



Reputation can be a powerful influence for good. People with a good reputation may have doors opened for them. A community has a reputation in the same way as people. Amberley Village has long enjoyed an overall positive reputation. Residents and non-residents comment favorably about snow removal from our roads during storms. The general perception is that Amberley Village is a well-run community with top-notch police and fire protection and sound fiscal policy. Amberley Village enjoys a reputation as a wonderful rural oasis in the heart of Hamilton County with easy access to major highways and upscale shopping. So I am delighted to highlight some things that add to our positive reputation.

Our two top employees have been recognized for outstanding service by their respective local professional associations. Inside this newsletter you will read about Police/Fire Chief Jack Monahan receiving the Emil J. Otting Award for Service from the Hamilton County Police Association in January and Village Manager Bernie Boraten receiving the Career Achievement Award from the Greater Cincinnati Chapter of the American Society for Public Administration in April. Congratulations to both of these men who serve our community well. Their honor and achievement reflects upon us and adds to the positive reputation of our community.

We are just months away from the opening of the new Jewish Community Center in Amberley Village and the new Pleasant Ridge Montessori School which is the neighborhood school for Amberley Village. The Center will provide our community with access to the area's best recreational and fitness facilities and enhance our opportunities for cultural and social enrichment through programming for all ages. The new Montessori school will offer a rigorous high quality education for K – 6th grades in an environmentally friendly facility which has gained national recognition as the first public LEED certified school in Ohio. These exciting and important new facilities will ensure our reputation as one of the most desirable communities in the region.

At a time when the country is more intensely focused on environmental quality of life issues, we stand firmly as a representation of rural living in an urban center. For another year we have qualified as a Tree City USA community in recognition of our commitment to urban forestry and its benefits to quality of life for our residents. And we stand at the threshold of a decision about the future of the largest privately owned tract of land in the Village. The decision by the Ohio Supreme Court not to hear our appeal to have our zoning of the former Crest Hills Country Club site upheld has brought an end to the litigation regarding zoning. Council must now decide whether to change the zoning and allow private development of the site in a manner with only limited control by the community, or to proceed to acquire the site for the future of the Village so as to maintain total control of how the site will be used for the long term benefit of the Village.

This column had to go to print before a final vote of Council was made, but I know that we have investigated the options and considered the issues both financial and in quality of life. We will fashion a solution that will protect the reputation of Amberley Village as a rural oasis in the urban center and will be fiscally responsible for the residents.

__Chuck Kamine, Mayor

Summer Brush Schedule Changes

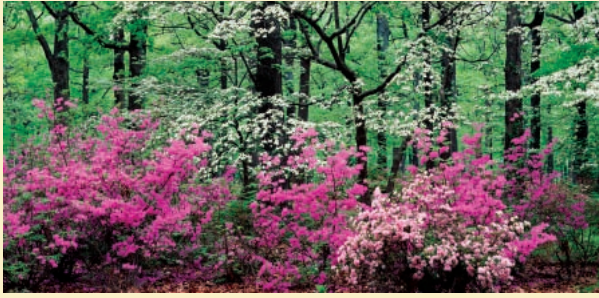
by Bernie Boraten

Pickup Suspended June 2 — August 11: Similar to last year, the Village Council has authorized a period of time beginning Monday, June 2, during which there will be no brush collection in the Village. The intention is for increased resources to be directed toward road maintenance. Brush pickup will resume on Monday, August 11. The last pickup for residents would be their regularly scheduled pickup day during the week of May 26 -30. Homeowners scheduled for Memorial Day, May 26, would be picked up Tuesday, May 27.

The Village's contract with Rumpke Industries allows all residents to place brush out with their trash, as long as it is bundled and cut into short four-foot lengths, though it goes into landfill when collected by Rumpke. Residents could also do their tree and shrub trimming in the spring and fall when the Village would be picking up. If residents must trim in the summer months, another option is to store the brush until pickup would resume or they could hire a private contractor to haul away the brush.

Flowering Tree Care

by Dave Stang



Spring is finally here and the flowering trees are opening their blossoms. It is still a good time to thin and remove dead branches. This will not significantly reduce the bloom. If the plant seems too large for the area and you want to reduce its size, you should wait until the flowers have finished. Once the petals have dropped, you have 2-3 weeks to reduce the size. This will allow the new growth to produce the flower bud for next year.

