate the risk. Communities, organizations, and individuals should work together to promote programs that help seniors achieve the best quality of life they can have. Clermont County has many resources for seniors that are

easy to access and affordable.

Clermont Senior Services, Inc. and the Clermont YMCA offer exercise programs for seniors. Tai Chi is an exercise program that is proven to reduce the risk of falling and is offered at the Learning Centers of Clermont

Senior Services. The Clermont County YMCA offers Silver Sneaker exercise programs, Zumba Gold, and aquatic exercise programs. The OSU Extension-Clermont office offers nutrition programs for older adults.

Seniors can be helped with vision services through Prevent Blindness at the Clermont County General Health District or local Lions Clubs.

The Senior Safety program of the Clermont County General Health District offers free home safety consultations and home safety items in collaboration with Clermont Senior Services, Clermont County Community Services, and local Fire/EMS departments.

For more information on these resources and how to prevent injuries, call Denise Franer, RN, Clermont County General Health District Senior Safety Program Coordinator at (513) 735-8421.



St. Paddy's Day Folklore.....

Many myths surround St. Patrick. One of the best known—and most inaccurate—is that Patrick drove all the snakes from Ireland into the Irish Sea, where the serpents drowned. (Some still say that is why the sea is so rough.)



But snakes have never been native to the Emerald Isle. The serpents were likely a metaphor for druidic religions, which steadily disappeared from Ireland in the centuries after St. Patrick planted the seeds of Christianity on the island.

More information available on the National geographic Web site www.National-Geographic.com.



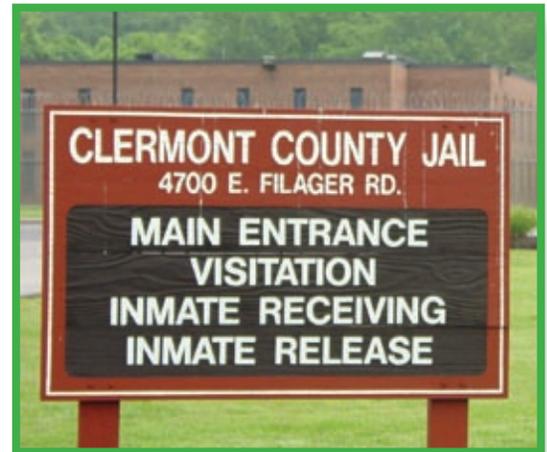
Batavia Snowman

Who's in Jail?

The Clermont County Sheriff's Office now has a public accessible online database of inmates that are currently confined in the Clermont County Jail, their charges, and bond information. This technology was implemented through a cooperative agreement with Montgomery County, Ohio through their computer network. There is no cost to Clermont County or for those who access the

database. It is expected that the availability of this information online will reduce the number and frequency of phone calls to the jail seeking inmate information. The data may be accessed through the following link:

www.ClermontMiamiValleyJails.org.

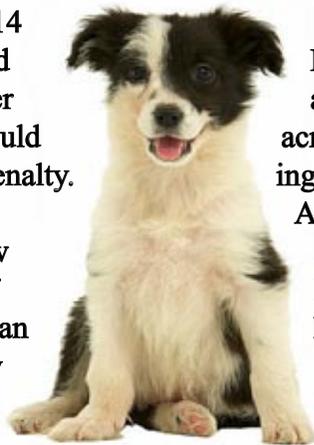


Got Your Dog License?

The Board of Clermont County Commissioners has extended the deadline until March 31, 2010 to purchase a dog license without penalty. "Many people have told us that with the holidays, they often forget about the January dog license deadline," said BCC President Bob Proud. "This is a trial project to see if additional revenues come in as a result of the deadline extension."

Dog licenses cost \$14 if they are purchased by the deadline; after the deadline, you could be assessed a \$14 penalty.

By law, dogs are required to have a new license each year; if the pet gets lost, it can be quickly traced by the license number. If a dog is unlicensed, animal shelters are required to hold the animal for only three days before it can be put up for adoption or euthanized.



All proceeds collected for dog licenses go to the Clermont County Humane Society to operate the Clermont Animal Shelter, under contract with the BCC to house dogs that have been picked up as strays or owner surrendered dogs. The Clermont County Animal Shelter is located at 4025 Filager Road in Batavia; call the shelter at (513) 732-8854 or visit their Web site at www.ClermontCountyAnimalShelter.com.

Dog licenses are available at a number of locations across the county, including the Clermont County Auditor's Office, located at 101 E. Main Street in Batavia. For a complete listing of sites where you can purchase a dog license, visit the Web site www.ClermontAuditor.org or call (513) 732-7150.



