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THIRD ANNUAL CLEMENS CYCLE FOR CANCER SATURDAY, AUGUST 13<sup>TH</sup> HONORS  
MEMORY OF RESPECTED FRANKLIN COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPUTY.

EXPECTED TO DRAW RECORD NUMBER OF RIDERS TO PLAIN CITY, OHIO

PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT CANCER RESEARCH AT MIAMI VALLEY HOSPITAL  
FOUNDATION.

(Columbus, Ohio – July 27, 2005) – When 37 year old Rick Clemens of Dublin begins pedaling his bicycle during the third annual Clemens Cycle for Cancer on August 13<sup>th</sup>, his determination to make a difference will be as fierce and intense as ever.

Clemens is one of the lucky ones. He's never had cancer himself, but its devastating impact is all too familiar to him and his family.

"Words can't describe the incredible toll that cancer takes," Clemens admits. "It's not just the physical toll the disease takes on those it strikes, but it's the emotional toll it takes on those who love them. For every person who battles cancer, there are dozens of others who suffer in some way. We're out to change that."

Clemens will be one of an estimated 100 cyclists who'll be pedaling through the backroads of central Ohio on **Saturday, August 13, 2005** to raise money for cancer research. The event begins at **9:00 am** when cyclists depart from **Der Dutchman Restaurant at Route 42 and West Avenue in Plain City**. Riders have spent months collecting pledges, and they will follow their choices of 30, 70, or 100 mile routes through central Ohio's most picturesque rural roads. All proceeds from the event will benefit cancer research and oncology services funded through the Miami Valley Hospital Foundation in Dayton.

This year's ride will honor the memory of Franklin County Sheriff's Deputy Matt Schneider. Schneider was a well-known and widely respected canine officer with the

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department when he succumbed to lymphoma last December at the age of 42. The disease robbed Schneider's wife, Susie, and their three school-age children, of a loving husband and father. Susie Schneider will be among those taking part in this year's cycling event.

"Matt was a loving and very giving person with a voice as big as his heart," Susie recalls. "This is a wonderful way to honor Matt's memory, and to keep his voice alive."

The Clemens Family wants to go beyond simply finding a cure for cancer. They want the money they raise to go to develop new methods of treatment that will improve patients' quality of life, regardless of their prognosis. Even under the best of circumstances, battling cancer is a constant series of advances and retreats.

"This really hit home with my mother's cancer battle," Clemens recalls. "The effects of her treatment often made her sicker than the disease did. It makes you wonder whether it's better to prolong life, or mitigate suffering. We believe that there must be a better way to treat cancer, and Clemens Cycle for Cancer is all about helping discover the better way."

Clemens is the youngest of seven siblings who've watched cancer claim the lives of both of their parents in recent years. They lost their mother, Nancy, at age 61, to leukemia and lymphoma in 1996. Their father, Richard lost his 4-year battle with esophageal cancer earlier this year at age 71.

Although their father's death is still fresh in their minds, it was his spirit for life that inspired this growing annual event. "My father showed everyone he knew how to live and enjoy life despite his illness. I started Clemens Cycle for Cancer to show my father how much his fight meant to me and to share his inspiring story with other cancer patients," says Clemens.

Still, their mother's battle draws tears, even 9 years after her passing.

"For months, my mother was painfully sick," Rick Clemens recalls. "She knew the disease would eventually take her, but she was determined to live long enough to watch my sister, Linda, get married. She amazed her doctors. They didn't expect her to live long enough to see the ceremony, but she did.

"She was so frail and suffering when her six sons wheeled her into the church for the wedding. Everyone either openly cried or was on the verge of tears. She literally willed herself to live long enough to get her final wish."

Nancy Clemens died just as the last wedding song drew a close to her daughter's wedding night.

"Her final gift," Clemens says, "was her stunning and inspiring will to live. The silent eloquence of her example has become her great legacy to our family."

The ride itself is a powerful reaffirmation of the Clemens family's collective commitment to life, health, and to finding breakthrough treatments. "We're looking to break the \$10,000 mark in pledges this year. We're determined to clear that hurdle, for my parents, Deputy Mark Schneider, and everyone else whose lives have been altered by cancer."

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Since the first Clemens Cycle for Cancer ride in 2003, rider participation and donations have increased exponentially. While the event itself is still young, its rapid growth has convinced the Clemens family that it has tremendous potential to become a beneficial resource to promote breakthrough cancer research in Ohio. Last year's tally of more than \$6,000 went directly to The James Project in Human Cancer Genetic Advances, nearly twice as much as the previous year.

At the suggestion of last year's event honoree, Blake Eilers, 19 of Dayton, Clemens Cycle for Cancer selected the Miami Valley Hospital Foundation to receive proceeds from the 2005 event. Eilers will ride in the event just a year after brain surgery to remove a malignant tumor.

"We're deeply grateful to be this year's charity of choice for the Clemens family," says Miami Valley Hospital spokesman Michael Jarvis. "It's an honor for our physicians and staff, and a true benefit for our oncology patients."

Established in 1890, the Miami Valley Hospital serves patients and their families across western and central Ohio. The hospital's foundation raises \$3-\$4 million annually.

Clemens Cycle for Cancer, a non-profit corporation based in Dublin, Ohio, is dedicated to funding research into less invasive and more successful treatments in all forms of oncology. Since its inception in 2003, Clemens Cycle for Cancer has raised over \$10,000 supporting cancer research.

Corporate support for this year's event is being provided by Hawk Investment Management, LLC as well as Kamal's Gold Center, Gatorade, Clif Bar, and The Kroger Company.

Riders of all ages are welcome. Representatives of the news media are welcome to attend, and ride organizers and participants will make themselves available to reporters and writers both during and prior to the event.

Registration is \$30 per rider. Forms, maps, pledge forms, and general information about the ride can be found at the Cycle for Cancer website: <http://www.geocities.com/cycleforcancer/>

