



## COMING SATURDAY

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• Julie Chen returns to host season 14 of "Big Brother." **Inside Saturday**

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# Sidney Daily News

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Sidney, Ohio

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### TODAY'S NEWS

### TODAY'S WEATHER



For a full weather report, turn to Page 13.

### SPORTS



#### Tribe batters Angels 12-3

• CLEVELAND (AP) — Derek Lowe won for the first time in more than a month and the Cleveland Indians beat the Los Angeles Angels 12-3 Wednesday.

Lowe (8-6) gave up three runs and 11 hits in six innings for his first win in six starts since June 1. The 39-year-old right-hander was 0-3 with a 7.71 ERA in five outings between victories. **Page 17**

### DEATHS

Obituaries and/or death notices for the following people appear on Page 3A today:

- Robert D. Thompson

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### TODAY'S THOUGHT

"Be daring, be different, be impractical, be anything that will assert integrity of purpose and imaginative vision against the play-it-safers, the creatures of the commonplace, the slaves of the ordinary." — Cecil Beaton, English fashion photographer and costume designer (1904-1980).

For more on today in history, turn to Page 5.

### NEWS NUMBERS

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## Concert could bring \$13.5 million

BY TOM BARNETT  
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With Country Concert 2012 arriving this week, Sidney and Shelby County merchants, motels and convenience stores are gearing up for the buying spike some say produces almost 25 percent of their annual business.

Top country artists will be performing today, Friday and Saturday as concert-goers enjoy camping, former concert friends and fun.

Based on an estimated 25,000 local and 35,000 attendees from Ohio and other states, this year's County Concert could have a \$13.5 million economic impact on the local region, Jeff Raible, Sidney/Shelby Chamber of Commerce director, conservatively estimated.

"Ohio Division of Travel and Tourism data estimates the average overnight traveler spends \$305 a day and the day trip traveler \$104," he said. "That adds

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SDN Photo/Luke Gronneberg

**CHUCK DEUTSCH**, of Willoughby, sets up a tent next to his RV at a Country Concert at Hickory Hill Lakes campsite Tuesday.

## Frey sworn in as humane officer

BY PATRICIA ANN SPEELMAN  
pspeelman@sdnccg.com

Shelby County Juvenile and Probate Judge William Zimmerman swore in a new humane officer Tuesday and a new organization announced its mission to support the county animal shelter.

The actions may signal the demise of the Shelby County Humane Society.

Zimmerman swore in Sheriff's Deputy Cami Frey, who has been managing the Shelby County Animal Shelter. About 20 people attended the event, half of whom sported long red scarves to promote their new foundation.

"This is going to be a big adventure," Frey said in the juvenile court where the ceremony took place. "I'm looking forward to it. I'm open to good things for the new organization."



SDN Photo/Patricia Ann Speelman

**SHERIFF'S DEPUTY Cami Frey** (right) takes the oath of office from Shelby County Probate Judge William Zimmerman to become the latest humane officer in the county. The ceremony took place Tuesday in the courthouse.

That organization is the Shelby County Animal Rescue Foundation (SCARF).

"I am excited to announce the formal establishment of

SCARF, which represents the culmination of months of planning and preparation and marks a significant moment in the future history of Shelby

County's approach to the care for, and ultimate prevention of, homeless animals," said Eric Barr, president of the group.

Other founding board members are Cheri Dalton, Julie Ehemann, Joe Laber, Nicole Laber, Ruth Ann Laber, Emily Scheu, John Scheu and Rob Thorne. Shelby County Sheriff John Lenhart announced a partnership between SCARF and the sheriff's office, which oversees the animal shelter.

"Along with this appointment (of Frey) comes the responsibility to investigate complaints of inhumane treatment of animals in Shelby County," he said. Those investigations in the past have been the responsibility of long-time Humane Officer Mike Lescowitch, who is president of the Shelby County Humane Society. He thinks the new appointment may be

See **HUMANE**/Page 3A

## Many have throwback Fourth without power

BY MATTHEW BARAKAT  
AP Exchange

**MOUNT VERNON, Va.** (AP) — George Washington never had air conditioning, but he knew how to keep cool: a mansion with lots of windows elevated on the banks of a wide, rolling river and lots of ice cream, maybe with a little brandy.

