



# *On the Move*

*a newsletter for citizens*  
*December 2007*

[www.ClermontCountyOhio.gov](http://www.ClermontCountyOhio.gov)

*Commissioners: Bob Proud, Mary Walker, and Scott Croswell*



*Season's Greetings*

**Dear Fellow Citizens,**

**We hope that 2007 has been a happy, healthy, and prosperous year for you and your family, and that your interaction with county government has been a positive experience. We truly appreciate the feedback you have given us as we continue to shape the map for the future of this wonderful county we call home.**



**As we prepare to say goodbye to 2007, we reflect on the many accomplishments that we believe will continue to make this an even better place for all of us to live, work, and raise our families. In the past year, economic development efforts have been moving in high gear, attracting new industry, while growing the smaller businesses that are the backbone of our community. We believe that through these continued efforts in 2008, coupled with targeted improvement to transportation and services, Clermont County will continue to be a shining example of a community that prospers through joint public-private partnerships.**

**During this joyous holiday season, as we gather with friends and family, let us pause to celebrate our many blessings. Let us also remember to keep in our prayers our troops and their families, and also keep a candle burning brightly to light their way home.**

**May all the seasons of your life be filled with peace and happiness. Best wishes to you and your family for a Merry Christmas and a prosperous new year!**



**The Board of Clermont County Commissioners,**

**Bob Proud      Mary Walker      Scott Crosswell**

## State Representative Bulp Heading to Iraq

"It's never a good time to leave family and friends, but we have a job to do there," said Ohio State Representative Danny Bulp (R-88). Bulp will leave for active duty in Iraq in January 2008, following training at Camp Pendleton. The 53-year-old West Union legislator is a colonel in the Marine Corps Reserve; he has served with the corps for almost 30 years.

"I have been told that I will serve as a liaison officer for the military to a provisional governor in the Al Anbar province in Iraq," said Rep. Bulp. "I am

looking forward to my duties there. This is a dangerous world we live in and our country needs to do everything it can to keep terrorism away from our homeland. As the Marines say, we would rather play an away game and nip terrorism in the bud."



## Pet Pictures with Santa



Do you have a pet that has been extra good this year? If so, don't miss the chance to take your dog or cat to meet Santa and have his or her picture taken with the jolly old man in red..

Bring your pet (on a leash or in a carrier) to the Eastgate Petsmart store on December 8, 9, 15, and 16 from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m. to have a picture taken with Santa. Photo packages start at \$8.99; \$5 from each package sold goes directly to the Clermont County Humane Society. This is a great way to get a cute holiday memento of your favorite pet and benefit the homeless dogs and cats in our county.

For more information, call the Clermont Animal Shelter at 732-8854.

If you are writing holiday cards this year, Veterans' Services asks that you consider sending one to:

A Recovering American Soldier  
c/o Walter Reed Army Medical Center  
6900 Georgia Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20307-5001



## December Park Events

By: Keith Robinson, Park District

### Winter Tree ID

Sunday, December 16, 2 p.m.

Crooked Run Nature Preserve

*The leaves are gone for the year, but don't let that limit your tree knowledge. Get out with a naturalist and test your winter tree identification skills. Meet at the visitor center.*

For more information, call 876-9013.

### December Commissioner Sessions

Tuesday, Dec. 11, 1 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 12, 1 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 18, 1 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 19, 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 732-7300 for additional information.*

## Thirty Years of Service to Local Government

The Board of Clermont County Commissioners recently presented County Administrator David L. Spinney with a plaque from the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) recognizing his 30 years of service to local government.

Spinney has served as county administrator since 2001; he has been employed with Clermont County since 1994, previously serving as an assistant county

administrator and director of Planning and Development. Spinney was Milford City Manager between 1988 and 1994, and was the town manager of Indian Head, Maryland.

In awarding Spinney the service plaque, the ICMA recognized his significant contributions and achievements in the advancement of local government administration. "Thank you for your dedication



and service to the citizens of Clermont County," said Clermont Commission President Bob Proud.

### *Holiday Trivia*

*If a fruitcake is on your food list, you'll be interested to know that the oldest reference that can be found regarding a fruitcake dates back to Roman times. The recipe included pomegranate seeds, pine nuts, and raisins that were mixed into barley mash. Honey, spices, and preserved fruits were added during the Middle Ages. Crusaders and hunters were reported to have carried this type of cake to sustain themselves over long periods of time away from home.*

*Eventually, fruitcake became a treat to serve at celebrations, such as Christmas.*

## Library Amnesty Week

Each year, the Clermont County Public Library (CCPL) loses books, magazines, CD's, and other materials. Some, of course, are legitimately lost and will never be recovered. The vast majority, however, are still in the possession of the borrower and could be returned.

