

# Sycamore Township

# NEWS

SUMMER 2013

## In this Issue

- 1 Letter from the Trustee
- 2 Summer Vacation Safety
- 3 Drowning Prevention
- 4 Festival in Sycamore
- 5 3rd Annual Summer Car Show  
Township Tidbits
- 7 Property Maintenance Codes  
Welcome New Businesses
- 6 Road Work Ahead  
Fall Trash Bash  
Fall Compost Giveaway
- 8 Contacts

Welcome to Summer in Sycamore Township! While it's a time of vacations and relaxation for many of our residents, it's a very active period for us as we work to keep Sycamore Township a thriving, successful community for all of us.

First of all, I want to thank all of you for your support of the Joint Economic Development Zones in the May Primary Election. The residents of Sycamore Township supported the JEDZ by an overwhelming 82%. This is a great victory for all of the residents, and will help to preserve core services in the Township without burdening our residents with additional property taxes. It also enables the Township to continue to participate in the economic development of our Kenwood Business District, which is the driving economic engine for our entire Township. The fourth JEDZ (Northwest) will be on the ballot in November.

As you probably know, Phillips Edison, a Sycamore Township company, has purchased the half built tower along I-71 (formerly Kenwood Towne Place, now renamed Kenwood Collection). We have been meeting with them weekly and are very happy to report that interior work has resumed on the building, and they anticipate putting the skin on the outside of the building and closing it up completely by the end of the year. I know you will be very happy with the final results of this great building.

If you have been traveling Kenwood Road south of Montgomery Road, you know that navigating that stretch has been a real challenge the last four weeks. We are in the process of burying all of the utilities underground, placing a median down the center of the road with plants and vegetation, and resurfacing the entire stretch. When this is completed, it will be a great addition to Kenwood and will reduce the number of accidents in that area as well.

I'm sure you have also noticed the changes taking place at the corner of Montgomery

and Hosbrook Roads. This will be the new site of a great upscale restaurant out of Chicago called Cooper's Hawk. Cooper's Hawk is both a restaurant and a winery, and features a wine driven menu which changes every season. This is the second Cooper's Hawk Restaurant in Ohio and is going to be a great addition to the Township.



Tom Weidman, President

Just a reminder that our annual Sycamore Township Festival is coming up on July 12th and 13th at Bechtold Park. This year we are featuring "THE IDES OF MARCH" on Friday night and "AMERICA" on Saturday night. Our festival is always a great time for our residents to kick back and listen to some great music. The cost of the bands is paid for by corporate sponsorships, and we hope you will continue to patronize those businesses.

As always, feel free to contact me or any of the trustees or staff with any questions or issues you may have. We are always available to be of service.

On behalf of Trustees Cliff Bishop and Denny Connor, and our Fiscal Officer Rob Porter, I want to wish you a safe and happy summer as you take your vacations or just sit out on the back deck and enjoy the great weather.

Sincerely,

Tom Weidman, President, Board of Trustees



# Police and Crime Prevention



Thomas E. Butler,  
Lieutenant  
Hamilton County  
Sheriff's Office

## SUMMER VACATION SAFETY

Vacation is a time for fun and relaxation. Don't let yours be ruined by crime. Follow the crime prevention tips below.

### BEFORE LEAVING . . .

- Have good locks on all doors and windows, and **USE THEM!**
- Never leave your house key hidden outside under a doormat, in a flower pot, or on the ledge of a door.
- Make your house appear "lived in". Use timers for lights and radios. Leave your trip plans and an emergency phone number with a neighbor or a friend and have them pick up mail, packages and newspapers, and keep the lawn mowed and watered.
- Contact the Sheriff's Office at (513) 683-3444 and request to be added to the vacation watch list.

