

Sycamore Township

NEWS

Fall 2017

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As we wind down the warm weather and head into the cooler temperatures of Fall, we hope you had a great and relaxing summer.

I am happy to report that Sycamore Township continues to have the lowest township property taxes of any township in Hamilton County, and we are the only township in the county that has not had a township tax levy on the ballot in over 10 years.

We are fully committed to the highest level of Safety Services for our residents. That is why in recent months we have added 9 additional Fire/EMS personnel and 4 additional Sheriff Deputies to our already strong Safety Services team at a cost of nearly \$1 Million. And while that amount exceeds our dedicated tax levy revenue, we have utilized revenue from our Joint Economic Development Zones (JEDZ) to offset the additional cost. Our JEDZ will help solidify the financial foundation of our township for the next 55 years.



Tom Weidman, Trustee

We are continuing to work with developers on new projects in Kenwood using the tools provided us by the State Legislature to form the necessary public/private partnerships that have made the Kenwood Business District the most successful in all of southern Ohio. There are no bigger or more successful retail sites in the entire Tristate, and our offices still have the highest rents and lowest vacancy rates in the entire Tristate area as well. A healthy Business District helps us to continue to keep your property taxes low.

As you know, Duke has proposed a high pressure pipeline that would run directly through our Kenwood Business District. We have taken strong opposition to this pipeline and we have continued to fight them through legal channels. Duke has now asked for a continuance on their application with the PUCO to do additional engineering on the alternate route which runs through Sharonville, Blue Ash, Evendale and Reading.

At our meeting on August 17th, the trustees unanimously passed a Resolution declaring September as Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month in Sycamore Township. Please learn the very subtle signs of this terrible disease by going to the Ovarian Cancer Alliance of Greater Cincinnati website at: www.cincyovariancancer.org to find out more. Knowledge is Power!

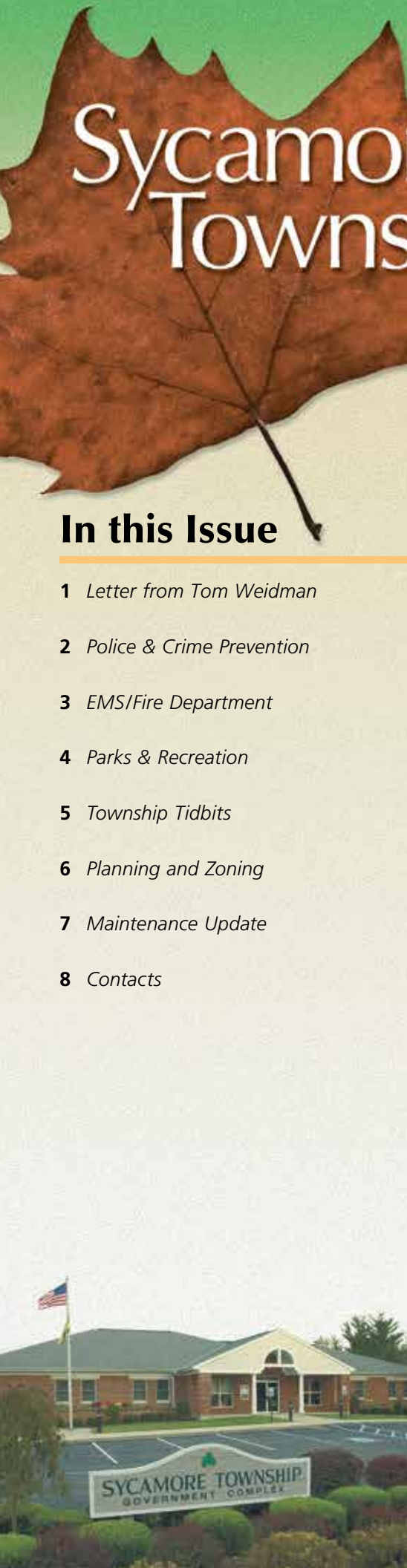
Your elected officials are committed to keeping Sycamore Township a great place to live, work and play. If there is anything that we can do to help you, please contact us at 513-791-8447 or on our website at: www.sycamoretownship.org.

