

Amberley Village NEWS

SUMMER 2010

Ice Cream Social – August 15

By Peg Conway, Council member

This year's Ice Cream Social will take place from 6:00 to 8:30 pm, beginning earlier and running longer overall. Chairs Amy Rubenstein and Deanna Woods hope to attract even more young families and increase opportunities for resident interaction.

On August 15, all residents are invited to drop by Village Hall to enjoy scoops of United Dairy Farmers ice cream and the varied entertainment. This year's music is a bluegrass band called "Hobo Clay," and rumor is they invite audience participation. New this year is a resident art show for all ages (see sidebar).

Continuing favorites are the safety fair arranged by our Public Safety Department, tennis court "water park" courtesy of the fire truck, Garden Award presentation, and performance by the Connie Ferguson dancers.

Don't miss it!! ☑

Willing to help out at the Ice Cream Social? Volunteers are needed in several areas. Older teens are encouraged to signup. Please email dware@wordofdeliverance.org by August 11. Thanks! ☑



Tree Care Volunteers

By Leslie McIntosh, ESC Chair



A new project at Amberley Green to clear out and clean up the growth of weeds under trees got underway on Thursday, July 1. Led by the Environmental Stewardship Committee, volunteers removed honeysuckle and invasive vines from

the Sweet Bay Magnolia grove near the parking lot, and 11 magnolias were rescued. It is necessary to remove weeds and invasive growth from the root zones to ensure healthy trees.

continued on page 5

Calling All Amberley Artists!

Artists of all ages and abilities are invited to submit entries for the first-ever art exhibit at the Ice Cream Social. Bring your submissions to Village Hall between 8:30 am and 5:00 pm on a weekday, by Friday, August 13. Entrants must provide their own easel or stand for display. Please label your work with your name and if you like, a title. If you have questions, please contact amyhrubenstein@yahoo.com ☑



IN THIS ISSUE

The Mayor's Desk2

In The News3

Village News6

2010 Graduates4

Amberley Green Updates ..5

Citizen Advisory Commity
Submits Final Report5

ReLeaf your Landscape5

Tennis at Amberley Green ..5

Healthy Eating at PRM6

PRM Spaghetti Dinner6

Living with Wildlife:
Coyates6

Looking Ahead to
Halloween6

Arbor Day
Acknowledgements7

Photo Contest Winner7

Does the Village have your
Phone Number?7

Amberley A Closer Look ...7

Neighborly Reminders7

Amberley on the Road.....7

Summer and Fall
Photo Contests/Calendar8

Mayor's Column

By Mayor Merrie Stillpass



Did you know Amberley Village is home to seven private sector businesses and eight non-profit institutions? A healthy professional community is imperative to Amberley's tax base and ability to continue levels of service that residents are accustomed to. In 2009, together these entities, which employ approximately 1,100 full- and part-time employees, accounted for 56% of the withholding tax collected and 26% of the total revenue collected.

Where are they located? The businesses are located along the western edge of the Village corporation line. Efforts continue to find a commercial use at the "North Site" along the Ronald Reagan Highway, the former Amberley Swim Club property owned by the Village, which would expand the much needed employee and business profit tax base. The institutions are primarily located along the Ridge Road corridor with the exception of the new Congregation Zichron Eliezer and Mikvah facility which have been built on Section Road, and the former Losantiville School on Elbrook.

Recognizing the importance of these entities to our community, Council invited representatives from each business and institution to a breakfast meeting hosted at the Mayerson JCC. Following introductions, an overview of future plans and development opportunities in the Village were shared. Amberley resident Andy Young of Hamilton County Development Corporation

briefly discussed possible assistance programs available to businesses and institutions. Participating were representatives from Adath Israel, EZ Pack, Mayerson JCC, MiddCities, Pepsi, Saturday Knight LTD, Temple Shalom, and TOPICZ. Amberley's central location is an advantage, they agreed. Participants also value the police and fire protection they receive and appreciate the familiarity with staff they enjoy in a small municipality.

Amberley must build upon what we already have in order to make sure it remains healthy and viable. To better understand the nature of our businesses and institutions, I prepared a survey and am following up personally with each one to complete the survey. This will enable the Village to continue to work to bring greater awareness of what we have in order to help market other opportunities here as well as address any needs and concerns they might have. Beginning with the next newsletter, Amberley businesses will be profiled, so that you, too, will know who they are. We thank them for making Amberley their "home."

This initiative is part of Council's determined focus on the fiscal health of the Village. Like any other municipality, Amberley is affected by larger economic trends that contribute to flat or decreasing levels of revenue and discourage investment in development projects. At the same time, the cost of operating the Village and providing services continues to rise. Look for more information on these matters on the website and in the next newsletter. ☺

IN THE NEWS

If you have news to share about Amberley residents, please send it to Nicole Browder at nbrowder@AmberleyVillage.org (with a photo if possible).

