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# On the Move

a newsletter for citizens

May 2010

Commissioners: Bob Proud, Scott Crowell, and Ed Humphrey

## Don't Give Up on the Dream: *Fight Foreclosure*

By: Mary Hurlburt, Consumer Credit Counseling Service

Is there a typical family facing foreclosure? The simple answer is no, it is happening in neighborhoods everywhere and all demographics are feeling the pinch. Ohio has ranked among the top 10 states in housing foreclosures for months, and even though the numbers are starting to go down, experts in the field believe it will be awhile before this crisis is over.

What are the biggest mistakes families make when facing the prospect of foreclosure?

1. They wait too long to ask for help. The day of the sheriff's sale is probably too late.
2. They give up, think the situation is hopeless and stop saving money for their mortgage payment. Just because the lender won't take what money you have doesn't mean you should spend it. Save it! At this time, most modifications are still requiring an up-front payment.



Clermont County has partnered with Ohio Attorney General Richard Cordray and his office's *Save the Dream Program*. We were one of the first counties in Ohio to recognize that we had a problem and to act on it by forming our own *Save Our Homes* Task Force.

There are some things every homeowner should do, when it comes to protecting what is probably your biggest investment - your home:

1. Examine all the information on the Clermont County Save Our Homes Web site [www.clermontsaveourhomes.org](http://www.clermontsaveourhomes.org).
2. No problem making your mortgage payment? That's great, but be prepared. Know where your original loan documents are, if you have a conventional, FHA, or VA loan, fixed or variable interest rate, and if your loan was purchased by either Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac.
3. Think you may have trouble making a mortgage payment? Call your loan servicer to see if they can help. Go to [www.makinghomeaffordable.gov](http://www.makinghomeaffordable.gov) to see if you are eligible for one of the government's Making Home Affordable options – either refinancing or a modification.

4. Missed a payment and can't make it up? Call your lender or servicer and ask for help. Open all mail! In many cases, these letters are offering help.

5. Missed more than one payment, can't make them up, and your lender won't accept partial payments? Once foreclosure starts, the mortgage company won't accept payments; that doesn't mean you can spend what money you have! Start saving as much as you can.

6. Received a foreclosure notice? It's still not too late, but it is time to ask for professional help. Call 2-1-1 for a referral or go to [www.clermontsaveourhomes.org](http://www.clermontsaveourhomes.org) for a list of agencies offering help. File an answer with the court. Calling the mortgage company or an attorney isn't enough.

7. Warning! A three month trial and forbearance is no guarantee of a permanent workout.

Again, the best advice is to not give up. Success stories abound for those who look for help and follow through.



SAVE THE  
*dream*  
OHIO'S FORECLOSURE  
PREVENTION UNIT

# Town Meeting on May 17

## for Union Twp., Pierce Twp., and Amelia

The Board of Clermont County Commissioners will hold the second in a series of 2010 town meetings at Amelia High School's Performing Arts Center on Monday, May 17, 2010. Citizens of Union Township, Pierce Township, and the village of Amelia are invited to attend the meeting, set for 6:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. at the school, located at 1351 Clough Pike.

Various presentations from West Clermont Schools and local government leaders are planned. There will be updates on some major local projects, including the relocation of the Union Township branch of the Clermont County Library, and an opportunity to ask questions and express concerns. For more information, call (513) 732-7597.



*Citizens attend the first 2010 town meeting at CNE's Early Childhood Education Center on April 19*



## CTC Introduces New Hybrid Buses

On Thursday, April 15, 2010 at Community Park in Miami Township, citizens and government leaders got a look at some of the first hybrid buses in the State of Ohio. Clermont Transportation Connection (CTC) is operating four of the hybrid buses in Clermont County. The buses are expected to realize a 40 percent increase in fuel efficiency, a 30 percent reduction in maintenance costs, and a 30 percent decrease in greenhouse gas emissions.



*CTC employees Rob Lykins, Bob Hallgath, Tony Range, and Sandra Moell*

The only difference passengers should notice between the standard and hybrid busses is the word 'hybrid' on the side of the bus. For more information about Clermont Transportation Connection, or to schedule a ride, call CTC at (513) 732-7433 or visit the Web site [www.ctc.clermontcountyohio.gov](http://www.ctc.clermontcountyohio.gov).