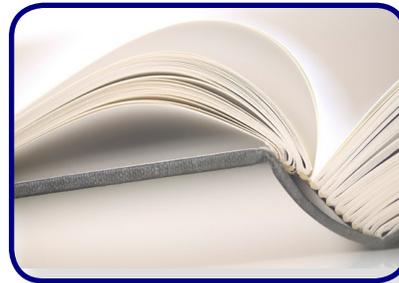
To date, there are 38,898 library items that are overdue.

This is not only a problem for the library, but also for other borrowers. Imagine the frustration of a customer who desperately needs a particular book or DVD to complete a project but finds that the book has been checked out, but never returned. Many individuals, after a period of time, decide not to ever return late items to avoid late fees.

The library is offering these tardy borrowers an early holiday present! You

can return overdue library materials without late fees during library amnesty: amnesty will be observed

November 26 through December 8, 2007. Materials need to be returned in good condition, but otherwise, no questions will be asked.



The purpose of amnesty is to promote the return of our much-needed library materials and promote increased use of the library. Amnesty does not include overdue fines still on record from previously late-returned materials, nor will it waive the \$10 collection agency fee, if applicable.

For more information, visit [www.ClermontLibrary.org](http://www.ClermontLibrary.org), call Liz Fiene at 735-7173, or call your local library branch.

# Make Mine, a Mocktail!

With names like Radioactive Waste, Blood Bank Bomber, and Pharma-Frost, it's hard to imagine, but these drinks taste great! These are just a few of the entries in the annual Mocktails competition sponsored by Clermont County Safe Communities and Mercy Hospital Clermont. The event was held Friday, November 16 at Mer-



**Jeff Pulliam, CCG-TV videographer, samples the Lemon Fizz**

cy Hospital Clermont pitting various hospital departments against each other.

“Through events like this we hope to encourage people to serve alcohol-free beverages at their holiday parties,” said Martha Enriquez with Clermont Safe Communities.

## Recipes:

### Pharma-Frost

**Winner of the Best Mocktail and Judges' Choice Awards**

- 1 bottle non-alcoholic Pina Colada mix**
- 1 quart softened vanilla ice cream**
- 1 quart pineapple juice**

Mix together in blender, then place in freezer until firm. Serve with lemon-lime soda.

### Radioactive Waste

**Watermelon-Cherry Kool-Aid  
Rose's Appletini mix  
Frozen strawberry lemonade**

*Make Kool-Aid and frozen strawberry lemonade as directed on the packages, in two separate pitchers. Mix equal parts Kool-Aid, Appletini mix, and strawberry lemonade in a glass of ice and serve.*

### The Lemon Fizz

- 2 cups apple juice**
- 1/8 cup lemon juice**
- Lemon-lime soda**
- Lemon peel**

*Combine apple juice and lemon juice. Fill glass halfway with lemon-lime soda and top off with juice mixture. Garnish with a strip of lemon peel.*

### Punchless Pina Colada

- 1 oz. pineapple juice**
- 1 oz. coconut milk**
- 1 tsp. lime juice**

*Blend with a cup of crushed ice and serve. Garnish with a pineapple slice or a maraschino cherry.*

### No-Crash Chocolate Soother

- 4 oz. strong cold coffee**
- 2 oz. cream**
- ¼ oz. chocolate syrup**
- ½ tsp. cinnamon**

*Shake with ice and strain into tumbler. Top with whipped cream and shaved chocolate.*



**Lt. Randy Harvey serves as one of the judges at the Mocktails competition**

### Citrus Cooler

- 2 ½ cups sugar**
- 2 ½ cups water**
- 46 oz. can pineapple juice**
- ½ gallon orange juice**
- 1 ½ cups lemon juice**
- 1 liter ginger ale**
- Pineapple wedges**

*Combine sugar and water in a medium saucepan, bring to a boil, stirring until sugar dissolves. Pour sugar mixture into a 4 ½ quart freezer container. Stir in fruit juices and freeze until firm. Remove from freezer several hours before serving (mixture should be slushy). Stir in ginger ale and garnish with pineapple wedges. Makes 5½ quarts.*

### Holiday Trivia

*The candy cane is believed to have originated from a choirmaster in Cologne, Germany in 1670 – he bent sugar stick candy into the shape of a shepherd's staff and gave them to the children in the church.*

## *Clermont County Today.....* *keeping you informed*

Let the *Clermont County Today* show be your guide to all of the local holiday happenings this December!



demonstrate a delicious gift-giving idea.

