



SPRING 2019

## HOME OF THE BRAVE PARK CONTINUES TO DEVELOP

*Phase II is a Homerun!*

Home of the Brave Park is in Phase II of its master plan to become one of the best parks in Ohio. The improvements in this phase include the addition of dugouts, fencing, and bleachers around the existing baseball fields.

“Each field will now have irrigation to help the grass to grow,” added Kim Lapensee, Township Administrator. “Lighting and a scoreboard will be installed around the larger field with extended utilities for a concession stand to be built in the future.”

The improvements will be completed by July, but there will be a few challenges during the process.

“Due to the field improvements, we will need to shut down fields #6, #7, and #8 until July,” said Lapensee. “For the spring season, we will be temporarily relocating soccer fields to Meade Park and Hopewell Meadows Park.”

The Township has had an unusually high request for use of the fields this year, and they are trying to accommodate all requests.

“The remaining baseball fields are multi-purpose and can only accommodate younger children,” said Lapensee. “Although it’s an inconvenience for everyone, there’s good news ahead.”

Home of the Brave Park has many more phases in their Master Plan.

“Phase III will include a concession stand in 2020, and future phases may include new parking and restrooms at Royal Field, a natural playground, a sledding hill, additional soccer fields, security cameras and more,” said Township Trustee Phil Beck.

The Township received a \$294,000 grant through the Capital Grant process through the State of Ohio for Phase II. “We are very grateful to our state representatives,” said Beck. “We hope to find other grant monies available so that we may continue to improve the parks at a faster pace.”



## ARTWORKS®/SYMMES TOWNSHIP MURAL PROJECT

### What?

Volunteer to paint alongside the ArtWorks’ team of professional artists, and help bring the art design to life while playing a part in Township history! *Check out the insert for more info!*

### Where?

Maintenance Building at Home of the Brave Park, 11605 Lebanon Road

### When?

Sessions will take place from 9:30am-11:30am on: Tuesday, June 18–Thursday, June 20 and Tuesday, June 25–Thursday, June 27

### Who Can Participate?

Community members 6 years and older are welcome. Children aged 6-13 years must be accompanied by an adult for the entire duration of the session.

### How?

Contact Symmes Township to secure your spot as a volunteer by May 31st. Space is limited to 20 participants per session.

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## BOARD OF TRUSTEES



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KEN BRYANT



JODIE LEIS

## FISCAL OFFICER



CAROL SIMS

## ADMINISTRATOR



KIM LAPENSEE

## A BIG, BEAUTIFUL STORY IS UNFOLDING AT MEADE PARK

The internationally acclaimed StoryWalk® Project is being installed at Meade Park this spring. StoryWalk® is an innovative and delightful way for children—and adults—to enjoy reading while being outside in a natural park setting. Laminated pages from a children’s book are displayed along an outdoor path within the beautiful Park. As you stroll down the trail, you’re directed to the next page in the story.

The StoryWalk® Project ([www.kellogghubbard.org/storywalk](http://www.kellogghubbard.org/storywalk)) was created by Anne Ferguson and developed in cooperation with the Kellogg Hubbard Library and the Vermont Bicycle & Pedestrian Coalition.

“I knew I wanted to create something where the parents had to be as active as their children,” said founder, Anne Ferguson, who has seen the Project expand to all 50 states and 12 foreign countries. “Active parents have active children and physical activity is a key component to health.”

Symmes Township obtained a sizable grant of \$48,210 from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) to fund the project, which includes paving the walkways at Meade Park to make it accessible for strollers and safe walking.

“This innovative project captures everything we want the Township to represent—promoting early literacy, physical activity, and family time together in nature,” said Township Trustee Jodie Leis. “It will bring another fun and educational family activity to our Parks.”

The first story will be ‘reading-ready’ by mid-Spring. Check the website for updates.



## 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 stuff on May 18th 9am to 3pm at Hopewell Meadows Park.

“Put spring cleaning on your home calendar, this free event will include many important vendors who can put your unwanted items to good use,” said Township Trustee Phil Beck.

### GOODWILL

Furniture  
Glass wear  
Toys/games  
Clothing, shoes, coats  
Books  
Flat Screen TVs & computers

### MATTHEW 25 MINISTRIES

Usable latex paint

### HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Cabinets  
Light fixtures & ceiling fans  
Doors  
Hardware & tools

### SYMMES TOWNSHIP

Tires  
Used motor oil  
Car batteries  
Appliances  
Metal items

***Please note that hazardous household waste will not be accepted.***

## GET THE DIRT *on Backyard Composting*

The Hamilton County Recycling & Solid Waste District is hosting a free one-hour seminar focusing on the basics of backyard composting on April 10th at 7pm at the Safety Services Center, 8871 Weekly Lane. Reservations required at [HamiltonCountyRecycles.org](http://HamiltonCountyRecycles.org) or 946-7766.