It was a little like the old days without electricity Wednesday, as the nation's capital region celebrated Independence Day the better part of a week into a widespread blackout that left millions of residents sweltering in 90-plus degree heat without air conditioning. Utilities have slowly been restoring service knocked out by a freak storm Friday from the Midwest to the Mid-Atlantic, and at least 26 people have died in the storm or its aftermath.

At George Washington's Mount Vernon estate, one of the most popular Fourth of July attractions was a demonstration of 18th-century ice cream making, one of Washington's favorite desserts. His-



AP Photo/Alex Brandon

**ANETTE AHRENS**, an historical interpreter, holds chocolate ice cream during a demonstration of how to make ice cream at George Washington's Mount Vernon estate, Wednesday, July 4 in Alexandria, Va.

torical interpreters Gail Cassidy and Anette Ahrens showed the crowds how cocoa beans were roasted and ground into a paste for chocolate ice cream, made using ice hauled up in massive blocks from the Potomac River and stored underground to last as long into the summer as possible.

As for beverages, Washing-

ton was no stranger to alcohol, enjoying imported Madeira wine from Portugal, distilling his own whiskey and enjoying a fruity brandy cocktail called Cherry Bounce.

Washington was his own architect at Mount Vernon, "and he was very good at it," said Dennis Pogue, associate director for preservation at Mount Vernon. The piazza,

which runs the length of the mansion, is "kind of California living in the 18th century," Pogue said.

The location, atop a sloping hill along the Potomac, catches cool breezes. Lots of windows and shutters allow for the regulation of sun and wind. And the distinctive cupola on the mansion roof serves as the mansion's air conditioning unit, funneling hot air out the top and drawing cooler air in at the ground level.

Visitors on Wednesday gathered on the mansion's back porch, a piazza overlooking the Potomac where breezes rolled through.

"It feels good out here. It's the same thing we do in Texas," said Chris Moore of Austin, Texas, sitting with his wife, Dina. The two had come to Virginia to see their son graduate from officer training at The Basic School at Quantico Marine Corps Base.

Moore said he opted for the smaller crowds at Mount Vernon as opposed to the massive Fourth of July Celebration on

See **FOURTH**/Page 2A

DEATH NOTICES

**Robert Thompson**

COLDWATER — Robert D. Thompson, 68, of Coldwater, died at 9:20 a.m., on Tuesday, July 3, 2012. Services will be held on Saturday at Coldwater United Methodist Church. Arrangements are being handled through Ketcham-Ripley Funeral Home in Rockford.

**Vets provided assistance**

The Shelby County Veterans Service office provided financial relief for seven veterans and their beneficiaries totaling \$4,034.78 during its June 27 meeting.

Additionally, 24 veterans were assisted between board meetings from June 14 to June 27 in the amount of \$4,146.68.

The board also discussed updating its current office lease agreement and furnace replacement.

Members then focused on Veteran's Day at the Shelby County Fair July 28 and the need for a possible computer workstation replacement in the future, considering a proposal to eliminate server requirement.

Administrative calendar updates were provided for future public briefings, Ohio Department of Veterans Services Strategic Planning initiatives, ISFAC/RISFAC Ohio National Guard meetings and training evolutions.

The next board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday at 10 a.m.

**Woman's scalp torn away**

BARBERTON (AP) — A northeast Ohio woman remains hospitalized after her hair got caught in a manufacturing machine and her scalp was ripped from her head.

The Akron Beacon Journal reports the 25-year-old woman was clearing out a machine she operates during a Monday night shift at JR Engineering in Barberton, outside of Akron.

The newspaper says that's when the woman's hair became tangled in the machine, and her scalp was ripped from just above her eyebrows.

The woman was taken to Akron General Medical Center and is listed Wednesday under serious condition. Her family tells the newspaper that surgeons reattached about 75 percent of her scalp, but plastic surgery will be needed in the future.

