

Sycamore Township

NEWS

Fall 2014

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As we wind down the warm weather and head into the cooler temperatures of Fall, we hope you all had a great and relaxing Summer. If you have driven around Kenwood lately, you will notice that we are continuing to improve the roads and intersections to meet the growing needs of the residents and businesses in the Kenwood Business District.

The most noticeable road project in Kenwood is at the intersection of Montgomery Road and Hosbrook Road. We are straightening out the intersection so that Hosbrook meets Montgomery Road at a more perpendicular angle, which helps improve efficiency at the intersection. We will also be adding a second left turn lane for better access to the Interstate. The final part of this project will be the burying of all utilities underground. When we are finished with this project, the utility poles along Hosbrook will be removed from Ronald Reagan Drive to Montgomery Road, and along Montgomery Road on both sides of the street between I-71 and Galbraith. Funding for this project is, in part, from the Joint Economic Development Zones that the residents of Sycamore Township voted to approve in May, 2013.



Tom Weidman
Trustee

The Kenwood Collection, under the new ownership of a Sycamore Township company Phillips Edison, is one of the largest mixed use office/retail projects in the entire Midwest. While I'm sure you've seen that the crane is back, they are working very hard on interior improvements and anticipate starting to close the building up by the end of the year. When this project is completed, it will be a great destination for both shoppers and corporate office workers.

Directly across I-71 from this site is a new project being built by another Sycamore Township company, Scott Street Partners. When construction is completed on the existing Northcreek site, it will be the new home for the Cincinnati health provider, TriHealth. We are excited that TriHealth has chosen to locate their new campus in Sycamore Township.

At the Trustee meeting on September 4th, the Trustees unanimously passed a Resolution declaring September Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month in Sycamore Township. Ovarian Cancer takes far too many lives each year. Know the signs of Ovarian Cancer by going to their website at www.cincyovariancancer.org to find out more.

One final note that moves us through Fall and into Winter. Sycamore Township was one of the first communities to negotiate the road salt contract for 2014, and we were able to negotiate one of the lowest prices per ton in Hamilton County, which is the good news. The bad news is that there is a significant shortage of road salt in the United States and we are being told by our supplier that they currently cannot guarantee when (or if) they will be able to supply us salt in our contract. While our two salt domes are currently about half full, a significant snowfall can reduce the supply quickly. This year we will be pre-treating the roads before anticipated snow with a beet juice mixture, and will utilize our plows to a greater degree instead of salt to help conserve on our supply of salt until we can get it replenished. So if the roads are not completely clean after an overnight snowstorm, please understand that we are trying our best to stretch the limited salt we have available.

Your elected officials are committed to keeping Sycamore Township a great place to live, work and play. If there is anything that we can do to help you, please contact us at 513-791-8447 or on our website at www.sycamoretownship.org.

On behalf of Trustees Cliff Bishop and Denny Connor, and our Fiscal Officer Rob Porter, we encourage you take in a local football game and enjoy the changing colors of Fall.

Sincerely,

Tom Weidman
Trustee



Police and Crime Prevention

BACK-TO-SCHOOL SAFETY TIPS

The Hamilton County Sheriff's Office would like to remind all drivers and pedestrians to be extra careful with the start of the new school year.

If you're walking...

We ask students to be extra cautious when walking to and from school and bus stops. Here are a few tips:

- Pay special attention to all traffic signals and crossing guards.
- Never cross the street against a red light, even if you don't see any traffic coming.
- Wear reflective clothing and bright colors so drivers can see you more easily.
- Plan a safe walking route to school. Choose the most direct way with the fewest street crossings and, if possible, with intersections that have traffic controls.
- Be ready for the bus, and wait for the bus to come to a complete stop before approaching it.
- Do not text or talk on your phone while you are walking, especially when crossing the street.

If you're driving...

- When a school bus is stopped with the stop sign extended from the driver's window you must stop immediately, no matter what direction you are traveling.
- Be very cautious and aware when school is back in session, as children will be walking to and from their schools and bus stops.
- As autumn approaches, there will be less daylight and children out early in the morning will be more difficult to see.
- Watch for children entering the street from behind buses or running to catch the bus.
- When driving your children to school, drop them off and pick them up as close to the school as possible in the designated areas.
- Do not leave your car parked and running if you have to leave your vehicle.
- Don't leave your children until they are safely on school grounds.
- Drive slowly when approaching children who are riding bicycles and walking near the street.
- Watch your speed when entering school zones.



