

# AMBERLEY VILLAGE NEWS

FALL 2008

## New Faces in Village Government

By Tracy McMullen

### Village Council



**Leslie McIntosh**

Leslie McIntosh, a 10-year resident of Amberley Village, has been appointed by Mayor Chuck Kamine to fill an open position on the Village Council.

A paralegal who currently operates her own business preparing exhibits for trial attorneys, McIntosh has served on the Village's Beautification Committee and worked on several Arbor Day projects.

McIntosh said that this will be her first opportunity to serve in public office and that she is looking forward to tackling the issues facing Amberley residents. She is the Chair of Council's Health, Education and Welfare Committee and serves also on the Public Outreach; Streets, Public Utilities and Sewers; and Public Buildings and Parks Committees.

McIntosh grew up working in her parents' restaurant which she managed with her brother until 1987. She entered a paralegal program and began working in tri-state law firms, eventually working as Litigation Support Manager at Frost, Brown, Todd. She also worked for the legal department at GE and Lason, a national legal support company. McIntosh and her husband, Dr. Errol Stern, have three daughters and one son.

### Village Treasurer



**Rick Kay**

Rick Kay, CPA, has been appointed to serve as Amberley Village Treasurer by Mayor Chuck Kamine. Kay was recommended by outgoing treasurer Richard Batterberry, with whom he has worked at the accounting firm of Barnes Dennig as a tax manager.

He described the role of treasurer as "signing the checks, attending meetings, providing financial advice and serving on the Village's Finance Committee."

Kay and his partner, Jim Kelly, have lived in Amberley for 6 years. Kay is past president of the board of Caracole, a Roselawn-based housing advocacy and referral service for people left homeless because of HIV/AIDS. He has also served on the finance committee of Planned Parenthood of Southwest Ohio.

Kay said he and Kelly have enjoyed living in Amberley, in part because of the interest in mid-20th century residential architecture. "I'm very pleased to receive this appointment because it gives me the chance to give something meaningful back to the Village," he said.

### Planning Commission/ Board of Zoning Appeals

Scott Wolf has been appointed to the Amberley Village Planning Commission and Board of Zoning



**Scott Wolf**

Appeals. Wolf's appointment was approved by Village Council at its September 8th meeting. A practicing attorney, Wolf grew up in Amberley Village and moved back here with his family in 1995. He and his wife, Natalie, have three children: Freddie, Adam and Sarah.

Wolf served on the board of the JCC for 19 years and was instrumental in guiding the planning process for the new J. He likens the challenges facing Amberley to that project. "The end result is what matters," he said. "We have to explore all possibilities and determine the best outcome for Amberley, then implement it." Wolf said he sees nothing but the potential for making Amberley a better place for the entire community. ☑

### Village Leaf Collection

By Bernie Boraten, Village Manager

Leaf collection in the Village began the week of October 13th and will continue until December 31st.

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THE MAYOR’S DESK

Signs of Community

By Chuck Kamine, Mayor



When my daughter was in the first grade, there were five other girls of the same age living within a short distance of our house, but no two of them attended the same school. Without the unifying effect of a school, and the long distances between yards, it was not surprising that they were not backyard playmates and that the families were not drawn together through their children. There was little sense of community. Every resident lived on their own one acre island.

Twenty years have passed and the community has changed. We introduced the ice cream social and held other community events for people to get to know their neighbors. On my street, three neighbors play golf together every Saturday having met each other at neighborhood parties.

We labored to bring a quality public school to serve all of Amberley. In September, I attended the dedication of our new Pleasant Ridge Montessori School and watched many Amberley parents embracing the new school and each other as they have become a tight knit group. I heard them talking about play groups and parent meetings and other school

activities. It was heart warming. Also in September, we suffered the worst storm damage in decades with the unfortunate power outage for most families. Under these very trying circumstances our community bonded together. Neighbors helped each other with countless acts of kindness. The newly opened JCC contacted me to offer their facilities to any resident without power who needed a place to shower or recharge a cell phone or just a well-lit place to exercise or watch television. Adath Israel Synagogue offered to provide Friday night dinner for any resident without power who would be unable to cook their Sabbath meal. Despite the hardship caused by the storm, I was touched and proud to be part of such a connected and caring community.

