

Sycamore Township

NEWS

Winter 2015

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We are excited to announce that the Kenwood Collection project along I-71 is nearing completion on the office tower, and it is completely filled with tenants. The retail portion is now being finalized, and we are grateful for the excellent job that Sycamore Township's very own Phillips Edison Company has done to take this eyesore and turn it into a masterpiece. It was just announced that Whole Foods will be moving into the old Kroger space with their newest concept, "365", and Kenwood Collection will be the first concept store for Whole Foods in the Midwest. If you are a lover of the outdoors, you will be thrilled to know that L.L.Bean has also signed a contract to locate in the Kenwood Collection. This will be a welcome addition to the Kenwood shopping experience.



Tom Weidman, Trustee

Our underground utility projects continue in the Kenwood Business District. After completing the Hosbrook Road/Montgomery Road intersection, our project now moves north on Montgomery Road to Galbraith Road and west on Galbraith to Kenwood Road. When this project is completed, we will have the vast majority of the Kenwood Business District utilities buried underground, which allows us fewer outages during severe weather.

We are entering the next phase of our Montgomery Road sidewalk program, which will begin in the Spring and will add sidewalks from Dearwester Drive to Sturbridge Drive. We are also happy to report that through a grant from OKI, we will be able to complete our sidewalk connection from Dearwester Drive to the existing sidewalk at All Saints Church that will connect us all the way to our border with the City of Montgomery. This project has now been funded, and will be phased in over the next few years.

As the last leaves fall off the trees and the winter chill arrives, you can be confident that Superintendent Tracy Kellums and his Maintenance Staff have everything under control for what lies ahead. Leaf pickup is nearing completion and both of our salt domes are full in case of a long and snowy winter. We ask you to remember to keep all cars off the streets during winter snow storms, as it makes it much easier for our Maintenance crew to plow the streets when they don't have to dodge parked cars.

We have just purchased new playground equipment for McDaniel Park and the equipment is scheduled to be installed in the next few weeks. This will replace the existing playground equipment and will be a welcome addition to an already great park.

Lastly, we have been working very hard to insure that traffic flow during the holidays in the Kenwood shopping district is manageable for both our residents as well as our visiting shoppers. We have expanded control of our lights in Kenwood, and now will be able to remotely control all 20 lights with immediate cycle changes as needed. This is all done remotely from cameras above the roadways, and the traffic will be monitored live during business hours from Black Friday through the first week of January. So if you have hesitated to visit our great retail destination in Kenwood because of traffic concerns, we have eliminated that problem, and we hope to see you shopping at our great collection of stores during the holidays.

On behalf of Trustees Cliff Bishop and Denny Connor, and our Fiscal Officer Rob Porter, I want to wish you a safe and pleasant holiday season, a joyous and peaceful Christmas, and a happy and prosperous New Year.

Sincerely,

Tom Weidman, Trustee





Police & Crime Prevention



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

With the winter months upon us, snow will be soon in the forecast. I would like to take this opportunity to explain the various snow emergency levels that may be declared by the Sheriff of Hamilton County. This will help you to avoid any confusion should we have the misfortune to have a big storm this winter. Pursuant to Attorney General Opinion 86-023, the Sheriff of a County may declare a snow emergency and temporarily close county and township roads within his jurisdiction for the preservation of public peace. Attorney General Opinion 97-015 also allows the Sheriff to close state and municipal roads. In order to clarify the definition of the snow emergency, Ohio Sheriffs adopted guidelines to be followed when closing highways due to severe weather. The policy is as follows:

LEVEL I SNOW ALERT

Roadways are hazardous with blowing and drifting snow.

LEVEL II SNOW ADVISORY

Roadways are hazardous with blowing and drifting snow. Only those who feel it is necessary to drive should be out on the roadways. Contact your employer to see if you should report to work.

LEVEL III SNOW EMERGENCY

All municipal, township, county, and state roadways are closed to nonemergency personnel. No one should be out during these conditions unless travel is absolutely necessary. Those traveling on the roadways in violation of a Level III Snow Emergency are subject to arrest.

These are the legal definitions set forth by the State of Ohio. As always, you should use common sense before driving in hazardous winter conditions.