Chris M. Kettelman,
Lieutenant
Hamilton County
Sheriff's Office

The Hamilton County Sheriff's Office wishes everyone a safe school year.



EMS/Fire Department



Rob Penny
Fire Chief

I hope everyone had a great summer!

In the spring, the Firefighters prepared for the upcoming severe winter weather by inventorying, inspecting and performing maintenance work on all of the equipment we use to help residents deal with storm damage. The tools and supplies were used on a few occasions during the harsh winter we had this past year and proved to be vital. We will soon be out performing maintenance on our fire hydrants. We will be checking to make sure they operate properly and the water is pumped out so they will not freeze this winter.

Autumn is almost here, and there are multiple safety issues that relate to this time of year. School buses will once again be present in the morning and afternoon and the children will be congregating on corners waiting for them. Please watch for them while you're driving. Daylight savings time will be ending before we know it. That means it's time to check the batteries in the smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.

One of the most hazardous days of the season is Halloween. There are a few precautions to take during one of autumn's biggest holidays. Trick-or-treating should never be done alone and kids should only enter homes if they are with a trusted adult. Costumes should fit correctly and be flame resistant to avoid accidental fires from candles and lights. It's also a good idea for children to carry a flashlight while they are walking around the streets in the dark.

Be careful, and enjoy the beautiful autumn weather.

Rob Penny
Fire Chief

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Chipping Program

October 4 / November 1 /
December 6
8:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.
Behind Administration Bldg.
8540 Kenwood Road

Fall Compost Give-Away

September 20
8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.
Hartzell United Methodist Church
8999 Applewood Drive

Highpoint Neighborhood Watch Meeting

October 6 and November 17
7:00 P.M.
Schuler Community Room
11580 Deerfield Road

Fall Leaf Collection

October 20 – December 12

Halloween

October 31
Trick-or-Treating
6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.

Election Day

November 4th



Parks and Recreation

FESTIVAL IN SYCAMORE 2014 – ANOTHER ONE FOR THE RECORD BOOKS!

Thousands of residents and neighbors filled Bechtold Park to enjoy the great music, food, and rides at the 22nd annual festival in Sycamore. Attracted by the fantastic music of FRAN COSMO (former singer for BOSTON), AMBROSIA, and THE GUESS WHO, a new record crowd attended. Thanks to all of the members of the Park Committee and the Maintenance Department! The Festival would not be possible without their help. Thanks also to GOLD sponsors Kroger and Kerry

Mitsubishi, SILVER sponsors Doubletree Suites, Kids First Sports Center, Prus Construction, Sycamore Township Republican Club, Integrys Energy Services, Brandstetter and Carroll Inc. and MAJOR sponsors Brookwood Retirement Community, Jeffrey Anderson Real Estate, Print Management, Dillonvale Shopping Center, Neyer Properties, Horan Associates, TEC Engineering, United Refrigeration and The Alleen Company.



2014 SYCAMORE TOWNSHIP CAR SHOW WINNERS:



Trustees Choice Award Winner Robert Master, '55 T-Bird, with Trustees Cliff Bishop, Tom Weidman and Denny Connor



Best of Show Winners Bill and Missy Green, '65 Ford Mustang, with Trustees Denny Connor and Tom Weidman

TOWNSHIP TIDBITS

ELECTRIC AGGREGATION

The Board of Trustees has entered into an agreement with Duke Energy Retail to assist the Township in becoming a certified electric aggregator with the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO). Once the certification is complete, the Township will be able to negotiate electric rates for residents and small businesses. If the Township is able to receive a favorable electric rate, then an opt out program (similar to the successful natural gas aggregation) will begin. It is anticipated that the program could begin as early as this fall.

The aggregated rate would be automatically applied to all eligible Duke Energy Regulated subscribers provided that they DO NOT opt out of the program. If you receive your electric from a third party such as Duke Energy Retail, AEP, IGS, Constellation Energy, or other electric choice provider, then you are NOT eligible for the negotiated rate until you leave that provider. Check with your provider about the status of your contract.