### May Commissioner Sessions

Monday, May 3	1 p.m.
Wednesday, May 5	1 p.m.
Monday, May 10	1 p.m.
Wednesday, May 12	1 p.m.
Monday, May 17	3 p.m.
Wednesday, May 19	2 p.m.
Monday, May 24	3 p.m.
Wednesday, May 26	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.*



*"In three words  
I can sum up  
everything I've  
learned about  
life. It goes on."*

*- Robert Frost*

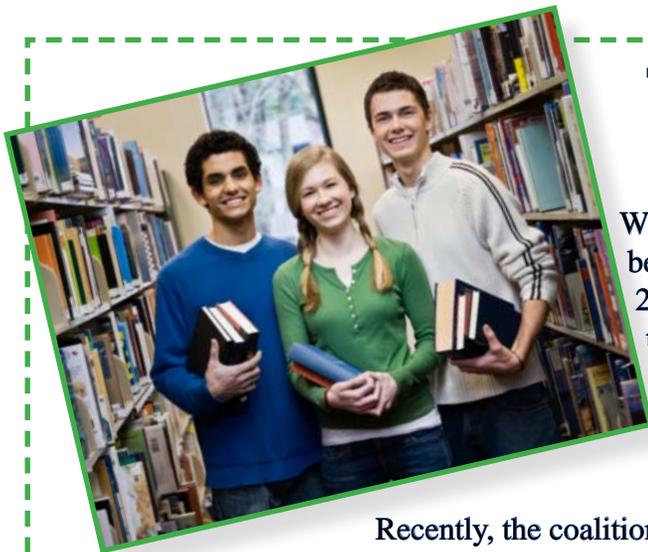
## Section of US 50 Renamed *Lance Corporal Nicholas B. Erdy Memorial Highway*

A section of U.S. 50, just east of Owensville is now the *Lance Corporal Nicholas B. Erdy Memorial Highway*, to honor the 21-year-old Jackson Township Marine, killed while serving a tour of duty in Iraq in 2005.

State Rep. Danny R. Bulp (R-88) jointly sponsored the legislation. "Nick had so much to live for, and so much to give," Bulp said. "This is the least we can do for him." Bulp said the United States has lost more than 5,000 men and women since Sept. 11, 2001, in the Iraq and Afghanistan wars.



*Photo courtesy of Community Press newspapers*



### Town Hall Meeting Focuses on Youth Suicide

Why do teens attempt suicide? What is the connection between bullying and suicide? On Monday, May 24, 2010, the Clermont County Suicide prevention coalition invites the community to attend a Youth Suicide prevention Town Hall Meeting from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. at the Miami Township Civic center, located at 6101 Meijer Drive.

Recently, the coalition met with 160 students from high schools across Clermont County to get the young people's input on teen suicide and efforts to prevent it. Call (513) 732-5406 or (513) 721-2910 to reserve a seat for this important community event.

### *Free Exercise Class for Seniors*

The Clermont YMCA and the Clermont County General Health District Senior Safety Program are co-sponsoring a free one-time exercise class for Clermont County adults 65 years and older at the Union Twp. Civic Center on May 27, 2010 from 10:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. The class will be held in the Queen City Room at the Union Twp Civic Center, located at 4350 Aicholtz Road.

The focus of the exercise class is increasing balance and strength in older adults, so they can learn to stay healthy and independent. Free exercise instruction and equipment will be given to registered participants for home use.

The class will be taught

By: Denise Franer, General Health District



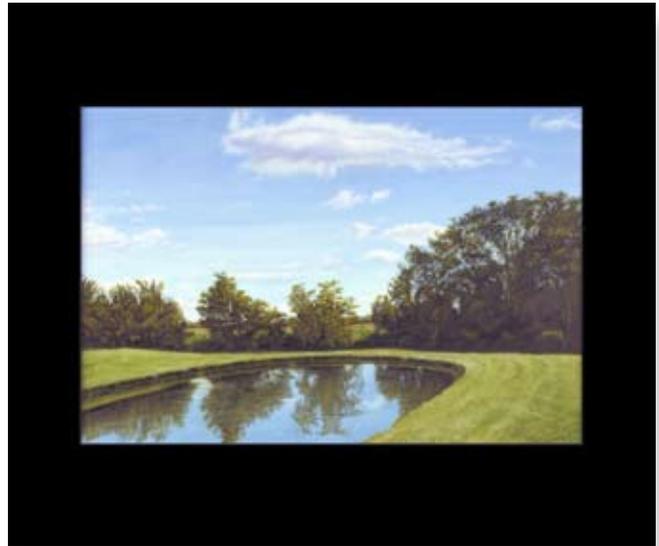
by a certified exercise instructor and class size will be limited to 30 participants. For more information or to register for the class, call Denise Franer RN at (513) 735-8421.

