

Sycamore Township

NEWS

Summer 2015

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While the spring flowers have sprung throughout the township, we have also experienced many other things springing up in Kenwood as we enter the summer season. We have been working very hard to revitalize the Kenwood Business District, and it was certainly apparent earlier this year when we had four cranes working at four separate Kenwood sites.

The Kenwood Collection, owned by Sycamore Township-based Phillips Edison, is now closing in on completion and it is everything we have waited for these many years. It will contain 275,000 square feet of Retail and 180,000 square feet of Class A office space. The office is close to being full and is scheduled to open in October, 2015. Phillips Edison has some big announcements on retail tenant commitments that will be announced very soon. The retail space opening is scheduled for Spring, 2016.



Tom Weidman, Trustee

Directly across I-71 from The Collection is a new, 4-story building that will be the new home of Tri-Health. This building will house both Tri-Health medical staff as well as Administration.

If you come west on Galbraith Road to Kenwood Road, you will see the newest addition to the Jewish/Mercy Medical Campus. This 6-story tower will house the redesigned Emergency Room, the Gamma Knife for Cancer treatment, and will replace the smaller patient rooms with larger, private rooms to meet the new trend in larger rooms to accommodate family stays, which promote faster healing for the patients.

Behind the Towers of Kenwood, and visible from the highway interchange, is the new Hampton Inn and Suites Hotel which has 125 rooms and is a welcome addition to Kenwood. The hotel is scheduled to open in late 2015.

These four projects add over \$250 Million of additional commercial value and tax base in Kenwood, which will continue to keep Sycamore Township with the lowest township taxes of any township in Hamilton County, and the only township that can say it has not had a levy on the ballot in the last 9 years.

If you've tried to navigate the Montgomery Road/Hosbrook Road intersection the last few months, it has been a real challenge, but that is coming to a quick end. Road improvements are about complete at that intersection, but the most noticeable thing you will see is the elimination of the utility poles along Montgomery Road from the highway north to Galbraith Road. In addition to road improvements on Galbraith Road, we have also added two additional circuits for improved power delivery, as well as system redundancy in the event that the first circuit fails. This will assure a more consistent and uninterrupted supply of electricity for both our Business District as well as our Kenwood residents.

Summer in Sycamore wouldn't be complete without the Annual Festival in Sycamore. This year it will be Friday and Saturday nights, July 17th and 18th at Bechtold Park. We are pleased to welcome Mark Farner, former lead singer of Grand Funk, on Friday night, and the legendary band KANSAS on Saturday night. This lineup may prove to be the best summer festival yet, so plan to be there.

As many of you enjoy vacations with your families this summer, we hope that your travels are safe and your experiences are unforgettable. As always, if there is anything that I can do to be of assistance, please don't hesitate to call me at the township offices.

On behalf of trustees Denny Connor and Cliff Bishop, and our Fiscal Officer Rob Porter, I hope you have your best summer ever.

Sincerely,

Tom Weidman



Police and Crime Prevention

SUMMER SAFETY TIPS: IDENTITY THEFT PREVENTION



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

April 15, Tax Day, a date many of us already dread every year, has become a reminder of an unfortunate fact of life in our digital age: Identity Theft. Your Sheriff's Office, along with law enforcement agencies nationwide, has seen a marked increase in the amount of fraudulent Federal and State income tax returns filed this year. There have been an unprecedented number of victims reporting rejected income tax returns due to the fact that their Social Security number has already been associated with a filed tax return. Members of the Sheriff's Office and the Township Administration have been victims as well.

Most of us already know the basics of protecting our identity: do not give out your Social Security number or other personal identifying information, shred or burn any paperwork with personal information on it, and physically secure and password protect your laptops, tablets, and other electronic devices to prevent theft or unauthorized access. Despite all these measures, sometimes your best efforts are in vain when a financial institution, retailer, or the numerous other entities that store your information are electronically hacked by sophisticated and well funded criminal parties.

So what can you do to safeguard your identity and prevent a fraudulent tax return in your name? First of all, get the returns done early. I know it pains many of us, but if you get yours in before the criminals can get their fraudulent returns in, the criminal will get the reject notice instead of you.

