

Sycamore Township NEWS

Spring 2011

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Spring has finally arrived, and in Sycamore Township, it is not just the weather that is changing. On March 31st, fellow Trustee Dick Kent retired after serving the residents of Sycamore Township on the Board of Trustees for 21 years. Many knew Dick as a fixture in the Kenwood area, not just from moving there in 1973, but also locating his insurance business there as well. Over the years, Dick's leadership facilitated consolidation of our Sycamore Township Fire Department from multiple districts to a single district, helped guide the ODOT reconstruction on Montgomery Road, and was instrumental in championing business development in the Township.



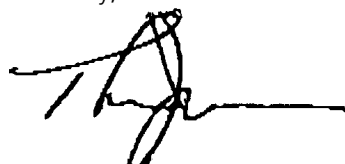
Tom Weidman

Dick plans to continue to work at his Insurance Agency, and his retirement from the Board of Trustees will allow him to spend more time with his wife Barb, his 5 children, and his ever growing group of grandchildren.

On Thursday, April 7th, Denny Connor was sworn in as our newest Trustee. Denny is President and Owner of Connor Communications and resides in Kenwood Meadows with his wife Marguerite. Denny and Marguerite have 3 children, and have lived in Sycamore Township since 1983. Denny has been a member of the Township Land Use Advisory Board and has served on the Township Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee. He is a Moeller High School Grad and also has a degree in Broadcasting from the University of Cincinnati. Denny is a lifelong member of St. Vincent Ferrer Church in Kenwood and is past President of the St. Vincent Parish Council. Denny brings a small business background and a wealth of knowledge about Sycamore Township to his new position as Trustee.

On behalf of my fellow Trustee Cliff Bishop and our Fiscal Officer Rob Porter, I want to wish Dick and his family all the best in his retirement, and I want to welcome Denny to the Sycamore Township team.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tom Weidman'.

Tom Weidman,
President



Festival in Sycamore





EMS/Fire Department



William A. Jetter,
Ph.D. MIFireE EMS
& Fire Director/Fire
Chief

SPRING SAFETY & MAINTENANCE

2010 was a very busy year for the EMS & Fire Department. The run volume for 2010 breaks down like this: Emergency Medical Service Calls – 2358; Fire Calls – 1905; Fire Inspections – 1900. The total number of runs in 2010 was 4263.

The number one call for Emergency Medical Service was a “fall” which amounted to 25% of our EMS runs. The Township senior population has been increasing, which accounts for the increase in calls for a fall. The second highest call for EMS service was a “sick person”.

Many times EMS Crews are asked the question, “How do I get help since I’m retired and my family lives out of town?” One good place to start is the Council on Aging. You can call them at 513 - 721 - 1025. The Council’s web site address is: **www.help4seniors.org**. Another source is the Hamilton County Fall Prevention Task Force. Their phone number is 513 - 946 - 7807 and their web site address is **www.fallpreventiontaskforce.org/contactus.htm**. These services are offered to seniors at no charge and in most cases one on one service can be provided.

The Fire Department services hydrants in the spring of the year. Each year we are required to flow test hydrants and record pressure readings. The list of streets where we will be testing hydrants this year will be published in your local community newspaper in April. We usually suggest you do not do laundry on the day your street is being tested because the water can become rusty for up to two hours after testing. If this

happens you should periodically run your cold water until it becomes clear.

We have several community - based programs for residents which include Home Safety Inspections, Fall Prevention, CPR, and Child Car Seat Installation. If you’re interested in any of the community - based programs call Carol at 792 - 7248.

During the spring we start working on home projects such as cleaning out our garages, sheds and basements. It’s important to evaluate combustible materials and how they are stored. Hamilton County Solid Waste Management has a depository program for unused paint, old household chemicals and insecticides. You can call the Hamilton County Household Hazardous Waste Hotline at 946 - 7700 to receive more information.

Have a safe and enjoyable spring.

Yours in Life Safety,

William (BJ) Jetter Ph.D. MIFireE, CFO, CHSIII, OFE
EMS & Fire Director/Fire Chief



Police and Crime Prevention



Lt. Dan Reid,
Liaison to the Hamilton
County Sheriff's
Department

BURGLARY PREVENTION

As you may have seen in the Cincinnati Enquirer recently, Anderson Township has had a rash of daytime burglaries. Whenever I see something like

this, it reminds me that statistically, across the country, most burglaries do occur during the day when people are at work. There are several simple things you can do so as to not become a victim of this very personal, heartbreaking crime.