## SUMMER VACATION PROTECTION FOR YOUR HOME

If you are heading out of town this summer and would like the police to keep a watchful eye on your house, call Deputy Jones at the Hamilton County Sheriff’s office at 683-3444 or call the non-emergency number at 677-7000. Also, if you see any suspicious activity, please report it to our non-emergency dispatch at 677-7000.

## RUMPKE & SYMMES TOWNSHIP NEGOTIATE LOWER RATES FOR TRASH SERVICES FOR RESIDENTS

Rumpke is offering Township residents a lower rate of \$19.05/month for waste and recycling collection with bi-weekly recycling pick-up.

“The lower cost will be in place for 18 months and will now include recycling at the curb for free,” said Township Administrator Kim Lapensee. “This should save every resident \$3.50 a month or \$42 a year.”

The goal of this initiative is to increase the rate of recycling at the curb by lowering the price and make it more convenient for the resident. Currently, only 1,900 homes pay extra to recycle in the Township which represents 46% of the community.

“We would like to increase that number to 100%,” said Lapensee. “Residents will also save time and gas because they won’t have to pack their recycling in their cars and take them to the Township recycling bins.”

New larger recycling bins will be available for free through Rumpke, and the term runs from March 2019 through August 31, 2020. To sign up call Rumpke directly at (800) 828-8171 or online [Cincinnati.market@rumpke.com](mailto:Cincinnati.market@rumpke.com).

“Since recycling is included in the low rate, the recycling bins located at the Camp Dennison Nature Trail, Hopewell Meadows Park and the Symmes Township Administration may be removed by 2020,” said Lapensee. “This initiative will save the Township about \$5,000.00/year.”

Senior rates still apply if you are over 65 years of age. For more information, contact [klapensee@symmestownship.org](mailto:klapensee@symmestownship.org).

**Reminder:** Personal trash is not permitted to be placed in the Township’s dumpsters at the parks or Township buildings. The law requires trash to be removed from the property of origin.

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## LOVELAND-SYMMES FIRE DEPARTMENT IMPROVES EMS TRAINING CAPABILITIES



The Loveland-Symmes Fire Department (LSFD) has acquired the innovative SimMan 3G, a realistic, full-body adult patient simulator that provides the most technologically advanced training opportunities for the LSFD paramedics.

SimMan 3G is a wireless mannequin that responds accurately to treatment rendered by EMS crews. Caregivers are able to perform skills such as: CPR, various airway management skills, vascular access (IV/IO), drug administration, ECG rhythm monitoring, and seizure management.

“LSFD now has the ability to conduct EMS training using realistic scenarios which will improve our ability to provide critical patient care,” said Captain Bruce Hawk. “Simulated scenarios help responders achieve the optimal training environment with the most realistic outcomes.”

The ability to frequently practice and manage complex medical scenarios helps to prevent medical errors, while detailed feedback promotes discussion and reinforces the learning process. The cost of this simulator was shared by Symmes Township, the City of Loveland, and the City of Mason.

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## NEW BUSINESSES

**Performance Kings Honda** | 9131 Fields Ertel Road | A dealership that strives to make your experience a wonderful one for the life of your vehicle. For more information, go to [www.performancekingshonda.com](http://www.performancekingshonda.com).

**At Home** | 9570 Fields Ertel Road | Shop the biggest selection of styles at the best prices at this home décor superstore. For more information, please go to [www.athome.com](http://www.athome.com).

**Bombay Brazier** | 12140 Royal Point Drive | Offers the finest Indian cuisine with bar. Go to [www.bombaybraziercincy.com](http://www.bombaybraziercincy.com).

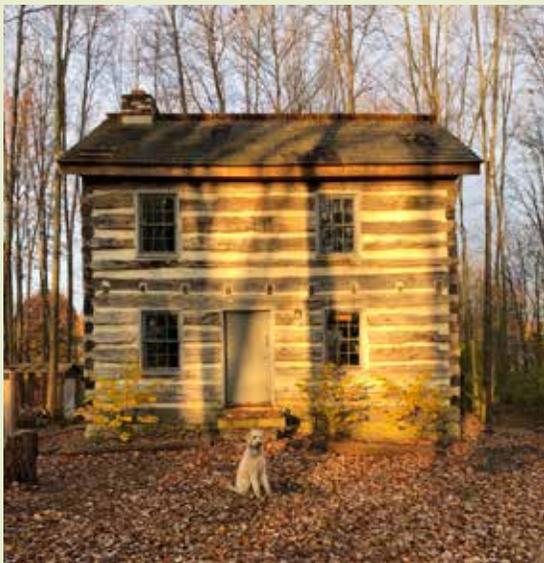
**My Pet’s Vet Animal Hospital** | 8717 Fields Ertel Road | Delivers quality lifelong veterinary care to cats and dogs, and helps puppies and rescues find homes and lead healthy lives. For more information, go to [www.mypetsvetgroup.com](http://www.mypetsvetgroup.com).

