



On the Move

a newsletter for citizens
October 2006

www.ClermontCountyOhio.gov

Commissioners: Mary Walker, Bob Proud, and Scott Crosswell

Clermont Shelter Invites You to “Fall” for a Four-Legged Friend!

By: Nadora Hill, Clermont Animal Shelter

Are you thinking of adding a four-legged member to your family? If so, you might consider a visit to the Clermont County Animal Shelter, where all ages and breeds of dogs and cats (sometimes hamsters, rabbits, and horses) are waiting, with tails wagging, to meet you!



“We can hardly remember what life was like before Maverick. If it weren’t for your shelter, we would never have found our son, our little boy, our Maverick...”

Each county in the State of Ohio is required to have an animal shelter and to provide certain animal control services. In 2003, in partnership with the Clermont County Humane Society (who manages the daily operation of the shelter for the county), a beautiful new shelter was opened. The Clermont County Animal Shelter is located at 4025 Filager Road in Batavia, just off SR 222 near the Sheriff’s Office. Shelter hours are Monday-Saturday, from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m.

The shelter serves several purposes in our community. First, it is a place for citizens to bring stray cats and dogs they may find in their neighborhoods; it gives them peace of mind that these animals are now

in a safe environment. Second, it is a place where families can search for their lost pet and it should be the first place they look! Over 5,000 animals pass through the shelter doors each year – many of them brought to the shelter as strays. It is also a place where a family who can no longer care for its pet can turn to for assistance. Please do not let

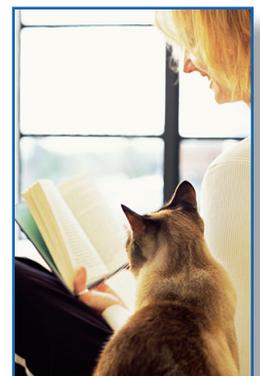
friends and family convince you it is better to turn your pet loose in a field to fend for itself rather than to bring it to the shelter -- especially after it has depended upon you for so many years for care!

By state law, dogs are required to have a license. There are other reasons to make sure your dog is licensed!

1) No matter how secure you think your dog is, many can and do get loose. By having a license on your pet’s collar, it can quickly be reunited with you if it gets out of your reach. If

your dog lands at the county shelter, the law provides for a 14-day hold while the shelter’s staff makes every attempt to notify you that they have your pet in their care. Without the tag, unfortunately, they have no way of knowing who to contact, and after a three-day hold as provided by law, your little friend may be adopted by someone else or worse. Each dog tag has the county’s Web site imprinted on it so that owners can be tracked on the computer 24/7. If a citizen finds your dog and enters the tag number, your contact information will pop up on the screen and you can quickly be reunited with your dog! The Clermont County Humane Society also offers this same feature on their Web site.

2) Your license fees (\$14 a dog) go directly to the county’s animal control program. Just as our local law enforcement agencies serve the human public,



(continued on last page)

New Clermont Assistant County Administrator Named

The Board of Clermont County Commissioner has named Scot Lahrmer as assistant county administrator. Lahrmer served as the city manager of Mason, Ohio between 1989 and 2006. He brings to Clermont County an extensive background in economic development, growth management, and oversight of capital improvement projects.

"I'm looking forward to bringing my skill set to this growing county," said Lahrmer. "I am grateful to the Clermont Commissioners and Administrator Dave Spinney for giving me this opportunity."

During Lahrmer's tenure in Mason, the city experienced incredible growth. "I would say my biggest accomplishments were overseeing the \$30 million dollar water reclamation plant and construction of a community center through a creative partnership with Mason schools," he said.



Scot Lahrmer

Lahrmer initiated and promoted an economic development plan in Mason that generated over \$1.5 billion in new private investment and created over 7,500 jobs.

