

# Citylines

Southgate, Kentucky – City of Friendly Homes

May 2014 - Vol. 10, No. 1



### City Administration:

Mayor:	Jim Hamberg
Community Events & Ballfield:	Sue Payne
Finance:	Pat Hayley
Public Safety:	Dan Speier
Blight & Code:	Paul Riddle
Public Buildings, Parks & Recreation:	Joe Anderson
Public Works & Waste:	Chris Robisch
City Attorney:	Mary Ann Stewart
City Treasurer:	Terri Hudson
Police: Chief	John Christmann 441-7473
Fire Chief:	John Beatsch 441-1422
Public Works:	Arvil Bowman 441-8009
City Clerk:	Brandi Barton 441-0075



## A Message from the Mayor...



I hope this article finds you and yours well and looking forward to this beautiful time of year. This was a brutal winter and the Public Works Department

was short-staffed during the cold, snowy weather. Hats off to Jeff and Richmond for their long hours logged in keeping the streets salted and plowed during the harsh weather. Arvil was able to obtain additional salt when inventory was running low.

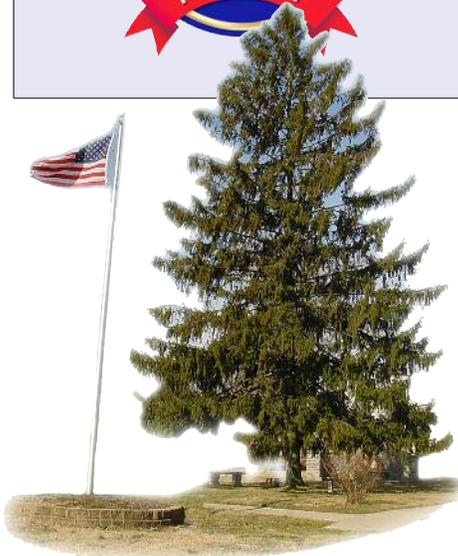
A new City Clerk and Treasurer were hired in 2014 because **Jody Anderson** and **Don Berkemeyer** retired recently. They were replaced by **Brandi Barton** (Clerk) and **Terri Hudson** (Treasurer) respectively. More details can be found elsewhere in this newsletter. I am very pleased with the new employees and looking forward to working with them.

I hope you noticed the new City signs at the north and south end of US27. Our Park & Tree Board will be landscaping in the areas around the signs to make them more attractive. Smaller signs on Moock Road, Ft. Beech and Linden Avenues will be erected after July. The older black and white street signs are

being replaced with new ones which are reflective with white lettering and a blue background. Council Member **Dan Speier** was very helpful in carrying out the new signage project.

Chief Christmann and his officers acquired surplus vehicles and other equipment at no purchase cost to the City. We also have had police promotions plus a new part-time officer has been hired. I invite you to read the Chief's article elsewhere in this issue of *CityLines*.

Congratulations once again to the Southgate Park & Tree Board. Arbor Day was held on April 25 at the Community Center. St. Therese & Southgate Elementary Schools participated in the Poster Contest and were in attendance. **Luke Saunier** and **Mike Silliman** from the Kentucky Division of Forestry provided an informative and entertaining presentation. A dedication to **Jim Callahan** was held with Jim's family in attendance. **Ken Paul** and I spoke about Jim's many achievements. A Magnolia tree was planted in Jim's honor near the Community Center. Please find more details in the Park & Tree Board article elsewhere in this newsletter.  
*(continued on page 4)*





**MEMORIAL DAY**  
**MONDAY, MAY 26, 2014 - 10 am**  
 Congratulations to WW II Vet **Bud Baxter** & **Don Berkemeyer**, 2014 Grand Marshals. Parade begins at Bluegrass & Electric and proceeds through the City to the Veterans' Memorial at Electric & Evergreen. As the remembrance ceremonies conclude, all are invited to the VFW Hall for refreshments and food/snacks for a nominal fee.