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

Sincerely,



Tom Weidman, Trustee





Police & Crime Prevention



Tory L. Smith, Lieutenant
Hamilton County Sheriff's Office

I feel very fortunate to have been given the position.

I have been employed by the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office for over twenty-two years. I started my career as a Corrections Officer on January 12th, 1995 and was promoted to the Patrol Division in the spring of 1998. I hold a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice with a minor in psychology from Ashland University in Ashland, Ohio. I am also a 2005 graduate of the Southern Police Institute's Administrative Officer's Course at the University of Louisville.

I am originally from northern Ohio where I grew up approximately ten minutes from Lake Erie. As a child and teenager, I frequented places like Cedar Point and Put-In-Bay. I currently live in Colerain Township and in my spare time I enjoy music and vintage Harley-Davidson motorcycles.

Returning to District 3 has been a homecoming for me of sorts; this will be the third time in my career that I have been assigned to District 3. I worked in Symmes, Sycamore, and Columbia Townships from January 1999 to August 2001 as a Patrol Officer and Corporal. In August-2001 I was assigned to the Traffic Safety Unit. There, I became a certified traffic crash reconstructionist. In December 2004 I was promoted to the rank of Sergeant. After accepting the promotion I then came back to District 3 and worked as the second shift squad supervisor. I held this position for approximately 10 months until returning to the Traffic Safety Unit as the supervisor-in-charge. I remained in Traffic Safety (eventually earning the rank of Lieutenant in the summer of 2011) until January 2014. Under the direction and leadership of Sheriff Jim Neil, I worked in Support Operations at Patrol Headquarters from January 2014 until this past June. During my time in Support Operations, I was involved with several behind-the-scenes aspects of civilian law enforcement such as fleet management, supply & logistics, purchasing, training, both strategic and special event planning, and the Special Deputy Program.

As the new District 3 Commander, I believe it is my duty to be decisive, focused, responsible, and responsive. I strongly believe that we have great people doing great work each day in your community and it is my responsibility to ensure they have the resources, training, and equipment needed to provide you with quality police service. My time spent in Traffic Safety taught me the importance of attention to detail. This is

a trait I place a strong emphasis on when speaking with the men and women of the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office. I am here to serve as your conduit to all of the services the Sheriff's Office provides. I am here to ensure accountability and accessibility. Lastly, even though we are a very large law enforcement agency with many moving parts, it is my job to tailor our resources to the needs of the people of Sycamore Township in order to provide for your safety and improve your quality of life.

In closing, I am extremely grateful for this career opportunity and I am looking forward to meeting and working with you and your leadership.

Cordially,

Lt. Tory L. Smith, District 3 Commander, Enforcement Division

OFFICER SPOTLIGHT



Corporal Bryan Peak is a 23-year veteran of the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office. Over the course of his career Bryan has held a variety of positions. Most notably, Bryan was a detective assigned to the Criminal Investigation Section for thirteen years. In addition to working as a Patrol Officer and later a Detective, Cpl. Peak has served as a Motorcycle Officer for twelve years. In the spring of 2017 Cpl. Peak was deployed to Sycamore Township and the

surrounding areas such as Silverton and Symmes Township. One of the advantages of a dedicated Motor Officer is high visibility, and where better to utilize a highly visible public safety asset than a thriving community such as Sycamore Township?

Cpl. Peak investigates traffic hazards, parking complaints, and other routine calls for service daily in Sycamore Township. He conducts targeted traffic enforcement and is often called upon to respond to areas where citizen complaints are generated. These tasks may seem relatively minor to some, but they represent significant quality-of-life issues for our residents and business owners. Cpl. Peak expertly handles these problems in a timely fashion and with attention to detail.