Seven Hills Honors



Isabel Arjmand

Isabel Arjmand was presented the Sophomore Scholastic Achievement Award, awarded to "the sophomore who exhibits a scholarly

temperament and who has contributed the benefits of learning in a given discipline to the School and/or the wider community. This student exhibits a love of learning and intellectual curiosity and shares enthusiasm for the discipline with others."

Fifth grader **Samantha Eng** received the Eileen Driscoll Literary Award "for demonstrating a love of literature and joy in the printed word."

When named merit scholarships for the 2010-2011 school year were presented, junior **Julie Berger** received the Neil Smith Award for "meeting



Julie Berger

the world with optimism and good will, expecting the best from herself and others, and exhibiting courage, compassion, integrity, and intelligence."



Heidi Garrett

A pair of Amberley siblings



Devin Garrett

was honored for athletics. **Heidi Garrett**, a senior, and **Devin Garrett**, an eighth grader, both received the Archie Griffin Sportsmanship Awards. Congrats! 🎉

Professional Honors

Brad Levy received the Cincinnati State Technical and Community College's 2010 House/Bruckman Faculty Excellence Award. He began teaching there as an adjunct and was hired in 2002 as a full-time math instructor after earning a master's from Xavier University. A 16-year resident of the Village, he received his bachelor's from Northern Kentucky University.

At a ceremony in Washington D.C., **Dr. Stephen R. Thomas** was inducted as a Fellow in the American College of Radiology (ACR) during its annual meeting. ACR Fellows demonstrate service to the College and to the field; it is the highest honor the ACR bestows. Thomas is a radiology

professor at the University of Cincinnati. He earned his PhD from Purdue University in 1973.

Cynthia Goodman was the curator for the photography exhibit, "The Art of Caring," currently on display at the Cincinnati Museum Center through September 19. It features more than 200 photographs showing the emotions that come with each stage of life. 📷

Community Service

Lisa Frankel and **Dana Herman** were invited to the White House in May to represent Cincinnati at the first-ever Jewish American Heritage Month reception. They were part of a national commission to commemorate the celebration, in 2005, of 350 years since the first Jewish community was settled in the United States, which led to then-President Bush proclaiming May as Jewish American Heritage Month.

Public Works Supervisor Steve Rasfeld and **Service Department Foreman Tony Chesney** represented the Village at the funeral of Middletown City employee Jabin Lakes, driving one of the Village's large yellow trucks arrayed with an American flag, in a procession of more than 500, including 20 service department trucks from around the area. Mr. Lakes was tragically killed on the job May 7 while inspecting a manhole and was overcome by toxic fumes, falling 20 to 30 feet in the hole. 📷



Marathon Moms

The "Pleasant Ridge Montessori Running Mommas" (most of them Amberley residents) entered two relay teams in the Flying Pig Marathon. Together they finished the race in four hours, 10 minutes. Pictured from left to right are **Katie Burroughs**, **Susanna Goering**, **Carlyn Kinyalocis**, **Bitsy Smyjunas**, **Rosie Abel**, and **Shayne Byer**. Stephanie Kaufman and Maria McDonough (principal) ran the first leg of the relay but did not make it for the picture. 📷



Congratulations to our 2010 Graduates!

We wish them all the best in their new ventures. If your graduate's name is not listed, please send the information to NBrowder@AmberleyVillage.org, and it will appear in the next issue.

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

Clark Montessori

CHLOE GERSTEN
SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY
S.I. Newhouse School of Public
Communication; journalism

RYAN GRESSEL
UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI
Engineering

Walnut Hills

RYAN BARDACH
One of 5 valedictorians
DUKE UNIVERSITY

MAX CHAIKEN
OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

PATRICK DRISCOLL
UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE

DAVID LERNER
One of 5 valedictorians
DARTMOUTH

JOE MANAVALAN
WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

KIRSTEN RISSOVER
UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI
School of Design, Art,
Architecture & Planning

NINA SCHNEIDER
OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

HANNAH VOGT
WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY

CASSIE ZUMBIEL
OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

Roger Bacon

MICHAEL MORAN
UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON

Seven Hills

HEIDI BETH GARRETT
UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND

**FRANCESNA AMANDA
SCHEIBER**
STANFORD UNIVERSITY

JUSTIN RICHMOND
CASE WESTERN UNIVERSITY

St. Xavier

STEVEN BOYLE
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

MICHAEL CONWAY
LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO
Graduation speaker, Charles Farrell
Leadership award recipient

PAUL MINUTOLO
UNIVERSITY OF
NOTRE DAME

JOHN "JACK" WELLS
First Honors Student all four years
UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI
College of Business Lindner
Honors Plus Program

Dynamic Duo

Friends since third grade, David Lerner (left) and Ryan Bardach both graduated from Walnut Hills High School with highest honors and as co-valedictorians.



