

**- PRESS RELEASE -**  
**Clermont County Public Library**

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**September is Library Card Sign-up Month – Get Your “Smart Card”**

September is National Library Card Sign-up Month. The Clermont County Public Library urges everyone to get a library card because it is the “smartest card” you can carry.

A library card gives you personalized access to a world of free learning and enjoyment. Books, music, movies and Internet access are all part of the public collection at the Clermont County Public Library (CCPL).

Even if you already have a library card, now is the time to get a new one. The new “smart” library card system now captures your photo as part of your library record and issues an individual barcode. That barcode appears on your card and a convenient key chain card. The photo does not appear on the card, but becomes part of your library record to make sure that your card is not misused by anyone else if it is misplaced or stolen.

As part of Library Card Sign-up Month, any adult who has his or her picture taken for their library record during the month of September will receive an entry slip for an adult gift bag drawing at their local branch. Winners will be notified October 1.

“Identity theft can happen in any business or organization. The Clermont County Public Library wants to protect our customers against identity theft,” said Leslie Massey, library director.

(more)

The new, free “smart” card can be obtained at all 10 branches of CCPL. The newly opened Bethel Library Branch was the first to use the new photo identity system during their grand opening August 28<sup>th</sup>. Patrons were very enthusiastic about the new “smart” card.

Ruth Hill, of Felicity, got her very first library card during the opening celebration. “I think it is a beautiful idea,” she said. “This is my first library card, and I am happy to see that I will be protected from anyone misusing it,”

Barbara Jean Day, of Hamersville, took the opportunity to replace her existing library card with the new “smart” card. “I really like the security, and also the convenience of the key chain card,” she said.

For more information about getting a “smart” card, contact your local library branch or visit the Clermont County Public Library website at [www.clermont.lib.oh.us](http://www.clermont.lib.oh.us)

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