Over a three month period Cpl. Peak investigated over 30 motor vehicle crashes, issued 40 traffic warnings, and wrote over 50 traffic citations in Sycamore Township. He has handled over 150 traffic details and logged approximately 4,300 miles on his motorcycle this summer. According to Cpl. Peak, the motorcycle itself has prompted citizens and children to approach him and engage him in conversation. Merely seeing a policeman on a motorcycle is unique and different. The added advantage here is that the motorcycle serves as a great public relations tool.

Corporal Bryan Peak is a seasoned veteran who uses his specialized skills and abilities to provide the citizens of Sycamore Township with another facet of quality police service.



EMS/Fire Department



Rob Penny, Fire Chief

WHEN YOUR CHILD NEEDS EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

It is rare for children to become seriously ill with no warning. Early recognition and treatment of symptoms can prevent an illness or injury from getting worse or turning into an emergency. Call your pediatrician as soon as possible if your child begins having symptoms. **The following are signs that your child needs emergency medical treatment right away and you should call 911:**

- Strange behavior / more withdrawn and less alert
- Unconsciousness / unresponsive when spoken to
- Rhythmic jerking (a seizure)
- Increasing effort or trouble with breathing
- Skin or lips that look blue, purple or grey
- Neck stiffness with fever
- Increasing or severe persistent pain
- A cut that is large, deep or to the head, chest or abdomen
- Bleeding that does not stop after applying pressure for five minutes
- A burn that is large or involves the hands, feet, groin, chest or face
- Any loss of consciousness, ongoing or worsening confusion, headache, or vomiting after a head injury

Many emergencies involve sudden injuries. These injuries are often caused by the following events:

- Bicycle or car crashes
- Falls
- Burns or smoke inhalation
- Choking
- Drowning
- Firearms or other weapons
- Electrical shocks
- Poisoning



If you suspect your child has swallowed a poison, another person's medicine, a button battery or magnet, call 911 for emergency services right away, even though your child may show no immediate symptoms.

It is important that babysitters and child caregivers have emergency numbers. If anyone uses their cell phone to call 911 they must give the location of the emergency because cell phones cannot be tracked to a specific location. Be sure your babysitter knows your home address.

Sycamore Township Fire Department offers CPR classes to residents free of charge and to businesses in the Township for a fee. Call the fire station at 513-792-8565 for cost of the program and scheduling availability.





Parks & Recreation



Mike McKeown,
Parks & Rec. Director

THANKS FOR A GREAT FESTIVAL!

Many thousands of people gathered together at the 25th Annual Festival in Sycamore. Great classic rock bands AMBROSIA, The GREG KIHN BAND, and THE MARSHALL TUCKER BAND were joined by local artists GenX Band, Loopman Dan, and Box of Chocolates for a fantastic musical weekend. Thanks to all of the vendors who provided fabulous food. Thanks also to the Township maintenance workers who worked tirelessly before, during, and after the Festival. Thanks to the members of the office staff, all of whom helped make the Festival a success. And last, but certainly not least, thanks to the members of the Parks and Recreation Committee, most of whom have volunteered with the Festival and other park projects for many years. This event takes a lot of teamwork between the different departments and committees. Special thanks again to all the team members.

The Festival would not be possible without our wonderful sponsors.

Thanks to the following businesses:

PLATINUM: Kids First Sports Center

GOLD SPONSOR:

Kroger Co.,
Sycamore Township
Republican Club

MAJOR SPONSORS:

Rumpke, Walnut Grove
Playgrounds, Neyer Properties,
Prus Construction, United
Refrigeration, A & A
Wall Systems



FALL EVENTS

Brush Chipping Program

Oct. 7, Nov. 4, and Dec. 2
8:00 AM – 4:00 PM
Behind Administration Bldg.
8540 Kenwood Road

Fall Leaf Collection

October 16 – December 8

Halloween Trick-or-Treating

October 31
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Election Day

November 7



TOWNSHIP TIDBITS

7TH ANNUAL CAR SHOW WINNER



Trustees Tom Weidman and Denny Connor congratulate Best of Show winner Weldon Haynes and his 1951 Mercury.

MOELLER HIGH SCHOOL: STATE CHAMPS!