During the certification process, Duke Energy Regulated customers may receive unsolicited offers from other suppliers. This may be in the form of a letter or door to door solicitation. These solicitors may also represent that they are part of the Township aggregation program – they are not. It is your decision as a consumer if you want to utilize their services, however, keep in mind that if you switch providers, you will not be automatically entitled to the Township aggregation rate should the program move forward.

No one from Duke Energy Retail or Sycamore Township will ever come door to door and solicit for the aggregation program. All correspondence will be mailed via regular mail on official Township letterhead and sample letters will be posted to the Township website when the time comes for them to be sent out.

If you have any questions about the process, please feel free to contact the Township Offices. Please check the Township website or Facebook page for the latest updates.



Trustees Denny Connor, Tom Weidman and Cliff Bishop with Sydney Lamb Faxon-Trout, of Integrys, who presented the Township with a certificate showing the dollar amount saved because of the Township's enrollment in the Natural Gas Aggregation Program.

BLUE ASH YMCA FALL YOUTH SPORTS INFORMATION

Fall Basketball, Co-ed, Ages 3-12 years old
Registration: Members
September 10; Program Participate September 20;
Ends October 21
Ages 3-6 years old will have a 30 minute practice followed by a 30 minute game.
Ages 7-12 years old will have practice on Mondays at 5 p.m., 6 p.m. or 7 p.m.

First practice for basketball ages 7-12 years old is October 27
Season: October 27 – December 20
Fee: Members \$50; Program Participate \$90

Fall Flag Football, Co-ed, Ages 5-8 years old
Registration: Members July 1; Program Participate July 8;
Ends October 13
Each team will have one practice per week

Flag Football games are held on Saturday mornings
Season: October 20-December 6
Fee: Members \$50; Program Participate \$90

Contact information is Mary Chesko, Sport Coordinator, phone (513) 791-5000 or email mchesko@cincinnatiymca.org

SECOND ANNUAL PAW JOGGERS RESCUE RUN AT SHARON WOODS

Sunday October 19, 2014. 5K and 2K start at 10 am; kids' 1K at 11:30. Benefits 30 local animal welfare organizations. www.pawjoggersrescuerun.com. Sponsored by the Paw Joggers Animal Community Fund.



Trustees Denny Connor, Cliff Bishop and Tom Weidman with Firefighter/Medic Brent Uckotter who was sworn in as a full time firefighter for Sycamore Township at the June 5, 2014 Trustees Meeting.





Planning and Zoning

FINES TO PROPERTY OWNERS FOR OBSTRUCTION OF ROADWAYS

Did you know it is illegal to dump construction materials or place dumpsters on the road or in the public right-of-way? Placing a dumpster or dumping of construction materials such as gravel, mulch and dirt in the road causes damage to Sycamore Township roads and creates safety and traffic issues. In 2011, Sycamore Township Trustees passed a resolution setting a civil fine for obstructing roads and sidewalks in Sycamore Township. Therefore, in addition to a citation issued to the property owner by the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office, the property owner and/or contractor who illegally obstructs the road or right-of-way is subject to civil fines of \$350.00 for the first offense, \$700.00 for the second offense and \$1000.00 for the third offense. Please do your part to help keep our roads in good shape, reduce repairs and save taxpayer money by keeping Sycamore Township roads clear.

WELCOME NEW BUSINESSES!

New at the Kenwood Towne Centre are President Tuxedo, featuring the latest designer styles and colors in formal wear; Hanna Andersson, a retailer offering stylish clothes for babies, kids and women; and The North Face, featuring performance apparel, equipment, and footwear.

Kenwood City Place retail center is now open at the corner of Montgomery Road and Hosbrook Road. Now you can enjoy a delicious meal at Currito Burritos or Fusian; get your hair done at BLOWN, blow dry studio; and stop by European Wax Center to experience one or more of their many services.

TJ Maxx has opened a new location at Sycamore Plaza at 7800 Montgomery Road.

Dover Saddlery, a retail store selling top quality equestrian products, and Handcrafted Amish Furniture are now open for business at 8740 Montgomery Road.

Up All Nite Printing is now open for business at 4448 Kugler Mill Road.