Our community has worked hard to preserve the green space that is the former Crest Hills Country Club. We have resolved the four-year litigation in a manner that provided funds that the club desired to rehabilitate their facility in Pleasant Ridge while securing control for Amberley Village over the future destiny of this critical land in the Village. With our renewed spirit of community, we will work through the process of determining the future use of this land for the greater benefit of all our residents. 🌱

# IN THE NEWS

**C**ongratulations to the following residents 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). Send to Nicole Browder, Village Clerk, at [NBrowder@AmberleyVillage.org](mailto:NBrowder@AmberleyVillage.org).

## Student News



Joe Wells

**Joe Wells**, a 2008 graduate from St. Xavier High School, achieved the rank of Eagle Scout on April 2, 2008. His project consisted of moving and constructing Trail E in French Park.

Fifth-grader

### **Jake Friedman**

was awarded the Elisabeth Greenwald Mapes Award for best exemplifying the "Seven Values of The Seven Hills School—respect for others, striving for excellence, kindness and caring, honesty and integrity, fairness and justice, personal responsibility, and commitment to community."



Jake Friedman



Hilary Doyle

**Hillary Doyle (St. Ursula Academy), Andrew Lennard (Walnut Hills), and Kylie Lipa (Summit Country Day)**

were named semifinalists in

the 54th Annual National Merit Scholarship Program. They are three of 16,000 seniors across the country who scored in the top 1% on the qualifying Preliminary SAT last fall and are being considered for 8,200 scholarships that will be awarded next spring. 📧

## In Appreciation

Special thanks to **Daniel Allen** for contributing his time and talent in photography for the benefit of Amberley. A 2008 graduate of Cincinnati Country Day School, Dan took photos for the Village newsletter and website to fulfill his community service requirement at school. He is now a freshman at DePauw University in Indiana. 📧



Daniel Allen

## Do you need service hours?

*From time to time, the Village has service opportunities for high school students, particularly at events like Arbor Day and the Ice Cream Social. Contact Nicole Browder at 531-8675 or watch the newsletter for volunteer announcements.*

## Village Receives Recycling Kudos

The Hamilton County Solid Waste Management District (HCSWMD) has recognized Amberley Village residents for achieving a significant increase in their recycling efforts during the first half of 2008. Residents recycled 15.1% of all waste generated during that period. According to a memo received by Village Manager Bernie Boraten from HCSWMD Program Specialist Michelle Balz, Amberley residents recycled 17 tons more material than in the first 6 months of 2007, when the recycle rate was 13.9%. Mayor Kamine joins Boraten in congratulating Amberley residents on their efforts to increase recycling and reduce the amount of refuse going to landfills. 📧

## Raffle Winner

The winner of the Mill Creek Watershed Council of Communities Water Resources Survey raffle at the Ice Cream Social was Ghita Sarembok. She was awarded a \$50.00 gift certificate to Benken's Nursery. 📧

## Fond Farewell



Rich Batterberry (left) and Mayor Kamine

Mayor Kamine presented a commendation plaque to the **outgoing Village Treasurer, Rich Batterberry**, at the September 8th Council Meeting. Mr. Batterberry served eight years as Village Treasurer. His professionalism and dedication to his duties were outstanding and greatly appreciated. 📧





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Please note the following procedures:

1. Pile leaves on your property just behind the curb, extending no more than 10 feet into your yard. Leaves placed in the street clog gutters and storm drains, and may constitute a road hazard. Do not pile leaves in the street.
2. Keep grass, brush clippings and other debris (rocks, gravel, trash, metal, etc.) separate from leaves. Such debris can damage leaf collection equipment. Brush material is picked up by a separate Amberley crew. Leaf piles containing brush and other debris will not be picked up.
3. Keep leaf piles clear of parked cars or low hanging tree limbs. They cannot be picked up, because it is impossible to get the leaf collection equipment into such tight areas.
4. Do not place leaves for collection around fire hydrants, mailboxes, sign posts, utility poles, and wires.
5. Do not place leaves near or in creeks as they can smother the natural vegetation that keeps the banks from eroding.