### ON THE ROAD...

- Never carry large amounts of cash; use traveler's checks.
  - Keep a record of traveler's check numbers and your credit card numbers in a safe place. Have the telephone numbers to call in case your checks or credit cards are lost or stolen.
  - Be aware of your surroundings and never advertise your plans to strangers; this includes travel routes and the amount of cash you are carrying.
  - Do not stop to offer help to a stranded motorist. Call 911 for assistance.
  - If you suspect someone is following you, drive to the nearest service station, restaurant or business and call the police or sheriff's department. If you believe it is unsafe to get out of your car, sound your horn and flash your lights to draw attention.
  - If your car breaks down, raise the hood and turn on your hazard lights. If someone stops to help, it is advisable that you stay in your locked car and ask them to call the police. If you must abandon your car, keep all passengers together.
  - Always lock your car after entering or leaving it.
- should avoid. Stick to well-lighted main streets and public areas.
- Looking lost (stopping and looking at addresses or staring at street signs) may make you look like an easy target for crime. If you do get lost, find an open business and ask for directions.
  - If older children go off separately, be sure they understand the importance of keeping track of time and returning promptly at appointed hours.

### HOTEL AND MOTEL SECURITY...

- Determine the most direct route to and from your room and to the fire escapes, elevators and nearest phone.
- When occupying or leaving your room, lock all doors and windows.
- Use the door viewer to identify anyone requesting entry. Open the door only if you are certain the person has a legitimate reason to enter your room. Report any suspicious person or behavior to the hotel/motel office.
- Arrange your things so you'll know if anything is missing and keep suitcases locked so they cannot be used to carry your property out of your room.
- Never leave money, checks, credit cards or car keys in the room. Take them with you.
- Place extra cash, expensive jewelry or other valuables in the hotel/motel safe.
- Report any lost or stolen items to the hotel/motel management and to the police.

### SIGHT-SEEING...

- Ask for directions at a hotel/motel on how to get to those attractions you want to visit.
- Select tour guides carefully.
- Ask if there are any areas in town you

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Festival in Sycamore

July 12 – 13  
6:00 P.M. – Midnight  
Bechtold Park  
4312 Sycamore Rd.

### Chipping Program

July 6, August 3, Sept. 7  
8:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.  
Behind Administration Building  
8540 Kenwood Rd.

### Summer Car Show

August 10  
9:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.  
Schuler Sports Complex  
11532 Deerfield Rd.

### North Trash Bash

Friday, September 13  
Noon – 4:00 P.M.  
Saturday, September 14  
8:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.  
McDaniel Park  
7841 School Rd.

### Fall Compost Give Away

September 21  
8:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.  
Hartzell Methodist Church  
8999 Applewood Dr.



Don't miss the family fun at the **Festival In Sycamore!**



# EMS/Fire Department

## DROWNING PREVENTION

The Sycamore Township Fire Department encourages life safety around water - especially as we approach the summer season. Drowning prevention should be a priority when planning your vacation schedule and your children's summer recreation activities. While your child may know how to swim better than when he was younger, swim lessons are not a substitute for active supervision. Childhood drownings and near drownings can happen in a matter of seconds. They typically occur when a child is left unattended or during a brief lapse in supervision. Whether they are in a backyard swimming pool, at a community center or in the ocean, always actively watch your child in and around water. For general drowning prevention, here are some safety tips to make this a safe and happy summer.



- Actively supervise children in and around water, giving them individual attention.
- Appoint a designated "water watcher" to watch the children in the pool, taking turns with other adults.
- Enroll your child in swimming lessons after the age of four—they'll be more likely to practice and retain information.
- Teach children how to tread water, float and get out of the pool.
- Don't rely on "water wings" or other inflatable toys. If your child cannot swim stay within arm's reach at all times.
- Ensure that children know where the deep end is and how far they can safely go.
- Know if and where diving is allowed; and never dive in less than 9 feet of water.
- Do not allow children to swim alone.



## SCHOOL'S OUT!

Now that school is out for summer, there will be plenty of little people walking, playing and riding bikes in our neighborhoods. Please slow down in residential areas and look twice when entering and leaving intersections to help keep children and bicyclists safe!

- Install multiple drains in all pools, spas, whirlpools and hot tubs. This minimizes the suction of any one drain, reducing risk of death or injury.
- Teach children to stay away from pool and spa drains, and to tie up long hair securely to protect against entanglement.
- Install four-sided isolation fencing at least five feet high and equipped with self-closing and self-latching gates, around a home pool or spa.
- Hot tubs should be closed and locked at all times.
- Install a door alarm, a window alarm, or both to alert you if a child wanders into the pool area unsupervised.
- Teach children never to go near or in water without an adult present.
- Learn CPR and keep rescue equipment, a telephone and emergency numbers poolside at all times.