Candlelight Vigil Marks Domestic Violence Awareness Month

As part of the October observance of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, proclaimed by Clermont Commissioners, the YWCA is hosting a candlelight vigil on



Thursday, October 5, 2006, at 7 p.m. on the steps of the Clermont County Common Pleas Courthouse, located at 270 East Main Street in

Batavia. The vigil will be led by children, and will include a remembrance to Marcus Fiesel.

In Clermont County, the YWCA House of Peace Shelter offers protective emergency shelter to those impacted by domestic violence. In 2005, the facility sheltered 88 women and 74 children. The shelter's 24 hour a day hotline number is 1-800-540-4764.

Chilo Visitor Center Celebrates First Year in Operation

By: Keith Robinson, Park District

The Chilo Lock #34 Visitor Center and Museum recently celebrated its first year in operation with a two-day event held August 26 and August 27, 2006. The park, operated by the Clermont Park District, sits on a historic site that was once used by the Army Corps of Engineers as a lock and dam. The Clermont County Park District has renovated the former lock house into a visitor center with interactive displays focusing on river history.

"We are very proud of what we have accomplished in our first year; over 8,200 people visited our beautiful grounds and museum," said Clermont Park District Director Chris Clingman.

October Commissioner Sessions

Tuesday, Oct. 3	10 a.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 4	1 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 11	1 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 17	1 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 25	1 p.m.

All regular sessions are held in the third floor session room of the Clermont County Administration Building, 101 East Main Street in Batavia, Ohio. For agenda information, contact the BCC offices at (513) 732-7300.

588-5121

Call the Clermont General Health District hotline for updates on seasonal flu clinics and other health information.

Make a Difference Day

Plant a daffodil or clean-up an area of your community on Saturday, October 21. Call Clermont Clean and Green for locations and times, 753-9222



Child Support Roundup Effective

Clermont County's fifth annual Roundup of Most Wanted Child Support Of-

fenders was a success. As part of Child Support Month, observed during August, the Sheriff's Office apprehended 127

individuals for failure to pay over \$1,383,889 in overdue child support payments. A total of \$33,439 was collected in outstanding child support on behalf of 33 children; the largest payment received was \$7,198 for a single child.

The annual roundup is a joint collaboration between the Clermont County Sheriff's Office, the Clermont County Prosecutors Office, all divisions of the Court of Common Pleas, and the Clermont County Department of Job and Family Services' Division of Child Support Enforcement (CSE).

"Our office had 13 deputies assigned to investigations and road patrol for apprehensions during

the August roundup," said Clermont Sheriff A.J. "Tim" Rodenberg

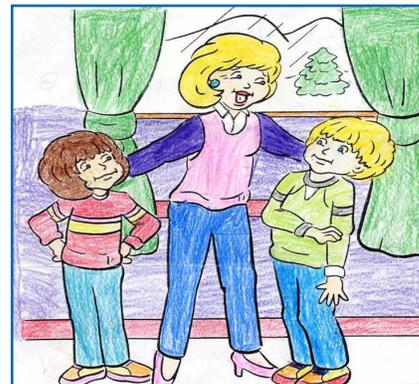


"The joint collaboration is what makes Clermont County's Roundup such a success," said CSE Deputy Director Brenda Gilreath. "Our arrests and collections are up significantly over last year, and the beneficiaries will be the children of this county."

In addition to the roundup, information about Most Wanted child support offenders was aired on local government cable television, in local newspapers, on flyers distributed with water and sewer bills, on posters at area businesses, and on the CSE agency Web site www.ClermontSupportsKids.org.

To recognize the over one million children served by child support agencies across Ohio each year, CSE also held a coloring contest during August. The winners were recognized during an awards ceremony on September 5, 2006. The coloring contest winner in the 10-12 age group category was Heather Woodall; in the 6 to 9 years of age

category, Leah Blevins won third place, McKenzie Shepherd won second, and Marissa Phillips won first place; in the 3 to 5 years of age category, Carlie Hinkle won third place, Olivia Snow placed second, and first place honors went to Hunter Shepherd.