One final reminder, we ask that residents when possible, **DO NOT PARK on the streets during a snow storm.** Sycamore Township Maintenance does an excellent job of snow removal and it is much easier for the road crew to remove the snow if they don't have to maneuver around parked cars.

OFFICER SPOTLIGHT

Deputy Josh Hawthorn has been with the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office for eight years, starting out in corrections two months after graduating from Oak Hills High School in the class of 2007. He has been on patrol for two years now and is currently assigned to southern Sycamore Township. Josh's goals are to provide the best law enforcement in Sycamore Township and Hamilton County and to be courteous and professional with our citizens. He would like to become a Field Training Officer to train new deputies who would be assigned to the enforcement division and to become a K9 deputy with HCSO. Josh is married with two children and another on the way. He enjoys fishing, weight lifting, spending time with family and friends and cheering on his favorite sports teams—THE Ohio State Buckeyes, Cincinnati Reds, Bengals and UC Bearcats.

Deputy Josh Hawthorn, pictured at St. Vincent Ferrer School with Principal Kim Roy and students Toby, Isaac and Sydney, works with schools to promote a safe environment for our children.



Hamilton County Sheriff Enforcement Officer Eric Kidd had a great time on Halloween passing out candy to Sycamore Township children.



EMS/Fire Department



Rob Penny, Fire Chief

The winter months are approaching quickly. Colder temperatures can cause our homes to be drafty and uncomfortable. If you are planning to use a space heater, and/or Christmas or other holiday decorations in your home this year please read the safety tips below.

HOME DECORATIONS FOR THE HOLIDAYS



SPACE HEATERS (ELECTRIC & FUEL OPERATED)



- Use kerosene heaters and space heaters according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- These alternative heaters need space around them to be safe; keep anything that can burn at least three feet away.
- Make sure your alternative heaters have "tip switches." These tip switches are designed to automatically turn off the heater in the event it tips over.
- Never refill a space heater while it is operating or still hot.
- Only refuel heaters outdoors.
- Do not use the kitchen oven to heat your home. In addition to being a fire hazard, it can also be a source of toxic fumes.
- Make sure wood stoves are properly installed, and at least three feet away from anything that can burn. They should also have the proper floor support and adequate ventilation.

- Purchase lights that have the label of a nationally recognized testing laboratory, such as Underwriters Laboratories (UL), and use the lights according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- Outdoor lights are specifically labeled for outdoor use, be sure you are using the correct kind.
- Fasten outdoor lights securely and place them on a ground fault interrupter circuit.
- Do not connect too many light sets together and never use extension cords that are worn or cracked.
- Don't run lights under rugs or over sharp objects.
- Turn the lights off when you go to bed or leave the house.
- Live Christmas trees should be as fresh as possible. Before you put up the tree, make a fresh cut at the base of the trunk, place it in a sturdy stand and water it daily. When the tree becomes dry discard it promptly.
- One in five holiday fires occur because a heat source is too close to the tree. Locate the tree as far away from heat sources as possible.
- Never place lighted candles on or near the tree, or where the tree could fall on a candle if knocked over by a pet or child.
- Do not block your primary or alternative escape routes with a tree, decorations or presents.

Have a safe winter.

Rob Penny,
Fire Chief



BECHTOLD PARK SYCAMORE TOWNSHIP

Parks & Recreation



Mike McKeown,
Parks & Rec. Director

ANNUAL DILLONVALE LUMINARIA!

Sycamore Township and Dillonvale IGA are teaming up again to sponsor the annual Dillonvale Luminaria. The event will be held on Saturday, December 12, from 6–8:00PM at the Pavilion in Bechtold Park. Dillonvale IGA will provide donuts, cookies, and warm drinks. Bethel Baptist Temple will be presenting a live Nativity scene and Christmas carolers. Santa will be there to greet the kids. Christmas music will fill the air. Hayrides will take people through the streets of Dillonvale to view all the holiday decorations. We encourage all Dillonvale residents to decorate the sidewalks in front of their homes with luminaria bags. The kits will be available at Ace Hardware in the Dillonvale Shopping Center. **Prizes will be awarded to the three best decorated properties!** Come join the fun and get in the spirit of the season at the annual Dillonvale Luminaria!