Wow! Those are some big icicles in Jackson Township!

St. Paddy's Day Folklore...

Some American towns have Irish names.

You could visit: Mount Gay-Shamrock, West Virginia; Shamrock Lakes, Indiana; Shamrock,

Oklahoma; Shamrock, Texas; Dublin, California and of course, Dublin, Ohio.





March Clermont Park Events

By: Keith Robinson, Park District

Pancakes in the Park

Saturday, March 13, 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Pattison Park Lodge

Join us for a delicious pancake breakfast complete with 100 percent pure Ohio made maple syrup. Then head into our sugarbush as you witness firsthand how syrup is made. We'll have lots of hands on demonstrations showing the whole process from your tree to your breakfast table. Tickets for the breakfast are as follows: Adults, \$5; Seniors, \$4; Children 6-12, \$2; and Children 5 and under are free. Call (513) 732-2977 for more information.



Clermont Parks' Chief Naturalist Keith Robinson stokes up the evaporator unit used to turn sap into syrup

Step into Spring

Sunday, March 21, 1 p.m.

Sycamore Park/Wilson Nature Preserve

Get outside and enjoy the first full day of spring.

We'll celebrate the long awaited arrival of spring as we hike the trails at Sycamore Park and Wilson Nature Preserve. We'll search for early spring wildflowers and other sure signs that spring has finally arrived. Meet at the pedestrian bridge.

AARP Driving Safety Class

By Martha Enriquez, Safe Communities Coordinator

Are you an older driver? Is your mom or dad aging and you are beginning to be concerned about his or her driving?

The American Association of Retired People (AARP) has a great opportunity coming your way.

The *AARP Driver Safety Program* is a classroom course designed for older drivers to help hone skills to avoid accidents and traffic violations.

Cars have changed and so have the traffic rules, driving conditions, and the roads we travel every day. Some drivers age 50 and over have never looked back since they got

their first driver's license, but even the most experienced drivers benefit from brushing up on their driving skills.

The class will include information on:

- How to minimize the effects of dangerous blind spots
- How to maintain the proper following distance behind another car
- The safest ways to change lanes and make turns at busy intersections
- Proper use of safety belts, air bags, anti-lock brakes, and new technologies used in cars
- Ways to monitor your own and others driving skills and capabilities
- The effects of medications on driving

- The importance of eliminating distractions, such as eating, smoking, and cell-phone use

Although it is geared to drivers age 50 and older, the course is open to people of all ages. AARP membership is not required to take the course and you may be eligible to receive an insurance discount upon completion of the course. ***There is no test to pass.***

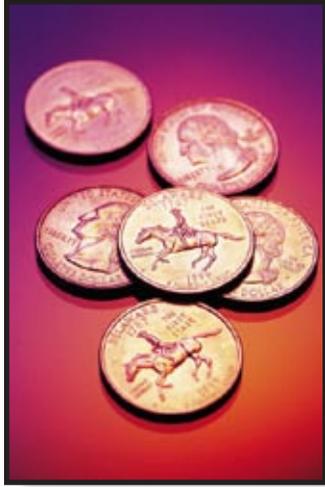
The classroom course costs \$12 for AARP members and \$14 for non-members. The class will be held on Tuesday, April 20, 9:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. at the Batavia Township Hall on Clough Pike. Call (513) 732-3888 to register.



Bring Quarters and Get Ready for Fun!

By: Ashley Thompson, Children's Protective Services

Clermont County Children's Protective Services is having a *Quarter Auction* on Friday, March 19, 2010 at the Glen Este High School east cafeteria, located at 4342 Glen Este Withamsville Road in Union Township. The auction preview will begin at 6:15 p.m., and the auction will run from 7 p.m. until 9 p.m.



Some of the featured items to be raffled are from The Pampered Chef, Jolly Polly Studios, Home Interiors, Tupperware, Avon, Lia Sophia Jewelry, and much more. Bring your friends and family, and get ready to have a great time while helping support Children's Protective Services programs.

Please RSVP by Tuesday, March 16, 2010

if you would like to reserve a seat. Contact Ashley Thompson at (513) 732-7765 or e-mail thompa04@odjfs.state.oh.us.

Bidding paddles are \$2 each, and there will also be a raffle.



Aren't you glad you didn't have to dig this truck out of the snow and ice in Union Township?

"The best thing about the future is that it only comes one day at a time."

Abraham Lincoln

Become a Clermont County Facebook Fan

Clermont County now has a Facebook page dedicated to updating everyone on the many exciting programs and initiatives that are underway in the county.

Become a "fan" of Clermont County by visiting the Web site www.facebook.com/Clermont-County.



