



SYCAMORE
TOWNSHIP

The Sycamore Quarterly

SPRING 2024



IN THIS ISSUE

- 1 The Festival in Sycamore 2024!
- 2 Letter from Trustee Kellums
- 3 Parks & Recreation
- 4 Fire & EMS
- 5 Police & Crime Prevention
- 6 Planning & Zoning
- 7 Maintenance
- 8 Friendly Reminders

THE TIRE DISCOUNTERS FESTIVAL IN SYCAMORE

Bechtold Park - July 19 & 20, 2024

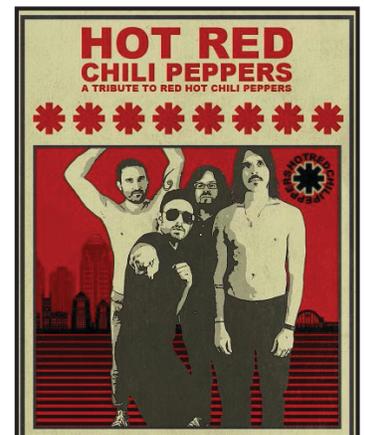
Save the dates for the highlight of the summer in Sycamore Township - **The Tire Discounters Festival in Sycamore!**

This two-day family-friendly event includes free live bands, plenty of food and drink options for purchase, plus rides and games to keep the kids entertained!

It is our pleasure to announce that Grammy-nominated national recording artists **Jefferson Starship** will headline the Festival on Saturday night!

Friday Night, July 19th, is Tribute Night!

Hot Red Chili Peppers, a Tribute to Red Hot Chili Peppers, takes the stage on Friday night! Hailing from Cincinnati, the ultimate RHCP tribute band is fronted by lead singer (and Anthony Kiedis lookalike) Brent James, who is a Sycamore Township resident. Don't miss your chance to see and hear this electrifying performance that pays homage to the legendary funk-rock pioneers. Hot Red Chili Peppers' dynamic show includes all the RHCP hits, including *Under the Bridge*, *Californication*, and *Give it Away!*



The Friday night finale is sure to be a blast as former Cincinnati Reds player Bronson Arroyo brings **The Bronson Arroyo Band – a Tribute to Pearl Jam** to Bechtold Park! The Bronson Arroyo Band tours the country as a world-class Pearl Jam tribute band playing hit after hit. This is your opportunity to hear Bronson Arroyo belt out his favorite Pearl Jam tracks like *Alive*, *Better Man*, and *Black!*





Tom Weidman
Chairman



Tracy Schwegmann
Vice-Chairman



Tracy Kellums
Trustee



Jonathan T. Deters
Fiscal Officer

ADMINISTRATION

Greg Bickford, Administrator
513-792-7254 gbickford@sycamoretownship.org

Beth Gunderson, HR Manager/Assistant Administrator
513-792-7248 – bgunderson@sycamoretownship.org

Debbie Campbell, Finance Director
513-792-7259 – dcampbell@sycamoretownship.org

Mary Tenorio, Assistant Finance Director
513-792-7256 – mtenorio@sycamoretownship.org

Sycamore Township Administrative Offices
513-791-8447 – info@sycamoretownship.org
www.sycamoretownship.org

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Brush Chipping Program
April 6/ May 4/ June 1
8:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.
Behind Township Administration Building
8540 Kenwood Rd.

National Day of Prayer
May 2
12:00 P.M.
Administration Bldg.
8540 Kenwood Rd.

Spring Compost Giveaway
May 11
8:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.
Hartzell Methodist Church
8999 Applewood Dr.

Letter from the Trustee

Greetings!

I am honored to write this Township newsletter article as your newly elected Trustee.

Though this role is new to me, I am obviously not new to Sycamore Township. After almost 41 years of working for the Township and loving every day of it, I made the decision this past summer to change directions and run for Trustee. I would like to thank you for your support and tell you that I am very humbled to know that my years of service are appreciated. Your confidence in me shows that you think I have done a good job for our community, and I am honored to have been elected to this position.



I want to thank our Township staff, which, in my opinion, is second to none. We are fortunate to have very capable and dedicated employees in all departments of the Township. I would also like to thank Mr. Weidman and Ms. Schwegmann for their help as I transition into this new role as an elected official. I am confident that we will be a very strong team for the Township and you, our residents.