Every effort is made to collect leaves in each area of the Village weekly, but many factors, including weather, make it impossible to guarantee weekly pick-up or have a firm schedule for collection. Collection is monitored daily to assure that each area of the Village is serviced as often as conditions permit. Residents may call the Administration office at 531-8675 to find out approximately when they may expect to have their leaves picked up. 🍃



### Former Mayor John Muething Dies

By Tracy McMullen



**John L. Muething**

John L. Muething, former mayor of Amberley Village and co-founder of the Cincinnati law firm of Keating, Muething &

Klekamp, died at his home in Amberley on August 16. He was 87.

Muething served as Village mayor from 1983 to 1987. He and his wife of 58 years, the late Mildred Fischer Muething, raised their family of nine children here. Sons Tom and Mark and their families are residents of the Village.

Village Manager Bernie Boraten said, "John was on the Council Committee which hired me in 1977. We remained close friends during the entire 31 years that I knew him. John represented the best in leadership and knew how to deal with the complex challenges with which governments/organizations are confronted. He was an absolute master at knowing how to positively influence others and to keep things moving progressively toward the best possible outcome. John cared deeply about people and responded quickly to any and all calls for his input or assistance."

Village Council member and former Planning Commission Chair Merrie Stillpass said, "I was privileged to serve with John on Amberley's Board of Zoning Appeals and Planning Commission. His long-term involvement with the Village and legal acuity were a valued asset to the committees."

Muething was born in Covington in 1921 and was a graduate of Covington Catholic High School and Xavier University. After Army service during WWII, he earned a J.D. from the U.C. College of Law, where he graduated in the top 10 percent of his class. He began law practice as an associate at the Cincinnati firm of Lindhorst and Dreidame, then co-founded Keating, Muething & Klekamp in 1955. He retired as partner in 1986.

Muething was a life-long supporter of Catholic education.

He was a board member of many schools and was also elected president of the

Cincinnati Board of Education in 1994 and served as a director of Provident Bank. Muething lectured at the U.C. College of Law and at Xavier, where he was awarded an honorary Doctor of Humanities degree in 1990. He received major awards from the Cincinnati Bar Foundation and Cincinnati Bar Association. 🍃

### Summer Fun in Amberley Photo Contest Winner



Michael Moran of Arborcrest Drive discovered this cute baby turtle exploring his property over the summer. Congratulations, Michael!

An Honorable Mention goes to Natalie Wolf for her entry "Daylily at Dusk." 🍃



## Crest Hills Agreement Reached

By Mayor Chuck Kamine



Photo courtesy of Nicole Browder

Amberley Village and the Ridge Club have concluded the lawsuit after more than four years of litigation over the zoning of the former Crest Hills Country Club property in which the courts ruled against the park zoning for the property. A settlement agreement was signed by Mayor Chuck Kamine and Ridge Club President Jack Rubinstein.

The total settlement of \$8.75 million included dismissal of all claims by the Ridge Club, Hal Homes, Inc. and Hills Land and Development Company, and the acquisition of the property by Amberley Village. Since the courts had compelled Amberley Village to change the zoning on the property to residential use, Council concluded that acquisition insured Village control of the destiny of this prime real estate in Amberley Village.

The Village financed the acquisition of the property by issuing judgment notes (a kind of municipal bond financing) in the amount of \$6 million. This included acquisition of the property and associated expenses for appraisal, survey, title, environmental, bond counsel, and other expenses. This cost was in line with the appraisal and will not require any tax increase. The balance of the settlement fund was provided by the liability insurer for Amberley Village.

Council will review options for reuse of the property including the feasibility of redeveloping the property as a public golf course or alternative recreational facility for the residents. ☑

Photos courtesy of Daniel Allen



## Ice Cream Social Success

By Peg Conway, Council Member

A crowd of more than 400 flocked to Village Hall on August 17 for the annual Ice Cream Social. Besides the Ben & Jerry's, residents enjoyed the varied entertainments and educational opportunities from dancers and music and balloon animals to SWAT and water rescue teams to rain gardens and beautification awards. It was a great evening!