LOTTERY

**Tuesday drawing**  
Mega Millions: 03-04-24-36-52, Mega Ball: 45, Megaplier: 4

**Wednesday drawings**  
Pick 3 Midday: 7-5-5  
Pick 3 Evening: 5-0-3  
Pick 4 Midday: 1-4-5-3  
Pick 4 Evening: 9-9-3-0

Ten OH Midday: 03-05-11-12-15-16-17-19-21-24-26-27-34-36-45-57-58-73-77-80

Ten OH Evening: 03-06-07-08-10-14-24-28-30-31-36-43-46-53-55-62-63-67-69-78

Rolling Cash 5: 02-03-04-05-34

Classic Lotto: 01-03-07-15-29-40

Lotto Kicker: 5-5-1-9-9-1

Powerball results will be published in Friday's newspaper.

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**Will be CLOSED July 2, 3, 4, 5**  
Reopen July 6th  
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OBITUARY POLICY

The Sidney Daily News publishes abbreviated death notices free of charge. There is a flat \$75 charge for obituaries and photographs. Usually death notices and/or obituaries are submitted via the family's funeral home, although in some cases a family may choose to submit the information directly.

**NEWS**

For Gift Subscriptions please call 937-498-5939 or 1-800-688-4820

**Ohio EPA orders county to treat Newport sewage**

BY TOM BARNETT  
tbarnett@sdnccg.com

In an agreement with the Ohio EPA, Shelby County Commissioners will install sewers and provide central wastewater treatment for an estimated 200 homes and business in the village of Newport.

Commissioner Larry Keinmans said Monday design plans for the mandated project are due to Ohio EPA by November. "We've been having conversations with County Engineer Bob

Geuy over the project, but nothing is firm yet," the commissioner said.

Kleinmans told a reporter unofficially the project must be completed by an as-yet-undetermined deadline — "maybe six years."

"Since design plans haven't yet been developed, he continued, no realistic cost estimates are available, but you can bet it will be costly." He said the project is being mandated by OEPA since Newport residents are all using aging septic systems that are failing. The

problem, he added, is complicated by groundwater conditions emanating from the presence of remnants of the Miami & Erie Canal.

OEPA said this week there is a long standing documented public health nuisance in the village due to humane waste from failing septic systems contaminating streams and ditches.

In a statement released last week, the agency reported:

"Putrescent waste has turned portions of storm drains and ditches black

with water containing high levels of fecal coliform bacteria. Contact with certain forms of fecal bacteria can cause severe health effects.

"Connecting buildings in Newport to a central sewer will allow sewage to be treated and disinfected before it is discharged. Without the discharge from failing septic systems, Ohio EPA expects area storm sewers, drainage ditches and ultimately the Miami-Erie Canal and Loramie Creek will be cleaner."

CONCERT

From Page 1

up to \$20.9 million, but, since the overnight stay estimates are based on hotel occupancy and many overnight Country Concert guests camp on concert grounds, we need to round down the estimates. Assuming campers total 60 percent of the state estimates, we come up with the \$13.5 figure," Raible explained.

Walmart and Kroger stores began stocking shelves weeks ago for both July Fourth and Country Concert as they do each year as both events approach.

Walmart store manager Ken Wysong said the store has ordered a lot of liquid merchandise — Gatorade, soda and bottled water picnicers and concertgoers will be needing to stay hydrated in the hot sun, and are also stocking up on snacks, suntan lotion, cowboy hats, camp chairs, coolers and "anything related to grilling."

"We've ordered more than 20 pallets of ice that will last just four or five days and have been moving things around in the store to accommodate the larger number of shop-



SDN Photo/Luke Gronneberg

**THE COUNTRY Concert state is set up Tuesday and ready for the stars.**

pers expected," he also said.

Kroger store manager Millie Terrell said personnel "have been making sure we're ahead of the game on ice, bottled water, pop, coolers and folding chairs." She also said the state liquor store does a lot of business during Country Concert.

At Meyers Garage and Drive-Thru in Newport, owner Mike

Meyers said they stock up on ice, bottled water and pop.

He said the carryout orders about 50 percent more ice. "It's an above-average weekend, but mostly we sell them what they've run out of or forgotten since most concertgoers come prepared for the weekend."

Stacy Nelson, Sidney Hampton Inn manager, said the inn is fully booked for concert week, even running a

waiting register.