Of course the best plan is to plant the correct tree in the correct spot so this type of pruning is not needed. I understand it is usually the previous home owner that put the plant in the wrong spot!

Winter Wonderland Photo Contest Winner

Anne Madson-Clemen of French Park Place submitted the winning entry in the winter photo contest, which she took from her home.

She has titled it "Long Shadows at Twilight, French Park." Congratulations!

*The Spring Gardens contest runs until June 20th
Details are on the back page of this newsletter.*



A Beautiful Solution

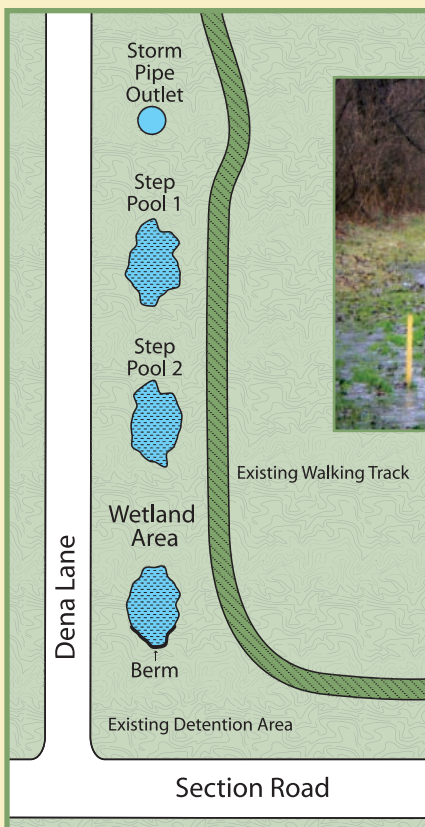
by Merrie Stillpass

Changes are coming this spring between Amberley's walking track and Dena Lane to address unsightly and damaging water runoff. A rain garden and wetland will be installed in the existing ditch that drains water from the parking lot behind the Village Hall and upper track into French Park Creek.

The area will be re-graded into a shallow depression, soil amended and planted with native plants with deep root systems that allows for the water to infiltrate deep into the ground, reducing the amount of runoff. Not only is the rain garden an attractive flower garden, other benefits include filtration of excess pollutants, attracting wildlife and reduced maintenance.

Plans for the rain garden and wetland were developed in conjunction with the Amberley Village Beautification Committee (AVBC), Amberley Village Maintenance Department, CDS Engineers, JFNew and Mill Creek Watershed. The Village is applying for a Hamilton County Storm Water District Mini-Grant for this project. It will make available an example of this approach and educate residents about road and storm water project restoration.

All residents are welcome to assist the AVBC and Maintenance Department with the construction and planting. For more information, please contact Nicole at 531-8675 or nbrowder@amberleyvillage.org. Another information resource is millcreekwatershed.org.



Inside

page 1

Mayor's Letter

Summer Brush Collection

page 2

Flowering Tree Care

Photo Contest Winner
Announcement

A Beautiful Solution

page 3

In The News

page 4

JCC Update

Love Tennis

page 5

Amberley Village Council

From the Chief

Buidling Up Education

page 6

Roads Report

Beautification Awards

page 7

Save the Date

Village Hall Contact Info

Amberley Officials Receive
Awards

New Recycling Can

Address Signs

page 8

Meetings & Events Calendar

Spring Photo Contest Details

ICRC Council
Meeting Schedule

In The News

Congratulations to the following residents and employees of Amberley who have been recognized for their achievements and contributions. If you hear information of this type, please share it with the community (including a photo if possible)! Visit AmberleyVillage.org and click on Contact to reach Councilmember Peg Conway, Outreach Committee Chair.

Professional Accomplishments

Michael Schuster has been elected by a jury of his peers to the College of Fellows of the American Institute of Architecture (AIA). One of the highest honors the AIA can bestow upon a member, Fellowship recognizes significant contributions to the profession and society. He will be invested at a ceremony in Boston on May 16. Schuster currently serves on the Village's Long-Range Planning Committee.

Capt. Anthony Zimmer has been named



Capt. Zimmer is second from left.

