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Check out Clermont County online!

www.ClermontCountyOhio.gov



County Prepares to Name New Top Dog

Do you have the best dog in Clermont County? Enter him or her in the contest for the 2012 Clermont County Humane Society Poster Pooch! Sponsored by the Humane Society, Clermont Auditor, and Board of Clermont County Commissioners, all dogs in Clermont County, with a valid 2012 dog license, are eligible to enter the competition to represent the Clermont County Animal Shelter in various campaigns and publications. The prize winner will also receive a \$250 gift card to a local animal supply store and a gift basket from the Humane Society. Prize baskets and gift cards will also be presented to second and third place winners.

“Last year we had around 100 dogs entered in the competition!” said Molly Geise with the Clermont County Humane Society. “Our judges had a hard time deciding on the winner, based on the wonderful pictures and stories submitted.” The 2011 Poster Pooch winner, Bailey Miles Radabaugh of Miami Township, is a 10-year-old mixed breed that enjoys working as a therapy dog for children and adults with disabilities.



Sue Radabaugh of Miami Township with 2011 Clermont County Poster Pooch Bailey Miles

Pictures submitted for the competition must be non-copyrighted and a non-published work. Entry forms are available at the Clermont County Animal Shelter (4025 Filager Road in Batavia) or can be downloaded at www.ClermontAnimalShelter.com or www.ClermontCountyOhio.gov. Follow the directions on the entry form, and return by email or regular mail by sending to: Clermont County Office of Public Information, 177 E. Main Street, Batavia, Ohio 45103; entries are due by January 31, 2012. All contest pictures will be posted to the Clermont County Facebook site at www.Facebook.com/ClermontCounty. Contest winners will be announced in February 2012. Watch a video about the contest at www.clermontcountyohio.gov/video2012posterpooch.aspx.

Recycle Your Holiday Tree

Cut holiday trees are biodegradable, which means they can easily be reused or recycled for mulch and other purposes.

For a list of recycling opportunities for cut trees in Clermont County, visit the website www.oeq.net.



Community Responds to Children In Crisis This Holiday Season

An incredible outpouring of community support from citizens and businesses has enabled the Clermont County Children's Protective Services (CPS) Community Toy Chest to provide a warm coat, clothes, and toys to over 300 children in county care this holiday season. A last minute plea for community assistance was issued before the holidays; sponsors were still needed for 60 children, between the ages of birth to 18. "I would like to thank each and every individual that responded to our call for assistance," said Community Toy Chest Coordinator Sanna Gast. "Because of overwhelming community support, we have received \$1,400 in cash donations and enough sponsors to cover all of the children!"



Gast said the children in county care have been abused and neglected; for many, this is the first holiday they have been away from the only family they have ever known. "It is a difficult time for the kids," she said. "You should see how they light-up when they receive these gifts. My heart is filled with joy to know that we were able to provide

holiday gifts to all of the children in county care."

The Community Toy Chest accepts donations of checks or cash to purchase gifts for children in county as they reach other milestones in their lives, such as high school graduation. For more information about the Community Toy Chest and how you can get involved, call (513) 732-7264 or email gasts@odjfs.state.oh.us.



TQL Expanding in Clermont County

Ohio Governor John Kasich spent some time talking with TQL employees during a December 15, 2011 visit to the Union Township company. The governor was on hand as TQL announced it will add 1,000 U.S. jobs over the next three years, including 575 at its Clermont County Headquarters.

TQL has announced plans to build a 100,000 square foot building near its building at the Ivy Pointe Commerce Park.



New Clermont Email Address Extensions Effective in January

Check your contacts folders! Approximately 1,300 Clermont County government email addresses have changed! Instead of ContactName@co.clermont.oh.us, the new email is ContactName@clermontcountyohio.gov.

Become a Weather Spotter

You are invited to a special training on Wednesday, February 8, 2012 to become a weather spotter for the National Weather Service. The training will be held at 6:30 p.m. at the Miami Township Civic Center, located at 6101 Meijer Drive,



Citizens, volunteers, first responders, school groups, and Scout troops are encouraged to attend the free training that will include a presentation by a National Weather Service meteorologist.