Fall Fun Facts

Halloween is second only to Christmas in spending. Consumers will shell out over \$2.5 billion during Halloween. That's a whole lot of candy, costumes, decorations, and party goods!



October Town Meetings Set

Washington Twp., Monroe Twp., Moscow

Tuesday, October 17

7 p.m.

River Valley Community Center

30 Wells Street

Moscow

Williamsburg, Williamsburg Twp.

Wednesday, October 25

7 p.m.

Williamsburg Community Building

107 W. Main Street

Williamsburg

Chilo Lock #34 Park Adds New Playground

By: Keith Robinson, Park District

There's another reason to visit the Chilo Lock #34 Park, with the addition of a new children's playground! The park, along the Ohio River in the village of Chilo, is located on the site of an old lock and dam, and is home to a visitor center and museum.

"We wanted to add a playground that followed the theme of the museum, living and working with the Ohio River," said Clermont Park District Director Chris Clingman. "The playground slightly resembles a steamboat. The front of the playground looks like the bow of the boat, and there are two climbing structures on the back that resemble a paddlewheel."



The playground equipment was purchased through a \$20,000 donation from the Pattison Foundation.

Fall Fun Facts

Growing big pumpkins is a big time hobby. Top prize money for the biggest pumpkin grown in this country is as much as \$25,000 dollars at fall festivals. The current world record giant pumpkin tipped the scales at a whopping 1,446 pounds.



Clermont Park Events for October

By: Keith Robinson, Park District

Key Your Trees

Sunday, October 8, 2 p.m.

Sycamore Park

How well do you know your trees? Using a simple key, we'll unlock the secrets behind tree identification while enjoying the fabulous fall foliage.

Meet at the information kiosk.



dogs and a lawn chair. We'll provide the "Ghoul-Aid." Pre-registration is required. Call 513-876-9013 to sign up.

Asters and Goldenrod

Saturday, October 14, 10 a.m.

Kelley Nature Preserve

Yes there are still a few wildflowers in bloom this time of year. We'll walk the prairie trail and some of the edge trails looking for the last of the yellow and purple blooms that will be patch-worked between the beautiful fall foliage. Meet at the kiosk for this guided trail walk.

Scavenger Hunt Leaf Hike

Sunday, October 15, 2 p.m.

Sycamore Park

Why do leaves change their color in the fall? Join the park naturalist for a story about fall and find out. Then take a hike

to search for leaves and make a leaf rubbing book to take home. Meet at the information kiosk.

Amazing Trees

Sunday, October 22, 1-3 p.m.

Pattison Park

Explore the trails of Pattison Park and enjoy the fall colors of our "sugar bush." Discover how the early settlers of Clermont County and the Native Americans used the trees for food, water, shelter, and medicine. Meet at the picnic shelter.

Fall Flowers and Foliage

Sunday, October 29, 2 p.m.

Sycamore Park

Join the naturalist for an adventurous hike along the new trail at Sycamore Park. We'll search for blooming fall flowers and vibrant fall colors.

Spook'tacular Friday

Friday, October 13, 7-9 p.m.

Pattison Park

Join us for an exciting evening of legends, lore, and discovery as we walk the luminary trail at Pattison Park. After the walk we'll gather around the fire and share spooky stories. Bring your own marshmallows and hot

One on One Internet Training

Weekdays in October
Amelia Branch Library

Learn the basics of using the Internet and how to setup and use e-mail. For more information or to register, call the library at 752-5580.



Story Time for Children

Tuesdays in October, 10 a.m.
Batavia Branch Library

Children ages 2 to 5 are invited. Parents must pre-register. Call 732-2128.

One on One Internet Training

October

Goshen Branch Library

Teens and adult patrons can schedule a session for one-on-one instruction. Call the library at 722-1221.

Oktoberfest

October

Milford-Miami Twp Branch Library

Join the Milford-Miami Township Branch Library for crafts, displays, trivia, a recipe exchange and more during the month of October to celebrate Oktoberfest. Call the library at 248-0700.