The Moeller High School Lacrosse team was presented with a resolution honoring them for winning the state championship by Trustees Cliff Bishop, Denny Connor and Tom Weidman. Pictured back row: Trustees Cliff Bishop and Denny Connor, Assistant Coach Brian Powell, Paxton Kreger, Trustee Tom Weidman, Griffen Horter, Brendan Sigurdson, Blake Hemelgarn, Head Coach Sean McGinnis, Logan Dieball; front row: Donnie Ginnett, Lucas Klever, and Justin Miller.

EAGLE SCOUT DANIEL LUONGO



Daniel Luongo, a Sycamore Township resident and St. Xavier High School student, was presented with a resolution honoring him for earning the prestigious Boy Scouts of America Eagle Scout ranking by Trustees Denny Connor, Tom Weidman and Cliff Bishop.

2017 BEAUTIFICATION AWARD WINNERS

Congratulations to David Molloy, Karen Olberding and Roger & Colette Miller who are Sycamore Township's 2017 Beautification Award Winners!



Trustees Denny Connor, Tom Weidman and Cliff Bishop with David Molloy and Karen Olberding at the Festival in Sycamore.



Trustees Denny Connor, Tom Weidman and Cliff Bishop present Colette Miller with the Beautification Award.

OVARIAN CANCER AWARENESS



Sycamore Township Trustees Denny Connor, Tom Weidman and Cliff Bishop presented Dianne Weidman, of the Ovarian Cancer Alliance of Greater Cincinnati, a proclamation designating September, 2017 Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month in Sycamore Township.



Planning & Zoning



Harry Holbert,
Zoning Administrator

“Sycamore Township—a great place to live.” I hear that comment weekly. We at the Township are always striving to help the residents of Sycamore Township and to find new ways to make our community a better place to live, work and play. How can we help? If you have an idea that you feel would help your community, don’t hesitate to contact me by email at hholbert@sycamoretownship.org with your suggestions.

Have you been to the mall, plaza or our retail centers lately? Kenwood Towne Center, Kenwood Square, Shoppes of Kenwood and Kenwood Towne Place are sure to have something for everyone. If you’re in the mood for casual dining, our centers have plenty of restaurants to choose from. Get out, make a day of it and enjoy what Sycamore has to offer.

Distressed properties—yes, that neighbor who doesn’t cut his/her grass, landscape beds unmaintained, cars up on blocks, garbage in the back yard, vacant properties—the Township can help. We have several ways to register a complaint regarding these items:

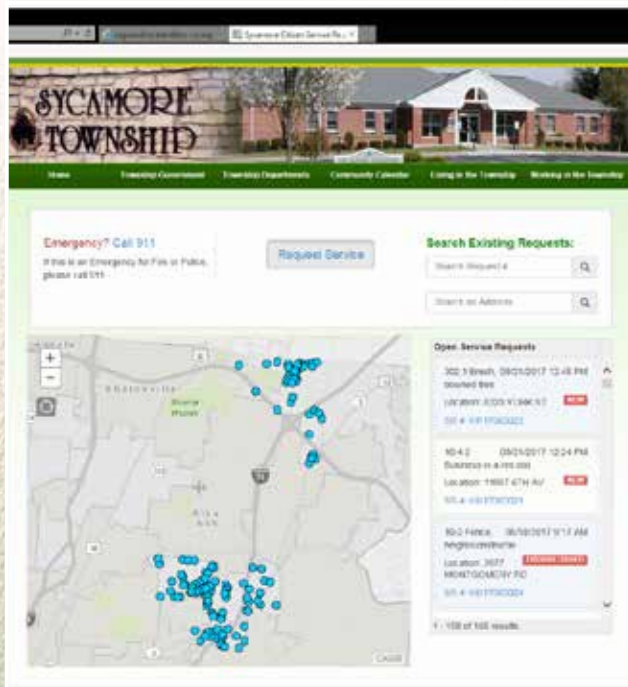
Township main number: 513-791-8447

Direct staff members: 513-792-7250 or 513-792-7246

Hotline (24 hours a day): 513-792-7279

Website (24 hours a day): www.sycamoretownship.org (Property Complaint Form)

Don’t wait till the grass is three feet tall or the property has been abandoned for months, notify us immediately of these issues. The Township is required to give proper notification to property owners and we’re not permitted to abate a condition until a specific timeline has passed. If all goes well, the property owner just needed a friendly reminder of his/her responsibility, but sometimes the Board of Trustees is forced to declare a property a nuisance and abate the unsanitary/unsafe condition for the health and welfare of the community.