First, make sure that all windows and doors are locked before you leave. You would not believe how many times the burglars just walk right in. Second, if daybreak has occurred before you leave, turn off any outside lights you had on overnight. Third, if you have a dog and can do so, let him/her have free range of most rooms in the house. This can be better than an alarm system. Burglars do not want to fight someone's dog that is protecting its territory.

Next, please make sure you pick up your newspapers and ad magazines. Nothing says no one is home like a

pile of newspapers. Be sure to trim back your landscaping from your windows. Burglars love to break into those hidden basement windows to hide their crime from your neighbors. If you are going to plant new, bushes with thorns are a great item to place under first floor windows.

There are two final things I want to mention. If you have an alarm system, please set the alarm when you leave. Finally - if you see a strange car or truck in your neighborhood, please call our non-emergency number 825-2280 to check it out. It is much better to be safe than sorry.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monthly Brush Chipping Drop Off

Behind Township Admin Bldg
8540 Kenwood Road
Saturday, May 7,
June 4, July 2
8 AM – 4 PM

Document Shredding Program

Behind Township Admin Bldg
8540 Kenwood Road
Saturday, April 23
10 AM – 2 PM

Compost/Woodchip Give-Away

Hartzell United Methodist Church
8999 Applewood Drive
Saturday, May 7
8 AM – 4 PM

Trash Bash – South

Bechtold Park
4312 Sycamore Road
Friday, May 13, Noon – 4 PM
Saturday, May 14, 8 AM – 4 PM
Sunday, May 15, Noon – 4 PM

Trash Bash – North

Clete McDaniel Sports Complex
School Road Entrance
7841 School Road
Friday, Sept 16, Noon – 4 PM
Saturday, Sept 17, 8 AM – 4 PM
Sunday, Sept 18, Noon – 4 PM

Festival in Sycamore

Bechtold Park
4312 Sycamore Road
Friday, July 15
Saturday, July 16
6 PM – MIDNIGHT

Twilight Concert Series

Saturday, May 14
6 PM – 8 PM
Behind Adm Bldg
8540 Kenwood Road
The Bloody Tinth

Saturday, June 11
6 PM – 8 PM
Bechtold Park Pavilion
4312 Sycamore Road
Jump n Jive Show Band

Saturday, June 18
8 PM – 10 PM
McDaniel Sports Complex
11797 Old Solzman Road
Signs of Life

Summer Bash and Car Show

Saturday, August 20
1 PM – Midnight
Robert L. Schuler Sports Complex
11532 Deerfield Road
Ooh La La and the Greasers
Beatles tribute band
Eight Days a Week

Parks and Recreation



Mike McKeown
Parks & Recreation
Director

FESTIVAL IN SYCAMORE

Mark your calendars now! July 15 and 16 are the dates. Bechtold Park is the place. 6:00 PM – Midnight is the time. The 19th annual Festival in Sycamore will feature two Grammy nominated national acts this year. On Friday, July 15, by popular demand,

Ambrosia will return to the Festival. On Saturday, July 16, multi-platinum and gold record recording artists **Grand Funk Railroad** will make their first ever appearance at the Festival in Sycamore. The Festival will again feature great music and food. The "Ride for Five" special, in which you can purchase a bracelet each day for \$5.00 and ride all day, will also continue this year. Watch the newspaper and the summer newsletter for all the details as the date gets closer. Call Mike McKeown (792-7270) for more information.



Grand Funk Railroad



ambrosia

SUMMER IN SYCAMORE EVENTS

Sycamore Township is offering a great variety of free events this spring and summer. In addition to the Twilight Concert Series and the 19th annual Festival in Sycamore, the Township will hold its first annual Summer Bash and Car Show. Look for information below. We hope all of our residents will take advantage of these events and all of the fine facilities our parks have to offer.

Twilight Concert Series

We're pleased to announce the 2011 Twilight Concert Series. Bring a blanket or a lawn chair, relax, and enjoy some great music. You can bring your own cooler and food, or you can purchase food at the concert. Below are the dates, times, and locations.

Saturday, May 14

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Behind the Administration Bldg.,
8540 Kenwood Rd.

Community picnic and concert.
Brats, metts, and burgers for
sale. Fabulous American-Irish
music by **The Bloody Tinth**,
one of the region's top Irish bands.



The Bloody Tinth

Saturday, June 11

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Bechtold Park Pavilion—Great swing,
Dixieland, and jazz by the **Jump n Jive
Show Band**.

Jump 'n' Jive
Show Band



Saturday, June 18

8:00 PM – 10:00 PM

McDaniel Sports
Complex – Enjoy the
great sounds and
show by **Signs of
Life** (a Tribute to Pink
Floyd).



