



# Citylines



May 2025

Southgate, Kentucky – City of Friendly Homes

Vol. 20, No. 1

## Good Morning, Good Afternoon or Good Evening:



Spring is in the air! With Spring comes new resurgence of not only green grass and beautiful flowers, but also continued work in our fine City.

Planning continues for the old tennis courts at the end of Evergreen, now known as the Optimist Club Memorial Park. Our Park and Tree Board is very active in the advancement and planning for this park. Irrigation for plantings, trail planning and amenities are being reviewed for timing and funding. We are working with SouthBank Partners for additional ideas, including funding. More to come on this project.

The annual budget is also happening again as we set plans for the 2025-26 budget year. It is the responsibility of the Mayor by Kentucky Revised Statute to provide the annual budget to Council for consideration. The year 2025-26 was definitely a challenging year. Especially when considering safety, street paving and repair as well as the needs of all departments and our contract with the Southgate Volunteer Fire Dept.

We have many community events planned for the City over the coming months. I encourage you and your family to consider some of these upcoming events. Check all of our upcoming activities in our City Calendar at [www.southgateky.org](http://www.southgateky.org) or

**MEMORIAL DAY**  
REMEMBER AND HONOR

**Memorial Day Parade and Ceremonies**  
Monday May 26th-10:00 am

Parade route will start at Bluegrass & Electric then proceed to Blatt, Evergreen, Walnut and back to Electric to end at the Veteran's Memorial Park for the ceremony. Civic groups throughout the community will participate. We hope to see you there!

City's facebook page. Don't forget the annual Memorial Day Parade and Dedication at Memorial Park by the John R. Little VFW Post 3186 on May 26 and the annual Block Party sponsored by the Southgate Volunteer Fire Dept. on July 19 on Electric Ave. Come and see your neighbors and friends and meet new friends and neighbors at these events.

The SD1 project at the Community Center on our trails continues. SD1 is placing a new sanitary sewer line 30 feet down which will connect to the large tank in Wilder. SD1 will replace

*(continued on page 4)*

## New Southgate Police App Offers Complete Community Connectivity!

**SOUTHGATE POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
Accessing Your Department's Page From the KY Police Connect App

- SCAN QR OR SEARCH FOR THE "KY POLICE CONNECT" APP IN YOUR APP STORE
- INSIDE THE APP, TAP ON "GET STARTED"
- SEARCH FOR SOUTHGATE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Southgate Police Department

Build by: THEPOLICEAPP.COM

The new Southgate Police App is available now and will allow residents to report non-emergencies in addition to keeping track of all Southgate activities and events within one app! Go to the app to submit an anonymous tip, request vacation house checks, access the City's website and Facebook pages, and get Nixle updates!

Download "Kentucky Police Connect" from your App store.

## Message from the Chief of Police

As always, 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. In an emergency always call 911. If you simply need to talk with someone in a non-emergency, feel free to call the police department direct line at 859-441-7473.



Summer is fast approaching so please be cautious while driving through our city. Kids will be out playing, and the police will be out watching your speed and stop signs.

As you complete your spring cleaning, don't forget that we have a drug take back box at the City building. Any old, outdated or no longer needed prescription drugs can be dropped into the box. These pills will be destroyed so they do not end up in the hands of those that should not have them. The drug drop box is available during the city office business hours of M-F.

We now have a police app that can help you stay connected with the police department and the City. The new app is free to download and use. We are still in the process of adding more content to it but there is already a lot of useful information on the app. Follow the simple instructions to download it.

Finally, this is a reminder to lock your doors of your vehicles and your homes. Please call the police if you see something suspicious in your neighborhoods. Being a good neighbor is sometimes as simple as looking out for each other!

Have a great summer!  
Chief Christmann



## Just a Reminder

Please sweep/blow grass clippings out of street into the lawn after cutting grass.

It keeps grass out of the storm drains. Please pick up after your pets while walking them or in the park.

There are pet waste stations in the parks for your use.