Have you ever wondered how the tradition of kissing under the mistletoe

Sheriff Tim Rodenberg will give us a crash course in staying safe while shopping this holiday season. Martha Enriquez, Safe Communities, will tell us how we can enjoy festive seasonal celebrations in a responsible way with “mocktails,” tasty alcohol free concoctions. Cindy Burskey, OSU Extension, will help us pick the perfect Christmas tree and Margaret Jenkins, OSU Extension, will

began? We’ll find out from Clermont Park Naturalist Keith Robinson. Even our four-legged, furry kids like to tell Santa what they want to find under the tree this year! We’ll join Sandee Palazzolo, Humane Society, as some pampered pets get their pictures taken with St. Nick.

From all of us at *Clermont County Today*, happy holidays!

## **Adopt-a-Senior Program**

The Adopt-a-Senior program, sponsored by Clermont Senior Services, is in need of donors to provide household items, mattresses, blankets, pots and pans, grocery gift cards, and clothes to senior citizens in our community who cannot afford these items on a limited income.



Any individual, family, or group interested in participating in the program can e-mail Sharon Brumagen at [sbrumagen@ClermontSeniors.com](mailto:sbrumagen@ClermontSeniors.com). She can also be reached at (513) 536-4060.

## ***Don't Start the New Year Looking Like Santa!***

Did you know that we (as typical Americans) gain between 7 and 12 pounds between Halloween and New Year's? True! Many of us shelve our healthy eating and exercise programs over the holidays, making it even harder on ourselves when we make New Year's resolutions to lose weight.

Before you hit the holiday buffet, consider that one cup of eggnog can rack up a whopping 343 calories, one piece of pecan pie contains 495 calories, and a single chocolate covered cherry packs 75 calories into that tiny morsel.

There are some things we can do to cut our calorie intake without depriving ourselves:



**Choose white meat of turkey without skin** (a serving size has 230 calories, compared to 345 for a mixed portion with skin)

**Limit rolls and butter** (an average roll has 85 calories. Add butter and you're up to 120 calories)

**Eat steamed instead of buttered vegetables** (buttered vegetables have twice as many calories per cup as steamed vegetables)

**Enjoy the pumpkin pie**

(one slice has 175 calories, compared to 495 calories for a piece of pecan pie)

**Skip the sausage in stuffing** (a rich, buttery sausage stuffing can top out at 500 calories per cup. By omitting the sausage and using low-fat products, you can cut the calorie count to 125)

Happy holidays!

### *Holiday Trivia . . .*

*Rudolf the red-nosed reindeer was created in 1939 as a promotion for the Montgomery Ward department store in Chicago.*

# Veterans' Services Open House Ceremony

Friday, November 9, 2007



*Veterans' Services Director Dan Bare welcomes everyone to the open house ceremony*



*Julie Patton accepts a framed salute to her late husband, recently inducted into the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame in Columbus*



*The Marine Corps Leathernecks post the colors*



*Timothy Espich, Director of the Governor's Office of Veterans' Affairs commends local efforts to salute service personnel past and present*



*Members of the Veterans' Services Commission are recognized for their service to local vets*



*Commissioner Bob Proud salutes the 14,000 veterans that call Clermont County home*



*Cindy White sings "Letters from War" during the ceremonies*



*Sheriff A.J. "Tim" Rodenberg presents medals to a local veteran*



*Commissioner Mary Walker joins a large group of citizens gathered for the open house and medal ceremony*

**Now available for adoption!**



*Midget*



*Bruno*



*Elf*



*Twinkle*



*Mittens*



*Duke*



*Sam*



*Bud*



*Swiffer*



*Ebony*

**Clermont  
Animal Shelter  
732-8854**

### **Celtic Christmas**

Saturday, December 8, 2 p.m. - Amelia Branch  
*Join us for a Celtic Christmas celebration! We will have Christmas tales, humorous stories, and touching personal anecdotes woven into a holiday musical treasure. For more information or to register, call 752-5580.*

### **Rockin' 'Round the Christmas Tree**

Saturday, December 8, 2 p.m. - Bethel Branch  
*Attendees will listen to stories, make crafts, sing songs, and enjoy refreshments. For more information or to register, call 734-2619; register online at [www.ClermontLibrary.org](http://www.ClermontLibrary.org).*

### **Holiday Craft Night**

Monday, December 10, 7 p.m. - Goshen Branch  
*Attendees ages 10 and up are invited to make a festive craft which can be given away as a gift or to kept for yourself! For more information or to register, call 722-1221.*