2008 Federal Engineer of the Year by the National Society of Professional Engineers and received this honor in February, in Washington, DC. Selected from 10 finalists (33 total nominations) this is a crowning achievement for the winner and the federal agency represented. Zimmer provided occupational safety expertise at "ground zero" after the World Trade Center attacks and aided in recovery efforts after Hurricane Katrina. His research includes a groundbreaking look into the significance of nano-particles and the hazards associated with inhaling these particles. Presently he works to protect transit systems in several cities against terrorist attacks.

Robert A. Oestricher will receive his Juris Doctor degree from the Moritz College of Law at the Ohio State University in May. He will enter practice at Baker & Hostetler in Cincinnati in September.

Russell S. Rosen has joined the Executive Service Corps of Cincinnati (ESCC) as a volunteer consultant. ESCC is a nonprofit organization that provides full management consulting services to other nonprofit organizations in the Greater Cincinnati area. Rosen is currently a consultant and long-term care planner and previously served as Assistant Executive Director of the Jewish Community Center.

Larry McGraw has been appointed to the Village's Planning Commission/Board of Zoning Appeals. A 31-year resident of Amberley, McGraw is a master plumber who served 10 years as Chief Plumbing Inspector and 5 years as Deputy Health Commissioner for the Hamilton County Board of Health.

High School Honors



Chessie Scheiber, a sophomore at Seven Hills Upper School, was among the students who have been inducted as new members into the National Spanish Honor Society.

Andrea Carlson, who attends St. Ursula Academy, was inducted into the French Honor Society. Membership requirements include a cumulative average in French of 3.7 or higher and a 3.0 cumulative average in other courses. The group's activities involve community service as well as exploring French culture.

Senior **Beau Garrett** was a member of Seven



Hills School's team that placed first in the 2008 OCTM (Ohio Council of Teachers of Mathematics) contest among the five schools that competed at the Xavier University contest site on February 23. The Seven Hills team was first in the state among schools its size and ninth in the state overall.



Michael Conway, a sophomore at St. Xavier High School, was named to the Greater Catholic League's First Team in swimming for the 2008 season.

Employee News



Welcome to the newest member of the Village staff, **Anna Shaw**. She joined the Amberley administration as Administrative Assistant/Clerk on April 14 after seven years with the Hamilton County Park District. She will provide front office administrative support, backup for other administrative positions, and recordkeeping services, including the receipting and depositing of Village revenue. The next time you call Village Hall, Anna will probably answer the phone!



Schmidtgoessling (left)
Monahan (right)

Congratulations to officers **Tim Schmidtgoessling** and **Mark Monahan** upon completing an 80-hour class at the Ohio Fire Academy in Reynoldsburg, Ohio and becoming certified fire inspectors. They will now assist Lt. Rich Wallace and Officer Chris Fritsch with fire inspections at the temples, schools and businesses located in the Village.

Attention, Class of 2008

Please tell us who you are so that we can list your name in the Summer newsletter. Visit AmberleyVillage.org and submit your name and school to Peg Conway via the "Contact" link.



JCC Summer Opening

by Tracy McMullen



Something for Everyone With a welcome break in the weather, the final phase of construction on the new Mayerson Jewish Community Center (JCC) is on schedule and nearing completion. Summer camp programs for children from 18 months to grade 8 will begin on June 16. The two-story fitness center is targeted to open in mid-July. All facilities should be ready for use by Sept. 1, when the center will hold its grand opening celebration.

Membership in the JCC, or "J" as it is commonly known, is open to everyone in the Greater Cincinnati area, said Debra Stonehill, the JCC's Director of Marketing and Communications.



"We hope that everyone in Amberley Village and the entire community will find something that meets their needs and interests through the new facilities and programs," she said, adding "You don't have to be Jewish to join the J!"

The JCC recently mailed fliers to all Amberley Village households announcing discounts of up to \$150 for those who join during the initial membership drive, which continues through June 30. Two types of memberships are offered at several levels to accommodate different types of family units as well as adult singles and couples of all ages:

The 'J Membership' provides access to all facilities and programs offered at the Center. A 'JPlus' upgrade to the J Membership will provide a personal locker, laundry service for work-out apparel, priority registration for classes and programs, and one free guest pass per month.

A 'Program Membership' allows the holder to register for classes and programs, but does not provide use of the Center's facilities other than the J Café.

Stonehill noted that the J Café, offering light meals and beverages in the lobby area and an adjoining courtyard, will be open to the public, serving members and non-members alike.

