



Letter from LEADERSHIP

As we begin another year together, it's a good time to recognize and celebrate the tremendous growth, strength, beauty, and safety of the Township—and share more good news about the Township's plans for 2023! Our community-based strategic plan has resulted in more opportunities for RECREATION with the Seven Gables Park new playset and walking trail expansion, pickleball, fishing, and year-round yoga. We have more ways to CELEBRATE with our Easter Egg Hunt, Bicentennial planning, and Memorial Day Event. We are finding more ways to stay SAFE with flashing signals at eight crosswalks and a fire department safety camp for our children. There are more opportunities to RECYCLE with three big clean up events. Finally, we are continuing to DEVELOP with the Snider Bridge construction enhancements and additional street resurfacing. Our newsletter is filled with exciting news, and as Board of Trustees president Phil Beck noted, "As time passes, one thing has stayed constant – the community's momentum for building a better tomorrow for all."

With enormous gratitude for your support and commitment to Symmes Township,

Jodie, Ken, Phil, Joe, Kim




Recreation



Seven Gables Park Features New Playset, Pickleball, and Better Walking Path

Playing at Seven Gables Park has never been more exciting for kids—and adults! A new playground will be installed this spring which will provide plenty of fun, exercise, adventure, and memories for family and friends. The second phase will be installed later in the year.

The Township received partial funding from the Ohio Division of Natural Resources for the beautiful and safe play-space. This is a gift for our community for years to come.

The Seven Gables walking path is also being repaved and widened to eight feet to accommodate additional walkers and runners.

In addition, the tennis court at Seven Gables has been modified into a dual tennis/pickleball court. If you don't know, pickleball is a fun sport for all ages that combines many elements of tennis, badminton, and ping-pong. The game is played either doubles or singles with a paddle and a plastic ball.

Celebrations

The Great Easter Egg Hunt Returns

The Great Egg Hunt is back for more fun. This free family event will be held on Saturday, April 1st, 11:30am at Home of the Brave Park. Kids can come early and enjoy face painting, a game, crafts, and a visit from the Easter Bunny himself. The event is appropriate for children ages 10 years and younger. A section for handicapped children will also be provided.



➔ For information, go to symmestownship.org.

Township Bicentennial in 2024

Symmes Township will be 200 years old in 2024—and it's time for a BIG party and lots of celebrating. The preliminary plans call for several landmark events throughout the year culminating with a signature event next summer.

In case you didn't know, the Township was formed in 1824 from the eastern portion of Sycamore Township and bears the name of John Cleves Symmes, who made the "Miami Purchase" in 1788.

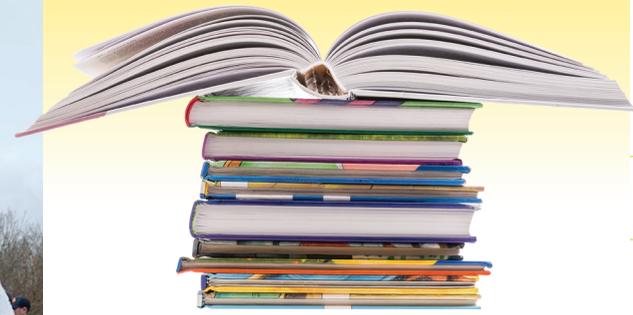
The Board of Trustees would like to get as many suggestions and community involvement as possible.

➔ If you have any ideas for activities or are interested in joining a committee to plan for the event, contact Kim Lapensee at klapensee@symmestownship.org.

Memorial Day Celebration A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO SERVE OUR COUNTRY

It's that special time of year in our Township and around the nation when we celebrate and honor our veterans who sacrificed and died while serving our country. Our Symmes Honors Veterans ceremony and celebration will be at Home of the Brave Park, Friday, May 26th, beginning at 7pm in front of the Veterans' Memorial.

The free event includes special musical performances, a 21-gun salute, and guest speaker Bruce Hawk. Bruce is a 16-year Veteran of our Loveland Symmes Fire Department where he serves as the Deputy Fire Chief and Executive Officer. Prior to LSF, Bruce was active duty for the U.S. Navy as an Aviation Boatswain's Mate where he was responsible for performing crash rescue and firefighting duties pertaining to the launching and recovery of aircraft.



Storywalk® Features a True Story by Local Author

Our Township Storywalk® will feature the book *Cinci Freedom: A Cow's Story* by Gary Franke. The beautiful children's book is based on real life events that occurred in Cincinnati in 2001. The author spent several days and nights in and around Mount Storm Park pursuing the beloved cow 'Cinci' with SPCA Cincinnati director Harold Dates, Specialist Todd Manser and professional cowboy, Dennis Dowers.

The cow made her escape from Ken Meyer Meats in Camp Washington and evaded capture for 11 days, ultimately earning her a Key to the City of Cincinnati. The world followed Cinci's extraordinary quest for freedom.

The book was written to raise money and foster animal welfare awareness with children in the community.

Storytime in the Park

The Township and the Symmes Township Branch Library will offer Storytime from April through October at our parks. The sessions will be on the third Friday of each month from 10:00-10:30am.