First on our agenda as a Board was to hire a new Township Administrator. After an extensive search and interview process, we assembled a list of quite a few good candidates, but one person rose above the rest: Greg Bickford. Greg is also not a new face to the Township, having 24 years of public service experience, with nearly 20 of those being with Sycamore Township as the Zoning Administrator and Township Administrator. Greg spent the last three-plus years as the Assistant County Administrator of Clermont County, and we feel fortunate that he has returned to Sycamore Township to lead our staff into the future.

It will be a very busy spring and summer in Sycamore Township due in part to the great success our staff has had in applying for and receiving grants for various projects. These projects include the construction of additional sidewalks as we strive to make the Township a more walkable community and the rehabilitation of Kenwood Road from the intersection of Montgomery Road northward to the City of Blue Ash Corp line. We are also very excited to report that we are nearing the end of the design and engineering phase of a Veterans Memorial that is going to be built in Bechtold Park; there will be a lot more information on this to come.

Good weather means the return of some of our most in-demand residential services, such as our Monthly Brush Chipping Program, Document Shredding Day, and, most popular of all, the North and South Trash Bash. Our parks will also be busy with baseball games, soccer games, shelter rentals, and special events, including Music In The Park and the ever-popular Festival in Sycamore. This year's Festival will feature Red Hot Chili Peppers and Pearl Jam tribute bands on Friday night and the return of Jefferson Starship on Saturday night. This is a family-friendly event, so bring the kids to enjoy "Rides for \$5". Check the events calendar for all Township activities throughout the year including my favorite The National Day of Prayer on Thursday May 2nd at 12:00 noon in front of the Township Administration Building.

I look forward to seeing everyone out and about throughout the Township during the warm weather months, and on behalf of my fellow Trustees Tom Weidman and Tracy Schwegmann and Fiscal Officer Jon Deters, I want to thank you for your support of the Township and wish you a healthy and safe year.

Remember, "There's More in Sycamore"!

Tracy Kellums
Trustee

Parks and Recreation

(Continued from Page 1)

THE TIRE DISCOUNTERS FESTIVAL IN SYCAMORE Saturday Night, July 20th, Jefferson Starship!

Festival veterans DV8 will return to the Bechtold Park stage to warm up the crowd before our headliner on Saturday! DV8 is the Tristate's premier classic rock cover band with two dynamic vocalists and a band comprised of some of the best musicians in the area. Covering songs from the 70's through today, DV8 is sure to bring the crowd to its feet!

The Tire Discounters Festival in Sycamore's grand finale will be Saturday, July 20th, when the legendary **Jefferson Starship**, with founding member David Freiberg, headlines the Tire Discounters Festival in Sycamore! Jefferson Starship is one of the most successful arena rock groups of the 1970s and '80s, earning 3 platinum and 8 gold records, as well as numerous Top 40 singles. Join us at Bechtold Park on July 20th to hear songs from Jefferson Starship's 2020 album *Mother of the Sun* and a long list of the band's classics such as *We Built This City*, *White Rabbit*, and *Somebody to Love*!

The Tire Discounters Festival in Sycamore also includes a wide variety of food vendors, including Bourbon Chicken, Deer Park Deli, Granny's Goodies on the Go, Italianette Pizza, MVP Sports Bar & Grille, Snowie Shaved Ice, and more! We are also bringing back the popular "Ride for Five" – pay just \$5 per day for a ride bracelet so kids can ride the rides while you sit back and enjoy the music or get up and dance!



Jefferson Starship

Thank you to our Diamond Sponsor! **TireDiscounters®**

Don't miss our free Spring Seminar at Bechtold Park

Where: Bechtold Park Shelter #1, 4312 Sycamore Road
When: May 18, 2024 - 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.



*HEAR James Pizzo, of T.R. Gear Landscaping share ideas and trends for arrangement of annuals in landscape beds and containers!



*KNOW how to keep your home in tip-top shape as Sara Bourgeois, of People Working Cooperatively discusses exterior home repairs and maintenance!



*LEARN how to reduce runoff from your property by creating a rain garden in the landscape from Sarah Meadows of Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District!



