



Hamilton County Sheriff's Office

Jim Neil, Sheriff

MEDIA RELEASE



Water Rescue

Crosby Township, April 25, 2014 – Hamilton County Sheriff Jim Neil reports that at 6:52 p.m. Sheriff's Deputies and Crosby Township Fire and Rescue responded to the area of the Blue Rock Rd. overpass of the Great Miami River for a report of a person stranded in the water. Once Officers arrived, it was determined that Melissa Hardwick, a 24 year old female white from Forest Park, Ohio and Ben Mohr, a 26 year old male white from Hamilton, Ohio had been canoeing on the great Miami river when the canoe overturned causing both of them to fall into the river.

Melissa Hardwick was able to safely swim to the shore without serious injury but Ben Mohr was unable to do so. Mr. Mohr was able to cling to a partially submerged tree that was near a bridge pylon for the Blue Rock Rd. overpass. Crosby Twp. Fire and rescue lowered a rope, flotation vest and portable radio to Mr. Mohr.

Whitewater Township and Colerain Twp fire and rescue units were called upon to assist in rescuing Mr. Mohr. Colerain and Whitewater Township Fire Departments both deployed watercraft due to the swiftness of the river and potential difficulties of reaching Mr. Mohr.

At approximately 8:36 p.m. Members of the Colerain Twp Fire Department were able to reach Mr. Mohr and get him safely into their rescue craft. Both Mrs. Hardwick and Mr. Mohr were evaluated by medical personnel at the scene and were found to have no serious injuries. Both subjects declined transportation to the hospital.

Sergeant Mikal Steers 9W83

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