## Southgate Community Center Rentals

Call Chelsie, Community Center Coordinator, for availability & cost.

**Phone: 859-781-8878**

Email: [center@southgateky.org](mailto:center@southgateky.org)

## Southgate Fire Department

The Fire Dept. averages 70 Emergency Medical calls per month and about 12 fire calls that are not EMS related. Our station is staffed 24 hours a day by 2-4 part-time paid Firefighters, EMT's or Paramedics. Our ambulance is an Advanced Life Support ambulance with at least an EMT and Paramedic on board. Southgate and Wilder share the ambulance and EMS staff.

The Southgate Fire Dept. is a separate entity from the City of Southgate. The City contracts with the Fire Dept. to provide fire and EMS service. We hold fundraisers to supplement the Dept. needs and rely on the support of donors and sponsors.

Our biggest fundraiser, the Southgate Fire Dept. Block Party, is also the most popular. This year the Block Party will be on Saturday, July 20. We will have our usual array of fun, games, food and drink and this year we will provide live music.

Our Auxiliary will be holding a Bourbon Raffle in October. If you would like to donate a bottle of bourbon to the Auxiliary for the Bourbon Raffle, please contact Carol Michael at 859-757-9999. Chances for the Bourbon Raffle will go on sale later this spring.

If you are interested in joining the Southgate Fire Dept. as a fire and/or EMS volunteer, a support member or

as a member of the Auxiliary, contact Chief John Beatsch at 859-630-6899

or stop by the firehouse and ask for details. If you are interested in a career in the fire or EMS service, the Southgate Volunteer Fire Dept. is a great place to start. Since 2000 our department has had over 60 volunteers hired by career fire depts. We pride ourselves on being a training ground for a career position.

Be safe and call us if you need us, Chief John Beatsch



## Street Obstruction Permits

If you need a dumpster or moving POD placed in the street in front of your home, you will need to obtain a Street Obstruction Permit 48 hours in advance. This form is on the City's website at [www.southgateky.org](http://www.southgateky.org). Complete and submit the form online or get one in the Clerk's Office. There is no charge for this permit.

## Green Thumb Awards

The Park and Tree Board's Green Thumb Awards run from May through September. Two awards are given each month to Southgate residents who have made special efforts to add beauty to their landscape. We ride all over the City taking photos for consideration. Call 859-441-0075 if you have someone you would like to nominate. Thank you for keeping Southgate beautiful!

## City Wide Yard Sale

**Save the Date** for the Annual City Wide Yard Sale on **Saturday, September 20th.**

This is a great time to hold your yard sale. A list of participants will be available at the City Building the day before the sale. A permit (at no charge) is needed to participate in the sale. It will be available on the City website and in the Clerk's office. Anyone who wishes to donate items after the yard sale can drop them off at the City Building for St. Vincent De Paul. No permit is needed if you have a yard sale any other time during the year.

## City Clerk's Office News

Starting on July 1, the City will contract with Animal Control Officer Terry Baker. Please call the City Clerk's office during office hours 8:00am – 4:00pm if you have an issue or concern for dogs and cats. The City does not handle wildlife issues. If it is after hours or an emergency, you can call Dispatch 859-292-3622 and they will have a police officer call you.

The City is starting a Veterans Banner Sponsorship program. There is a form on the website and in the Clerk's office to order a veteran banner to be hung on Electric Ave. from July 4 through Nov. 11 Veterans Day. After the banners are taken down, they will be given to the person who ordered them. You can see similar banners hanging in Ft. Thomas. Deadline to order is May 30.

*(see the insert for additional information)*

## Southgate Optimist Cub

# Kids Fishing Derby!

**Saturday  
May 10th  
9 a.m. - Noon**

**Southgate  
Community Center  
Lake**



## Mayor's Note *(continued from page 1)*

our trail after completion. Northern Kentucky Water District will be installing new water lines on Valley View and Blossom Ln., from Valley View to Tracy Lane. The City will repave these streets after the Water District is finished with their work.