**A Time To Honor America's Heroes**

## Message from the Chief of Police...

- As the summer begins, I want to give you a few tips for keeping your family safe;
- please remember to lock your vehicles and homes.
  - don't forget about open windows. These are an easy way for thieves to enter your home.
  - please make sure that you do not block the sidewalk with your vehicle .
  - with the nicer weather upon us, kids will be more likely to be out and about so watch your speed and watch out for kids on bicycles.
  - if you see a potential problem or need the police, don't hesitate to call us at 859-292-3622. This is the number to police dispatch. The dispatcher can send an officer to you or have them call you directly 24 hours a day.
  - for administrative help, you can call our office at 441-7473 during business hours.

I would like to welcome **Dave Fillhardt** as the newest officer on your police department. Officer Fillhardt comes to Southgate from the Campbell County Sheriff's Department. Please welcome him to our city when you see him. Also, Officer **Ken Jansen** has retired from law enforcement. He spent over 34 years in law enforcement so it is a well-deserved retirement.

Please check our website at [www.southgateky.org](http://www.southgateky.org) for more information as we are starting to expand and update the police department section. Thanks and be safe,  
*John M. Christmann*  
Chief of Police

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## Southgate Park and Tree Board Participates in NKY Reforestation Project

In addition to celebrating the 9th year as a Tree City USA and the 8th year as a Growth Award recipient, both prestigious honors, the City of Southgate Park and Tree Board was delighted to participate in the Northern KY Reforestation Project. When asked by **Sarah Gracey**, Director of the KY Division of Forestry, to participate, **Joyce F. Hamberg** and **Nora Williams**, Co-chairmen of the Southgate Park and Tree Board, responded, "We will be honored to be a part of this important effort." The Reforest Northern Kentucky effort was launched as a way to replace trees lost in last year's tornadoes throughout Campbell County as well as other counties in Northern Kentucky.

The KY Division of Forestry contributed 500 seedlings which were distributed after masses on April 26 and 27 at St. Therese Church in Southgate. Seedlings included Swamp White Oak, White Oak, Northern Red Oak, Persimmon, and Grey Dogwood. Members of the park and tree board, spouses, City Council, the Mayor, parents, and local Girl Scouts assisted in bagging the trees with planting instructions. Southgate Park and Tree Board members, City Council members

and spouses, along with the Mayor, distributed the trees after mass.

Sincere appreciation is extended to Mayor **Jim Hamberg**; Councilwoman, **Sue Payne**; tree board members **Nora Williams, Juanita Bittner, Harold Kremer, Jean** and **Bill Theis, Vinny Rizzo**, and **Joyce Hamberg**; and **Howard Bittner** for their assistance and support with both the Arbor Day and reforestation projects.

Shown below are two members of the local Girl Scouts and a parent, who assisted in bagging trees for distribution after mass at St. Therese Church.

*Respectfully submitted by:*  
*Dr. Joyce F. Hamberg*



## SOUTHGATE SCHOOL NEWS

The Southgate Independent School District is concluding its 111th school year with recent recognitions at the regional, state and national levels.

At the regional level Southgate Public School received the Gold Level Award of Excellence from the Northern Kentucky Health Department. We received this award because of our wellness policies and healthy environment of our school. Only three schools in Northern Kentucky received this highest level of recognition from the health department.

At the state level Dr. Holliday Commissioner of Education in the Commonwealth of Kentucky recognized Southgate Public School with the Award of High Progress School. He awarded this recognition because our school was in the top 10 percentile of improvement among schools in our state accountability assessment. He stated in a letter to our school that "Southgate Public School is a

model of positive change for other schools in Kentucky".

At the national level EPA awarded Southgate Public School the Energy Star Award. The EPA awarded this recognition because our school uses 35% less energy and generates 35% fewer greenhouse gas emissions than similar buildings across the nation.

We received these recognitions and awards because of our highly skilled and dedicated staff that works with our students every day. All of our teachers have a minimum of 5 years experience and a Masters degree in education. They bring their knowledge and skills to the classroom every day.