EMAIL US YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS!

Email your news, event information and/or photos for "Township Tidbits" to newsletter@sycamoretownship.org for possible inclusion in our quarterly newsletter. We reserve the right to edit submissions for space and clarity. The number of contributions printed per issue is subject to space available.



TOWNSHIP TIDBITS

In nine years, the Annual Sycamore Township Golf Outing has raised over \$52,000 for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation!



Greg Hodapp, Kevin Harris, Rick Wietmarschen and Jeff Thomas



Trustees Tom Weidman and Denny Connor, Superintendent Tracy Kellums and Trustee Cliff Bishop



Jacki Jarvis, Rick Wietmarschen & Katelyn Jarvis



Trustees Denny Connor, Tom Weidman and Cliff Bishop, with golf outing organizer Rick Wietmarschen, present Kristi McAllister, Development Director of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, with a check from the proceeds of the Sycamore Township Golf Outing.



The Board of Trustees presented Hamilton County Explorer Post 660 with a donation for mentoring and training in appreciation for their help during the Festival in Sycamore. Pictured (L to R) are Trustee Tom Weidman, Trustee Denny Connor, Andrew Chapman, Corey Bender, Corporal Bryan Robben, Jake Boerger, Woody Gardner and Trustee Cliff Bishop.

YOU'RE INVITED!

Bethel Baptist Temple invites you to join them for any & all of their upcoming Christmas events (at 8501 Plainfield Road):

- December 6, 1:00PM
Caroling to the Elderly
- December 8, 7:00PM
Ladies Christmas Party
- December 16, 7:00PM
AWANA Christmas Party
(AWANA is our youth program on Wednesdays from 7-8:30PM)
- December 19, 7:00PM
Young Adult College & Career Christmas caroling and party.
- Adopt-A-Family:
Church families can "adopt" an AWANA family, help provide groceries, gifts, etc.
- Operation Christmas Child:
A ministry of Samaritan's purse. Shoeboxes filled with different items sent to children around the world.
- Nov. 29-Dec. 20, 11:00AM
Experience the Miracle of Christmas Worship Service: Various speakers, Scripture readings, choir, singing groups, instrumental specials, children's presentations and bell choir.
- Nov. 29-Dec. 20, 10:00AM
Advent Sunday School (for all ages and a nursery is provided).

For more information call 513-891-2221 or visit bethelbaptisttemple.org.

Kenwood Baptist Church invites you to join them for their December Events (at 8341 Kenwood Road):

- Nov. 29-Dec. 27, 9:30AM and 11:00AM, The Promised Savior Advent Sermon Series
- December 11 & 12, 7:00PM
A Tapestry of Christmas, Choral & Orchestral Concerts
- December 20, Kids Christmas: Miracle of Jesus; A Special Sunday Celebration for the Children & Family Ministry
- December 24, 7:00 & 9:00PM
Christmas Eve Candlelight Services

For more information call 513-791-0355 or visit www.kenwoodbaptist.org.





Planning & Zoning



Harry Holbert,
Zoning Administrator

As winter quickly approaches, the planning and zoning staff is still working vigorously to keep up with development and property maintenance demands. With a steady flow of permit applications, it is great to know the economy is still strong in Sycamore Township. With that being said, the Township is happy to announce the hiring of a part time property maintenance inspector. Please help us in welcoming Mr. James Curee (more info on next page).

Remember, all Township inspectors will have a Township ID badge with photo when conducting inspections.

When the grass stops growing in the fall and winter months, we normally see a decline in property maintenance complaints. However, it is important to notify the Township if you see a property that may be abandoned. Don't wait until the grass starts growing to file a complaint:

- Call (513) 792-7250 or 7258 (staff member)
- Call (513) 792-7279 (complaint hotline)
- Visit our website (Online Services/Property Complaint Form), anonymous complaints accepted

Just a couple of reminders:

- The Township does not regulate property line disputes. The only true way to resolve this matter is to have a survey of your property completed by a registered surveyor.
- In addition, the Township does not regulate dead trees. This is a private matter to be resolved by the property owners involved. If a tree does fall and is sitting in the yard beyond a couple of weeks, the Township does look at this as a nuisance and will consider the fallen tree debris.