Learn how to recognize various types of cloud formations and

conditions that can spawn dangerous weather.

To register for the free class, call the Clermont County Emergency Management Agency at (513) 732-7661.

Weather Spotters Can Save Lives

During the past 10 years, tornados, severe thunderstorms and flash floods have killed nearly 2,300 people in the United States and injured thousands more.

Because of weather spotter reports, advancements in radar technology, and improved warning capabilities, the death toll has been reduced by more than 800 from the previous 10 years.

First Luminary Walk a Big Success for Clermont Parks

Over 250 people turned out for the Clermont Park District's first Luminary Walk on Friday, December 9, 2011. The event featured a walk on a lit nature trail, entertainment, kids' crafts, and a visit from Santa!



*Pictures by Keith Robinson,
Clermont Parks' Chief Naturalist*

We'll miss you, George!



After more than 30 years of service to senior citizen organizations across the region, including 21 years as executive director of Clermont Senior Services, George Brown retired at the end of 2011.

The 65-year-old Jackson Township resident said he has had a "dream job" and has enjoyed his many interactions with citizens, government leaders, and community groups. "I've been privileged to have a great staff and outstanding volunteers," he said. Retirement will find him doing a lot of hiking in parks across the country and enjoying time with his family.

Watch an interview with Brown on the website
www.clermontcountyohio.gov/video0106brown.aspx

Ohio State Patrol offers tips and warnings about driving in winter weather

The Ohio State Highway Patrol is warning drivers about the dangers of driving in winter weather and is offering some tips on what drivers should do in the event of a vehicle break down or a crash.

From December 2010 through March 2011, 37,429 crashes occurred on snow, ice, or slush covered roadways killing 46 people and injuring 7,844. Speed was reported as the main cause in 77 percent of these crashes. To view a breakdown of these crashes visit www.statepatrol.ohio.gov/doc/Winter_Driving.pdf.

In the event of inclement weather, the Patrol is urging motorists to allow extra time to get to their destination, maintain a safe distance between their vehicle and the traffic ahead, pay close attention to bridges and overpasses - as they are often the first to freeze over - and to drive slowly, as everything including accelerating, turning and braking, take longer on snow-covered roadways.

“In case of a vehicle break-down, motorists should turn on their hazard warning lights, safely position the vehicle as far off the road as possible, call 1-877-7-PATROL for assistance and remain in the vehicle until help arrives,” explained Colonel John Born, Patrol superintendent.

Troopers further suggest that if you get stuck in snow; make sure that your tail pipe is free of all snow and debris, to decrease your chance of carbon monoxide poisoning.



All motorists are encouraged to prepare their vehicle for winter driving by ensuring that the battery, cooling system, tires, wipers, and defroster are all in working order. Drivers are also encouraged to carry the following winter car kit items in their vehicle in case of a breakdown:

- Cell phone with car charger
- Road flares or reflectors
- Help or Call Police signs
- First aid kit
- Flashlight
- Blanket/Sleeping bag
- Small shovel
- Bottled water and energy foods
- Candles and matches
- Tow strap/chain

Up-to-the-minute road conditions are always available by logging onto the Ohio Department of Transportation's website, www.buckeyetraffic.org.

How to get Out of Debt in 2012

Many people face a financial crisis some time in their lives. Whether the crisis is caused by personal or family illness, the loss of a job, or overspending, it can seem overwhelming. But often, it can be overcome. Your financial situation doesn't have to go from bad to worse.

Helpful information is available at <http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/pubs/consumer/credit/cre19.shtm>

Is your home ready for winter?

Although periods of extreme cold cannot always be predicted far in advance, weather forecasts can sometimes provide you with several days' notice. Listen to weather forecasts regularly, and check your emergency supplies whenever a period of extreme cold is predicted.