Questions? Contact Parks Supervisor Jason Petty at 513-792-7269
or jpetty@sycamoretownship.org





Fire Chief Rob Penny

513-792-8562

rpenny@sycamoretownship.org

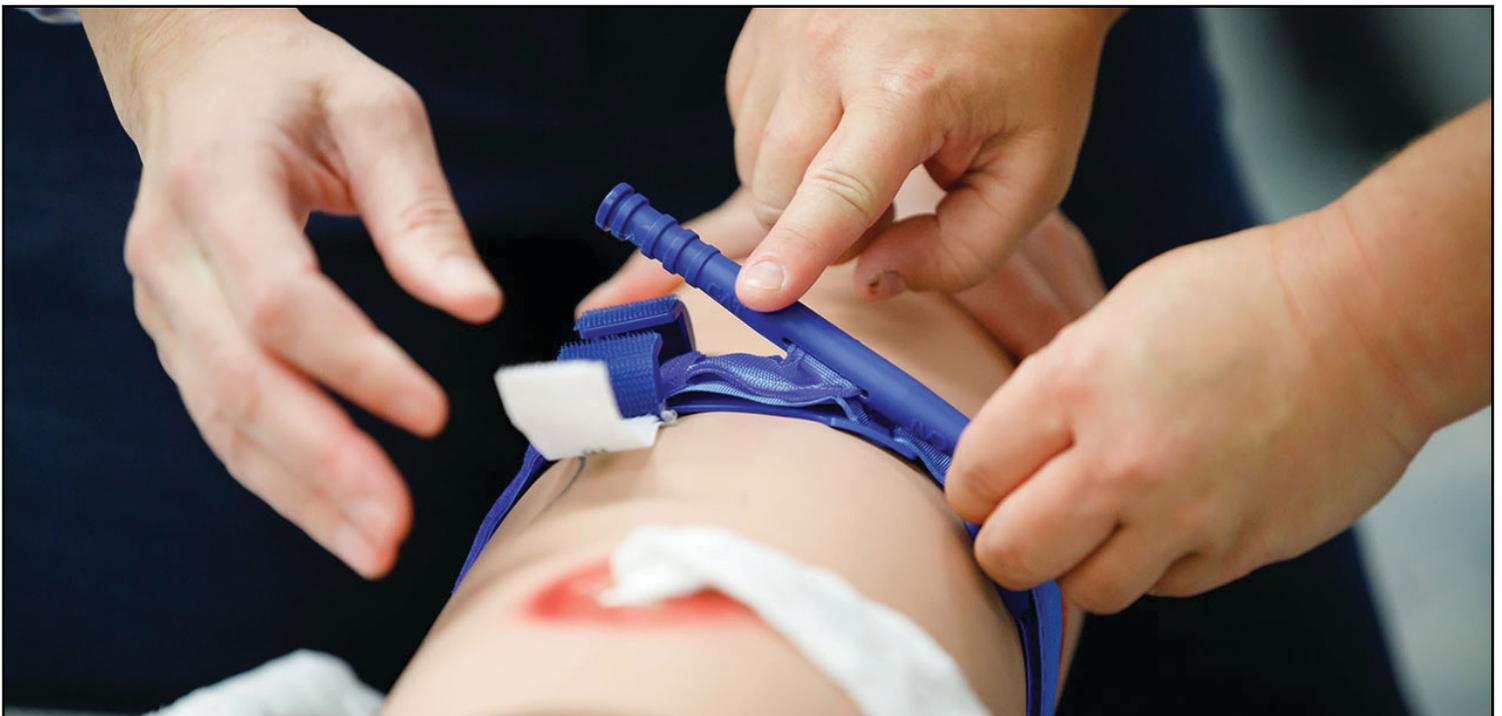


Active Violence Emergency Response Training

Sycamore Township Fire Department strives every day to make Sycamore Township a safe place to live and work. As our responses increase, we still make time to continue to offer professional education to our residents and businesses. Last year, the fire department responded to 5,030 runs, an average of 14 runs per day.