### **Holiday Open House**

Tuesday, December 11, 6 – 8 p.m. - Milford-Miami Branch  
*Enjoy holiday music by Steve Featherstone, visit Santa's workshop to make a festive craft, or shop the Friends of the Library book sale for gifts. Refreshments provided. For more information or to register, call 248-0700.*

### **That's a Wrap!**



Saturday, December 15, 2 – 5 p.m. - New Richmond Branch  
*Adults and teens are invited to bring unwrapped gifts and a roll of wrapping paper to share. Enjoy a special bow making demonstration, holiday music, and refreshments. For more information, or to register, call 553-0570.*

### **Visit with Santa**

Monday, December 10, 7 p.m. - Owensville Branch  
*Listen to Christmas stories and make a holiday craft. Bring your camera for pictures with Santa. For more information or to register, call 732-6084.*

### **Winter Wonderland**

Thursday, December 6, 10:30 a.m. - Union Township Branch  
*Dress in your winter wonderland best for crafts and snacks. For more information or to register, call 528-1744; register online at [www.ClermontLibrary.org](http://www.ClermontLibrary.org).*

### **Holiday Hand Care**

Monday, December 3, 7 p.m. - Williamsburg Branch  
*Adults and teens are invited for a hand pampering session; door prizes will be given. For more information or to register, call 724-1070.*



## **Federal Income Tax Refund Offset Program Changes**

By: Annette Black, DJFS

The Deficit Reduction Act, passed by Congress on February 1, 2006, made changes to the federal income tax refund process. It now allows child support agencies to intercept refunds when past-due support is owed despite the age of the child.

Prior to the Deficit Reduction Act, federal tax refunds could not be intercepted if past due support was owed to the family once the last child reached the age of eighteen. Now, federal tax refunds can be intercepted without regard to the age of the children.

Clermont County has submitted an additional 414 cases for tax refund interception in 2008. These cases are referred to as arrearage only cases, as they no longer have a current support order and the child is over the age of eighteen.



Non-custodial parents eligible for a tax refund offset will receive a Pre-Offset Notice in the mail that advises when the agency is planning to intercept their tax refund and gives them an opportunity to dispute the arrearage amount.

Ohio continues to be a leader in the nation for child support collections. The child support program touches the lives of over one million families in Ohio while striving to improve the quality of life for the children they serve.

If you have questions regarding the tax refund offset program please contact Laura Bassett at (513) 732-7166.



# Happy 50th Clermont Humane Society



A large crowd turned out for the fiftieth anniversary of the Clermont County Humane Society. A dinner and auction was held in November at the Norlyn Manor.

Among the auction highlights, a number of Bengals items, including a football

signed by quarterback Carson Palmer, memorabilia autographed by the entire Brown family, and a hat autographed by standout wide receiver T.J. Houshmandzadeh.

## *Frosty the Snowman Cupcakes*

Snow or no snow, your family can whip up a band of these merry marshmallow snowmen to satisfy all their winter wonderland fantasies.

### RECIPE INGREDIENTS:

Cooled cupcakes (baked from your favorite recipe)

White icing

Waxed paper

Large marshmallows, Pretzel sticks, Decorators' gel, Orange slice candy, Junior Mints, Thin Mints, Fruit leather



1. Frost a cooled cupcake (baked from your favorite recipe) with white icing.
2. Flatten a large marshmallow on waxed paper with the palm of your hand. Cut a second marshmallow in half horizontally, then stack the halves on the first marshmallow to form a torso and head.
3. Push a thin pretzel stick down through the snowman (this will help him stand up), then set him on the cupcake.
4. Use decorators' gel to create a mouth, eyes, and buttons, then add pretzel stick arms and a wedge cut from an orange slice candy for a nose.
5. Accessorize with a candy hat (a Junior Mint secured to a Thin Mint with icing) and a fruit leather scarf.

## Educational Leadership Program

By: Wayne Baughman, Clermont  
20/20

The Educational Leadership Program, sponsored by Clermont 20/20, brings educators together to develop skills that will enhance students' learning and achievement and help districts work toward their continuous improvement plan. Presented in partnership with the University of Cincinnati Clermont College, credits may be applied to licensure requirements. This program is open to all educators who live or work in Clermont County.

If you would like more information and/or an application to take part in this exciting program, contact Wayne Baughman at 753-9222 or visit [www.clermont2020.org](http://www.clermont2020.org).

## Is it done yet?

You can't tell by looking. Use a food thermometer to be sure. For more information, visit the Web site [IsItDoneYet.gov](http://IsItDoneYet.gov).