## Free Art Show at UC Clermont

By: Mae Hanna, UC Clermont

*Landscapes* by Craig Lloyd will be featured in the Park National Bank Art Gallery at UC Clermont College through May 13, 2010.

Craig Lloyd, Associate Professor of Art at the College of Mount St. Joseph, earned his master of fine art degree from the University of Cincinnati. Lloyd's images portray landscapes from central and southern Ohio and portions of northern to central Kentucky. "There seems to be a basic human need to experience vast space and natural phenomena. We pause to take it in when the moment strikes us. Light, color, atmosphere, and the season are all part of what has stopped me at these places. But open space is also a commodity," said Lloyd.



The Park National Bank Art Gallery is located in the Snyder building on the UC Clermont College campus in Batavia at 4200 Clermont College Drive. Gallery hours are Monday - Thursday 7:30 a.m. - 7 p.m., Friday 7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m., Saturday 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. and closed Sunday. The exhibition is free and open to the public.

## BAM Fest Set for May 8

The village of Bethel will hold the first annual Bethel Art and Music Fest on Saturday, May 8, from 8 a.m. until 8 p.m. in downtown Bethel and nearby community areas. "The Art and Music Fest is a great way for the community to come together, and if you've never visited Bethel before, this will be a great opportunity," said committee chairman Judi Adams.

The festival will feature over 40 artists; musicians will be performing on three different stages. At Burke Park, you can

catch a classic car show beginning at 9 a.m., or take a tour of the log cabins from 10 a.m. through 3 p.m.



Harmony Hill Vineyards will feature bluegrass music, wine tasting, and an antique tractor show. The Bethel branch of the Clermont County Public Library offers a performance of the Hands Up! Puppet

Troupe.

There will also be food vendors selling classic festival favorites, and various raffles will be held throughout the day. "We will be raffling many great items, including a pair of antique Rookwood bookends, a gift basket donated by Harmony Hill Vineyards, and a

beautiful Ruthven print called 'Spring Fever' and donated by the artist," said Adams.

For more information about the Bethel Art and Music Fest, visit the Web site [www.betheloherevents.com](http://www.betheloherevents.com) or call Judi Adams at (513) 734-4445.

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[www.facebook.com/clermontcounty](http://www.facebook.com/clermontcounty).



# May Clermont Park Events

By: Keith Robinson, Park District

## Gardening for Hummingbirds and Butterflies

Saturday, May 1, 1 p.m. – Chilo Lock #34 Park  
*Discover some easy ways to draw the bright colors and fascinating flight of butterflies and hummingbirds to your garden. Meet at the visitor center.*



## 40th Anniversary Walk and Talk

Wednesday, May 5, 11 a.m. – Pattison Park  
*Join Park District Director Chris Clingman for a walk and talk on the history of Pattison Park. He will share the story of Aletheia Pattison, along with photos of the park showing its history. Meet at the Pattison Park office parking lot.*

## Matt Maupin Memorial Kid's Fishing Tournament

Saturday, May 8, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. – Pattison Park  
*Join the East Fork Bass Anglers for an afternoon of fishing fun. Children age 15 and under are invited to drop their lines and see who can catch the largest, smallest, and highest number of fish. Several prizes will be awarded in each age group. Each participating child will receive a free hot dog lunch.*

## Spring Garden Planting

Saturday, May 15, 10 a.m. – Chilo Lock #34 Park  
*Spring's sunny days means it's planting time! Help fill the beds of the Victory Garden, Butterfly Patch, and Herb Garden with seeds and plants. Get an early glimpse of what this year's harvest will bring and learn how to turn your own yard into a beautiful and tasty landscape. No gardening experience is necessary. Please call (513) 876-9013 to sign up.*



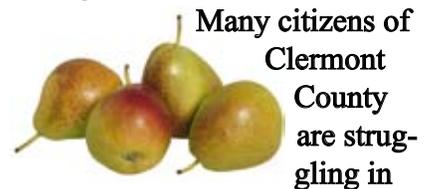
For more information about these or other Clermont Park District programs, call the naturalist's office at (513) 876-9013 or visit the Web site [www.parks.ClermontCountyOhio.gov](http://www.parks.ClermontCountyOhio.gov).