Both were AP Scholars with distinction, National Merit Finalists, and were elected into the Cum Laude Society. Bardach was editor of the school newspaper, and Lerner was captain of the varsity tennis team, 2010 OHSA Scholar Athlete, and 2010 Fort Ancient Valley Conference singles champion. 🏆



St. Xavier graduates Michael Conway (left) and Steven Boyle celebrate their graduation. They have been friends since pre-school and were swim teammates for many years. 🏆

COLLEGE AND BEYOND

Carlie Congdon, a 2006 Walnut Hills graduate, completed her studies at Tulane University with a Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience in May 2010. She will spend an additional year at the Tulane School of Public Health for Masters International Program in Tropical Medicine before joining the Peace Corps for service in South America.

Edward C. Wright was granted a Doctor of Psychology degree from George Mason University, Fairfax, Virginia. A postdoctoral fellow at the University of Texas STRONG STAR Research Consortium, he provides innovative therapy for military personnel suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder at the Fort Hood army base.

Derek Zipkin graduated from Indiana University with a degree in chemistry. 🏆



continued from page 1

Tree Care Volunteers (cont'd)

By Leslie McIntosh, ESC Chair

The project is called A Green Clearing and will take place each first Thursday of every month from 6:30-8:30 pm. All are invited to participate; no advance sign-up is needed. Volunteers can also assist with tasks that do not require physical labor.

Amberley Green trees, their beauty and their contributions to the environment, are an important asset. Currently the AV budget does not include maintenance other than grass mowing on the property. In addition to the pruning work, volunteers enjoyed each other's company. At sunset, a group spent time watching the birds and frogs at one of the ponds. 🌿



Citizen Advisory Committee Submits Final Report

By Peg Conway, Council member

Concluding a year of study and discussion, Amberley Green Citizen Advisory Committee Chairman Scott Wolf presented an overview of their process and outlined their ten recommendations/conclusions, which are summarized here, at the June Council meeting. The complete report can be found at AmberleyVillage.org.

1. The Village should continue to retain ownership/control over the Amberley Green property. The Committee strongly endorsed Council's purchase of it.
2. The current economic climate makes it difficult to find an economic partner on a short-term

basis and virtually impossible to obtain financing.

3. The property would not be sustainable as a golf-only facility.
4. Development of office space at the site is very doubtful in the present climate and current supply in Hamilton County.
5. Amberley Green would be an ideal location to develop limited retail space including food service.
6. Housing on lots of less than one acre is a great need in the Village, as expressed to the Committee by several residents. Any housing on the site should be built to strict environmental standards.
7. Retention of green space in

the form of a park is highly recommended.

8. Retention of an economic developer or fundraiser is advised.
9. Long-term financing needs to be obtained in the near future, prior to a rise in interest rates. The property is currently financed by a low-interest, short-term note.
10. Continued input from Village residents is required.

Mayor Merrie Stillpass commended the Committee for their excellent report and thanked the members for their hard work. She said that planning for Amberley Green's future will continue within Council committees. 🌿

ReLeaf Your Landscape

Leslie McIntosh, ESC Chair



Cincinnati Park Board is once again offering Amberley residents the opportunity to participate in its ReLeaf Program. Varieties of trees have been pre-selected by both Cincinnati Parks and the Village. Shingle Oak and Greenspire Linden are available as suitable Ash tree replacements.

TLC Landscaping and Garden Center has also agreed to offer Amberley residents a discount on tree purchases. Tree selection lists and order forms are available at AmberleyVillage.org. The forms are located in the Environmental Stewardship section under the Government and Administration tab on the left side. 🌿

Tennis at Amberley Green

The Mount Notre Dame courts at Amberley Green are available for residents when not in use by MND, provided you purchase a key card that is available for \$25 at Village Hall. It is the same card that is used at the Village Hall courts. The calendar section at AmberleyVillage.org lists MND's schedule. Note: The gate at Amberley Green pushes open (contrast with the Village Hall courts' gate, which pulls). 🌿

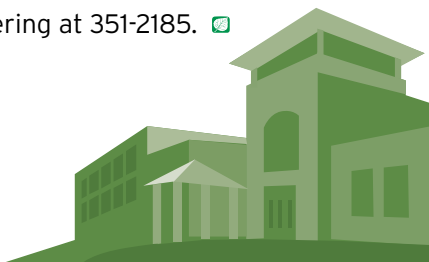


Healthy Eating at PRM

Pleasant Ridge Montessori has been chosen to be part of a healthy eating initiative sponsored by Chiquita and United Fresh Produce Assoc. Starting last May and continuing for three years, students will be given a choice of a self-serve salad bar line or the regular serving line in their lunchroom. Salad bar selections will include vegetables and protein toppings, fresh fruit and milk. Congratulations! 🍏