## CONTRIBUTE MORE TO OUR COMMUNITY BY JOINING OR IMPROVING A COMMITTEE

The Symmes Township Board of Trustees is looking for volunteers to fill important positions on the Zoning Commission, Board of Zoning Appeals and the Beautification Committee.

“Serving on a community committee can be immensely rewarding,” said Trustee Jodie Leis. “It gives you the opportunity to contribute to the growth and future success of the Township.”

Residents interested in applying for one of these appointments can simply download and application from [www.symmestownship.org](http://www.symmestownship.org), or contact Luanne Felter at the Township office, 683-6644.



**Applause please!** The winner of the Township’s first annual photo contest was resident Melanie Jones. Among the many images submitted, the judges chose this shot for its creativity, beauty and theme. The other winners included Kim Johnson followed by Sara Young. The Youth Award went to 8 year old Liam Goff. Get excited for our next contest in October!



## THE GREAT EGG HUNT IS A SWEET TREAT

The annual Great Symmes Egg Hunt kicks off at 11:30pm on Saturday, April 13th at Home of the Brave Park. The family event will have face painting, games, candy, the ‘egg-citing hunt,’ and a visit from the Easter Bunny.

The egg hunt is for children ages 10 years and younger. A section for handicapped children will also be provided. Refreshments will be available for purchase. For information, go to [www.symmestownship.org](http://www.symmestownship.org).

**When:** Saturday, April 13th 11:30am  
**Cost:** FREE!  
**Who:** Children 10 and under  
**Where:** Home of the Brave Park



## CELEBRATE MEMORIAL DAY TOGETHER

On Friday, May 24th, Township residents will have the opportunity to join with their family & friends to honor our veterans and celebrate Memorial Day together.

Home of the Brave Park will host the evening of remembrance for those who sacrificed and died in our nation’s service. This year’s guest speaker will be Lt. Col. Rob White who served in the military for 33 years.

“It is quite the honor and humbling experience to be at the podium,” said White, who has a lengthy list of awards and honors from the military. “Memorial Day is such an important day of remembrance for veterans and their families. They have given the ultimate sacrifice.”

Township Trustee and veteran Phil Beck will be on hand to introduce White. “The opportunity to introduce such a dedicated and distinguished man is an honor,” said Beck. “It will make the celebration even more memorable.”

According to Township historical records, there are approximately 500 veterans buried in the Symmes Township cemeteries, some of which date back to the Civil War.

**What:** Memorial Day Celebration  
**When:** Friday, May 24th, 7pm-8pm  
**Where:** Home of the Brave Park  
**How Much:** FREE

## YAPPY HOUR FOR THE DOG DAYS OF SUMMER

Your dog’s social life is going to be a lot more fun this summer. The Township Yappy Hour is back for another run. The happy hour for you and your dog—an important family member—gives dogs and owners a time and place to play, mingle and make new friends. The free event is the first Thursday of the month beginning June 6th at 6:30pm at the Symmes Park Bark Park.



DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	TIME
APRIL 1	PARK SEASON BEGINS		
APRIL 13	THE GREAT SYMMES EGG HUNT	HOME OF THE BRAVE PARK	11:30AM
MAY 18	CLEANUP DAY	HOPEWELL MEADOWS PARK	9:00AM–3:00PM
MAY 18	FULL MOON YOGA & HIKE	MEADE PARK	8:30PM
MAY 24	SYMMES HONORS VETERANS	HOME OF THE BRAVE PARK	7:00PM–8:00PM
MAY 25	WATER PARK OPENS FOR THE SEASON	HOME OF THE BRAVE PARK	OPEN DAILY: 11AM–7PM
MAY 27	MEMORIAL DAY		OFFICE CLOSED
JUNE 1	YOGA BEGINS	HOPEWELL MEADOWS PARK	SATURDAYS 9:00AM WEDNESDAYS 6:30PM
JUNE 6	YAPPY HOUR	SYMMES PARK BARK PARK	6:30–7:30PM
JUNE 8	HAZARDOUS HOUSEHOLD WASTE COLLECTION	LOVELAND HIGH SCHOOL, TIGER TRAIL	8:00AM–11:00AM
JULY 4	INDEPENDENCE DAY		OFFICE CLOSED

## YOGA IN THE PARK *Breathtaking!*

If you're looking for some healthy summer plans, Hopewell Meadows Park is the place to bring your yoga mat and your friends.