*"If you can't explain it simply, you don't understand it well enough."  
- Albert Einstein*

## Clermont Health District Celebrates National Nutrition Month®

By: Katherine Schneider, RD, LD  
and Stephanie Burke, MS, RD,  
LD, General Health District

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 was celebrated during the month of March.



Many citizens of Clermont County are struggling in these economic times and are may have difficulty with food insecurity. Food insecurity indicates a lack of money and other resources for nutritionally adequate food for all household members at some point during the year.

March was **National Nutrition Month®**, and to celebrate, the Clermont County General Health District sponsored a food drive to collect items to be donated to local food banks to help local citizens who may be battling food insecurity. In all, 300 nonperishable food items were collected and donated to the Saul's Homeless Shelter in Batavia and the Eastern Area YWCA.



## Earth Day Brings Good News to Village of Williamsburg

By: Patti Bates, Village of Williamsburg Administrator

At a reception hosted by the Village at the Community Building on Thursday, April 22, 2010, Tony Logan, the State Director of Rural Development for the United States Department of Agriculture, announced a

\$950,000 low-interest loan awarded to the Village for Phase II of the Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade. He also presented an award naming the project the "USDA Earth Day Show-



The audience included such dignitaries as Nan Cahall (State Director for Senator George Voinovich), Rep. Danny Bupp, Rep. Joe Uecker and representatives from several federal and state agencies.

case Project" for the State of Ohio.

Mayor Mary Ann Lefker accepted the award on behalf of the Village as the audience looked on.

The Village hopes that the proactive stance in developing wastewater treatment capabilities will draw economic development to the area. Said Mayor Lefker, "Watch us grow."

## *Low Cost Rabies Shots Offered on May 15 at Clermont Fairgrounds*

The Clermont County General Health District, in partnership with All Creatures Animal Hospital, will hold a low cost rabies vaccination clinic for pets on Saturday, May 15, 2010 at the Clermont County Fairgrounds, located at 1000 Locust Street in Owensville. The clinic will run from 2 p.m. through 5 p.m., rain or shine.

Vaccinations cost \$5 each, payable in cash only. A three-year vaccination will be administered to all animals that have proof of current vaccination status from your veterinarian. All others will receive a one-year vaccination. A rabies tag alone is not sufficient proof of current vac-

ination status. All dogs must be on a leash, and all cats secured in a carrier.

According to the Centers for Disease Control, the most important way to protect your family and pets from rabies is by keeping your pets' rabies vaccinations up to date, even for indoor pets. The majority of rabies cases in animals occur in wildlife; pets can become infected when bitten by rabid wild animals.

For more information, contact the Clermont County General Health District at (513) 732-7499.



*Dr. Wendy Lim at All Creatures Animal Hospital prepares to give a rabies shot to Stormy*

*"A dog is the only thing on earth that loves you more than he loves himself."  
- Josh Billings*

## Where in the world did these kids learn to drive?

By: Martha Enriquez, Clermont Safe Communities



Did you see Stephanie talking on her cell phone while she was driving down Main Street the other day? Did you hear that Tyler that got his second speeding ticket and only has had his license for three months? Did you know that John that lives down the road has already totaled two cars and isn't yet out of high school? Where in the world did these kids learn to drive? Even though these are fictitious situations, they really do exist.

As summer quickly approaches and teens look forward to outings with their friends, know that what you do as a parent with your teen, in relation to his or her driving, can make a big difference. In some cases, it can be the difference between life and death (or life and disability.)

The information that follows has been taken from the National Young Driver Survey (NYDS) which was conducted by The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) Research Institute and sponsored by State Farm Insurance. This is an impressive new study of what a national sample of 5,665 teens (grades 9-11) thought about various parenting styles' effects on their driving.

The researchers looked at the relationship between parenting style, various risky driving behaviors, and the likelihood of teen crashes. "Parenting style" is defined as the balance between support and control. So let us first look at the

four different widely accepted parenting styles. You decide which one of the four styles you usually have with your teen.