"We're busy here all the time, so we always have a full staff, she said. "They're a great group, we enjoy them and we're always ready for them. Some groups register a year ahead for the next concert."

All Sidney and area hotels and motels are annually booked solid the week of Country Concert, and for many concertgoers, camping at Hickory Hills sites in Newport is a large part of the weekend experience.

At Al's Place in Fort Loramie, Gary Aselage said the restaurant is really busy during concert week and stocks up on food for the crowd. "They order what they want from the menu, and we do a lot of take-out orders. The crowd doesn't seem to have any favorite menu items."

At Hickory Hills for the concert, private security guards augment Shelby County Sheriff's officers to provide a safe, secure experience for concertgoers. Staff concert "hosts" also monitor activity, and digital security cameras will also be making sure there are no problems.

HUMANE

From Page 1

the first step in dismantling the society. He had not known the appointment of Frey was to take place.

"I imagine I'll get a letter from the judge in the next couple days relieving me of my position," he said. The society lost its standing as a nonprofit organization in 2011 because it had not filed required forms with the Internal Revenue Service for the previous three years.

"It has been reported to me that the Humane Society hasn't filed paperwork and that puts its corporate status in jeopardy," said Zimmerman. "That will impact my appointment of agents... If some agent asks me to rescind appointments of other agents, I'll have to consider that."

Lescowitch was appointed in 2004. A county can have more than one humane officer, but only one can be paid, according to the Ohio Revised Code. Sandra Lescowitch, Mike's wife, is also a humane officer in Shelby County. Mike Lescowitch has been paid the state-required minimum of \$25 per month by the county since his appointment. But payments are not automatic. He has to submit invoices, which he said sometimes take two or three years to be paid. He said the com-

missioners owe him the \$300 for 2011 now.

"Paperwork we should have got from the IRS we never got," Lescowitch said. "So we lost our 501(c)(3) (the IRS designation for a nonprofit organization). We've got an attorney, and we're working on it. (Apparently) without the paperwork, the judge is taking everything away from us." Zimmerman made no mention of plans to dismantle the humane society.

For her part, Frey said she hopes expand the operations of the shelter, to someday have a new facility.

Lenhart said, "We only have 32 kennels. This is a new frontier. We're anxious to move forward." Frey also said that the shelter is working on a low-kill policy, one in which fewer animals would be put down.

"We work with a lot of rescues," she added. "We're looking for lots and lots of volunteers."

SCARF members will be among those volunteers. Lenhart said he looks to the group to help develop animal shelter policy and to raise funds in support of shelter operations.

"I deeply appreciate the support of this new 501(c)(3) organization and welcome the help that they will bring to the Shelby County Animal Shelter," he said.

**New group founded to protect animals**

A group of area residents has founded a new organization to support the Shelby County Animal Shelter.

At a press conference Tuesday in the county courthouse, officers and board members announced the establishment of the Shelby County Animal Rescue Foundation (SCARF).

Its mission is to raise funds to support the shelter in safe adoptions, education and community outreach concerning abused and neglected animals, medical procedures, eliminating euthanasia of adoptable animals, and maintaining best practices.

Contributions to SCARF will directly support the shelter's initiatives and new homeless animal-prevention programs, organizers said.

"SCARF was organized by private citizens, with the support of Sheriff John Lenhart and Deputy Cami Frey, to improve the quality of life and survival rate of all homeless animals in Shelby County," said the foundation's president, Eric Barr. Public Defender Tim Sell has donated his services to help the group with legal matters. Behr Design donated the design of a logo.

"(The founders) all recognized that in order to prevent animals from becoming homeless and arriving at the Shelby County Animal Shelter, intensive fundraising and community outreach programs need to take place," Barr said. "We also believed that the financial needs of the animal shelter cannot be adequately funded solely by the Shelby County Commissioners during the recent economic recession."

A Facebook page has been developed at [facebook.com/helpshelbycountyanimals](http://facebook.com/helpshelbycountyanimals).

The group has scheduled its first "adoption" and Cans for Canines drive at the shelter July 21.

"At the drive, we'll be collecting empty aluminum cans, which will be turned in to a local recycling center to raise money for the shelter. SCARF will also have a booth set up at Applefest Sept. 8," said SCARF Vice President Joe Laber.