- April 21 Meade Historic Preserve
- May 19 Home of the Brave Park
- June 16 Seven Gables Park
- July 21 Symmes Park
- August 18 Meade Historic Preserve
- Sept. 15 Home of the Brave Park
- October 13 Symmes Park

Recycling



Plastic Free July®

Join millions of people reducing their plastic waste. Plastic Free July® is a global movement that helps millions of people be part of the solution to plastic pollution so we can have cleaner streets, oceans, and beautiful communities. Will you be part of Plastic Free July by choosing to refuse single-use plastics?

➔ Accept the challenge at www.plasticfreejuly.org.

CLEAN-UP DAY: ONE STOP DROP

Symmes Township and the Loveland Sustainability Council are sponsoring a "One Stop Drop" collection site for recycling all your old and new stuff on Saturday, May 20th from 9am to 3pm at Home of the Brave Park. Residents can bring everything from furniture to clothing. A complete list of items that will be accepted will be posted on our website soon.

We will try to donate as much as we can to our onsite charities: Matthew 25 Ministries, Goodwill, and Habitat for Humanity/Cincinnati Restore. All other unusable items will be safely discarded.

Hazardous Household Waste Collection

Symmes Township, the City of Loveland and the Loveland Sustainability Council are sponsoring an important hazardous household waste collection day on Saturday, June 3rd from 8am to 10am at Home of the Brave Park. Residents can dispose of many harmful items including adhesives, aerosol cans, bathroom disinfectants, fertilizers, fuels, and more.

➔ Please check symmestownship.org shortly for a current list of acceptable items.

TOWNSHIP IS RECYCLING HARD TO RECYCLE ITEMS

Looking for a way to recycle eyeglasses, hangers, empty pill bottles, and other hard to recycle items? Symmes Township and the Loveland Sustainability Council have partnered with the Cincinnati Recycling & Reuse Hub to dispose of them for you. The new event is the first Saturday of every month from 10am to noon at the Safety Services Center, 8871 Weekly Lane.

➔ For a complete list of items go to cincinnati recycling and reuse hub.org.

Development

Road Resurfacing Update

The Township will hire a contractor in April to execute the Township's Road Resurfacing Plan. The work is estimated to start sometime after spring. The paving cycle—15-17 years per street— includes:

- Chapelsquare Lane
- Carrington Court
- Harbortown Drive
- Cypresspoint Lane
- Nathanshill Lane
- Logansfield Court
- Shenadoah Trace
- Antietam Drive
- Appomattox Court
- Thistlehill Drive
- Woodwind Drive
- Symbola Drive
- Allegro Court
- Creekside Drive
- Kosine Lane

SNIDER ROAD BRIDGE GETTING CONSTRUCTION ENHANCEMENTS

The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) will perform construction work on the Snider Road bridge and on the Cooper Road Bridge. The work includes replacing the bridge parapet walls and fencing and setting false decking underneath them. The work will cause lane closures on I-71 and on Snider and Cooper Roads until work is completed in late October.

The Eagle Bridge Company was awarded a contract for approximately \$3.5 million to rehabilitate the Snider Road and Cooper Road bridges.

➔ For ongoing traffic and construction information throughout the state, please visit www.OHGO.com.



Zoning Commission and Finance & Audit Committee Positions Open

Symmes Township is currently seeking an alternate for the Zoning Commission and regular members for the Finance & Audit committee. If you would like to serve our Township in a volunteer role and want to get involved in the community, come join our team.

➔ Please contact Kim at klapensee@symmestownship.org if you're interested.

Safety



Flashing Signals Installed at Various Crosswalks Across the Township

Flashing signals were installed at the crosswalks located on Humphrey Road at Pinto Court, Mistymorn Lane and Hopewell Road, Union Cemetery Road at Meade Park Trail, and Hopewell Road at Gateway Drive and Solon through an agreement with Hamilton County to promote public safety. Symmes Township already has the flashing beacon crosswalks on Lebanon Road at Symmes/Home of the Brave Park and on East Kemper Road at Kroger.

Thanks to Symmes resident Gary Trick for his support of public safety.

Fire Department Safety Camp Returns



The Loveland Symmes Fire Department and Strive Academy are featuring a Fire & Life Safety Camp for five days beginning on June 12th at the Safety Services Center. There will be two sessions each day: 9am -11:30am (morning session) and 1pm - 3:30pm (afternoon session).

The camp will teach children ages 5–7 years old about the potential hazards in and around their homes and their schools. The sessions are fun, entertaining, and very interactive. Children must be from Symmes Township or the City of Loveland. The cost is \$50 per child.

➔ To register go to striveacademy.org.



9323 Union Cemetery Rd.
Symmes Township, OH 45140

Calendar of Township Events

With so many wonderful events happening in our Township, please see our website or subscribe to our email newsletter for the most up to date information.

Recreation

Fishing For Your Dinner Tonight?

The Township now has public fishing! Symmes has signed an agreement with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) to allow public fishing at Symmes Park and Home of the Brave Park. ODNR will supply trout to the ponds this spring for everyone to catch and take home. Previously the Township's policy was catch and release. A fishing license is required and can be easily obtained at ohiodnr.gov.

Yoga in Symmes is Year-Round!

Symmes Township now offers yoga year-round thanks to a generous donation from Energy Alliances and AEP Energy. The free yoga classes have been moved indoors for the winter months at the Safety Services Center. The classes are on Wednesdays at 6:30pm and Saturdays at 9am. Beginning in June, they will move back to Hopewell Meadows Park.