The permissive parent has a lot of support for his/her teen but doesn't make a lot of rules for the teen and trusts instead of monitoring the teen. A typical statement from this type of parent would be "I trust you'll do the right thing". The uninvolved parent rarely sets any rules, doesn't monitor his/her teen, and offers little emotional support. This parent would typically say, "Kids will be kids. You'll learn from your mistakes". The authoritarian parent (think "dictator") sets a lot of rules and monitors his/her teen with eagle eyes, but does not offer much support ("You'll do as I say!"). Finally, the authoritative parent sets rules, does a lot of monitoring of the teen, and at the same time gives a lot of emotional support ("I care, and I'll give you the freedoms you earn, but for safety-related issues, you'll do as I say.").

These parenting styles, of course, carry over to lots more situations than driving. It's important for you to know that your parenting style CAN affect your teen's crash risk. In the NYDS, teens who said their parents set rules and monitor where they are going and with whom in a helpful and supportive way were half as likely to be in a crash. These same teens were 71 percent less likely to drive under the influence of alcohol than those teens who said that their parents were less involved (offered little support or monitoring and/or didn't set rules.)

Teens who described their parents as either authoritative or authoritarian were nearly twice as likely to wear

their seat belts (as a driver or passenger) as teens who thought their parents were uninvolved. And teens with authoritative or authoritarian parents were less likely to speed, race, or show off while driving than those teens who reported having either permissive or uninvolved parents.

Setting clear rules is also a must if you want to prevent crashes with your teen. CHOP recommends these permanent safe driving rules: (1) ALWAYS use seat belts for driver and all passengers. (2) Do not use cell phones or other electronic devices while driving. (3) Do not drive while impaired—drugged, drowsy, or drunk—or ride as a passenger with an impaired driver. (4) Do not ride with an unlicensed or inexperienced driver.



Now, if you have a new teen driver you should add these driving rules for your teen: (1) No peer passengers. (2) No nighttime driving. (3) No high-speed roads. (4) No driving in bad weather. And finally, (5) YOU, the parent, control the keys to the new driver's vehicle.

Teen crashes happen for a variety of reasons, but parents can help to prevent a number of those reasons. Drive safely yourself so your child has a good example to follow.

To see the complete report on the National Young Driver Survey, go to [www.research.chop.edu/programs/youngdriver/docs/NYDS\\_Report2.pdf](http://www.research.chop.edu/programs/youngdriver/docs/NYDS_Report2.pdf).

## *Make a difference in a child's life...*

"Nothing is more rewarding than to know your family has helped make a difference in a child's life," said Clermont foster and adoptive parent Brandy Pryor.

May is Foster Care Month recognizing the love, support, stability, and guidance that foster parents provide to children who cannot return to their birth families.

There is a continuing need for foster parents in Clermont County. For more information call (513) 732-7765 or visit the Web site [www.ClermontforKids.org](http://www.ClermontforKids.org).



## **Want to buy a piece of West Clermont history?**

By: Sharon Oakes, West Clermont Schools

Do you have fond memories of the grade school desk where you used to sit and dream about the future? If so, it could be yours forever. The contents of the old Amelia and Withamsville-Tobasco Elementary schools are going to be sold at auction.

Desks, chairs, bulletin boards, and much more will be available at the auctions. The auction for WT will be held on June 11 at 10 a.m. The Amelia school auction will be held on June 12 at 10 a.m.



## **A Big Thanks from Mother Earth!**

By: Becky Ploucha, Clermont Clean and Green

Almost 900 volunteers in Clermont County removed 1,692 bags of litter, 22 tires and miscellaneous items from county roadways, parks and communities in recognition of Earth Day on April 17 and 18. "The 2010 Clean and Green Spring Litter Pickup/Great American Cleanup has been the most successful yet. The weather cooperated and we had a terrific turnout! I am thrilled to report that one of the issues in our communities was finding litter to pickup! The majority of the litter was removed from areas around I-275," stated Becky Ploucha,



Clermont 20/20 Clean and Green Program Director. "We are now preparing for the Ohio River Sweep scheduled for June 19," added Ploucha.

Bethel, Milford, and Williamsburg have grown this annual event from a few dozen volunteers to well over 100 volunteers in each of those communities! All communities recruit volunteers from area churches, Scouting groups, Chambers of Commerce, and schools.

In addition to the Spring Litter Pickup, the community of New Richmond included additional recycling opportunities - prom dress and women's professional/interview appropriate clothing recycling and computer recycling

that was hosted by the Cardboard Boat Museum, located in the historic business district. Cincinnati Computer Cooperative (C3) was a partner in the computer recycling event.