If you receive a notice from the IRS and/or the Ohio Department of Taxation, respond immediately, then call the Sheriff's Office so we can initiate a report for you. If you believe someone may have used your SSN illegally, please notify the IRS and the Ohio Department of Taxation as soon as possible. For the IRS, you must complete and submit the IRS Identity Theft Affidavit, Form 14039. For the Ohio Department of Taxation you must complete and submit a separate Identity Theft Affidavit. Additionally, you may call the IRS at 1-800-908-4490 and/or the Ohio Department of Taxation at 1-800-282-1780. You should also periodically monitor your credit report to ensure that there are no unauthorized credit lines opened or other suspicious activity.

Listed below are some helpful links should you find yourself a victim of identity fraud:

<http://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0008-tax-related-identity-theft>

<http://www.consumer.ftc.gov/features/feature-0014-identity-theft>

<http://www.usa.gov/topics/money/identity-theft/prevention.shtml>

IRS Taxpayer Guide to Identity Theft:

<http://www.irs.gov/uac/Taxpayer-Guide-to-Identity-Theft>

IRS Identity Protection:

<http://www.irs.gov/uac/Identity-Protection>

Ohio Attorney General Identity Theft:

<http://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/Individuals-and-Families/Consumers/Identity-Theft>

Federal Trade Commission Identity Theft:

<http://www.consumer.ftc.gov/features/feature-0014-identity-theft>

Internet Crime Prevention Tips:

<https://www.ic3.gov/preventiontips.aspx>

Social Security Administration:

<http://ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10064.pdf>

You should contact the three major credit reporting bureaus to report identity theft:

Equifax www.equifax.com 1-800-525-6285

Experian www.experian.com 1-888-397-3742

TransUnion www.transunion.com 1-800-680-7289

Free annual credit report www.annualcreditreport.com/cra/index

Officer Spotlight

Deputy Sheriff Michael Bittermann grew up in New Jersey and graduated from Ft. Lee High School. He attended The University of Maine where he lettered in football and basketball, graduating with a degree in Education. In his spare time, Mike helps coach high school football at Taylor High School in North Bend. Mike has worked for The Hamilton County Sheriff's Office since October, 1992 and has been assigned to the Sheriff's District Three since 2001. He is currently serving our Northern Sycamore Township Residents.





EMS/Fire Department

SERVICES OFFERED BY YOUR FIRE DEPARTMENT

Infant / Child Car Seats

The Sycamore Township Fire Department can help you make sure you have your child's car seat installed correctly. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), three out of four car seats are improperly installed. Below are the most important factors when it comes to installing your car seat correctly:

Car seats for young babies should be installed in the rear-facing position in the center of the rear seat (or the center seat of a van or station wagon with more than one backseat). Keep your child in a rear-facing car seat for as long as possible, until age two is the recommendation, or when your child reaches the seat's maximum rear-facing height and weight limits.

Once your toddler outgrows the rear-facing capabilities of his car seat, he can ride facing forward. The middle of the backseat is still the safest place for a young child to sit.

If you need help with a car seat or are confused by the recommendations, call the Sycamore Township Fire Station at 792-8565 to reserve a time for us to assist you.



Can We Find You?

Address signs for your home can be custom made at the fire station. We also have a sign post available if you have no visible area on your home to place a sign or your home cannot be seen from the road. For the elderly, our firefighters will install your sign and post for you.

Cost: \$9 for the sign, \$14 for the sign and post. (Install included)

Blood Pressure Checks

The Sycamore Township Fire Department provides free routine blood pressure checks to the public at both fire stations seven days a week. We have special cards to record your pressure that you can carry with you for future comparisons and share with your doctor during your next appointment. If you are suffering from a medical emergency do not attempt to get to the station; you should call 911 so we can come to you.



Smoke Detectors

The Sycamore Township Fire Department provides free smoke detectors and batteries to our residents. Stop by the fire station for a new battery or smoke detector. If you are elderly or unable to get on a ladder, please do not attempt to change your battery. The firefighters will replace it for you. If you need assistance installing or knowing where to place your smoke detector, just call, we will be glad to help you.

Fire Station Phone Number 792-8565



Parks and Recreation



Mike McKeown,
Parks & Rec. Director

KANSAS, MARK FARNER (FORMERLY OF GRAND FUNK) TO HEADLINE 23RD ANNUAL FESTIVAL IN SYCAMORE

Two giants of classic rock will take the stage at Bechtold Park for the 23rd annual Festival in Sycamore, to be held from 6:00 P.M. to Midnight on July 17th and 18th. MARK FARNER (formerly of Grand Funk) will anchor the lineup on Friday, July 17th and

KANSAS will head the bill on Saturday, July 18th. Popular local bands After Midnight and The Gamut will open the festivities on Friday and Saturday, respectively.