**Special thanks to:** Nancy Moran, chair; Ice cream scoopers: Ted Moran, Michael Moran, Rick Kay, Jim Kelly, Kathleen Conway Bell, John Stillpass; Parking assistants: Joe Conway, Rick Driscoll, Patrick Driscoll.

Our Village staff really goes the extra mile to make the event enjoyable for all. Heartfelt appreciation to: Village Manager Bernie Boraten, Chief John Monahan, Lt. Rick Caudill, Lt. Brian Blum, Lt. Rich Wallace, Officer Mark Robbins, Officer Joey Holt, Officer Chris Fritsch, Officer Mike Koenig, Officer Mark Roeseler, Officer Jason Phillips, Officer Tim Schmidtgoessling, Officer Mark Monahan, Officer Keith Sowder, Dispatcher Robin

Kemp, Dispatcher Victoria Clark, Firefighter Tom Karr, Firefighter Ryan Monahan, Firefighter Rob Langdon, Firefighter Tony Chesney, Firefighter Will Davis, and Part-time maintenance employee Tim Brunkel, administrative employees Nicole Browder and Anna Shaw. ☑







Photo courtesy of Chris Fritsch



## Extinguisher Training is EZ

By Police Officer Chris Fritsch

With assistance from Amberley's Fire Department, EZ Pack, a Village business, conducted a two-hour fire extinguisher training for 11 employees this summer. EZ Pack is located at 6545 Wiehe Rd. and specializes in the most comprehensive line of optical packaging products and services available from one source. The Amberley Fire Department is in

support of more businesses conducting extinguisher training for their employees. If additional information is desired to set up a fire extinguisher class, please contact Officer Chris Fritsch with the Amberley Village Fire Department at 531-2040. 📞



## BECAUSE YOU ASKED

### About Property Maintenance Violations

By Tracy McMullen

People often comment on the well-kept and lovely appearance of properties in Amberley Village, but occasionally a property owner or tenant fails to maintain a property, resulting in a situation that is unhealthy, unsafe, or—in most cases—just plain unsightly. In response to resident concerns about this issue, Council adopted a Property Maintenance Code that establishes standards and provides for enforcement.

If you observe a poorly kept house or yard in your neighborhood, contact the Village Administration at 531-8675 and they will handle it from there. In the interest of being thorough and fair, the Village follows a multi-step process of notification and enforcement that may seem slow.

"When we're notified of a non-compliance situation, we inspect the property and photograph the problem," said Bernie Boraten, Village Manager. Boraten explained that the process begins by contacting the listed property owner. Written notification in the form of a certified letter with a return receipt is often

utilized.

Sometimes, owners are difficult to track down. The Village relies on records maintained by the Hamilton County auditor's office. In the case of foreclosures, ownership may be nebulous, as ownership is often assumed by out-of-town banks. Once they are identified, the notification process must be completed.

"The Postal Service may have to make several attempts to deliver a certified letter," Boraten said. "That can take several weeks. If the letter cannot be delivered and a signature obtained, then the Village takes additional notification steps."

Those steps include posting a series of letters noting the violation on the door of the home or publishing a notice of violation in the classified sections of area newspapers.

"If none of those measures work, the Village will then step in as soon as it is legally possible to do so and resolve the problem. This may involve cutting grass and weeds, draining stagnant water, removing unsightly objects from yards, or exterminating rodents," he said. "But residents

need to know that it may not happen for weeks after an initial complaint is made."

Boraten noted that property owners are charged for such actions by the Village and notified that they need to pay for them. If they fail to pay, a lien is placed against the property for the amount of the costs incurred.

Basically, the Village requires that properties appear neat and uncluttered when viewed from the street, and that they in no way present a nuisance or health hazard to neighbors or the public. For complete definitions and details on remaining in compliance, you can access the Property Maintenance Code at [AmberleyVillage.org](http://AmberleyVillage.org) and click on "Laws."