Maintenance Department



Tracy Kellums,
Superintendent

FALL LEAF PICK UP INFORMATION

Sycamore Township is pleased to provide you with prompt and efficient leaf pick up service. Leaf collection will begin on Monday, October 20th and run through Friday, December 12th. Leaves should be raked to the public right of way beside the street. PLEASE DO NOT PUT LEAVES IN THE STREET. Leaves become very slippery when wet and, when parked over, dry leaves can start a car on fire when brought

into contact with the catalytic converter. Sticks, grass clippings and garden debris will jam our machines and should not be mixed into leaf piles. Consequently, piles with materials other than leaves will not be collected.

Leaf crews will not pick up leaves from under, between or around parked cars. If cars are parked in front of your leaf piles, the collection equipment will be unable to maneuver to reach the leaves and they will be left for the next pick up cycle in your neighborhood.

Maintenance crews will be working from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. five days a week, rain or shine, to collect leaves in a timely manner. Many factors such as the amount of leaves to be collected and the availability of temporary laborers have an effect on collection and make it impossible to predict exact pick up times.

ROAD CONSTRUCTION

Construction of the Kenwood Access Road will start this fall and is scheduled to be completed by the first of the year. The road will help with access to some of the businesses on the west side of Kenwood Road and will intersect Kenwood Road at the traffic signal just north of the I-71 southbound entrance ramp.

As with all road construction projects there will be some inconvenience and short delays but with your patience and understanding, we can keep these to a minimum and keep everyone safe. Please SLOW DOWN and drive SAFELY through all construction zones.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call Tracy Kellums, Road Superintendent, at (513)792-7257.

SYCAMORE TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS RECYCLED 912.40 TONS IN 2013

Congratulations Sycamore Township Residents! You recycled 912.40 tons of plastic, paper, glass and metal. Sycamore Township recycled an amazing 107.88 more tons in 2013 than in 2012!

The recycling efforts in Sycamore Township:

- Conserved enough energy to power every home in the Township for seven plus days.
- Reduced more greenhouse gas pollution than if every household in Sycamore Township did not drive a car for 25 days.
- Saved 7136 trees from being harvested.

On average, each household in Sycamore Township recycled 220.39 pounds in 2013. That is 13.75% of all the waste you generate and a 1.4% increase in just one year. 2014 is on pace to be an even better year!

Good Work, Sycamore Township Residents, your recycling efforts make a big difference!

If you recycle at the curb side with your waste hauler, thank you. If you do not and would like to, call 946-7766 for information on receiving a recycling bin.

If you prefer to drop off your recycling, the Township has recycling dumpsters at two convenient locations for you. The first location is behind the Administration building at 8540 Kenwood Road and the second location is at 11745 Solzman Road. Both of these locations accept all of your recycling materials.

There are also several locations around the Township that have "Paper Retriever" dumpsters that accept paper only:

- Brecon United Methodist Church, 7388 Kemper Road 45249
- Brookwood Retirement Community, 12100 Reed Hartman Highway 45241
- Carriage Court of Kenwood, 4640 E. Galbraith Road 45236
- Holmes Elementary School, 8688 Donna Lane 45236
- Moeller High School, 9001 Montgomery Road 45242
- St. Vincent Ferrer Church, 7754 Montgomery Road 45236
- Rockwern Academy, 8401 Montgomery Road 45236

Have a question about recycling?

Call Hamilton County's Recycling hotline at 946-7766 or visit www.hamiltoncountyrecycles.org.



Contacts

Fall 2014

Cliff Bishop, President
Denny Connor, Vice-President
Tom Weidman, Trustee
Robert C. Porter III, Fiscal Officer
R. Douglas Miller, Law Director
Tracy Kellums, Superintendent
Mike McKeown, Parks & Recreation Director

791-8447 – Fax 792-8564

Greg Bickford, AICP, Administrator

791-8447 – Fax 792-8564

Rob Penny, Fire Chief

792-8565 – Fax 792-8564

Chris M. Kettelman, Lieutenant
District Three Commander
Hamilton County Sheriff's Office

774-6351– Fax 774-6350

Fire and Police Emergency – 911

www.sycamoretownship.org



8540 Kenwood Road
Sycamore Twp., Ohio 45236

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“There’s More in Sycamore”



Trustees available to better serve you



Cliff Bishop
President



Denny Connor
Vice President



Tom Weidman
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.