Along with great entertainment, the Festival will once again feature delicious food from area restaurants at very reasonable prices. The popular "Ride for Five" program is back—buy a bracelet each day for only \$5 and ride the rides all night long! Free parking will be available onsite (weather permitting) and at shuttle lots at the Township Administration Building, Bethel Baptist Church, St. Saviour Church, and behind Deer Park High School. *Bottles, cans, coolers, and animals are not permitted.*



MARK FARNER

MARK FARNER (formerly of Grand Funk) will perform on Friday night. He was the guitar player and lead voice on many of Grand Funk's biggest hits, including Locomotion, I'm Your Captain, Bad Time To Be In Love, and many more. This year marks Mr. Farner's second appearance at the Festival. His last appearance left the audience wanting more, so we asked him back!

The legendary band KANSAS makes its first ever Festival appearance on Saturday, July 18th. Known for huge hits including Point Of No Return, Carry On My Wayward Son, and Dust in the Wind among others, KANSAS will bring a fantastic visual and musical experience to the Festival.

We hope to see you at the Festival in Sycamore. For more information, go to www.sycamoretownship.org or call 513-791-8447.



THE GAMUT



AFTER MIDNIGHT

FESTIVAL ENTERTAINMENT SCHEDULE

Friday, July 17

6:00–8:45 pm

After Midnight

9:30 pm

MARK FARNER

Saturday, July 18

6:00–8:45 pm

The Gamut

9:30 pm

KANSAS

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

The Township sends out a huge thank you to our Summer in Sycamore event sponsors! Without them we would not be able to hold events such as the Festival in Sycamore and Summer Car Show.

Sponsors so far for 2015 are:

GOLD

Kroger Co.
Energy Alliances Inc.
Constellation Energy Services
Sycamore Township
Republican Club

SILVER

The Kenwood Collection
TEC Engineering
Kids First Sports Center

MAJOR

Kenwood Place
Venture LLC
Rumpke Waste and Recycling
Pavement Management Inc.
United Refrigeration
Fifth Third Securities



KANSAS

TOWNSHIP TIDBITS

Sycamore Township Trustees joined together with local clergy and guests for the annual National Day of Prayer on May 5th. The Trustees would like to thank Pastor Larry Cornett, Bethel Baptist Church, for his work in organizing this event, Conductor Bob Browning and the Moeller High School Band for providing the music, and Chick-fil-A at the Kenwood Towne Centre for donating lunch for all those in attendance.



President of the Board of Trustees Denny Connor welcomes all those gathered for the prayer service.



The Moeller Band supplied the music, led by Conductor Bob Browning.



Father Tim Bunch, of St. Saviour Catholic church, takes his seat after offering prayers for state and local governments.



Pastor Philip Machalick, Pastor Travis Johnson, Trustees Denny Connor, Cliff Bishop and Tom Weidman, Reverend Lance Cunningham, Pastor Larry Cornett and Superintendent Tracy Kellums

WE NEED YOU!

Sycamore Township is looking for some energetic volunteers to help out at Township activities such as the Festival in Sycamore, Car Show, Twilight Concert, and Luminaria. This is a great opportunity to meet new people and get involved in your community. It's also a lot of fun.

If you're interested in getting involved, call Mike McKeown at 792-7270 or email mmckeown@sycamoretownship.org.

Not up for volunteering? Email your news, event information, and/or photos to newsletter@sycamoretownship.org.

Be sure to include your name and contact information. The deadline for our fall issue is August 7, 2015 at 4:30pm. *We reserve the right to edit submissions for space and clarity. The number of contributions printed per issue is subject to space available.*

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE TWILIGHT CONCERT

Mark your calendar now for Sunday, June 21, 2015 and look forward to enjoying some of the great sounds of the big band and swing eras. The Jump 'n' Jive Show Band will perform familiar standards and fabulous contemporary big band and swing music. The concert will be held from 5:00–7:00 P.M. at Bechtold Pavilion, 4312 Sycamore Road. Admission is free. Bring a blanket or lawn chair and a picnic basket and enjoy the great outdoors while listening to this great band. Food and refreshments will not be sold at the concert. Call 792-7275 if the weather is questionable. Call 791-8447 for more information.

*Jump 'n' Jive
Show Band*



BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR!