We can all avoid most problems by keeping grass and weeds mown, storing tools and equipment out of sight, and repainting and repairing as needed. Arranging for periodic maintenance when going on vacation or when a residence will be unoccupied for an extended period of time will go a long way toward satisfying code requirements and ensuring the good will of our neighbors. 📞



## Pleasant Ridge Montessori Dedication Ceremony

By Darlene Kamine

Amberley Village Mayor Chuck Kamine and Vice Mayor Merrie Stillpass were among the ribbon cutters at the dedication of the Pleasant Ridge Montessori (PRM) School on Friday, September 26. After five years of planning, Pleasant Ridge Montessori School is now the neighborhood school for Amberley Village and is enjoying a rebirth of enrollment from many Amberley families.

Highlights of the ceremony included the opening of a time capsule which was buried with the

original building in 1909. Alumni were on hand to celebrate including Amberley resident, John Stillpass, a current member of the board of the Pleasant Ridge School Foundation. The most enthusiastic response from the more than 200 people in attendance came after the Pledge of Allegiance by the preschool and kindergarten classes and the whole school performance of a song about peace, complete with choreography.

Amberley resident Susanna Goering, a member of the planning

team from the start, said, "Our two oldest children attend Pleasant Ridge Montessori and our 2-year-old will begin preschool there next year. We are thrilled with their teachers, the principal, and the curriculum. I pick up my children every day, and they are always very happy. The new school building with an environmental design is just icing on the cake." Her husband, Eric, is a member of the PRM Local School Decision Making Committee.

Pleasant Ridge Montessori is the first green public school in Ohio and one of the few neighborhood public Montessori schools in the country. 🌱

## History Room a Fascinating Place, Process

By Tracy McMullen

Photo courtesy of Tracy McMullen



Ask Mitzi Miller about the History Room on the lower level of Village Hall, then sit back while she regales you with stories about the people and events that inspired the displays. But there's more. She'll also tell you about the fascinating process of collecting and preparing the exhibits. The History Room has been her project—as well as her passion—for the past eight years. An Amberley resident all her life, Miller wanted to display artifacts depicting the growth and changes in the Village since its creation.

"When the new municipal building was in the planning stage, I met with (village manager) Bernie Boraten, who envisioned a space dedicated

to Amberley history. We worked together to create the History Room as a repository for the Amberley Village Archives."

An epidemiologist by training, Miller describes herself as the "unofficial curator" of the History room. She's been attending Council meetings since she was 15 and spent months poring over 60 years' worth of files, official papers and artifacts pertaining to Village activities. She has filled two loose-leaf notebooks with interesting, unusual, and offbeat ordinances enacted over the years.

Exhibits in the History Room cover events and activities ranging from photos of early Village Councils to

memorabilia from sports figures who have lived in Amberley to posters and a press kit from a motion picture partially shot in the Village. A large section features equipment, badges and uniforms used by the police and fire departments through the decades. There is even a video of a home movie made by Herbert French, one of the founders of Amberley. It was shot at his residence during a picnic for P&G employees and their families. A 'Celebrity Corner' features photos of President Clinton with Village officials and a flag he presented to the Village that had flown over the U.S. Capital.

The History Room is open for tours during most community events. Residents can visit the room at other times by calling the Village office to arrange a tour.

### Make History!

Residents are welcome and encouraged to submit items for display, including original deeds or business incorporation documents, photos of properties, people, and notable events including visits by dignitaries, severe weather and fires; written or recorded recollections of long-time residents; items related to organizations such as the Civic Garden Club, Police Auxiliary, and Civil Defense Force; items or photos from dedication ceremonies and religious institutions; historic plaques, newspaper articles or citations for personal achievements; and items or articles about the Crest Hills property. Contact Nicole Browder at Village Hall (531-8675) if you wish to donate items. 🌱



## Connectivity Update

By Merrie Stillpass, Vice Mayor

Over the years the idea of walking paths has surfaced in Amberley Village, and exploration of the concept is ongoing. In the mid-90's it was brought up, then again in 2006, as a result of a petition signed by 58 residents living in the neighborhoods off Section Road. Two focus groups of residents in that area were convened in early 2007. Since then, additional discussions in several Council committees have taken place on connectivity between neighbors and neighborhoods, activity centers, as well as safety, healthy lifestyles, and reducing traffic for short trips.

The Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC) is envisioning Amberley in 2018. At the Ice Cream Social on August 17, the LRPC invited residents to share their ideas about connectivity by posing several questions: "There had been discussions about building walk/bike paths throughout Amberley. Where should these paths be built? What areas or buildings do you want connected with a pathway?" Of the 22 survey respondents, 59% said they would like to safely bike and 77% would like to run/walk primarily

on Section (45%) and Ridge (50%) to destinations such as the new J (36%).

Meisner + Associates recently studied how Amberley Village might connect neighborhoods to activity centers in the Village and at the borders. At the September meeting of the Beautification Committee, a concept plan was shown for discussion purposes identifying which areas in Amberley are underserved in terms of alternate means of moving oneself about the community safely. It also shows neighborhoods particularly along Section Road with access limited to only one source. A conceptual diagram illustrated how an internal eight-mile loop around and crossways through the center could safely allow residents to move from one side of the Village on foot or bike.

Images of how it would look and actual locations have not been determined at this stage.

Over the next several months, Committees of Council will continue to explore how and where non-vehicular connections can occur within the community. It is important that Amberley's streets are safe not only to the drivers, but also for the residents who wish to enjoy the beautiful surroundings and healthful benefits on foot and bicycle. 🚲

## Village Staff Steps Up After Storm



Photos by Chief Jack Monahan & Lt. Rick Caudill

Officer Mark Roeseler keeps traffic moving at Ridge and Galbraith while the lights were out.

## Manager's Report

By Bernie Boraten

The event on September 14th was one of the largest debris generating storms in Amberley's history. Since then, our maintenance department personnel have worked 10 hours a day, six days a week. Additional private contract crews have been employed by the Village to help pick up material as well. On the average day since the storm, the combined force has constituted four brush chipping crews and one log/large debris crew. Each crew averaged three personnel plus equipment and vehicles.

During the first three weeks after the storm, these crews have chipped brush at the curb and generated over 1,400 cubic yards of chips which have been hauled to the Village's North Site. This three-week total of 1,400

## JCC Grand Opening

More than 4,000 people of all ages and from all over Cincinnati helped celebrate the Mayerson JCC Grand Opening! The day began with a festive "J Walk" to the JCC. Representatives from The Jewish Foundation of Cincinnati, The Mayerson Foundation, Jewish Federation of Cincinnati, and the JCC Board of Directors participated in the official ribbon-cutting. Everyone enjoyed lunch

(presented by Bigg's), and entertainment (led by the Cincinnati Ballet), demonstrations, music, games, inflatables, raffles, and tours of the new 140,000 sq. ft. facility. Anyone who joins the new Mayerson JCC by November 30 will save \$50 off the enrollment fee. For membership information or to set up a tour, contact the JCC at 761-7500 or visit [jointhej.org](http://jointhej.org). 🎉



Fair Acres





Section Rd. at French Park.

cubic yards already represents 75% of all of the brush chips that were collected during the entire year 2007. The Village crews have also collected over 350 cubic yards of logs and large debris.

The large piles of brush chips, logs, and large debris will, in the future, have to be removed from the North Site and transported to locations available for the ultimate disposition or recycling of these materials. The Village is working with numerous parties preparing for the disposition of this material. The Hamilton County Solid Waste District may provide assistance to Amberley and other suburbs in providing large tub grinders to grind the large debris and potentially provide assistance in transporting the chips to other locations.

Amberley Village and the many other local governments which were impacted by the storm are in the process of meeting and providing information to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in efforts to seek disaster relief funds to reimburse the communities for some portion of the cost of this massive storm cleanup. 🌱

## Tree TLC Needed

By Dave Stang

Mother Nature continues to deal us hardships. Between the wind storms and the extended drought, the care of your trees does not get any easier. The 74-mph winds we

## Power Source During Outage

By Jon Chaiken, Council-at-Large



Galbraith Rd., west of Ridge

As of 4:30 p.m. on September 18, my family and I are into the fifth day without power. My experiences have provided a variety of observations, all positive! Sunday afternoon before I even knew we had lost power, I saw Amberley public works employees already out assessing the damage, and working hard to quarantine areas where the power lines might create a dangerous environment. Later that evening as I walked my neighborhood, my first thought was it looked like a botanical war zone, with limbs and debris everywhere!, but I also saw neighbors checking on neighbors, neighbors helping each other manage the cleanup, and a real concern for general well-being. As the first day turned into two, then three I witnessed a community resolute that it would band together and get through with as little inconvenience as possible. Homes with power were open to homes without for food, and shelter. Rumor has it that by day 7, I should be back on the grid, but I will remember how this community rose to the occasion to help each other for many years to come. 🌱

experienced in the September wind storm did considerable damage to the trees.