If you plan to use a fireplace or wood stove for emergency heating, have your chimney or flue inspected each year. Ask your local fire department to recommend an inspector, or find one in the yellow pages of your telephone directory under "chimney cleaning."

Also, if you'll be using a fireplace, wood stove, or kerosene heater, install a smoke detector and a battery-operated carbon monoxide detector near the area to be heated. Test them monthly, and replace batteries twice a year.

Your ability to feel a change in temperature decreases with age, and older people are more susceptible to health problems caused by cold. If you are over 65 years old, place an easy-to-read thermometer in an indoor location where you will see it frequently, and check the temperature of your home often dur-



ing the winter months. Insulate any water lines that run along exterior walls so your water supply will be less likely to freeze. To the extent possible, weatherproof your home by adding weather-stripping, insulation, insulated doors and storm windows, or thermal-pane windows.

If you have pets, bring them indoors. If you cannot bring them inside, provide adequate shelter to keep them warm and make sure that they have access to unfrozen water.

Checklist:

- Insulate walls and attic.
- Caulk and weather-strip doors and windows.
- Install storm windows or cover windows with plastic from the inside.
- Insulate any water lines that run along outer walls (water will be less likely to freeze).
- Service snow-removal equipment.
- Have chimney and flue inspected.
- Install easy-to-read outdoor thermometer.

For more information visit the Centers for Disease Control website at www.cdc.gov.

No more telemarketing phone calls

The National Do Not Call Registry gives you an opportunity to limit the telemarketing calls you receive. Once you register your phone number, telemarketers covered by the National Do Not Call Registry have up to 31 days from the date you register to stop calling you.

www.DoNotCall.gov



**NATIONAL
DO NOT CALL
REGISTRY**



Clermont Park Events

By: Keith Robinson, Park District

Winter Bird Count

Saturday, January 7, 8:30 a.m.

We're looking for volunteers to assist our staff with the annual winter bird count.

We'll search each of the parks and observe what we find. This annual survey gives insight into our local bird populations. Last year's count totaled 1,487 birds of 48 different species. The highlight of last year's count was a Bald Eagle sighting at Kelley Nature Preserve! The bird count will be taking place at the following parks: Chilo Lock #34 Park, Crooked Run Nature Preserve, Kelley Nature Preserve, Pattison Park, Shor Park, and Sycamore Park. Call (513) 876-9013 to sign up.



Winter Night Hike

Thursday, January 19, 6:30 p.m. – Shor Park

Enjoy winter's crisp night air with a night hike! Travel the moonlit trails in search of wildlife and see what creatures are still active in the cold air. The hike begins at the kiosk.

Decoy Carving

Saturdays in January (7, 14, 21, 28) – Chilo Lock #34 Park

Decoy carving with Wayne McClain is returning for another year! This year's focus will be shorebirds. Participants must have some woodworking or carving experience. The fee is \$40, which includes all tools and materials; returning participants with necessary tools pay a fee of \$30. Registration is required; spaces are limited and fill up quickly! Call (513) 876-9013 to sign up!



Four Seasons Hike – Winter

Saturday, January 28, 10 a.m. – Sycamore Park/Wilson Nature Preserve

Winter snow and mud are the perfect canvas for animal tracks and flocking birds are easily spotted on bare trees. See how the forest changes with the seasons as we follow the same trails, once in each season. Trails are challenging, appropriate footwear and clothing are recommended. Meet at the pedestrian bridge.

Martin Luther King Day is Monday, January 16, 2012

Martin Luther King Jr. was the most important voice of the American civil rights movement, which worked for equal rights for all. He was famous for using nonviolent resistance to overcome injustice, and he never got tired of trying to end segregation laws (laws that prevented blacks from entering certain places, such as restaurants, hotels, and public schools). He also did all he could to make people realize that "all men are created equal."

was also a Baptist minister.

He was assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee, when he was just 39 years old. His birthday is now observed as a national holiday on the third Monday in January.