Warm weather is here and Sycamore Township residents and their four-legged friends are out enjoying it! Keep in mind there are Township resolutions in place prohibiting dogs roaming at large and requiring pet owners to pick up after their pets. Always walk your dog on a leash and remember to be respectful of your neighbors' properties by cleaning up after your pet. It is also a park rule that dogs must be kept under control and on a leash at all times in any Township park. For your convenience, there are "mutt mitts" available at most of the parks. Do your part to keep our community clean and our residents and pets safe by picking up after your pets and keeping them tethered!

NOTICE
PETS MUST BE
CONFINED AND
CONTROLLED
ON A LEASH.
PET OWNERS
MUST CLEAN UP
PET WASTE.

SYCAMORE TOWNSHIP 5TH ANNUAL CAR SHOW

The 5th Annual Sycamore Township Car Show will take place Saturday, August 1, 2015 at the Robert L. Schuler Sports Complex, 11532 Deerfield Road. Cost for entry is \$15 and registration begins at 9:00 a.m. until the start of the car show at noon. For more information call 284-8843.



2014 Trustees Choice Award Winner Robert Master, '55 T-Bird, with Trustees Cliff Bishop, Tom Weidman and Denny Connor.





Planning and Zoning

WELCOME NEW BUSINESSES!

Hearing Services of Kenwood, an audiology practice providing hearing services for adults, is now open at 7657 Montgomery Road.

The Good Feet Store has moved to a new location at 8010 Hosbrook Road. They offer a wide variety of orthotic devices including insoles, arch supports, and orthopedic shoes.

Arthur Murray Dance Studio is now offering ballroom dance instruction at its new location at 10792 Montgomery Road.

ICT Computer Experts, offering laptop repair, software support, sales, service and more, is now open at 10798 Montgomery Road.

There are two new businesses in the Township offering wealth management services, Lenox Wealth Management at 8044 Montgomery Road and Wealth Dimensions at 7870 E. Kemper Road.

New to Kenwood Towne Center is the AvaStars kiosk which can capture visitors' digital 3D image and use it to create dolls and video animation!



PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE INFORMATION

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 but on occasion 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 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 such as natural drainage areas designed by the subdivision developer
- Vehicles parked in front of your residence on a public street

Maintenance Department



Tracy Kellums,
Superintendent

SYCAMORE TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS RECYCLED 885.09 TONS IN 2014

Congratulations Sycamore Township residents! In 2014, we recycled 885.09 tons of metal, glass, plastic and paper. 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 5 days.
- Reduced more air pollution than if every household member in Sycamore Township rode a bicycle to work for 4 weeks.
- Saved 7,330 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 (4.3% of all jobs) just in the State of Ohio.

On average, each household in Sycamore Township recycled 214 pounds in 2014. That's 13.15% of all the waste we generate. If you would like to see even more material recycled in 2015, check out the list below and make sure to recycle all of these materials. Want to start recycling? Sycamore Township makes it easy! Call 946-7766 to request your cart today.

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

Recyclable Materials

- Plastic bottles and jugs (lids are OK if left on empty bottle)
- Aluminum and steel cans
- Empty aerosol cans (remove and dispose of lids and tips)
- Glass bottles and jars (remove and recycle lids)
- Paperboard (cereal boxes, etc.)
- Junk mail and envelopes
- Magazines, catalogs, and phone books
- Newspapers
- Cardboard
- Office Paper
- Brown grocery bags
- Clean pizza boxes
- Paper cartons

For information on roads affected by the 2015 Micro-surfacing, Onyx and Crackseal programs, please visit the Roads & Signage page of our website at www.sycamoretownship.org/Roads_and_Signage.cfm.

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

SUMMER EVENTS

Chipping Program

July 4/ August 1/ September 5
8:00 A.M.–4:00 P.M.
Behind Administration Bldg.
8540 Kenwood Rd.

Twilight Concert

June 21
5:00 P.M.–7:00 P.M.
Bechtold Pavilion
4312 Sycamore Rd.

Festival in Sycamore

July 17–18
6:00 P.M.–Midnight
Bechtold Park
4312 Sycamore Rd

5th Annual Sycamore Township Car Show

August 1
Registration 9:00 A.M.–Noon
Car Show Noon–3:00 P.M.
Robert L. Schuler Sports Complex
11532 Deerfield Rd.





Contacts

Summer 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 & Recreation 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. 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

PRSRT STD
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PERMIT NO. 1693

“There’s More in Sycamore”



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.