Be sure to check the large trees around your house. Sometimes the wind can cause splits in the branches that result in the limbs falling at a

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## Chief's Report

By Jack Monahan

Sunday, September 14, 2008, was a long day for residents and employees of Amberley Village. Hurricane Ike's strong winds arrived around 12:45 p.m., and by the time they were over, there was no power in the Village, numerous trees were down over power lines, and many streets in Amberley were impassable.

All members of the Service Department and the Police/Fire Department were called in to assist in moving debris and trees out of the roadways. Firefighters were not able to move trees that were on the power lines due to the possibility of electrocution. However, the Service Department and Police/Fire Department were able to make many side streets passable by removing debris that was not on the power lines.

The Police Department's power was up and running, due to a generator that was installed when the building was built, therefore the 911 phones and other police lines were functional. Due to the road closures, additional firefighters were scheduled throughout the night of September 14 in the event of a fire emergency. Routes were planned for travel in the event of such incidents, so that all areas of the community remained protected.

While many residents were inconvenienced during the course of the week because of the lack of power, we saw many instances of neighbors helping neighbors throughout the week. I'm proud of the professionalism displayed by our staff throughout this event. As a result of their efforts the community remained completely safe and well-protected. 🌱



### Residents Recognized for Outstanding Landscape and Garden Designs

By Merrie Stillpass, Vice Mayor

The Amberley Village Beautification Committee (AVBC) is pleased to announce the 4th Annual Amberley Village Beautification Award recipients. Certificates and commemorative vases were awarded at the Village Ice Cream Social in August.

Landscape architect Sharon Floro, from Groundwork Design Collaborative LLC, reviewed the nominations according to specific criteria such as plants used proportionally in scale with the site and architecture, overall layout of gardens and planting beds, hardscape design and function, appropriate selection of plant material, general maintenance and if applicable, design of water features.

Judge Floro was very complimentary and impressed with all of the nominees' passion and expertise as reflected in her comments below:



#### **Best: Overall Landscape by Owner Joyce Seltzer**

Wow! Both the front and back gardens are so differently designed, yet they are appropriately designed to fit the settings and function of the space. The front yard is rich with green shades of foliage, with subtle touches of sculptural elements.



#### **Runner Up: Best Curb Appeal by Owner Kathy & Irvin Wise**

Congratulations on carefully adding foliage and hardscape details to the spots that need the most attention. The drive to your front door is so inviting



#### **Best: Curb Appeal by Owner Diana & Brian Thiel**

Simplicity is beauty. Appropriate choice of plants to complement the architecture. Very sensitive and creative gesture as you connected your neighbor's planting bed with yours; this makes your property look larger!



#### **Runner Up: "Green" Garden by Owner Cora & Jose Garcia**

...the application of the turf block paver system on your driveway is one of the best I've seen at a residential scale.



#### **Best: "Green" Garden by Owner Marianne & Ed Brill**

Thank you for using recycled material: shredded hardwood mulch for the path, sculpture on your existing tree stump, and artwork pieces from natural material. The bamboo successfully screens off areas at the perimeter of your property.





## Council Actions July, August, September

### July:

- Ordinance amending property maintenance code to declare violations a minor misdemeanor offense
- Ordinance accepting dedication of Rollman Reserve Phase I and II subdivision and public improvements

restricting residential use by Village of property located at Village Hall

- Resolution approving budget of estimated available funds and estimated required expenditures for the general and non-general funds for the calendar year 2009 and authorizing the Village Manager to submit the tentative budget to the county auditor with recommendations for continuation of the present tax levy

- Resolution authorizing the Village Manager to enter into a contract with American Legal Publishing Company to review and update the Village Code of Ordinances

- Resolution authorizing the Village Manager to purchase two new police cruisers through the state bidding program