The Sycamore Township Fire Department has offered First Aid and CPR classes for some time. We are excited to announce that we are offering a new class called AVERT, which stands for Active Violence Emergency Response Training. This class is geared toward Township businesses, retail shops, schools, and churches. While other programs focus solely on active shooters or Stop the Bleed, AVERT goes beyond by combining both important topics into one comprehensive training program. AVERT training incorporates live scenario exercises and hands-on practice to give people tools for how to respond. With AVERT, you will learn how to recognize warning signs using situational awareness, decide whether to escape, evade, or attack, apply critical stop-the-bleeding techniques, and respond quickly and confidently in an emergency. The cost per certification is \$10.00.

For more information on this class, call or email Firefighter/Paramedic Mike Kramer at 513-792-8565 or mkramer@sycamoretownship.org.



Police and Crime Prevention



Lt. Michael Tarr,
District Three Commander
Hamilton County Sheriff's Office - 513-683-3444
Fire and Police Emergency - 911
Non-Emergency Dispatch - 513-825-2280

Quite often, during discussions with residents, we are made aware of criminal incidents and/or suspicious activity that have not been reported to the Sheriff's Office at the time they occurred. We're usually given one of three reasons: someone didn't want to bother us with something that didn't seem very important or serious; a crime victim didn't feel that there was anything that could be done, so they didn't see the need for a report; or someone was worried about tying up a deputy while a more serious offense was occurring. I would like to address each of these concerns.

First, our Deputies are on duty in Sycamore Township 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. We are happy to respond anywhere, anytime. You can ask for a Deputy to come to your location, or you can come to us. Sheriff's District 3 is at 8871 Weekly Lane, and our Sycamore Township Substation is at 8540 Kenwood Road (just to the right of the fire department entrance). Our non-emergency dispatch number is 513-825-2280. You can also ask for a Deputy to call you if you have a quick question or if you feel your issue could be handled over the phone. Quite simply, no matter what the problem, we're here to help, and we don't want anyone to feel we are bothered by their call for service.

Second, while it is true that many low-level property crimes (criminal mischief, criminal damaging, car break-ins, etc.) are difficult to solve, it is imperative that the Sheriff's Office be made aware of all of these offenses. Our intelligence analysts constantly study calls for service, offense reports, and intelligence reports generated by Deputies in the field. They use the information from those sources to help us understand how to best deploy Deputies in Sycamore Township. If we don't have a clear picture of what's actually occurring, we can't do this in the most effective manner. The same is true with suspicious activity. The vague piece of information you may have (a vehicle description without a license plate or the general physical description of a person) may be the missing piece of a puzzle for a Deputy on the street, a detective, or an intelligence analyst.

Finally, the Hamilton County Communications Center, which handles all of our calls and dispatches our deputies, prioritizes all calls for service before dispatching a Deputy. Calls of a serious nature (crimes in progress, automobile crashes with injuries, etc.) will always be dispatched prior to those not requiring an immediate response. Additionally, if a high-priority incident were to occur while a deputy was on a routine call, that deputy would immediately be rerouted to the more serious incident. You should never feel that your call to us would prevent us from responding in a timely manner to a more serious call.

Please remember that we're always here and happy to help with any issue you may have. The more information we have from you, the better we're able to patrol Sycamore Township... no crime is too insignificant to report. Your routine calls for service will never prevent or delay us from responding to someone who is in immediate need of assistance.





Jeff Uckotter
Planning & Zoning
Administrator

513-792-7252

juckotter@sycamoretownship.org



Kenwood Theatre Moves to Kenwood Collection

The Kenwood Theatre has moved to The Kenwood Collection at 5901 E. Galbraith Road. Formerly City Base Cinemas, the Kenwood Theatre is located on Floor R2. The theatre is directly above Whole Foods and L.L. Bean. Parking is located on level P4 of the garage or the outdoor parking lot.

The Kenwood Theatre has 11 screens featuring reclining, heated seats with dine-in/at-your-seat service featuring American fare. The Kenwood Theatre has a Bargain Tuesday: All Films, All Showtimes - \$7.



The Director's Club

Private Event Spaces:

Theatre rentals are available for New Release movies; bring Your Own Blu-ray/DVD, Streaming (films, sporting events, videos), E-Gaming, and Laptop Presentations.

2-30 guests - **The Director's Club** event space (pictured) includes a private theatre screen, seated dining area, pool table, giant magnetic scrabble board, and more.