In 1964 King received the Nobel Peace Prize -- the youngest person ever to receive this high honor. King

Source: www.AmericasLibrary.gov

Clermont County Permit Central NEWS

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

Don't let your pipes freeze

A dip in the season's temperature is not only inconvenient; it is also potentially costly if it causes your pipes to freeze. Water in frozen pipes may expand and cause the pipes to burst, meaning you'll have to replace the pipes and repair water damage in your home. While exposure to heat is necessary to thaw the water pipes, choose the heat source carefully to avoid injuries and damage to your pipes and home.



Steps to thaw frozen pipes may include, turning on the hot and cold water dials to create a small, steady stream of water. While the water may not run at first, the water's pressure will improve as the pipes are thawed. Plug in an electric blanket, and allow it to warm up for up to two hours at the high heat setting. Wrap the blanket around the frozen pipes, and keep it on the pipes until the blanket cools down. Hold a blow dryer 10 to 12 inches away from the pipes, and move the dryer over the area of the pipes. Heat the pipes with a space heater at least one foot away from the pipes to avoid accidental water exposure and possible electrical shock. Move all potentially flammable material away from the space heater to avoid an accidental fire, and do not leave an active space heater unattended. Do not use a direct flame or boiling water to heat frozen



By: Bruce Crase, Permit Central

pipes. Heating frozen pipes too quickly may crack, split or burst the affected pipe, causing leaks and/or injuries.

Steps to prevent freezing may include, turning on one or two faucets and allow lukewarm water to drip slightly. While this allows a continuous flow of water inside pipes, the following steps are also necessary to prevent frozen pipes. Disconnect all garden hoses and store them safely. Hoses are very likely to freeze if left outdoors and can cause pipes to burst. Keep house temperatures at least 65 degrees or higher, especially if you are going to be away for an extended period of time. Shut off water supply valves to washing machines as well. Open the doors to bathrooms, cabinets below sinks and areas where pipes are located to allow heat circulation around your pipes. Keep your basement heated. Most water pipes run through the basement, so it is vital to keep it at room temperature. Insulate pipes near exterior walls with heating tape.

Know that when repairs require the removal of a wall or replacement of water pipe lines, a building permit is required. Repairs may be made in an emergency situation; in those cases an application for approval shall be submitted within the next business day to Clermont County Permit Central at (513) 732-7213 or visit the website www.permit.clermontcountyohio.gov.

What happens after you flush?

If you live in Clermont County, after you wash the dishes, take a shower, or flush the toilet, most wastewater flows to the Clermont Water Resources Department for treatment at one of the eight plants located across the county. The Wards Corner Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant, located in Miami-ville, is the newest county wastewater treatment plant. “The county worked closely with local citizens and businesses on this \$10 million facility to ensure the site could provide superior water quality as an end-product,” said Water Resources Assistant Director of Operations Dwight Culbertson. “The plant incorporates state-of-the-art automation to ensure the highest degree of operational performance, reliability, and efficiency. It was designed to meet the growing needs of this community for the next 30-40 years.”



It’s hard to tell what happens at the facility, if you’re driving by the site at 448 Loveland-Miamiville Road. Nestled in the midst of a large mass of trees, lush landscaping, and an ornate gate mark the entrance to the plant. Modern brick buildings on the site feature pitched roofs. “There is very little left of the old treatment plant that was on this site, originally built in 1985,” said Culbertson, during a recent tour on a sunny December afternoon. “Plants like this one will consolidate several smaller, less ef-



ficient wastewater plants in the county.” He said the Wards Corner plant utilizes technology to overcome potential odors from raw sewage, and has emergency back-up power to ensure uncompromised reliability during adverse weather conditions. While the plant has been in operation for over a year, the facility wasn’t considered completed, until recent improvements to landscaping were completed.



Watch an interview with Culbertson at www.clermontcountyohio.gov/video1216wardscorner.aspx.