### August:

- Ordinance changing zoning of real property formerly known as Crest Hills Country Club from a "Park P District" to a "Residence A District"

- Ordinance appointing Rick Kay as Village Treasurer

- Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to execute purchase agreement, settlement agreement, and consent decree for the settlement of Crest Hills litigation

- Ordinance providing for the issuance of notes not to exceed \$6,000,000 by the Village of Amberley, Ohio, in anticipation of the issuance of bonds, for the purpose of paying a final judgment

- Resolution authorizing Village Manager to sign an environmental covenant with state fire marshal

### September:

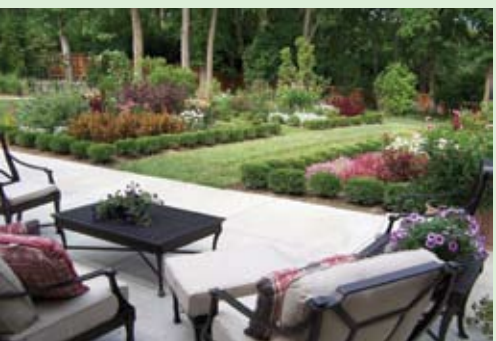
- Resolution authorizing the Village Manager to engage Peck, Shaffer & Williams as bond counsel

- Ordinance amending Ordinance No. 2008-18, passed august 25, 2008, to correct the approval date of the final judgment in the matter of the Crest Hills litigation



#### Best: Backyard Haven by Owner Dennis Meador

Seeing all the colors and types of plants used in your back yard, makes the experience at your pool deck area inviting, exciting and refreshing. The garden is far from the road and one can still feel privacy in this special setting.



#### Best: Professional Overall Landscape Stan Elliott & Jay Shatz

Shows comprehensive understanding and well-applied use of design principles. In the front garden, the bed is shaped to lead one's eyes to the front door...A great sense of surprise, as one enters the back yard, through the side gate. Great use of mixing colors of annuals and perennials and clear separation of garden themes. 🌿

**Interest in the Beautification Awards has grown since its inception. Watch for the details for the 2009 AVBC Awards in the Spring Newsletter!**

*continued from page 9*

later date. The broken branches often leave stubs in the trees and they should be pruned properly to prevent future decay. If you are not sure what to look for, contact a certified Arborist to have the trees inspected. Be patient, as they are all very busy handling storm damage.

Continue to water your plants until the fall rains start. Fall is an important time for plants to put on a root system for next years' growth. Water deeply, but not often. If you are not sure when to water use a shovel or trowel to dig into the soil to check moisture levels. Irrigate only when the soil is dry. 🌿



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## Community Calendar

### November

<b>3</b>	Planning Commission/ Board of Zoning Appeals	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>
<b>10</b>	Council Meeting	<b>7:30 p.m.</b>
<b>17</b>	Beautification Committee Meeting	<b>7:30 p.m.</b>
<b>27</b>	Thanksgiving Day	<i>Administration Offices Closed</i>

### December

<b>1</b>	Planning Commission/ Board of Zoning Appeals	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>
<b>8</b>	Council Meeting	<b>7:30 p.m.</b>
<b>24-25</b>	Christmas Holiday Observed	<i>Administration Offices Closed</i>

### January

<b>1</b>	New Year's Day	<i>Administration Offices Closed</i>
<b>5</b>	Planning Commission/ Board of Zoning Appeals	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>
<b>12</b>	Council Meeting	<b>7:30 p.m.</b>
<b>26</b>	Beautification Committee Meeting	<b>7:30 p.m.</b>

## Fall and Winter Photo Contests

The Fall Colors photo contest is underway until December 15, with the winner notified by January 15, 2009.

And be ready for the Winter Wonderland photo contest which will take place December 16, 2008, through March 15, 2009.

Submitted photos should be color, no smaller than 3" x 5" and no larger than 8" x 10". 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](http://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 Outreach Committee of the Council.

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 the 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. ☑

## ICRC Council Meeting Schedule

Monthly Amberley Village Council meetings can be watched on Time Warner Cable channel 4 on Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. and Fridays at 10:00 a.m. You can also view them online at [icrcvtv.com](http://icrcvtv.com). ☑