As we continue to serve the citizens the City of Southgate in our second century we will always remember our mission to provide the best education possible for the children of our community.  
*James R. Palm*  
Superintendent

## Congratulations Don Berkemeyer and Jody Anderson - Retirements

### Welcome Brandi Barton and Terri Hudson – New Clerk & Treasurer



The City of Southgate recognized **Donald H. Berkemeyer** at the December City Council Meeting upon his retirement. His last day of work

was January 31, 2014. "Don" was the City Treasurer for over thirty years (from 1982 to 2014). He previously served as a Council Member from 1974-1981. Don's lengthy tenure of over 50 years with Southgate began in 1959 with his appointment as an Auxiliary Police Officer.



The City also recognized **Jody Anderson** for her hard work and dedication as City Clerk. She arrived in Southgate in 2003 and retired on March 31, 2014. Jody also

served as City Clerk in Ft. Wright and Melbourne and worked for the Northern KY Area Planning Commission. She was honored in March for her achievements and service to the public. Altogether her years of public service exceeded twenty years.

Southgate welcomes **Brandi Barton** as City Clerk and **Terri Hudson** as City Treasurer. Brandi comes from the Housing Authority of Newport (Neighborhood Foundations). Terri Hudson is a CPA and also serves as Treasurer in the City of Independence as well as consulting at several other municipalities. Brandi assumed the duties of City Clerk in mid-April. Terri began her work with the City in January of this year.

## RE M I N D E R :

Please clean up your grass cuttings and do not leave them in the street.

## Southgate Fire Department Members Honored

Four members of the Southgate Volunteer Fire Department were honored by the Northern Kentucky Firefighters Association at their annual Awards Ceremony. The banquet is held each year to recognize members of Northern Kentucky fire departments, both paid and volunteer, who distinguish themselves through their service, dedication or acts of heroism.

Captain **David Sanzenbacker** received the Emergency Medical Service Award for his actions in saving the life of a fellow Southgate resident. Captain Sanzenbacker responded to the aid of a neighbor in the Blossom Lane Subdivision who had collapsed and gone into cardiac arrest. Cardiac arrest means that his heart stopped beating and he was not breathing. David heard the squad being dispatched on his pager and responded to the scene and with the help of his brother, Lt. **Kevin Sanzenbacker**, performed CPR on the unconscious man until the ambulance arrived. By performing CPR, David kept oxygen flowing to the man's brain and vital organs and eventually he was revived and has recovered without brain damage.

Firefighter **Jacob Melville** was honored with the Junior Firefighter Award. Junior firefighters are members under the age of eighteen who train with

the adult firefighters and assist with all department activities including some limited activities during emergencies. Jacob was honored for his dedication to the Southgate Fire Department and his training and tireless efforts on behalf of the department.

**Marlene Watson** received the Support Member award. This award is given to a non-firefighter who supports their department in ways other than firefighting or EMS. Marlene is a charter member of the Southgate Fire Department Auxiliary and has served on the Auxiliary for over 25 years. She also is the primary child-sitter for her three children, and five grandchildren who are all members of the Southgate Volunteer Fire Department.

**Missy Lang** is an Engineer and EMT on the department. She also works as a full time dispatcher for the Campbell County Dispatch Center. Missy received the Dispatcher of the Year award for her actions in assisting a grandmother with her choking grandchild. Missy calmed the frantic grandmother and gave her instructions over the telephone to restore the child's breathing and save her life. Needless to say we at the Southgate Fire Department are extremely proud to see four of our own recognized for their dedication and courage. As a resident of Southgate you should also be proud and thankful for such dedicated volunteers serving your community.

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## Block Party

Start planning now for the annual Southgate Volunteer Fire Department Block Party. As always the Block Party is held on the third Saturday in July which this year is **July 19**. We will have our usual array of kids' games, great food at great prices, live music and plenty of reasonably priced adult beverages. And don't forget our famous turtle races. The Block Party is a major fundraiser for the department and we truly appreciate your support each year. So plan your vacation around July 19 and spend an enjoyable evening with your friends and neighbors.