By: Tammy Craig, Clermont Library

The Dead of Winter

Thursday, January 12, 3:30 p.m. – Bethel Branch
Attendees age 10 – 18 can create their own zombies, learn how to survive a zombie attack, and take a zombie stroll through the library. For more information or to register, call (513) 734-2619.

Island Beach Party

Tuesday, January 24, 6:30 p.m. – Owensville Branch
Bring the whole family for island games, make an island craft, and listen to the Dreamweavers storytelling troupe tell island stories. Refreshments will be served. For more information or to register, call (513) 732-6084.



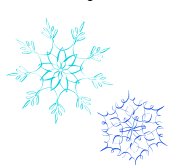
College Scholarships: Show Me the Money!

Tuesday, January 17, 6:30 p.m. – Amelia Branch
Join presenter Dan Bisig for information on where to search for scholarships, getting over the scholarship hurdles, and how and when to apply. For more information or to register, call (513) 752-5580.

Draw on your Creativity

Wednesdays in January, 4 p.m. – Felicity Branch
Tap into your creativity and learn to draw cartoons, animals, landscapes, and anime! For more information or to register, (513) 876-4134.

Family Fun Night: Winter Fun



Monday, January 30, 6:30 p.m. – Goshen Branch
Bring the entire family for stories, games, and make some great crafts, such as a snowman doorstep or a snowflake mobile. For more information or to register, call (513) 722-1221.

Computer Instruction for Adults

Monday – Thursday, during library hours – New Richmond Branch
Adults can call and schedule one-on-one help with computer basics, creating an email account, and resume help. For more information or to register, call (513) 553-0570.

Creative Writing

Thursdays in January, 10:30 a.m. – Williamsburg Branch
Adults and teens are invited to join an informal creative writing group to make friends and have fun! For more information, call (513) 724-1070.

Simple and Frugal Living

Monday, January 23, 6:30 p.m. – Amelia Branch
Adults will discover how to cut corners and reduce a budget to save money. Discover resources to help plan menus, find online deals, and coupons. For more information or to register, call (513) 752-5580.



Community Brightens Holidays for Clermont Seniors

The community came through in a big way this holiday season. Clermont Senior Services is reporting that the 2011 Adopt-a-Senior holiday program has been its most successful ever! “We had 460 senior citizens ‘adopted’ for the holidays,” said Clermont Seniors’ Communications Director Linda Eppler. “Citizens, businesses, churches, and Scout troops provided gifts to lower-income seniors across Clermont County. Many of the seniors are alone with no family nearby and live without the basics that many of us take for granted; the generosity of the community will help make the holidays a little brighter.” The seniors’ wish lists included items like cleaning supplies and bath towels.



Eppler said one elderly man who received his gifts last week told a Clermont Seniors volunteer, “I am trying to hold off until Christmas to open my gifts. But, I may get excited and have to open them early!” Thousands of gifts were donated to the Adopt-a-Senior program this year, along with \$3,000 in cash and numerous gift cards.

“The many smiles, tears, and words of thanks are so rewarding,” said Eppler. “Thank you and happy holidays to everyone who had a part in making this program the best one ever.” Additional information about the Clermont Adopt-a-Senior program is available on the website www.ClermontSeniors.com.

So you want to be an astronaut?

As a child, Rick Searfoss dreamed of becoming a pilot and an astronaut. “When you focus on your goals, they can become reality,” said Colonel Searfoss, a former NASA astronaut and retired U.S. Air Force test pilot, during a visit to Mulberry Elementary School in Miami Township on Tuesday, December 13, 2011. Colonel Searfoss was visiting the school at the request of a fellow astronaut, Lt. Colonel Steve Heck, a teacher at the school, and one of a handful of teachers selected for the upcoming Pathfinder sub-orbital flight. Currently working as the lead test pilot with the commercial space program XCOR, Colonel Searfoss has piloted two shuttle missions, and commanded a third, logging over 939 hours

in space. “To look out the shuttle window and see the earth is a stunning experience,” he said. “Earth seems very close. What is really spectacular is how the view is always changing. The Himalayan Mountains seem to reach out of the atmosphere and try to touch you.”