Chilo Snowman

Is a Four Leaf Clover Really Lucky?

The four leaf clover is a universally accepted symbol of good luck with its origin ages old. But, what do the leaves stand for? According to the Web site www.FourLeafClover.com. the leaves represent faith, hope, love, and of course, luck!



By: Tammy Craig, Clermont Library

Spy Academy

Saturday, March 6, 1 p.m. – Amelia Branch
Elementary age attendees will learn how to write and read invisible messages, boost their super spy memory, and participate in a super secret mission! For more information or to register, call (513) 752-5580.



Egg-cellent Story Time

Thursday, March 25, 10 a.m. – Felicity Branch
Preschoolers can come to the library to enjoy egg-themed stories and a craft. For more information, call (513) 876-4134.



Weather Mania

Saturday, March 6, 2 p.m. – Owensville Branch
The Hands Up Puppet Troupe will present "Walking Through the Seasons with Sheldon and Sheep" after learning about some weird and wacky weather. For more information or to register, call (513) 732-6084.

Spring into Good Health

Saturday, March 13, 2 p.m. – Amelia Branch
Join Mercy Hospital Clermont's registered dietitian Jeanne Kincaid to learn about healthy eating and portion control. For more information or to register, call (513) 752-5580.



Un-birthday Party

Tuesday, March 16, 5:30 p.m. – New Richmond Branch
Join us to celebrate your un-birthday at the Mad Hatter's tea party. Attendees age 5 – 10 are invited to bring their parents for snacks, games, and fun in our very own wonderland. For more information or to register, call (513) 553-0570.

Book Discussion Group

Monday, March 15, 1 p.m. – Bethel Branch
*Interested adults are invited to join the Bethel book discussion group. This month's title will be **The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Society** by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Burrows. Copies of the book will be available for check out at the library. For more information, call*

the library at (513) 734-2619.

Wii Gamers Night

Monday, March 8, 7 p.m.

– Goshen Branch

Join other teens &

tweens for a Wii

bit of fun! For

more infor-

mation or to

register, call (513)

722-1221.



Resume and Cover Letter Assistance

During the month of March by appointment – Amelia Branch
Get help with your resume and cover letter; learn about which type of resume is best for you. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call (513) 752-5580.

**Clermont County
has its own You Tube
channel.**

Check it out at
[www.youtube.com/
clermontcounty](http://www.youtube.com/clermontcounty)

"Success is not the key to happiness. Happiness is the key to success. If you love what you are doing, you will be successful."

Albert Schweitzer

Clermont County Permit Central NEWS

Planning for the Future

By: Tim Hershner, Community Planning and Development

The Clermont Planning Commission was created in 1957 by the Board of Clermont County Commissioners to prepare county plans because of the rapid rate of population growth and confusion as to the location of roads, streets, parks, schools, residences, and businesses. The Commissioners believe that Clermont residents would benefit from an orderly plan for progress.

Over the past decade and during one of the biggest residential building booms in the United States, the Clermont Planning Commission kept busy processing a high volume of subdivision plans and zoning amendments for the unincorporated areas (townships) in Clermont County. As development activity receded, the Planning Commission has spent the last several years reviewing local township plans and county agency plans in an effort to better understand the long range vision of land use planning throughout the county. Most recently, the Planning Commission updated the County Thoroughfare Plan to incorporate roadway classifications as defined and annually revised by the Ohio Department of Transportation. This update will assist the local and county roadway improvements as development activities rebound.



*Clermont County
Planning Commission*

The Clermont Planning Commission consists of eleven Clermont County residents, three of which are the Board of Clermont County Commissioners or their alternate representative, a limited home rule township representative, a City of Milford representative, and the remaining six selected by the Board of Clermont County Commissioners to represent the county in general. All members must be county residents and serve for three years.

CHIP Program Benefits

By: Jim Taylor, Community Planning and Development

The Community Housing Improvement Program (CHIP) is a program supported by the Board of Clermont County Commissioners, which provides assistance to low income individuals in need of physical improvements to their homes. Past activities

have included furnace repair or replacement, roof repair, electrical repair, sewer repairs, and other much needed home improvements.

The Housing Advisory Committee for CHIP met recently and discussed housing improvement opportunities for the upcoming grant application. The Committee members represent various organizations throughout the County that provide assistance for residents for housing improvement. The advisory group discussed what important housing issues there are in Clermont County. They provided direction to County staff to locate specific target areas for repair work.

Two areas of concentration of repair were recommended. One was in minor home repairs and the second was rehab activities. It was recommended that the CHIP might work in conjunction with other home repair programs in Clermont County. The combined efforts will hopefully result in a wider range of repairs to houses.