Sometime this summer, Alexandria Pike (US 27) will be called in honorarium, "The Patrick J. Crowley Memorial Parkway". The street name will not change. This honorary parkway will run from Highland Ave. north through Newport on Monmouth Street to Brio. Pat was helpful to many cities and counties within our

region: Southgate, Newport, Fort Thomas, Bellevue and Dayton as well as many others on both sides of the river. Most of which was done free of charge. This honor was bestowed posthumously to Pat by the Kentucky Legislature through assistance from Senator Shelley Funke-Frommeyer. Look for the official announcement in upcoming news.

So, from Joyce and me and from our family to yours, hope you and yours have a wonderful, healthy and safe summer! I'll see you soon...

Best regards,  
Jim

## 2025 Calendar of Events

### First & Third Wednesdays of month

Council meetings 6:30 at City Building 122 Electric Ave.

### Second Monday of month

Park & Tree Board meetings 6:00 at Community Center 301 W. Walnut

May 12-18	City Clean Up Event – Dumpster at Public Works Garage 260 W. Walnut
May 26	Memorial Day – Parade at 10:00 am - Office closed
July 4	Independence Day – Office closed
July 19	Southgate Fire Department Block Party
Sept. 1	Labor Day – Office closed
Sept. 20	City Wide Yard Sale
Oct. 31	Halloween Trick or Treat

Check the **City website** or **Facebook page** for the most current events happening in the City of Southgate.

[www.southgateky.org](http://www.southgateky.org) | [www.facebook.com/cityofsouthgateky](https://www.facebook.com/cityofsouthgateky)

## Southgate Park and Tree Board News

The Park and Tree Board hosted a **Plant Swap** at the March meeting. It was a pleasure meeting other plant and garden enthusiasts and exchanging plants, seedlings, and ideas. We plan to do this again!

**Arbor Day 2025** will be observed on Friday, April 25, at the Southgate Community Center at 1:00. The City of Southgate was named a Tree City USA for the 20th year and will receive the Growth Award for the 19th year from the Arbor Day Foundation. Student posters will be on display for the 2025 topic, "This is me as a Tree!" Students from Southgate Public School, St. Therese School, and Southgate home schooled students are invited to submit posters and attend the event. Winning posters will then be on display at the Ft. Thomas Branch of the Campbell County Library through May 13.

The park benches at the **Wagner Garden** next to the Public Works building will soon undergo a colorful



### Volunteers at Work

update and transformation. We are working with Southgate Public School art students to share their imagination, creativity, and art skills to beautify the benches.

Stay tuned for the very first **Garden Walk 2025 on Saturday, June 28** from 9 AM to 2 PM! We encourage all residents to share their beautiful gardens and join this event. For information, contact Mary Bridewell (southgateparkandtreeboard@gmail.com) or Aileen Okura (aokura@southgateky.org). Or call the City Building at 859-441-0075.

Visit the City of Southgate Facebook page for the latest on these and other events, updates, and photos.

**The Park and Tree Board meets** on the second Monday of each month at 6:00 PM at the Southgate Community Center. Residents are welcome to attend the meetings. Please consider joining and helping us serve our community!

## Mayor & Council

### Mayor:

- Jim Hamberg

### Council members:

- Aileen Okura
- Mike Lycans
- Paul Melville
- Mark Messmer
- Jackson Curry
- Elizabeth Hartman

## City Departments

Police Chief .....	John Christmann
Police Dept Non emergency	
.....	859-441-7473
DISPATCH emergency	
.....	859-292-3622
Fire Chief .....	John Beatsch
Fire Dept. ....	859-441-1422
Public Works .....	Arvil Bowman
City Clerk .....	Brandi Barton
Admin/Clerk's Office ..	859-441-0075
Code Enforcement .....	Neil Berkley
City Treasurer .....	Patty Edgley
City Attorney .....	Mary Ann Stewart
Community Center .....	Chelsie Shay



## Waste and Recycling News

Large soft cushioned furniture and mattresses can be set out for waste pickup, but should be wrapped in plastic. The City Clerk's office has sheets of plastic for \$5.00.