The 140,000 sq. ft. facility is located at the corner of Ridge Road and the Ronald Reagan Cross-County Hwy, on the same site as Rockdale Temple, with state-of-the-art equipment and an elevated cushioned running track, indoor and outdoor heated pools and an indoor water park and spa, a 2-court gym, an 800-seat professional theater, a teen-oriented Exertainment Studio and game room, an art studio with kiln, a banquet room, and Wi-Fi in the J Café. Massage therapy and exercise classes will be offered on a regular basis.

Stonehill said the JCC is planning programs for all ages, including classes in aquatics, drama, art, music, dance and computer skills; after-school enrichment, school break and summer day camps, sports leagues and skill clinics, cultural events and exhibits, social events for teens and adults, family activities and holiday celebrations.

JCC staff members are now conducting tours of the new facility. To arrange a tour or obtain more information on membership and programs, call 513-891-9111 or e-mail info@mayersonjcc.org. Information and membership applications are also posted on the JCC website: jointhej.org.



Love Tennis?

by Merrie Stillpass

No partner, no problem! You can still practice your fore-hand or backhand swing on the Village tennis courts with the recently installed 10' x 20' backboard. All you need is a key card for tennis court access. If you did not purchase two-year keycard last year, one for the 2008 season can be purchased for \$25 at the Police Department service window at Village Hall.



Amberley Council Actions

February

- Resolution authorizing and directing the Village Manager to prepare specifications and to advertise for bids for the Village's 2008 Road Improvement Program

March

- Resolution authorizing the Village Manager to award Mt. Pleasant Blacktopping the 2008 Road Resurfacing and Repair Program

April

- Ordinance transferring funds for the Fiscal Year 2008, and declaring an emergency.

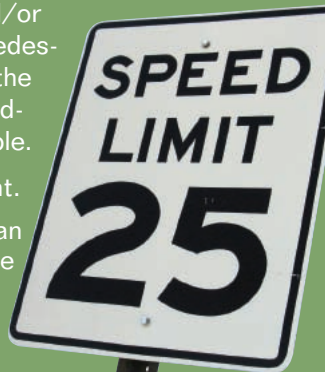
From the Chief: Slow down to save lives

An increased number of pedestrians, joggers and bicycle traffic are using our roads in Amberley Village, and in particular, Section Road. For safety reasons, please remember that the speed limit on Section Rd. is 25 MPH. The Amberley Police Department is enforcing this speed limit, so slow down.

Many of the pedestrians wear dark clothing and are difficult to see, especially at dusk and night time. We encourage all those walking, jogging or riding bikes to wear some type of reflective tape, reflective vests, and/or lighter colored clothing. Also, the pedestrians are requested not to walk in the street, but along the side of the roadways and in the grass if at all possible.

The safety of everyone is paramount.

Jack Monahan
Amberley Village Chief of Police



Building Up Education

by Peg Conway

Pleasant Ridge Montessori It takes much more than bricks and mortar to create a successful school. Parents at Pleasant Ridge Montessori, Amberley's neighborhood school, know this very well.

In just one year, an enterprising group has created a foundation to provide financial support to the school and has already raised over \$10,000 through gifts, sales, grants and cooperative programming with the Blue Ash YMCA. Funds raised to date have been used to underwrite programs for the students, to promote the school and to provide preschool tuition assistance. In the long term, they plan to support many kinds of programming at the school that assist academic success through environmental projects, the arts and teacher support, explained Ruth Anne Wolfe, Foundation president.

The foundation's board currently consists of 10 members, including several from Amberley. More are welcome, Wolfe said. Visit www.supportprm.org for more information.

Amberley residents are invited to literally take part in building the new Pleasant Ridge Montessori School by purchasing commemorative bricks for the front walk. They will be inscribed with your name and/or a message and installed in June/July. Cost is \$30 for current students and \$50 for community members and alums of the school.

To order, call Carol Gillotti at 703-8303 or purchase online at supportprm.org. Act quickly as the deadline for order is MAY 8.

Pleasant Ridge Library As construction finishes this summer at Amberley's new neighborhood school, the public library just up the road hopes to undertake major improvements to increase accessibility. To make this happen, community support is needed. A \$1.2 million project for the Pleasant Ridge Library has been approved by the Public Library board and Hamilton County. The main component is a 1,100 square foot addition to the back of the building that features an elevator as well as more space. People with disabilities and parents with strollers will be able to enter the building more easily and move about between levels freely. The lower level program space will be better utilized.