So, you think you're funny?

October

Williamsburg Branch Library

Make up a joke or share one with us at the library during the month of October. Jokes will be on display for the month and a winner will be drawn for a prize. Call the library at 724-1070.

Peer tutoring

Monday through Saturday

Union Twp. Branch Library

Homework help will be available for ages 8 and up. For more information or to register call 528-1744.



Harvest Story time for Children and Grandparents!

Thursdays thru November 9, 11 a.m.
Owensville Branch Library

Children and their grandparents are invited for stories, games, and crafts. To register, call the library at 732-6084.

Fall Story Time Session

Tuesdays in October, 10:30 a.m.

New Richmond Branch Library

Children ages 2 to 6 years are invited. Call 553-0570.

Free Mental Health Screenings

October 3 and 5, 4 p.m.-7 p.m.

Union Twp. Branch Library

For more information, call the library at 528-1744.

Puppy Tales: A Reading Mentoring Program

October 5, 12, and 19, 6 p.m.

New Richmond Branch Library

Reading to dogs is for children in grades 2-6 with reading difficulties. Space is limited. To register, call the library at 553-0570.

Making Apple Dolls

Thursday, October 12, 7 p.m.

Williamsburg Branch

Discover the art of apple doll making! Call 724-1070.



Game Night

Monday, October 16, 7 p.m.

Goshen Branch

Children in grades 5-12 are invited to take part. Call 722-1221.

Haunted Gingerbread House

Tuesday, October 17, 7 p.m.

Union Twp. Branch

Families are invited to take part; supplies provided.

Call 528-1744.

Boo!



Afternoon at the Movies

Wednesday, October 18, 1:30 p.m.

Batavia Branch

Adults interested in discussing film are invited to take part. Call 732-2128.

Crafting for a Good Cause

Wednesday, October 18, 6:30 p.m.

Bethel Branch

Practice your knitting and crocheting and donate to the needy. Call 734-2619.



Game Night

Thursday, October 19, 6 p.m.

Milford-Miami Twp. Branch

Children, ages 12-18, are invited to bring their favorite games to play with others. Call 248-0700.

Fall Fun Facts



Raking, bagging and carrying leaves burn about 330 calories per hour.

5 Great Ways to Help Abused and Neglected Children

By Jenifer Fox-Gerrits, CASA



There are probably more ways to help abused and neglected children than you may think! Let's take a look at a few ways people who live and work in Clermont County are making a difference.

1. Sponsor a "Dress Down" day. Every Friday employees have the option to dress down. In order to participate, they make a donation to an organization of their choice, like CASA For Clermont Kids! Our most recent contribution came from the employees of the Clerk of Common Pleas Court.
2. Set up a "Pocket Change Jar" at home or at work. Every day for several weeks the employees of US Bank emptied their pocket change into a jar. When the jar was full, they donated the entire amount to CASA For Clermont Kids!
3. A local family wanted to get their kids in on the act and help them learn the value of charitable giving. On September 23, 2006 little Carson Schmitz turned seven and she asked everyone who came to her party to bring donations for the CASA Duffle Bag Campaign instead of gifts for her!
4. Host a "Baby Shower" like Friendship Church in Amelia and collect donations for infants and toddlers.
5. Spread the word about CASA For Clermont Kids! by helping the agency speakers bureau. Call Jenifer at 513-735-SAFE and make arrangements for us to speak at your office, church, lodge or club.



Feel free to "borrow" any of these great ideas or come up with a fun and innovative idea of your own! For more information on CASA For Clermont Kids! or the Duffle Bag Campaign, call us at (513) 735-7233 or visit our Web site at www.casaforclermontkids.org.

Low Cost Rabies Clinic on October 21

The Clermont County General Health District, in cooperation with Family Animal Hospital of Batavia, is holding a low cost rabies vaccination clinic on Saturday, October 21, 2006. The clinic will be held from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. at Sycamore Park, located at 4082 State Route 132 in Batavia. The clinic will be held rain or shine.