Rumpke has an additional recycling program called **Hefty ReNew Program**. Certain items can be placed in orange bags and placed with your recycling toter each week.

These orange bags can be purchased at Kroger or online from Rumpke. See the City website for items that can be put in the orange bags.

## City Staff Recognition



Police **Chief John Christmann** re-established the Police Dept. in 2012. He oversees the Police Dept. and does a great job keeping the City safe! **Southgate was named the 2nd Safest City in Kentucky** in Safewise Magazine in 2024! **Sergeant Ron Gross** is in charge of all case

investigations and Internal Affairs. He also supervises staff. **Sergeant Dan Johns** handles most administrative/technology duties for the Dept. He is a certified drone pilot and supervises staff.

In the Administrative Office, **City Clerk Brandi Barton** has been with the City for 11 years. She takes care of administrative duties and helps citizens with requests. She assists the Mayor with day to day functions of the City. Code Enforcement Officer **John Lauber** has been with the City for over 15 years. He retired April 10th. Thanks to him the properties and homes in Southgate look good and have increased in value. Welcome to our new Code Enforcement Officer **Neil Berkley** who started 4/3/25! Neil is a retired Police Officer from City of Newport.

Their longevity is a testament to their commitment to the City of Southgate. Mayor Jim Hamberg thanked each one at the April 2nd council meeting. He hired all staff with the exception of

The City of Southgate would like to recognize the great team of employees who work hard to make the City run efficiently and be the best for the citizens of Southgate! Thank the amazing staff when you see them for all their hard work and dedication to the City Public Works Foreman **Arvil Bowman** has been with the City for 24 years. He oversees the Public Works Dept. keeping the roads in good shape and maintaining the buildings, parks, and properties in the City.

Public Works Laborer **Jeff Stolz** has been with the City for 20 years. He helps keep the parks, grounds, and ballfield in great condition for all to enjoy. Public Works Laborer **Richmond Stortz** has been with the City for 13 years. Richmond and Arvil work on roads and maintain the buildings, parks, and properties in the City.

The Police Department has several employees who have been with the City for over 13 years.

### The safest cities in Kentucky in 2024

- #1 Edgewood
- #2 Southgate
- #3 Park Hills
- #4 West Liberty
- #5 Carrollton
- #6 Wilmore
- #7 Fort Thomas
- #8 Taylor Mill
- #9 Prospect
- #10 Vine Grove
- #11 Beaver Dam
- #12 Erlanger
- #13 Bellevue
- #14 Villa Hills
- #15 Fort Mitchell
- #16 Morganfield
- #17 Lakeside Park-Crestview Hills
- #18 Highland Heights
- #19 Flatwoods
- #20 Wilder



safewise

Arvil Bowman and Jeff Stolz. Please congratulate them and join me in thanking them for the great job and performance they do every day for us all.

## Southgate Police Officer of the Year Award



Police Officer Tim Mitchell received the Police Officer of the Year Award from the John R. Little VFW at their April 14th meeting. Congratulations to Officer Mitchell. A well-deserved honor.



Visit the Southgate Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/cityofsouthgateky/>



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## City of Southgate Veteran Banner Sponsorship

If you would like to sponsor a banner to honor a veteran, please fill out the form below and send a check for \$200 to the City Clerk's office at 122 Electric Ave. Southgate, KY 41071. These will proudly be displayed on light posts on Electric Ave. from July 4 – Nov. 11 Veterans Day.

- The deadline is May 30th for the banner to be hung by July 4th
- Banners will be returned to the families of those who donate after use.
- These can be kept as a souvenir and make great gifts!

### PHOTO REQUIREMENTS:

- All images must be scanned in at 300dpi or higher and be a vertical portrait of the veteran.
- Send all images via email to [clerk@southgateky.org](mailto:clerk@southgateky.org)
- Images can be in color, but will be converted to black and white for consistency.

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Veteran \_\_\_\_\_

Branch of military & rank \_\_\_\_\_