Permit Central is located at:

2275 Bauer Road
Batavia, Ohio 45103
Phone: (513) 732-7213

Building Permits are Very Important to Buyers

By: Sharman Hensley, Permit Central

If you are purchasing a home or commercial property, you should check if any additions or improvements to the property were made after the original construction. If you don't research the status of past and current building permit activity for the property with the building department, you could be at risk if you purchase. The Clermont County Building Inspection Department issues building permits for work that could affect the public's health or safety if improperly performed. Inspections are completed by our inspectors to verify that the work as performed creates safe physical conditions in accordance with the state building codes.

Plans and specifications prepared by an architect or engineer describing new work or alterations are required for large projects where structural elements are involved or major electrical, heating and air conditioning or plumbing systems are altered. Residential projects and minor alterations require a permit, but usually do not require professionally prepared plans. The owner or a contractor can obtain the permit by filling out a few forms and paying a small fee. The following common alterations or improvements require a building permit:

- Making a structural addition or alteration
- Installing a new roof
- Blocking off or adding a door or window
- Adding or relocating electrical outlets
- Adding or relocating plumbing fixtures (sinks, toilets, showers)
- Converting a garage or storage area to a conditioned, occupied

space

- Installing or replacing an air conditioning system

Many property owners and contractors feel that they can make these

changes without approval; however, the building code requires permits and inspections for these projects. If there are no inspections of these projects and the work creates unapproved or unsafe conditions, visitors and residents of the structure can be at risk. The problem doesn't go away when the property is sold. The problem just gets transferred to the new owner.

If renovations were made by a property owner in 1985 that required a permit and the property was later bought and sold several times, the current owner of the property is left responsible to obtain a permit, repair any unsafe conditions, and satisfy all code requirements. All previous owners including the one(s) that made the renovations are off the hook and the current owner becomes responsible for compliance. If you just purchased the property then you are now considered the current owner.

The permit can be applied for by the current property owner, but the problem doesn't end with simply obtaining the permit. All work must now meet the current code, not the code that was applicable in 1985. Converting a garage to an extra bedroom is a common alteration quietly performed by homeowners without a permit.



Many construction projects require rough inspections (before the work is covered up) and final inspections by the building department. After an un-permitted project is completed there may be items now hidden behind walls, floors, and ceilings that can no longer be seen. The building department inspectors

will not assume that everything was performed correctly in 1985 if they cannot now see the hidden items. They will not sign off on the inspection sheets.

The property owner is usually then told to have an architect or engineer document that all work meets current code. Most design professionals do not like to document someone else's design. A general contractor may need to get involved to disassemble, dig up, or otherwise expose all elements that need to be inspected and verified. This process can cost three times what it would have cost to design the original project and provide documents to obtain a permit and get it inspected by the building department.

If you find previous additions and/or alterations have been completed at the property without permits or inspections by the building department, you might find yourself in a better bargaining position to determine the value of the property in question. It could give you some insight as to the care and protection the previous owners have taken with the property before you make your purchase.



Animals Currently Available for Adoption

call 732-8854 for
adoption information



Pokey



Tiger



Benji



Grady



Coal



Cuddles



Ellie



Sebastian



Zilla



Giselle



Rocket



Percy

When the Going Gets Tough, Proper Nutrition is Even *More* Important

By: Katherine Schneider, WIC Director

People who have limited access to nutritious foods are more likely to suffer from poor health. Building and maintaining good health by accessing nutritionally adequate foods follows this year's theme of *Nutrition From the Ground Up* for **National Nutrition Month®**, which is celebrated during the month of March.

The current economy has led to additional problems with poverty and hunger. In Clermont County, unemployment rates have increased to 9.7 percent and poverty rates effect approximately 9 percent of residents, or 17,593 individuals. In 2008, 49 million U.S. residents, including more than 16 million children, were at risk of hunger. According to a USDA report, nearly 15 percent of households were food insecure in 2008, which was an increase from 11.1 percent in 2007. Food insecurity indicates a lack of money and other resources for nutritionally adequate food for all household members at some point during the year.

Individuals from food insecure households can access healthy foods by seeking assistance from:

- 1) WIC - (513) 732-7329 - a food and nutrition program for pregnant, post partum and breastfeeding women and children under the age of five years.



- 2) Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, also known

as Food Stamps - (513) 732-7111 - to get free food at grocery stores.

- 3) Angel Food Ministries (www.angelfoodministries.com) offers food to feed a family of four for one week at a cost of \$30. Food stamps are also accepted.