### *Holiday Trivia*

*Kissing under the mistletoe is an English tradition which began in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. The ancient Druids believed mistletoe is a symbol for peace and joy.*

# Think Pet Safety This Holiday Season

## Buy a Dog License



If you're looking for a great gift for your dog this holiday season, why not pick up a dog license? 2008 dog and kennel licenses go on sale December 1, 2007; the license fee is \$14 per dog and \$50 per kennel license. The last day to purchase a license without a penalty is January 31, 2008. You may purchase or renew your dog license online by connecting to the Clermont County Web site at [www.ClermontAuditor.org](http://www.ClermontAuditor.org) and select online payments. **Kennel licenses cannot be purchased online;** they are available **only** through the Auditor's Office.

A dog license is a guaranteed way to unite you with your dog, should you become separated; dog licensing is required by law.

### Dog licenses are available at the following locations:

Auditor's Office 732-7150  
101 E Main St  
Batavia, OH 45103

County Humane Society 732-8854  
4025 Filager Road  
Batavia, OH 45103

### Licenses purchased at the following locations are \$14.75:

Animal Rescue Fund	735-4000
All Creatures Hospital	797-7387
Batavia License Bureau	732-8050
Batelle's Grocery	528-3007
Bethel Feed & Supply	734-2246
Carney's Feed Mill	625-7755
Clough Pike Vet Clinic	732-1575
Day Heights Vet Clinic	248-0904
Family Animal Hospital	732-1116
Hall's Hardware	876-2262
Hillside Animal Hospital	735-0738
Le Beastro	444-4006
Metzger Hardware	553-3171
Milford Village Vet Clinic	831-1882
Pets "N" Such	753-8380
Rolke Feed Store	683-6633
Village Market	752-3931

### Holiday Trivia

*President Theodore Roosevelt, a well-known environmentalist, banned Christmas trees from the White House.*

*Christmas trees have been sold in the United States since about 1850.*

*Christmas trees are grown in all 50 states.*

### Clermont Animal Shelter Holiday Wish List

Spread the joy and giving spirit of the season to our county's homeless furry friends; the Clermont Animal Shelter always accepts donations of items that help them care for the animals. Here is a list of items the shelter can ALWAYS use:



- Paper towels
- Cleaning supplies
- Bleach
- Dish soap
- Large garbage bags
- Towels
- Dryer sheets
- Dial liquid hand soap
- Toilet covers (used for kittens and puppies)
- Old bedding, towels, or blankets
- Laundry soap
- Dog or cat toys
- Puppy or Kitten Chow

- Cat litter
- Litter boxes
- Food bowls
- Garden hoses (used for cleaning kennels)
- Windex

If you would like to donate any of these items to the shelter, bring the items between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Saturday.

Items can also be mailed to Clermont County Humane Society, 4025 Filager Road, Batavia, OH, 45103. For more information, call the shelter at 732-8854.



# In the Kitchen with Margaret

By: Margaret Jenkins, OSU Extension-Clermont

## Anniversary Muffins

### Ingredients:

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- ½ cup sugar
- 1 tablespoon baking powder
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 1 egg
- ¾ cup milk
- 1/3 cup vegetable oil
- ½ teaspoon vanilla
- 1/2 cup miniature semisweet chocolate chips

### Directions:

1. Heat oven to 400° F. Lightly grease bottoms of muffin pan cups or use paper liners.
2. Combine the first five dry ingredients in a large bowl.
3. In a small bowl, combine and whisk together the four moist ingredients.
4. Make a well in the center of the dry ingredient mixture, add the moist mixture and stir just until moistened. Batter will be thick.
5. Spoon batter into paper lined or greased muffin pan cups 2/3 full.
6. Bake in pre-heated oven for 18-20 minutes or until a toothpick comes out clean.
7. Cool for 5 minutes before removing to cooling rack.

Yield: 12 servings

**NUTRITION FACTS PER SERVING:** 257 CALORIES, 10.8 GRAMS TOTAL FAT, 234 MG SODIUM, 38.5 GRAMS CARBOHYDRATES, 1.3 GRAMS DIETARY FIBER AND 3.7 GRAMS PROTEIN.



*Margaret Jenkins*

## Auditor's Office Collecting Food for Homeless Shelter

By: Carrie Davin, Auditor's Office

The Clermont County Auditor's Office is conducting a food drive during the month of December. You can bring non-perishable food items to the Auditor's office in the County Administration Building. All food will be donated to the James Sauls Homeless Shelter.

One delivery of food has already been made to the shelter for Thanksgiving, and another will be made right before Christmas. Donations will be accepted until Thursday, December 20.



### *Holiday Trivia*

*The first Christmas cards were sent out by Sir Henry in England in 1843. The cards featured a family having a party.*



*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).