Yoga in the Park will be back on Wednesday evenings at 6:30pm and Saturday mornings at 9am from June thru September. Everyone from the basic to the advanced student are welcome. A certified yoga instructor will conduct the free classes each week.

“We are so grateful for the generous sponsorship from Energy Alliances and Constellation,” said Township Trustee Jodie Leis. “With this investment we can continue to create fun family events for the Township such as yoga.”

The website has all the information at [www.symmestownship.org](http://www.symmestownship.org).

## FULL MOON YOGA HIKE

The Township will offer Full Moon walks at Meade Park this year. The first event will be held on Saturday, May 18th at 8:30pm.

“Join us as we take a guided walk through the trail at sunset while learning about nature then we will relax and do some meditation and yoga under the full moon,” said Trustee Jodie Leis.

Space is limited; please register at [lfelter@symmestownship.org](mailto:lfelter@symmestownship.org).

## FIRECRACKER FESTIVAL

In keeping with Independence Day Celebrations, the Little Miami River Chamber Alliance will host their two-day Firecracker Festival on June 28th from 4pm to 10pm, and June 29th from noon-10pm at Symmes Park. The celebration will include fireworks, live entertainment, fun and exciting rides, and the children's fun zone with a petting zoo.

The family celebration will also have a large variety of food and vendor booths, beverages, a fire truck, face painting, sand art, a playground and much more!

This year festival organizers are adding another day to the festival to highlight the wildly successful car show which will begin promptly at noon on Saturday, June 29th. It will feature vintage and unique vehicles from around the area. Judging will be at 2pm with prizes awarded to *Best in Show*, *Best Paint*, *Best Interior* and *Best Motorcycle*.

“With all the new bands—*Model Behavior*, *String Theory Trio*, *Dangerous Jim and the Slims*—the Rozzi's fireworks, ample parking, the Murray Brothers rides, and a children's fun zone, there's something for everyone,” said CeeCee Collins, president of the Little Miami River Chamber Alliance.

In addition to the festival fun, Boy Scout Troop 888 will host a flag retirement ceremony at 7pm on Saturday. “Bring your old worn and frayed flags,” said Collins.

If you would like to help sponsor this family event and advertise your business on event signage, website, newsletter, email, print materials and more, call CeeCee Collins at 683-1544 or visit [www.lmrchamberalliance.org](http://www.lmrchamberalliance.org).

**What:** Firecracker Festival

**When:** Friday, June 28th, 4pm–10pm featuring band: Model Behavior.

Saturday, June 29th, noon–10pm featuring: Car Show, Rozzi Fireworks, and bands String Theory Trio/Dangerous Jim & the Slims

**Where:** Symmes Park, 11600 Lebanon Road

**How Much:** FREE

## HAZARDOUS HOUSEHOLD WASTE COLLECTION

The Loveland Sustainability Council was awarded a \$4,000 Francis Grant to provide hazardous household waste collections in 2018 and 2019. Symmes Township and the City of Loveland each committed \$4,000 per year to support this event.

The collection will be hosted by the City of Loveland on Saturday, June 8th at Loveland High School, 1 Tiger Trail 8am to 11am.

“With this important funding, we know that we may be able to sustain this project and practice responsible recycling for years to come,” said Township Administrator Kim Lapensee.

### WHAT TO BRING:

Oil based paint  
Paint strippers/removers  
Solvent/paint thinners  
Fertilizers  
Pesticides/herbicides  
Bathroom cleaners  
Bleach  
Disinfectants  
Aerosol cans  
Pool chemicals  
Antifreeze  
Gasoline/fuel/motor oil

### WHAT NOT TO BRING:

Latex paint  
Ammunition  
Explosives  
Asbestos materials  
Medical/biological waste  
Radioactive waste  
Tires  
Fire extinguishers  
Medicine  
Household batteries

For a complete list of items, please go to [www.symmestownship.org](http://www.symmestownship.org).

## ROAD RESURFACING TIMELINE

### *On Budget—On Time*

This spring and summer, the Township will continue with the Road Repaving Plan, which will also include curb repairs, catch-basin improvements, and other street improvements. The paving cycle—15-17 years per street—includes: Totempole Drive, Pemmican Run Drive, Birchbark Drive, Pomo Court, Apalachee Court, Bentley Pass, Weatherstone Court, Cactus Lane, Arnold Lane, Kempergrove Lane, Oakvalley Drive, Chapelsquare Drive and Governor’s Hill Drive. Hamilton County will reimburse the Township to resurface Governor’s Way and Royal Point Drive.

## STREET LIGHT REPAIR

If you see a street light that is not working, please use this website address to request a repair: [www.duke-energy.com/customer-service/request-light-repair-ky-oh](http://www.duke-energy.com/customer-service/request-light-repair-ky-oh).

PPSRT STD  
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