Signs of Life

SUMMER BASH AND CAR SHOW

We're very pleased to announce a new event this year for Sycamore Township, the first annual Summer Bash and Car Show! Save the date – Saturday, August 20, at the Robert L. Schuler Sports Complex, 11532 Deerfield Rd. This special event will combine classic and custom cars and hot rods with great music featuring local and national acts. The afternoon will start with a classic car show and judging from 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM. The music will start at 3:00 PM and continue well into the night. Of course, plenty of food and refreshments will be available.

Music will be provided by great local and national bands, including **Ooh La La and the Greasers**,

Beatles tribute band **Eight Days a Week**, and rock legends **Mitch Ryder and the Detroit Wheels** (*Devil with the Blue Dress*, *Little Latin Lupe Lu*, *Jenny Take a Ride*).

Thanks to the **Cincy Custom Street Machines Car Club** for assistance with the car show. We're looking forward to making this another wonderful annual family event for our residents and neighbors. Call Mike McKeown (792-7270) for more information.

Watch the newspapers and the summer newsletter for more details as the date gets closer.



SYCAMORE TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS RECYCLED 714.54 TONS IN 2010!

Congratulations Sycamore Township residents! In 2010, you recycled 714.54 tons of metal, glass, plastic, and paper. Sycamore Township recycled 34 more tons in 2010 than in 2009! Residents saved resources, conserved energy, and reduced pollution by recycling.

The recycling efforts in Sycamore Township:

- Conserved enough energy to power every home in Sycamore Township for six days.
- Reduced more greenhouse gas pollution than if every household in Sycamore Township did not drive a car for three weeks.
- Saved 5,849 trees from being harvested.

Recycling reduces pollution so the air we breathe is cleaner, conserves natural resources so we will have them to use in the future, and decreases the energy needed to make new products. Recycling also boosts our local economy by creating 169,000 jobs and \$6 billion in annual wages just in the State of Ohio.

On average, each household in Sycamore Township recycled 172.55 pounds in 2010. That's 10.26% of all the waste you generate. If you would like to see

even more material recycled in 2011, check out the list below to make sure you include all these materials in your recycling bin. Don't have a bin? Call 946-7766 for more information.

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

Recyclable Materials

Plastic bottles and jugs (remove lids)
Glass bottles and jars (remove lids)
Empty aerosol cans (remove lids and tips)
Aluminum and steel cans
Paperboard (cereal boxes, etc.)
Junk mail and envelopes
Magazines, catalogs, and phone books
Newspapers
Cardboard
Office paper
Brown grocery bags

Have a question about recycling? Call Hamilton County's Recycling Hotline at 946-7766 or visit www.hamiltoncountyclecyles.org.

"SUMMER IN SYCAMORE" EVENTS SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE

"SUMMER in SYCAMORE" events have become an established tradition in Sycamore Township and greater Cincinnati. What began as a community picnic 18 years ago has evolved into a series of summertime entertainment including the **Festival in Sycamore**, **Twilight Concerts**, and - new this year, the **Summer Bash and Car Show**. These events will draw many thousands of people into Sycamore Township this year.

"SUMMER in SYCAMORE" has benefited greatly from local business sponsors. Their participation has allowed us to present top notch entertainment and festivities. It has also created much goodwill between the businesses and event attendees. These events show our residents and neighbors that there truly is MORE in SYCAMORE.

We invite our local businesses, large or small, to participate. There are several levels of sponsorship. Call Mike McKeown at 792-7270 for more information.





Planning and Zoning

PLANNING AND ZONING NEWS

The Trustees have reduced the fee schedule for zoning permit applications. Residential permit applications for projects such as fences, decks, pools and sheds under 200 sq. ft. no longer require a fee. However, residents must still apply for a permit to ensure that such projects are in compliance with the Sycamore Township Zoning Resolution. Failure to obtain a permit before starting a project will result in a \$100 penalty. The new fee schedule went into effect on February 3, 2011.

In order to serve you better, the Planning and Zoning staff has made our office a "one stop shop" for plan reviews at Sycamore Township for zoning and fire. Our staff will make sure that the Fire Department has a copy for review and stamp the number of approved plans nec-

essary for the applicant to submit to the county building department when a building permit is also required.

The Planning and Zoning Department has been working to update our website with the new fee schedule and more detailed information regarding permit requirements. Visit www.sycamoretownship.org and view the department's permitting & fees page. There, residents and businesses can find residential and commercial zoning applications and requirements, sample sketches for common projects, answers to frequently asked questions, information about inspection requirements and more! As always, feel free to call the Planning and Zoning office at 792-7250 if you have any trouble finding the information you are looking for online.