- 4) Food pantries offer free foods (www.cincybenefitsinfo.com/foodresourcesclermontcty)

- 5) School Lunch/Breakfast Program which gives students a free or reduced price lunch and/or breakfast at many local schools.

- 6) Summer Food Service Program provides a free lunch and snack to any child age 1-18 years

- 7) OSU Extension-Clermont - (513) 732-7070 - offers programs that teach people how to prepare healthy, low-cost meals and plan a food budget.

There are many ways you can help reduce problems with food insecurity: refer families to the programs listed above; work to increase the availability of full-service grocery stores, community gardens, and farmers markets; donate food to a food pantry; volunteer with various programs such as Meals On Wheels; form coalitions; support school district's efforts in local wellness policies by encouraging nutritious foods with the School Lunch Program; offer your organization's space to serve as a feeding site for the Summer Food Service Program; establish zoning and design ordinances that limit fast food restaurants; and address food and beverage marketing and advertising.



Weather Spotter Training!

Emergency responders, Scout groups, community organizations, and citizens are invited to the annual *Clermont County Weather Spotter Training*. This free event will be held on Tuesday, April 6, at the Goshen Middle School Cafeteria, located at 6692 Goshen Road. The event begins at 6:30 p.m. and will feature a presentation by National Weather Service meteorologist Mary Jo Parker.

Learn what conditions need to exist for tornadoes to develop. Learn how to recognize various types of cloud formations and conditions that can spawn dangerous weather. Call (513) 732-7661 to register.

Saint Paddy's Day Folklore.....

In the United States, it's customary to wear green on St. Patrick's Day. But in Ireland the color was long considered to be unlucky, says Bridget Haggerty, author of *The Traditional Irish Wedding and the Irish Culture and Customs Web site*.

As Haggerty explains, Irish folklore holds that green is the favorite color of the Good People (the proper name for faeries). They are likely to steal people, especially children, who wear too much of the color.

More on Saint Patrick's Day folklore on the Web site www.NationalGeographic.com.

Spanish Rice

By: Margaret Jenkins, OSU Extension-Clermont

Serving size 1.33 cups
Makes 8 servings

Ingredients:

- 1 pound lean ground turkey
- 1 15 ounce can tomato sauce
- 1 14.5 ounce can diced tomatoes
- 1 11 ounce can diced tomatoes with chili peppers
- 2 cups uncooked instant brown rice
- 1 cup water
- 2½ teaspoons chili powder
- 2 teaspoons Worcestershire sauce

Preparation:

- 1. Brown turkey in skillet, drain off fat and discard.
- 2. Place drained turkey in slow cooker; add tomato sauce, tomatoes, rice, water, chili powder, and Worcestershire sauce. Stir to mix ingredients. Cover and cook 7 to 9 hours on low or 3 hours on high.
- 3. Stir before serving

Variation:

Stove Top Options: Return drained turkey to skillet. Add tomato sauce, tomatoes, rice, water, chili powder, and Worcestershire sauce. Stir to mix ingredients. Cover and simmer 20 to 25 minutes. Stir before serving.

NUTRITION FACTS PER SERVING: 310 calories, 7g total fat (1.5g saturated fat, 0 trans fat), 45mg cholesterol, 44g carbohydrates, 18g protein, 4g dietary fiber, 630mg sodium
Vitamin A 15%, Vitamin C 25%, Calcium 4%, Iron 15%



Margaret Jenkins

Local celebs face off on the dance floor...

Who's got better moves, Sheriff Rodenberg or Auditor Fraley? We'll find out if either can win the coveted Mirror Ball Trophy during the first annual *Dancing with the Stars Extravaganza* on Thursday, March 4, at the Eastgate Holiday Inn, located at 4501 Eastgate Boulevard in Union Township. The fundraiser that runs between 6:30 p.m. and 9 p.m. benefits Clerco, Inc., the non-profit board of the Clermont County Board of Developmental Disabilities (CCDD).



"My wife 'volunteered' me to be one of the featured dancers; it's a great cause, but it's difficult because of all the moves you have to do in the proper sequence," laughed Rodenberg. "The only competition that worries me is the Sheriff," said Fraley. "I mean, he does carry a gun which could intimidate the judges!"

"This should be a really fun event to help us create awareness about our services and enable us to fund some of those programs," said CCDD Director of Community Relations Lisa Davis. "We invite everyone to come out and vote for their favorite couple. Audience votes and the judge's panel will determine who wins bragging rights and the Mirror Ball Trophy."

For more information about event or to obtain tickets, contact CCDD at (513) 732-4921.



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 Kathryn Lehr or Rebecca Kimble in the Office of Public Information at (513) 732-7597 or e-mail klehr@co.clermont.oh.us.