Watch an interview with Colonel Searfoss at www.youtube.com/watch?v=a2Yb4lCQMhc.



Clermont County Animal Shelter Critters

call 732-8854 for more information



Marley



Isabella



Dancer



Macey



Eddie



Sunny



Cartman



Sassy



Comet



732-8854

www.ClermontCountyOhio.gov



Clermont Companies Recognized for Excellence

By: Julie Graybill, Clermont Chamber of Commerce

Twelve years ago, the Clermont Chamber of Commerce followed up on a recommendation from the U. S. Chamber of Commerce that the member recognition program be enhanced and expanded beyond the long-standing Pacesetter Awards. A task force made up of chamber members and chamber staff came back with five award categories, all aligned to recognize the best of the small businesses that made up over 80 percent of the chamber's membership. The first of those awards were presented at the chamber's annual meeting in 2001. The awards have been tweaked over the years, but the goal and the timing have remained constant.

The winners of the 2011 Small Business Best Practices Awards are:

Customer Focus (Under 50 Employees) – *The Lyon Group*. For over 60 years, The Lyon Group (Union Township) has helped successful business owners and families identify and grow their holistic net worth by working collaboratively to empower clients to align their wealth with their values through thoughtful planning. Their corporate values focus on The Golden Rule, maximum effort, communications effectiveness, preparation, confidentiality, and respect for their customers' time.

Customer Focus (51 – 250 Employees) – *Sporty's*. Sporty's, the world's largest pilot shop, has been offering high quality aviation products and supplies for more than 50 years. Their promise to their customers is cutting edge products backed by old-fashioned service. It all starts with their one year guarantee that has remained unchanged since 1961...no fine print, no hassle returns if a customer is not 100 percent satisfied. Founder and Chairman Hal Shevers adds that he built this business on providing the best possible customer service and respect for the customer.

Innovative Business Practices or Products – *CTTS* - Cincinnati Training Terminal Services Inc. This now Sharonville-based member was established in 1985 in the Eastgate area as a classroom learning facility by Patricia Fraley and Kathy McConnell. In the early 90's CTTS expanded their services into CTTS Productions and created ELearning and EMedia applications after seeing a change in the technological arena. Featured current projects include www.askformoretraining.com that has helped AREVA Inc. train and certify over 5000 nuclear power engineers worldwide, signsurgery.org that allows surgeons to view X-rays and surgery reports again worldwide, easyappsonline.com for the health insurance industry and another web application for GE Aviation being used worldwide for training of aircraft mechanics who are working on the new energy efficient jet engines.

Innovative Business Practices or Products (51 – 250 Employees) – *General Data Co., Inc.* Based in Union Township, General

Data is a team of experts helping companies become more efficient by harnessing the power of labeling, identification, data collection, tracking and service technologies. General Data was founded in 1981 by Peter Wenzel as a distributor of line, matrix and related printing equipment. As the barcode industry grew, General Data became a national distributor, integrator and service provider for barcode printing, scanning and automated data collection equipment. Soon after, General Data added label manufacturing and converting capabilities to better serve the growing demand.

Emerging Small Business (Under 50 Employees) – *Global Scrap Management Inc.* GSM started in 2003 by Chris Hamm as an aluminum brokerage company, focusing on servicing industrial accounts, with particular interest in recycling aluminum chips. In 2008, GSM opened a processing facility in Milford, Ohio to shred, separate, dry, and remove Fe from the chips, creating a melt-ready product. In December 2011, GSM opened a new facility, Altimet, in Batavia, Ohio in 300,000 square feet of the former Ford plant for the purpose of melting chips and other grades of aluminum scrap into high quality alloy ingot and other products.