Perry Gerome,  
CFI, CFEI, OFE, FM  
Fire Chief

Remember that drowning safety tips also apply to other types of water hazards hidden within your home. This could include bath tubs, buckets of water, toilets and spas. Adhere to precautions with the same level of supervision as with outdoor water hazards.

- Once a bath is over, immediately drain the tub.
- Empty all buckets, containers and wading pools immediately after each use. Store them upside down and out of children's reach.
- Keep toilet lids closed and utilize toilet locks.
- Keep doors to bathrooms and laundry rooms closed at all times.
- Children in baby bath seats and rings must be watched at all times.

These are just a few safety tips to aid you in preparing for the summer activities in and around water. Communicate valuable safety information with your children and reinforce those lessons throughout the summer season. Always supervise your children around water and teach them about the hazards associated with water related activities. Don't become a statistic this summer!



# Parks and Recreation



Mike McKeown  
Parks & Recreation  
Director

## AMERICA, IDES OF MARCH TO HEADLINE 21<sup>ST</sup> FESTIVAL IN SYCAMORE

Classic rockers **THE IDES OF MARCH** and rock legends **AMERICA** will headline a fabulous weekend of fantastic music, delicious food, and great rides and games from 6:00 P.M. to Midnight on July 12th and 13th at Bechtold Park, 4312 Sycamore Road. Besides the great music and food, the "Ride For Five" program will again be offered. Buy a bracelet for \$5.00 each day and ride the rides all night. Clowns and strolling entertainers will also be on hand.

The IDES OF MARCH, featuring Jim Peterik, are most famous for the mega hit "Vehicle", and will anchor the music lineup on Friday, July 12th. IDES lead singer Jim Peterik was not only a founding member of the popular band *Survivor*, he also wrote many of the big hits for the great southern rock band *38 Special*. The band still tours extensively and puts on a high energy show. AMERICA, who will appear on Saturday, July 13th, recorded multi-platinum and gold albums with many hits, including "Horse With No Name", "Ventura Highway", "Sister Golden Hair", "Daisy Jane", "Sandman", "I Need You", "Tin Man" and many others. The group performs around the world. These two groups will lead a fantastic music lineup that also includes *Pandora Effect*, *Blair Carman and the Bellevue Boys*, *The Refrains*, and *DV8*. The performance times are listed below.

A great variety of food and refreshments will be available for very reasonable prices. There will be free parking onsite (weather permitting) and in shuttle lots located at St. Saviour Church, Bethel Baptist Temple, Deer Park High School, and the Sycamore Township Administration Building. Don't miss **THE** event of the summer in Sycamore Township.

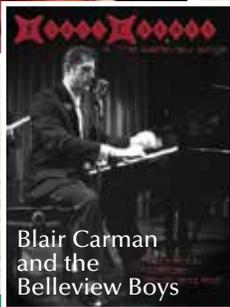
### ENTERTAINMENT SCHEDULE

#### FRIDAY JULY 12

- 6:00 – Pandora Effect
- 7:30 – Blair Carman and the Bellevue Boys
- 9:15 – **THE IDES OF MARCH**

#### SATURDAY JULY 13

- 6:00 – The Refrains
- 7:30 – DV8
- 9:15 – **AMERICA**



## 3RD ANNUAL SUMMER CAR SHOW TO BE HELD AUGUST 10TH

The date of the 3rd Annual Sycamore Township Summer Car Show has been changed to August 10th. The show will take place at the Robert L. Schuler Sports Complex, 11532 Deerfield Rd. Registration will run from 9:00 A.M. – Noon. The Car Show will run from Noon – 3:00 P.M., with awards presentation immediately following. The cost for entry is \$15.00; the first 100 entries will receive a free dash plaque. Live DJs will provide music during the show. Awards will be presented in the following categories: 40 Best, Trustees Choice, Best GM, Best Ford, Best Mopar, Best Import, Best Truck, Best Street Rod, Best Engine, Best Paint, Best of Show, and Best 1998 and up.