Just a reminder, the Board of Zoning Appeals has a new meeting time. The meetings are still the third Monday of the month, but are now at 6:30 p.m. Our website Community Calendar lists meeting dates and times for the Board of Trustees, Zoning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals as well as lots of great information.

Question concerning Planning, Zoning or Property Maintenance can be directed to Harry Holbert Jr., Planning and Zoning Administrator at 513-792-7252 or by email at hholbert@sycamoretownship.org.

WELCOME NEW BUSINESSES



PIES & PINTS, serving pizza pies and craft beer, and **Z GALLERIE**, featuring contemporary furniture, décor and art, have opened for business at The Kenwood Collection at 5901 E. Galbraith Road.



Maintenance Department

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



STEVE REUTELSHOFER, *Design Technician*

Steve was hired by the Township in December of 2016 as Design Technician. He is a graduate of Cincinnati State Technical College with Associate of Applied Science Degrees in both Land Surveying and Construction Management. Steve's professional background includes over 25 years of experience in roadway design, project inspection and public works administration. Steve and his wife Sandy reside in Loveland and have two children, ages 12 and 14, who attend St. Columban School and Mount Notre Dame High School. Steve went to Deer Park High School, was married at St. Saviour Parish and was a long time resident of the Township. Steve continues to have strong ties to the area through his friends and family. In his spare time, Steve is the treasurer for his homeowners association, is a member of his parish Knights of Columbus, volunteers his time to numerous non-profit organizations, and enjoys cheering on his children at their sporting events. Steve is excited for the opportunity to work for his hometown, "the best Township" in the tristate area and is eager to make contributions that will help the Township flourish and prosper for many years to come.



DAN DURHAM, *Project Inspector*

Dan was hired by the Township as Project Inspector in October of 2015. Dan's professional background includes over 35 years of experience in project inspection with the Hamilton County Engineer's Office and three years as a Construction Administrator with a national engineering firm. Dan is a graduate of Cincinnati Technical College with an Associate's Degree in Civil Engineering. Dan and his wife reside in the City of Loveland where they enjoy gardening and being grandparents to three grandchildren ages 6, 8 and 9. Dan is a true professional who goes above and beyond in assisting and accommodating our residents to ensure that inconveniences are held to a minimum during road construction projects. The safety of our residents and the traveling public is a top priority for him. With his vast knowledge and experience in roadway construction, Dan is a true asset to the Township who is eager to contribute to the success of all projects.

CURBSIDE LEAF AND BRUSH PICKUP INFORMATION

Sycamore Township is pleased to provide you with prompt and efficient leaf pick up service. Leaf collection will begin on Monday, October 16th and run through Friday, December 8th. 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.





Fall 2017

Tom Weidman, President

Cliff Bishop, Vice-President

Denny Connor, Trustee

Robert C. Porter III, Fiscal Officer

R. Douglas Miller, Law Director

Greg Bickford, AICP, Administrator

791-8447 – Fax 792-8564

Tracy Kellums, Superintendent

792-7257 – Fax 792-8564

Mike McKeown, Parks & Rec. Director

792-7270 – Fax 792-8564

Rob Penny, Fire Chief

792-8565 – Fax 792-8564

Harry L. Holbert, Jr., Zoning Administrator

792-7252 – Fax 792-8564

Tory L. Smith, Lieutenant

District Three Commander

Hamilton County Sheriff's Office

774-6351 – Fax 774-6350

Fire and Police Emergency – **911**

Sycamore Township Administrative Office

791-8447

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



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.