Design studies have begun with construction expected to start early 2009. The Public Library will contribute two-thirds of the cost, but the remaining one-third, \$400,000 must be raised by the community. The Pleasant Ridge Community Council has raised \$77,000 and continues to apply for grants from foundations and individuals and to sponsor fundraising events. Recognizing that Amberley residents benefit greatly from the Pleasant Ridge Library, Village Council passed a resolution in February 2007 endorsing this project.

If you wish to contribute toward this project, please send a check payable to PRCC Library Committee to 6377 Grand Vista Avenue, 45213. For more information, contact Mary Anne Phalen at 531-8737.

Roads Report

by Jon Chaiken



The 2008 Amberley Village Roads Program is in full swing. Roads have been designated as a primary focus for this year, with more than twice the dollars allocated in the 2008 budget than in recent years past.

Council recently awarded contracts for paving projects on Ridge Road and Elbrook Drive (south of Section Road). Because of these projects' magnitude, the work was bid separately from the rest of the projects planned for this year. Ridge and Elbrook are scheduled for completion before June 1. The Village engineers are finalizing bid packages for the remaining 2008 projects. Bid packages are expected to be sent out by May 1, and the balance of the projects awarded by the Council meeting on June 10.

All the road projects allow for opportunities to correct some of the 32 identified storm water-related issues at the same time, using funds from the storm water utility fee passed in 2003. There are 40+ lane miles of roads in the Village. Maintaining them in top form, in combination with our excellent roads service department, helps promote Amberley as one of Cincinnati's premier neighborhoods.



Nominations Sought for 2007 Beautification Awards

by Regina Radin & Merrie Stillpass

The Amberley Village Beautification Committee (AVBC) is pleased to announce the commencement of the 4th Annual Amberley Village Beautification Awards. The 2008 Awards program will focus on key elements of gardening and landscaping which support the efforts of residents to maintain and enhance the natural beauty that surrounds their homes and our Village.

This year a new award category, Green Landscape, has been added. Nominees in this category will feature elements such as a sustainable gardening or functional features such as a rain garden, native plants, drought resistant plants and vegetable gardens. Sharon Floro, landscape architect principal of GroundWork Design Collaborative, LLC, will be judging all entries.

Nomination forms will be available at the Amberley Village Arbor Day celebration Sunday, May 4, where the AVBC will officially present the yard signage awards to all the 2007 Beautification Award winners. Nomination forms will also be available at Village Hall and on the website. Completed forms should be submitted to Nicole Browder in the administration office by June 20. All nominees will then be asked to complete a brief questionnaire to assist in the judging. See nomination forms below.

Judging will conclude by July 20, 2008, typically the peak landscape and flower display month for Cincinnati. Winners will be announced at the Ice Cream Social in August.

Professional & Owner Installations
will be judged separately

2008 CATEGORIES

Best Curb Appeal
Best Overall Landscape
Best Back Yard Haven
Best Green Landscape



AMBERLEY VILLAGE BEAUTIFICATION AWARDS BALLOT FOR GARDEN NOMINATIONS

Garden being nominated: *please print*



Judging will occur
by July 20, 2008

Name: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Please select **one** of the following award categories for this nomination:

☐ Best Curb Appeal ☐ Best Overall Landscape ☐ Backyard Haven ☐ Best Green Landscape

Additional comments (if desired): _____

Nomination Submitted By:

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Announcements & Awards
will be presented on August 17
at the Ice Cream Social.

Return Nomination Form
no later than June 20 to
Nicole Browder at Village Hall
7149 Ridge Road
Cincinnati, OH 45237



Save the Date

Sunday, August 17, 2008

Amberley Village Ice Cream Social at Village Hall

Mark your calendars so you won't miss the fun! Meet other Amberley residents as you savor Ben and Jerry's ice cream and enjoy the varied entertainments.

Thanks to Nancy Moran for once again chairing this event.

It's Big, It's Green It's NEW



This recycling can for aluminum and plastic was created by our Maintenance Department.

When you are exercising at Village Hall, remember to PITCH-IN to help our environment!