Admission is free. Call 792-7270 for more information.



**2012 CAR SHOW WINNERS**— Terry Buob for his beautiful 1955 Chevrolet Bel Air and Best of Show Winner Darrell Baldwin with his sleek 1937 Ford.

## CONGRATULATIONS TRACY KELLUMS!



Congratulations to Maintenance Superintendent Tracy Kellums on Thirty Years of Service to the Township! Here President of the Board of Trustees Tom Weidman, along with Trustees Cliff Bishop and Denny Connor and Fiscal Officer Rob Porter, present Mr. Kellums with a certificate honoring him for thirty years with the Township.



On June 6, 2013, the Trustees of Sycamore Township presented Joshua Howard of Sycamore Senior Center with a \$12,500 donation.

## TOWNSHIP TIDBITS

### CHURCH FESTIVALS

St. Saviour Church, 4136 Myrtle Avenue, will hold its annual Festival September 6, 7 and 8, 2013. Come on out and enjoy great food, rides and entertainment.

### THE SYCAMORE TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER NEEDS YOU!

Email your news, event information and/or photos to [newsletter@sycamoretownship.org](mailto:newsletter@sycamoretownship.org). Be sure to include your name and contact information. The deadline for our Fall issue is September 16th, 2013 by 4:30 P.M. We reserve the right to edit submissions for space and clarity. The number of contributions printed per issue is subject to space available.



Sycamore Township Trustees Tom Weidman, Cliff Bishop and Denny Connor and Fiscal Officer Rob Porter with Congressman Brad Wenstrup at the Deer Park/Silverton/Sycamore Township Veteran's Memorial Day Parade



# Planning and Zoning

## PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE

Property Maintenance Code - Sycamore Township has a property maintenance code and all property owners are required to meet the minimum standards of that code for the public safety and welfare of the Township. This code applies to both residential and commercial properties and helps keep our community safe.

Most Sycamore Township property owners take great pride in keeping their property in pristine condition. On occasion, however, a property within the Township has been neglected or fallen into disrepair. Please use one of the following options to report such concerns:

- Go to [www.sycamoretownship.org](http://www.sycamoretownship.org) and click on "Property Complaint Form" to enter a complaint online.
- Call the Planning and Zoning Hotline at (513) 792-7279 to leave a message for the Code Enforcement Official.

You may leave your name and contact information or choose to remain anonymous. It is very important to have the correct

address of the problem property and be as specific as possible regarding the complaint. The standard time to review complaints is within ten business days.

*The Township **does** have authority to enforce compliance for the following issues:*

- Tall grass/weeds
- Junk vehicles on private property
- Garbage/refuse and debris
- Boats/trailers parked on residential property
- Dumpsters and material such as mulch, gravel and pavers left in our roadways

*The following items are **not** enforceable by the Township and may be a civil matter between you and your neighbor:*

- Dead or dying trees on private property
- Property line disputes
- Drainage issues including natural drainage areas designed by the subdivision developer
- Vehicles parked in front of your residence on a public street

## SYCAMORE TOWNSHIP WELCOMES NEW BUSINESSES!

Now open at the Kenwood Towne Centre are **ATHLETA**, offering women's yoga and athletic clothing and **LILY PULITZER**, featuring colorful women's clothing and accessories. New to the Dillonvale Shopping Center is **COLOR ME NAILS** nail salon. **Dr. DAVID FRANZ**, dentist, has opened his practice at 8333 Montgomery Road. New at 7359 E. Kemper Road is **NICK BROWN INSURANCE**, a provider of insurance and financial planning services. **BELTONE**, providing hearing tests and hearing aids, **SOMA WELLNESS**, offering medical nutrition therapy and massage therapy, and **FIT MONTGOMERY**, a Far Infrared Wellness studio - helping people to relax their way to better health, have opened at the Kenwood Medical Center at 9030 Montgomery Road.