Emerging Small Business (51 – 259 Employees) – *Eagle Specialty Vehicles Inc.* Eagle Coach Company is a customer-driven professional vehicle manufacturer that can trace its origins back to the 1940s and the armored car legend Hess & Eisenhardt. When Hess & Eisenhardt sold its Cincinnati funeral coach division in the early 1980's, Eagle Coach Company was established, retaining a team of talented and experienced employees. Today, twenty-four years later, Eagle Coach Company is arguably the recognized industry leader in over-all quality, style, innovation and customer satisfaction. In 2006, Eagle expanded its manufacturing facility in response to growing customer demand, and now also offers a complete line-up of six-door limousines, along with its other specialty vehicles.

These awards will be presented at the Annual Meeting of the Clermont Chamber of Commerce on February 10, 2012 at Receptions East Conference Center. The meeting will begin at 11:30 a.m. For more information or to register call (513) 576-5000.



The most popular video's for 2011 on Clermont County's You Tube channel...

What it takes to become an Ohio State Patrol trooper (1,402 views and counting):

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u3qwArYKsx4>

A visit with the new CNE musical group called Ear Candy (788 views and counting):

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_y2KoA6IFMY

December Medals Ceremony

On December 21, 2011 the Clermont County Veterans' Service Commission held a medals ceremony honoring local U.S. Army veterans inducted into the Ohio Military Hall of Fame and the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame.



Members of the Clermont County Veterans' Services Commission and Congresswoman Jean Schmidt (R-2) honor veterans Larry Isaacs, John McDonald, and Bill Knepp. The late U.S. President General Ulysses S, Grant, a Clermont native son, was also honored at the ceremony.

Keep the Williamsburg-Batavia Hike/Bike Trail Moving!

On Saturday, January 21, 2012, a *Hike/Bike Rock and Roast* will be held at the Pattison Park Lodge, located just west of Owensville, from 6:30 p.m. until 11 p.m. In addition to a pig roast, there will be a silent auction, a video of the hike/bike trail will be played, and there will be dancing with a live D.J.

Phase I of the hike/bike trail was completed two years ago; phase II of the project to reopen Kain Run Road into the East Fork State Park is scheduled to begin construction in spring/summer 2012.

Tickets to the *Hike/Bike Rock and Roast* are \$20 each. Contact Williamsburg Mayor Mary Ann Lefker for more information at 724-6107.





Looking for a tasty recipe to ring in the New Year? How about some Peppermint Brownie Meltaways? The recipe was a blue ribbon winner at the 2011 Clermont County Fair.



Follow along with local 4-H member Gloria Martin as she demonstrates how to prepare the dessert at

<http://www.clermontcountyohio.gov/video1216osu.aspx!>

League to Present Transportation Challenges and Choices in January

By: Cyn Macke, Clermont Chamber

Please plan to attend the Clermont League of Women Voters January meeting as Clermont County Engineer Pat Manger presents Transportation Challenges and Choices. Held at 6:30 p.m. on January 31, 2012, at Batavia Township Community Center, 1535 Clough Pike, the meeting is free and open to the public.



Clermont Engineer Pat Manger

Manger has served as County Engineer since 2003, working diligently to ensure that Clermont County's roads and bridges are safe, efficient, well-maintained and provide good access. In addition to coordinating and consulting with many of Clermont County's agencies including commissioners, sheriff's office, county auditor, township trustees and city councils to ensure the current needs of the entire county are met, Manger is also concentrated on balancing the efforts needed to

maintain the existing infrastructure and investments already made with the need to provide a comprehensive plan for the future.

In this January 31, 2012 presentation, Manger will address transportation priorities in the county and will present the most recent developments of the Eastern Corridor project, the integrated, multi-modal transportation investment that will enhance our regional transportation network by improving travel and connections between central Cincinnati and the communities extending east through Hamilton County and into western Clermont

County.

For further information contact Margaret Jenkins, (513) 732-7070 Extension 14.

This newsletter is a service of the Board of Clermont County Commissioners. For more information about the articles featured, contact Clermont County Communications Director Kathy Lehr or Rebecca Kimble at (513) 732-7597 or e-mail klehr@ClermontCountyOhio.gov