SYCAMORE TOWNSHIP WELCOMES NEW BUSINESSES

Sycamore Township would like to extend a warm welcome to the following new businesses that have chosen to open in our community, playing a vital role in keeping the Township economically healthy. We encourage you to stop in and patronize these businesses in the near future.

New in the Kenwood Towne Center are **Arden B**, featuring women's fashion and **OshKosh B'Gosh**, selling

children's apparel. Also, **Morgan Stanley Smith Barney** has opened at 7755 Montgomery Road and **Tristate Golf Carts** is now open at 10809 Montgomery Rd.

Finally, Sycamore Township is pleased to announce that Gilligan Oil Co. has torn down the old Shell gas station at 10809 Montgomery Road and built a brand new GO-CO building that also includes a **Dunkin' Donuts** and a **Subway**.



Maintenance Department



Tracy Kellums,
Superintendent

TRASH BASH

To better serve the residents of Sycamore Township, the schedule of the 2011 Trash Bash will be one event in the spring and one event in the fall, as last year. Sycamore Township residents are welcome to take advantage of both events. The dates for the south Trash Bash at Bechtold Park, 4312 Sycamore Road, 45236, are scheduled for Friday, May 13 through Sunday, May 15. The dates for the north Trash Bash at the Clete McDaniel Sports

Complex, School Road Entrance, 7841 School Road, 45241, are scheduled for Friday, September 16 through Sunday, September 18. The Trash Bash hours of operation shall be from noon to 4 PM on Friday and Sunday and 8 AM to 4 PM on Saturday. The Sycamore Township maintenance staff will be on hand to offer assistance at both locations. Trash, junk, debris, tires, old construction materials, furniture, lawn mowers and appliances of all sorts will be accepted. ***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.***

STORM DAMAGE COLLECTION

When storms pass through Sycamore Township, you can rest assured that we are looking out for you! Storm damage collection is a service Sycamore Township has provided for many years through the maintenance department. The storm damage policy of the Township begins with the safety services department. Sycamore Township Fire Chief Jetter declares whether a **"storm damage condition"** has occurred. When a **"storm damage condition"** has been declared, residents must call 791-8447 **within two working days after the storm** to have the branches picked up at no charge. **Branches must be stacked at the street, butt end out, within two (2) weeks of the storm.** When you call, tell the office staff that you have storm damage, give them your name, address and phone number.

COMPOST GIVE-AWAY

The Township will once again make available compost and wood chips on Saturday, May 7, from 8 AM until 4 PM. The material may be picked up at the Township's compost site adjacent to Hartzell United Methodist Church at 8999 Applewood Drive.

Maintenance personnel will be on hand to assist you in loading the material. There is an abundant supply of both compost and wood chips so come early and come often. Due to scheduling conflicts, no rain date has been set.

DROP OFF UNWANTED OR EXPIRED MEDICATION

Quick, how do you dispose of leftover prescription drugs or over-the-counter medication you no longer use? If your answer is throwing them in the trash or flushing them down the toilet, Sycamore Township in partnership with the Drug Enforcement Administration wants you to think again. Both actions pose potential health and safety hazards.

Instead, bring unwanted and expired drugs to **Bechtold Park, 4312 Sycamore Road, during the Trash Bash collection from 10:00 AM until 2:00 PM on Saturday,**

May 14. The drug agency has embarked on this campaign as a way to curb prescription drug abuse (unwanted meds collecting dust in your medicine cabinet could be scooped up by a friend or relative) and accidental poisonings.

Here's how it works: You can drop off unwanted prescription or over-the-counter drugs in tablet or capsule form anonymously, no questions asked. Sites won't take intravenous solutions, injectables or needles, or illicit drugs like methamphetamine or marijuana.

Contacts



Spring 2011

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 Township Administrator

792-7250 – Fax 792-8571

EMS & Fire Department/Fire Chief

William "BJ" Jetter, PH.D., MIFireE, CHSIII

792-8565 – Fax 792-8564

Sheriff's Liaison, Lt. Daniel P. Reid

791-8447 – Fax 792-8564

Fire and Police Emergency – 911

www.sycamoretownship.org



8540 Kenwood Road
Sycamore Twp., Ohio 45236

PRSR STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
CINCINNATI, OH
PERMIT NO. 1693

"There's More in Sycamore"



Trustees available to better serve you

To serve you better, the Trustees have designated areas of Sycamore Township to service.
If you have a question about your neighborhood, please contact the appropriate Trustee.



Tom Weidman
President



Cliff Bishop
Vice President



Denny Connor
Trustee



Robert C. Porter III
Fiscal
Officer

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