13K Event Venue

10-200 guests – **13K Event Venue** (pictured) offers a variety of catering options for private parties, business meetings, happy hours, or any special occasion, with floor-to-ceiling sliding doors extending onto an outdoor patio and in-house audio-visual capabilities.

For more information on movie showtimes, parking, private event spaces, the candy shop and more: www.kenwoodtheatre.com

Zoning Certificates Required:

With the warm weather on the horizon, it is that time of year when residents may be planning outdoor improvements such as new decks, pools, fences, sheds, additions, and more. A zoning certificate is required for these improvements. Please contact Township staff with any questions 513-792-7250. More information can be found at <https://sycamoretownship.org/departments/planning-and-zoning/permitting-inspections/>

Maintenance Department



Steve Reutelshofer,
Superintendent

513-792-7258

sreutelshofer@sycamoretownship.org



2024 TRASH BASH AND DOCUMENT SHREDDING



It's spring-cleaning time, and Sycamore Township is here to help! The annual Trash Bash and Document Shredding events for Sycamore Township residents will take place in April. Maintenance staff will be present at the Trash Bash to assist residents with the disposal of trash, junk, debris, old tires, used motor oil, construction materials, furniture, lawnmowers, appliances, and electronics. Mattresses and box springs will also be accepted if they are wrapped in plastic or a plastic mattress bag. Oil-based paint, household chemicals, and pesticides will be accepted at the SOUTH TRASH BASH ONLY. Latex paint and yard waste, including brush and leaves, will not be accepted. Latex paint may be taken to Matthew 25 Ministries at 11060 Kenwood Road.

NORTH TRASH BASH

Cletus McDaniel Sports Complex
7841 School Rd.

Friday, April 12, 2024, Noon – 4 p.m.

Saturday, April 13, 2024, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

DOCUMENT SHREDDING

Township Administration Building
Rear Parking Lot

8540 Kenwood Rd.

Saturday, April 20, 2024, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

SOUTH TRASH BASH

Bechtold Park
4312 Sycamore Rd

Friday, April 26, 2024, Noon – 4 p.m.

Saturday, April 27, 2024, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Construction Ahead!

It is springtime, and that means construction season is right around the corner. The Township has a busy construction year planned! As part of our goal to make Sycamore Township a more walkable community, we have several sidewalk projects planned. You'll see sidewalks being constructed on Euclid Avenue, Finley Lane, Baen Road and Deerfield Road, as well as sidewalk repairs in the Windfield Subdivision.

Significant improvements to Kenwood Road between Montgomery Road and the Blue Ash Corp. Line are planned, including resurfacing of the roadway, new pavement marking, replacement of sidewalks, curb repairs, new street signage, crosswalks, curb ramps, and more. The Township's annual Road Program will be back with pavement restoration and curb repair on various streets in our neighborhoods. Visit our website later this spring to check if your street is included.

You'll also notice improvements to our parks as we remove the last of the old picnic shelters at Bechtold Park and construct a new shelter #4 near the nature trail. Plans are also underway to install new playground equipment at Bob Meyer Park near Sturbridge subdivision.

If you have any questions or need any further information, please don't hesitate to contact our Road Superintendent, Steve Reutelshofer by email sreutelshofer@sycamoretownship.org or phone (513) 792-7258.



**TIRE DISCOUNTERS
FESTIVAL IN SYCAMORE**

FRIDAY NIGHT IS TRIBUTE NIGHT



**SATURDAY NIGHT,
JEFFERSON STARSHIP!**



8540 Kenwood Road
Sycamore Twp., Ohio 45236

PRESORTED
STANDARD
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 1693
CINCINNATI, OHIO

There's More in Sycamore!



V.F.W. Memorial Day Parade

Register now to be a part of
The Deer Park * Silverton * Sycamore Township 2024
V.F.W. Memorial Day Parade
on Monday, May 27, 2024!

The parade registration form is available on the
Township's website for any business, sports,
community, church, or family group who would like to
participate.

For more information, contact
Captain Jeff Newman, Sycamore Township Fire/EMS
at jnewman@sycamoretownship.org

Visit the Sycamore Township website
to learn more about the future Veterans Memorial
to be constructed at Bechtold Park!