Amberley Officials Receive Awards



For Career Achievement: Village Manager Bernie Boraten has received a Public Administrator of the Year Award from the Greater Cincinnati Chapter of the American Society for Public Administration. It is presented to an individual who has achieved excellence and demonstrated commitment to the ethics and standards of the profession of public service, not only in his career, but also through active participation and leadership in professional and service organizations. Boraten was nominated by Mike Burns, the City Manager with Indian Hill. Winners were selected by a panel of 3 local judges with significant and distinguished experience in the field of public administration.

The award was presented at the ASPA's annual banquet on April 18 at the Phoenix Restaurant. Along with the four other award winners, Boraten also will be recognized during a Public Service Recognition Week ceremony during the first week of May. Boraten celebrated 30 years of service with Amberley last summer.



For Dedicated Service Chief Jack Monahan received the Emil J. Otting Award for Service from the Hamilton County Police Association at a banquet held at the Embassy Suites Hotel on January 17. It is awarded annually to an officer who best exemplifies dedication to police service to his community and Hamilton County, one of only two yearly awards.

Monahan has been Amberley's Police and Fire Chief since 1993. A police officer for 34 years, all with Amberley, he has been active in the Hamilton County Police Association for his entire career, serving on the Executive Board and on numerous committees. He has been president of the Hamilton County Chiefs Association, and is one of the founding members and current treasurer of "The Shield," a benefit program for families of officers critically injured or killed in the line of duty. Monahan also serves on the Blue Ribbon Arson Committee and the 911 Review Board.

Address Signs Available

by Bernie Boraten



Orders due May 30 Residents continue to express interest in reflective address signs, so the Village will be accepting orders for signs from now through May 30, 2008. They will be installed during the late spring. Interested residents may stop in at Village Hall to complete an order form and submit payment.

The brown, aluminum signs are 6" x 18" and have reflective numbers on both sides. Generally mounted at the street on mailbox posts or other permanent structures, they also can be mounted on wooden posts. The address sign is \$10.00; add a wood post for an additional \$10. Installation is available upon request.

Village Hall Contact Info

Administration – 531-8675

Monday — Friday | 8:30 AM — 5:00 PM

Police/Fire Non-emergency – 531-2040

24 a day | 7 days a week

Police/Fire Emergency – 911

24 a day | 7 days a week

You can also visit AmberleyVillage.org and click the "Contact" link.

Amberley Village News

7149 RIDGE ROAD
AMBERLEY VILLAGE, OH 45237
PH 513-531-8675 • FX 513-531-8154
AMBERLEYVILLAGE.ORG

PRESORTED STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
CINCINNATI, OH
PERMIT NO.2885

Meetings & Events

May

- 4 Arbor Day/Green Up Day, Village Hall - - - - - 1:00 – 4:00 pm
- 5 Planning Commission/Board of Zoning Appeals - - - - - 7:00 pm
- 12 Council Meeting - - - - - 7:30 pm
- 26 Memorial Day — Administration Offices Closed

June

- 2 Planning Commission/Board of Zoning Appeals - - - - - 7:00 pm
- 9 Council Meeting - - - - - 7:30 pm

July

- 4 Independence Day — Administration Offices Closed
- 7 Planning Commission/Board of Zoning Appeals - - - - - 7:00 pm
- 14 Council Meeting - - - - - 7:30 pm

ICRC Council Meeting Schedule

Monthly Amberley Village Council meetings can be watched on Time Warner Cable channel 4 on Thursdays at 7:00 PM and Fridays at 10:00 AM. You can also view them on-line at icrcvtv.com.

Spring Gardens Photo Contest

The Amberley Spring Gardens photo contest continues until June 20, so grab your camera!

As always, submitted photos should be color, no smaller than 3"x5" and no larger than 8"x10". They must be taken somewhere in Amberley Village during the contest period. Submit your digital photo to the Outreach Chair, Peg Conway, by visiting AmberleyVillage.org and clicking on the "Contact" link. Or you can bring a print copy to Village Hall, 7149 Ridge Road, by the deadline stated above. Entries will be judged by the Village Manager, Bernie Boraten, and members of the Public Outreach, Newsletter & Website Committee of the Council. The winning resident will be notified by July 15. Winning photos are framed and displayed in Village Hall.

All photos submitted for consideration will not be returned, and the contributor grants to Amberley Village an unrestricted license to use the photos in the newsletter, on our website, or in other promotional materials for the Village. One entry per resident, please.

**Members of council, employees of Amberley Village, and their immediate family members are not eligible to participate.*