# Maintenance Department



Tracy Kellums,  
Superintendent

## ROAD WORK AHEAD

Sycamore Township maintains over 100 lane miles of roadway throughout the Township. This year the Township maintenance crew will be crack sealing more than 50 roads that total over 18 lane miles. There is also a microsurfacing project this summer that will be underway by the time you read this

article. The project will cover 21 streets for a total of approximately 10 lane miles and will be performed by Strawser Construction.

The following roads are included:

**Frane Lane  
Nodding Way  
Lisa Lane  
Marieview Court  
Vinnedge  
Court**

**Dunlieth Court  
Happiness Way  
Wexford Drive  
Donegal Drive  
Festive Drive  
Gwilada Drive**

**Langhorst Court  
Frolic Drive  
Jeffrey Court  
Guam Court  
Merrymaker Lane  
Patricks Glen Lane**

**Lyncris Drive  
Michael Drive  
Sandymar Drive  
Gideon Lane**

The Township will also have a road resurfacing project this year. Barrett Construction was the low bid and awarded this project. The resurfacing project will include the milling and removal of old surface asphalt, curb repair as needed, the installation of an interlayer to prevent reflective cracking and the placing of new surface asphalt. This project will cover eight streets at just over three lane miles.

The following roads are included:

**Kemperknoll Road  
Kemperridge Court  
Lyndhurst Court  
Northlake Drive**

**Baen Road  
Eldora Drive (Larchview to Belfast)  
Lyndon Center Court  
Glenbar Court**

If you have any questions or concerns about any of these projects please contact Tracy Kellums, Maintenance Superintendent, at (513)792-7257. As with all construction projects, there will be some inconvenience and possibly short delays, but with your patience and cooperation we will work to keep this to a minimum. Please SLOW DOWN and DRIVE SAFELY through all construction areas.



## FALL TRASH BASH – NORTH

Mark your calendars now for the Fall Trash Bash! The Sycamore Township Maintenance staff will be on hand to offer assistance at the North Sycamore Recreation Facility – (School Road entrance) at 7841 School Road.

**Friday, September 13th                      Noon to 4:00 P.M.**  
**Saturday, September 14th                8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.**  
**NO SUNDAY HOURS**

Trash, junk, debris, tires, old construction materials, furniture, lawn mowers and appliances will be accepted. Mattresses and box springs will also be accepted but **MUST** be wrapped in plastic. *Please note that paint, chemicals, pesticides and yard waste including leaves, limbs and brush will not be accepted. Be prepared to show proof of residency – a valid driver's license or utility bill with your Sycamore Township address will be accepted. (Residential only)*

## FALL COMPOST GIVE-AWAY

Sycamore Township will provide free compost and wood chips on Saturday, September 21st from 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. at the Township's compost site adjacent to the Hartzell United

Methodist Church parking lot at 8999 Applewood Drive. Maintenance personnel will be there to help load the material.





# Contacts

## Summer 2013

Tom Weidman, President  
Cliff Bishop, Vice President  
Denny Connor, Trustee  
Robert C. Porter III, Fiscal Officer  
R. Douglas Miller, Law Director  
Bruce Raabe, Administrator  
Tracy Kellums, Superintendent  
Mike McKeown, Parks & Recreation Director  
**791-8447 – Fax 792-8564**  
Greg Bickford, AICP, Planning/Zoning Director  
Assistant Administrator  
**792-7250 – Fax 792-8571**  
Perry Gerome, Fire Chief  
**792-8565 – Fax 792-8564**  
Thomas E. Butler, Lieutenant  
District Three Commander  
Hamilton County Sheriff's Office  
**774-6351– Fax 774-6350**  
Fire and Police Emergency – 911

[www.sycamoretownship.org](http://www.sycamoretownship.org)



8540 Kenwood Road  
Sycamore Twp., Ohio 45236

PRSRT STD  
US POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
CINCINNATI, OH  
PERMIT NO. 1693

*“There’s More in Sycamore”*



## Trustees available to better serve you



**Tom Weidman**  
President



**Cliff Bishop**  
Vice President



**Denny Connor**  
Trustee



**Robert C. Porter III**  
Fiscal  
Officer

You can leave messages for your elected officials by calling the Sycamore Township Administration Office at 791-8447.