In closing, thanks to all of those who take care of their property year after year. We do understand property ownership comes with a lot of responsibility and you are the reason Sycamore Township is a great place to live, work and play.

Planning and Zoning questions can be directed to Harry Holbert Jr., Zoning Administrator at (513) 792-7252.

WELCOME NEW BUSINESSES!

Ameriprise Financial, financial planning advisors, and PLK, a real estate company, have opened at the new Kenwood Collection Office Tower at 5905 E. Galbraith Road.

New to the Kenwood Towne Centre are The Pottery Place, a paint your own pottery studio, Fabletics, selling affordable athletic wear, and Vineyard Vines, selling preppy men's, women's and children's clothing and accessories.

Sono Bello, offering liposuction and body contouring, has a new office at 8044 Montgomery Road in the Towers of Kenwood.

Easy Way Products, manufacturer of outdoor textile products, has moved its corporate headquarters to 8950 Rossash Road.



DID YOU KNOW?



Sycamore Township has a Facebook page. Like us on Facebook for an easy way to stay up to date on what's happening in the Township.



Maintenance Department



James Curee,
Property Maintenance Inspector

I am excited to be a part of the Sycamore Township team as the Property Maintenance Inspector. I am an ICC Certified Building Inspector in the State of Ohio. I was previously a building inspector for the City of Cincinnati, and I have twenty-five years of experience in all phases of construction. My intent is to enhance the public health, safety, and general welfare through structural strength and safety to life and property.

I have been married to my wife for twenty-eight years. We have one son in college and a daughter still attending high school.

I am eager to work with the residents of the community and continue with the high quality of standards that have been set by Sycamore Township.

James Curee
Property Maintenance/Code Enforcement
(513) 792-7258
jcuree@sycamoretownship.org



Tracy Kellums, Superintendent

NEW SALT DOME

With the winter season on the way, and snow and ice right around the corner, Sycamore Township wants our residents to know that our Maintenance Department is prepared for snow and ice removal. The salt machines and snow plows have been serviced and are ready to go when needed.

In addition, the Township Trustees have had an additional salt dome built at the Robert L. Schuler Sports Complex on Deerfield Rd. Over the last few years, there have been times when it has been very difficult to get salt delivered during the winter to replenish our storage facility. With the addition of this new salt dome, the Township will be able to store enough salt to get through a typical winter without having to rely on deliveries during winter months.

As always, we ask you to remove your cars from the road during times of snow removal operations. This allows the crews the ability to clean the roads from curb to curb, eliminating the need to come back and clear areas where cars were parked.

With us all working together we can have a safe winter season no matter what the weather brings!



WINTER EVENTS

Brush Chipping Program
December 5
8:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.
Behind Twp. Administration Bldg.
8540 Kenwood Road

Fall Leaf Collection Ends
December 11

Luminaria
December 12
6:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.
Bechtold Pavilion
4312 Sycamore Road

Christmas Tree Drop Off
December 26 – January 26
Bechtold Park
4312 Sycamore Road
McDaniel Sports Complex
11797 Solzman Road





Contacts

Winter 2015

Denny Connor, President

Cliff Bishop, Vice-President

Tom Weidman, Trustee

Robert C. Porter III, Fiscal Officer

R. Douglas Miller, Law Director

Tracy Kellums, Superintendent

792-7257 – Fax 792-8564

Mike McKeown, Parks & Rec. Director

792-7270 – Fax 792-8564

Greg Bickford, AICP, Administrator

791-8447 – Fax 792-8564

Rob Penny, Fire Chief

792-8565 – Fax 792-8564

Chris M. Ketteyman, 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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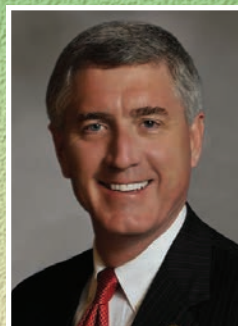
Trustees Available to Better Serve You



Denny Connor
President



Cliff Bishop
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.