All dogs and cats must be on a leash or in a carrier and there is a \$5 fee for the vaccination. Call (513) 732-7499 for more information.

How can you manage winter heating bills?

Visit the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) Web site for information, www.PUCO.ohio.gov.

Veterans Day Parade

The Clermont County Council of the American Legion and the Clermont Veterans' Service Commission will hold a Veterans Day Parade in Batavia at 2 p.m. on Saturday, November 11, 2006.

Participants in the parade will begin lining up at 1 p.m. on West Main Street; an informational booth will be set up at the Batavia Post Office.

The grand marshal of the parade will be Howard Daugherty of Batavia. Daugherty is a commissioner with the Veterans Service Commission. He was recently inducted into the Ohio Military Hall of Fame, noting his valor while engaged in the Vietnam conflict.

For more information about the parade, please call (513) 732-7245.

Lt. Harvey Attends Quantico Training

Lt. Randy Harvey of the Clermont County Sheriff's Office recently returned from the FBI Academy in Quantico, Virginia after the completion of a 10- week National Academy Training Program. Lt. Harvey and approximately 250 other law enforcement officers from around the globe were selected for the training program which is considered to be one of the best in the world.

Lt. Harvey was the first Clermont County Sheriff's Office Deputy ever selected to attend the FBI's National Academy. "I am very proud of Randy's accomplishment and appreciate the FBI's decision to choose him from among hundreds of other applicants for this prestigious and comprehensive training program," said Clermont Sheriff A.J. "Tim" Rodenberg.

Clermont Shelter (continued from page 1)

animal control officers serve the county's animal population. Their responsibilities range from picking up stray dogs to investigating and prosecuting animal cruelty cases. Currently, we have three officers responsible for patrolling 490 square miles. It is estimated that less than 50 percent of dog owners purchase licenses – think how effective we could be if all dog owners purchased a license.

So, what can YOU do to make a difference in the lives of our 4-legged friends at the county's animal shelter?

- Don't adopt an animal unless you fully understand the commitment involved, but if you do, consider adopting at your local shelter. In a letter sent to the shelter written by a young family who had recently adopted a dog, they write.....“We can hardly remember what life was like before Maverick. Thank you so much for all the hard work everyone there does, if it weren't for your shelter, we would never have found our son, our little boy, our Maverick...”

- Be a responsible pet owner. The only way to stop the overpopulation of homeless animals is to spay and neuter your pet! Millions of cats and dogs are needlessly euthanized each year at county shelters because people refused to spay and neuter their pets! Don't be part of the problem, be part of the solution!



- Encourage all dog owners to buy a license; help educate them why it is important.

We wish to thank The Clermont County Humane Society for their long-standing partnership in our county's



animal control program. It is important to note that no county dollars are allocated to fund the Society's Adoption Center located at the county's animal shelter or the Society's After Hours Emergency Run Program for injured/sick stray animals. Funds to support these programs are received through private fundraising efforts.



Halloween Pet Safety

If you find yourself with a house full of candy on Halloween, don't feel you must share it with your pet. Be particularly careful about letting dogs chow down on chocolate. Chocolate contains a stimulant called theobromine which can make dogs very ill, and could even cause death if consumed in enough quantity. If you want to treat the pets, stock up on dog biscuits or catnip toys – treats with no tricks attached.

Fall Fun Facts

The very first jack o' lantern was made out of a turnip!

Now available for adoption!



Bessie



Black Beauty



Bubba



Teddy

**Clermont
Animal Shelter**

732-8854

On the Move is a service of the Board of Clermont County Commissioners. For more information about any of the articles included in this publication, contact Kathy Lehr or Beth Rawdon in the Office of Public Information at **(513) 732-7597** or e-mail klehr@co.clermont.oh.us.