### Southgate Community Center & Picnic Shelter Rentals

Monica Rath, Coordinator

For information on costs and availability  
859-781-8878 or 859-743-1951

***A Message from the Mayor...***  
*continued from page 1*

School will be out soon and the kids will be on vacation. Be careful when traversing our city streets. Adhere to the speed limit and traffic signs. Report any suspicious activity by calling 911, including solicitors on your streets AT ALL TIMES. They may be honest and they may be looking to see who is home and who is not. PLEASE immediately report ALL suspicious activity. Please do not hesitate to call if I may be of service to you and your family. From Joyce and our family to you and yours, we hope you have a safe and prosperous spring and summer!

Sincerely,  
*Jim Hamberg*  
 Mayor



Movies start at 7:00 pm inside the Community Center, Popcorn for 25 cents and drinks for 50 cents will be sold. Bring the kids & blankets and have a great time! Here are the movies that will be shown:

**July 11 - Frozen**  
**Aug. 8 - Happy Feet**  
**Sept. 12 - TBA**

***Cruise In 2014***

The 2nd annual Cruise In will be on Sunday, **July 27th** from 4:00 to 8:00 pm. The Classic Car Show is held on Electric Ave with parking available at St. Therese. Food & Drinks will be available. The Country Cruisers will provide music & prizes. Additional prizes donated by local businesses will be raffled off. Come join us!

***Safe Routes To School***

The sidewalk project on Alexandria Pike is finished. TMS Construction was the contractor on this project which involved construction of a new sidewalk from Temple to near the junction of Mook Rd. The project was complicated by the need for easements, moving telephone poles and excavation. The completed sidewalk should allow for safer pedestrian traffic along this busy highway. The costs of the project were defrayed by a state highway grant. Thanks to everyone for their patience and tolerating the orange highway barrels. The City also did some construction on the island at Temple and Alexandria Pike. It is hoped that the raised island coupled with signage will make for better safety in that area and prevent trucks in excess of two axles from turning into Temple from Alexandria Pike.

*Arvil Bowman*  
 Public Works Foreman

**Calendar of Events**

**CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS**  
**1ST & 3RD WEDNESDAYS**  
**6:30 PM AT THE CITY BLDG**

- May 26 Memorial Day** - Office closed
- June 20-21** - St Therese Festival
- July 4th** - Office closed
- July 19** - Fire Dept Block Party
- July 27** - Cruise In Car Show 4 pm-8 pm
- Sept. 1** - Labor Day - Office closed

**TRASH COLLECTION**

"Large Item Day" is the first Tuesday of every month. Items for pick up are furniture, appliances and limited to one per household. Large items do not include excessive yard debris, tree limbs, or construction material. Items with Freon are prohibited. Tree limbs, brush, and carpet should be cut in 3-foot lengths, tied, and bundled. Construction material is not typical household waste and is not picked up.

City ordinance states trash should be in a can or toter, bags are not to be set on the street, they are easily torn open by animals (and people) leaving an unsightly mess on the street.

Please call **CSI/Republic Services** at **513-771-4200** to report a large item for pickup and a general description of the item in advance so arrangements may be made for the type of truck sent on this day. If you have questions, please contact the Clerk's Office at 441-0075 or [clerk@southgateky.org](mailto:clerk@southgateky.org).

***Arbor Day/Poster Contest***

On Friday, April 25th, the Southgate Park and Tree Board held the annual Arbor Day Celebration. The 4th and 5th graders from St. Therese and Southgate Elementary Schools were in attendance. Mayor Jim Hamberg presented awards to the students for their prize winning posters. The theme this year was "Why I LOVE Trees". All of the posters showed considerable effort and talent.

Congratulations to all who participated. The students had a choice of Pecan or Virginia Pine seedlings to take home with them. Members of the Girl Scout Troop #1144 helped pack the tree seedlings.

1st prize from St. Therese School went to **Haley Luerson**, 2nd prize went to **Emma Mallery**, 3rd prize went

to **Rylee Turner**. Honorable Mentions went to **Macy Landrum**, **Anna Petroze**, **Faith Broering**, and **Michelangelo Turner**.

1st prize from Southgate Elementary School went to **Sam Herald**, 2nd prize went to **Tajajania Godson**, 3rd place went to **Bryson Dickerson**. Honorable Mentions went to **Destince Skaggs**, **Autumn Wagner**, **Athena Arp**, and **Gannon Ehrman**.



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