The Adams-Clermont Solid Waste District, Keep Cincinnati Beautiful, Duke Energy, United Dairy Farmers, and Murphy Janitorial Supply provided support for the Clermont 20/20 Clean and Green Spring Litter Pickup/Great American Cleanup. For information about upcoming Clean and Green activities contact Becky Ploucha at [cleanandgreen@clermont2020.org](mailto:cleanandgreen@clermont2020.org) or call (513) 753-9222.

# Motorcycle Safety is Everyone's Responsibility

By: Lt. Randy McElfresh, Batavia Highway Patrol Post Commander



May is *Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month*, and as such it is a time for both motorcyclists and motor

vehicle drivers to consider the unique traffic safety elements on our roads as we see the inevitable increase in motorcycle riding associated with the warmer weather.

Last year there were 152 fatal motorcycle crashes and 3,290 injury crashes. Even though these numbers decreased from 2008 – when 212 were killed and 3,772 were injured – motorcycle safety and motorist awareness are still very important. Prior to this decrease in 2009 motorcycle fatalities had increased by about 35 percent on Ohio's roads during the previous three years.

To promote safe motorcycling and motorist awareness of motorcycle safety issues, we are once again proud to be partnering with the American Motorcyclist Association (AMA) this year. Our partnership with the AMA provides meaningful avenues to promote awareness toward the three key safety messages stressed in our nationally-recognized *Ride Smart. Drive Smart.* program.



First, we want anyone considering motorcycling to receive the proper training and licensing before heading out on the road. As a potential rider, simple things like ensuring you have a valid motorcycle endorsement, receiving quality motorcycle training, and wearing proper safety equipment can be key elements in staying safe. Training opportunities through the Ohio Department of Public Safety's Motorcycle Ohio office can be found at [www.motorcycle.ohio.gov](http://www.motorcycle.ohio.gov).

Riding sober is the second key message in our campaign with the AMA. Last year 56 of the fatal motorcycle crashes involved an impaired motorcyclist. We fully endorse the AMA's national Ride Straight program, which focuses attention on the severe dangers associated with operating a motorcycle impaired.

Of course, motorcycle safety is not solely the responsibility of motorcyclists. Motor vehicle drivers share in this important effort, which is why the third key safety message we share with the AMA stresses the importance for motor vehicle drivers being aware of motorcyclists.

To that end, as a motorist or a

passenger, there are some important steps to become more aware of motorcyclists. Remember, a motorcycle is a motor vehicle with all of the



privileges of any vehicle on the roadway. Give motorcyclists a full lane of travel. Look for motorcyclists on the highway, at intersections, when a motorcyclist may be making a left turn, and when a motorcyclist may be changing lanes.

Roadway obstructions like debris or potholes that you may ignore or not notice in your car can be deadly for a motorcyclist. Anticipate a motorcyclist's maneuver and make an effort to predict evasive actions. Allow plenty of space in front of the vehicle you are driving, and do not follow a motorcycle too closely.

Driving responsibly is about being aware of whose lives you have in your hands — literally — when you are in control of a motorcycle or a car. On behalf of your local Ohio State Highway Patrol troopers, and our associates in the AMA, please help make this a safer riding season. Remember to always Ride Trained, Ride Licensed, and Ride Sober.

### Appreciation for the Arts Day

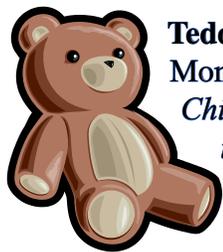
Saturday, May 8, 2 p.m. – Bethel Branch

*View the Graffiti Graphics mural created by local kids, watch Walking Through the Seasons with Sheep and Sheldon, performed by the Hands Up Puppet Troupe, and enjoy refreshments. For more information or to register, call (513) 734-2619.*

### Gardens with Wings: Butterfly Gardening

Saturday, May 1, 1 p.m. – Amelia Branch

*Join Patty Bigner and Fred Miller from Gardens with Wings as they demonstrate how to attract butterflies to your garden. There will be a simultaneous story time for children whose parents are attending the butterfly presentation. For more information or to register, call (513) 752-5580.*



### Teddy Bear Picnic

Monday, May 3, 6:30 p.m. – Batavia Branch

*Children ages 4 – 8 are invited to bring their favorite teddy bear for story time, crafts, and games. For more information or to register, call (513) 732-2128.*

### Graffiti Graphics

Monday – Thursday, May 3 – 6, 3p.m. – 5 p.m. – Bethel Branch

*Attendees ages 11 – 18 are invited to help create a mural using unique painting techniques. The mural will be showcased during the Appreciation of the Arts Day at the library. For more information or to register, call (513) 734-2619.*

### Computer Instruction for Adults

*During the month of May, during regular library hours by appointment Call the library to schedule an appointment for one-on-one computer instruction. Learn computer basics; create an email and Facebook, and Microsoft Word. For more information or to register, call (513) 553-0570.*



### Drop-in Flip Flop Design

Thursday, May 13, 2 p.m. – Bethel Branch

*Tweens and teens are invited to drop in after school to decorate flip flops.*



*Participants are encouraged to bring their own pair; limited pairs will be available. For more information or to register, call (513) 734-2619.*

### Family Fun Time: Library Safari

Monday, May 17, 7 p.m. – Goshen Branch

*Families are invited to come explore the library using a variety of games and activities. It's your chance to ask all of your burning questions about the library. For more information or to register, call (513) 722-1221.*

### Walk in Wii Night

Monday, May 17, 5:30 p.m. – 7 p.m. – New Richmond Branch

*Wii fans in grades 1 – 12 are invited to the library to play Big Brain Academy, Mario Kart, and Guitar Hero. For more information, call (513) 553-0570.*



# Clermont County Permit Central NEWS

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

## May is Building Safety Month

By: Carl Lamping, Permit Central/Building Inspection Department

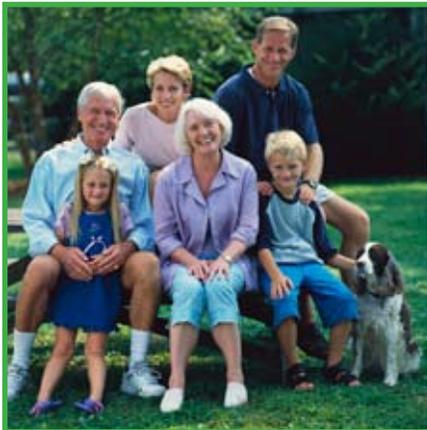
The International Code Council (ICC) is declaring **Building Safety Month** throughout the month of May 2010, to help promote community-wide recognition and understanding of building safety, building codes, and code officials.

Clermont County plans to celebrate **Building Safety Week** May 23 - 29, 2010; this will start with a public proclamation by the Board of County

Commissioners (set for May 10, 2010 at the Clermont County Administration Building) and will continue with the public outreach involving handouts at the office.

Building Safety activities will focus on several topics:

- Energy and Green Buildings
- Disaster Safety and Mitigation
- Fire Awareness and Safety
- Backyard Safety



The term “green building” is building with a conscious effort to minimize negative impacts and promote positive impacts, on both indoor and outdoor environments. Whether you’re building from scratch or just looking to increase the energy efficiency of your home, there are a number of things consumers can do to make their homes more sustainable and green.

When it comes to disaster safety and mitigation, there are many zero to low cost things

homeowners can do to protect their homes and ensure they are prepared in the event of a natural or man-made disaster. Homeowners are encouraged to plan for a disaster in advance by purchasing a NOAA weather radio. By preparing for threatening weather, you can reduce the threat of wind-borne projectiles.

Each year, fires claim lives and destroy numerous structures resulting in a huge toll on families, com-

munities, and businesses. Fires also have devastating impacts on the environment and wildlife. You are encouraged to understand and take necessary safety precautions to protect your home and workplace, such as installing ABC type extinguishers smoke alarms on each level of your house.

As summer approaches, homeowners need to take the time to check their outdoor areas for potential safety hazards. While most people know that pools are a safety hazard for kids, there are a lot more things to watch out for in your backyard, like barbecues and grills, lawn equipment, and toys. There are many things you can do to make your backyard and pool safe for family and friends.

For additional information and detailed examples of improving building safety at your home or business, you can check out the International Code Council Foundation’s Web site at: <http://www.icc-foundation.org/bsm>.

# Permit Central News

## Clermont Rallies to Respond to 2010 Census

By: Jim Taylor, Community Planning and Development

The Planning Department has been actively engaged in assisting the county spread the word regarding the 2010 Census. The Planning Department has been working with the Complete Count Census 2010 Committee since last year to ensure that everyone is counted locally.

The Clermont Complete Counts Committee consists of the following community members: Commissioner Ed Humphrey (BCC), Scot Lahrmer (Ass't County Admin.), Raymond Sebastian (Chief Building Official), Tom Dix (Township Association), John Thebout (Mayors' Association), Kathy Lehr (Office of Public Info.), Jimmi McIntosh (Educational Service Center), Billie Kuntz (Community Services), Health Commissioner Marty Lambert (General Health District), Matt Van Sant (Chamber of Commerce), Andy McCreanor (Clermont 20/20), Gayle Heintzleman (Clermont Mercy Hospital), David Mezak (Clermont County Public Library), Mae Hanna (UC Clermont College), Margaret Jenkins (OSU Extension-Clermont), George R. Brown (Clermont Senior Services), Debra Gordon (United Way),



Cara Good (YWCA of Cincinnati – Eastern Area), Kurt Kiessling (The Midland Company), Kelly Perry (Clermont County GIS), Tim McCartney (Clermont County DJFS.)

state and the nation when compared to the 2000 Census. This could not have happened without the help of the committee.

**Thank you!**

United States<sup>®</sup>  
**Census  
2010**

I would like to thank Kathy Lehr, Rebecca Kimble, and Jeff Pulliam with the Clermont Office of Public Information for organizing and facilitating the big “Rally for the Census” at Eastgate Mall and for numerous news releases, cable television, and Web site promotions, and creating posters for the census drive. Many thanks to the Office of Public Information.

I would like to thank each of the member of the Clermont Complete Counts Committee for assisting us in getting more people engaged. The percentage of completion for Clermont County has, from the beginning, been higher than the national percentage and the state of Ohio percentage. We are currently at a higher rate of response than the

### *Quick Energy Facts*

You don't have to spend money to reduce your energy bills. Simple things like turning off lights and unplugging appliances will add up to savings.

A small investment in a programmable thermostat can save homeowners up to \$180 annually in energy costs.

Start planning now for long-term investments that will save you even more in the long run. The 2009 International Energy Conservation Code encourages energy conservation to benefit the public through efficiency in design, mechanical systems, lighting systems and the use of new materials and techniques.



Animals Currently Available for Adoption

call 732-8854 for adoption information



*Angel*



*Buttercup*



*Cobalt*



*Mindy*



*Oreo*



*Jasmine*



*Mulan*



*Tinkerbell*



*Dove*



*Shadow*



*Panther*



*Keeley*

## Gold Star Mothers' Memorial

On Saturday, May 8, a memorial will be unveiled to Gold Star Mothers at the Union Township Veterans Memorial Park. The ceremony begins at 1 p.m.

A Gold Star mother is one who lost a child in the United States Armed Forces.



For more information about the memorial, visit the Web site [www.VVA649.org](http://www.VVA649.org).

## Easy Strawberry Rhubarb Crisp (Serves 8)

Prep 25-30 minutes  
Preheat oven to 350°

### Ingredients:

- 2 cups fresh or frozen rhubarb, cut into 1" pieces
- 2 cups fresh strawberries, quartered
- 2 Tbsp. lemon juice
- Topping**
- 1 cup dry oatmeal – regular or instant
- ½ cup flour
- ½ cup brown sugar
- ½ cup white sugar
- ¼ cup margarine (½ stick) softened
- 1 tsp cinnamon

### Preparation:

1. In a large bowl, combine oatmeal, flour, sugars, margarine, and cinnamon. Mix until well combined and crumbly.
2. Place the fruit in a pie pan or 8" baking dish. Sprinkle with lemon juice. Cover evenly with the oatmeal topping.
3. Bake at 350° for 25-30 minutes, until the fruit is bubbling.
4. Let cool for 10 minutes, serve warm.

### Variations:

May top each serving with 1 scoop vanilla low-fat frozen yogurt and drizzle with honey.

**NUTRITION FACTS PER SERVING:** 245 calories, 7g total fat, (1.2g saturated fat), 4g protein, 42g carbohydrates, 0mg cholesterol, 2.7g dietary fiber, 72mg sodium



*Margaret Jenkins*



**Mother's Day**  
May 9, 2010

*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 Rebecca Kimble in the Office of Public Information at (513) 732-7597 or e-mail [klehr@co.clermont.oh.us](mailto:klehr@co.clermont.oh.us).*