PRM Spaghetti Dinner

All are invited to visit Pleasant Ridge Montessori for a spaghetti dinner on Friday, September 24. Dinner will be served from 5:00 to 7:30 pm, with activities continuing until 8:30 pm. Cost for adults is \$7 advance/\$8 at the door; children, \$4 advance/\$5 door. It will be a great opportunity to visit the school and meet students and families. The evening will include raffles, silent auction and entertainment. Funds raised will be used to purchase additional classroom materials. For more information, contact Susan Goering at 351-2185. 🍏



Looking Ahead to Halloween

Trick or treating in the Village will take place from 6:00 to 8:00 pm on October 31. Check AmberleyVillage.org later in the fall for Halloween safety tips for your children. 🍏



Living with Wildlife – Coyotes

By Jayme Klosterman

As part of the Environmental Stewardship Committee's biodiversity series, at an April lecture Dr. Stan Gehrt of the Ohio State University offered the following background on coyote, which are increasingly common in urban areas.

Because coyotes (the "e" is silent) have no natural predator, they have easily adapted to urban environments. Dens are carved out of brush or hillsides. Coyote packs are small, about five to seven animals, and very territorial. Any howling is performed as a shout-out to neighboring packs as a turf warning. Not all coyotes live in groups; some lone individuals travel among neighboring packs.

Coyotes are solitary hunters with a diet composed mainly of small rodents. A meal of a suburban pet is an exception and is rare. Coyotes also prey on geese eggs as well as possum, raccoon and deer. Their mating season is during the month of February, when only the alpha

female and the alpha male will mate. A coyote pack is self-regulatory. Its litter size will increase as the pack decreases and vice-versa. Pups are born in April. During mating and whelping seasons, coyotes are very busy hunting for food and "toys" for the family. "Toys" are best described as bones and other animal parts.

The coyote population has exploded over the last decade and they are in every continental state. Gehrt said, "Chances are, one watched you this morning!" Should you encounter a coyote, remember that they eschew human contact and are best left undisturbed. If you are concerned about your pets, monitor their activity especially during February and April. Most importantly, do not leave any food outdoors and firmly secure trashcans. Not only does this attract wild animals (deer, possum, raccoon, ground hog, coyote, et al) it also upsets the ecosystem. 🍏

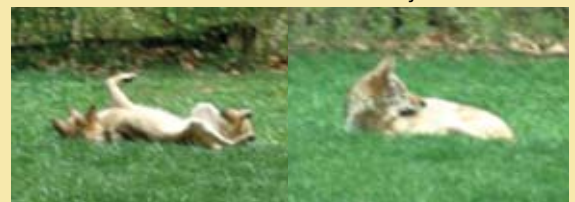
It Is A Coyote



Resident Phoebe Pardo photographed this coyote in her backyard this past May. Amberley Village police recommend caution and ask you to keep these tips in mind to avoid an encounter with a coyote.

- Do not leave food outside for pets or strays.
- Keep ground clear of spillage from bird or squirrel feeders.
- Store trash in securely covered heavy duty containers.
- Keep yards free of brush that could serve as shelter.
- Instruct children never to go near a coyote. Best to wave arms and make noises to scare it away. 🍏

Photos courtesy of Phoebe Pardo





Arbor Day Acknowledgements

By Leslie McIntosh, ESC Chair

Photo courtesy of Tracy McMullen



L to R: Albert Tomasi, Rick Kay, and Jim Kelly work on planting the Front Island Garden

A sincere thank you to all who helped with Arbor Day 2010! Despite a steady rainfall, the day was a great success. Installation of the Front Island Garden at Village Hall marks a major accomplishment. Special appreciation goes to Sharon Floro

of GroundWork Design for its design and to Amberley's Jeanette McCarthy for implementing the plans.

Additionally, invasive weeds and honeysuckle was removed from the tree line on Ridge Road by Village Hall and the trees were mulched around the walking track. Music throughout the day was provided by the Bones of Cincinnatus, a fun, upbeat trombone band headed by Bob Coil, an Amberley resident.

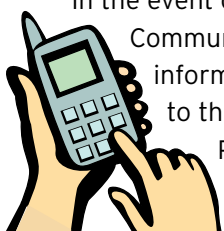
Shred Safe collected three tons of paper for shredding and recycling, and 16 tires were collected for recycling also. These projects will continue in next year's event. 🍏

Photo Contest Winner!



Congratulations to Lindsay Zierolf of Larkfield Drive, the winner of our spring gardens photo contest! Check the back page of this newsletter for information about upcoming contests. 🍏

Does the Village have your number?



In the event of an emergency or unexpected event, the Village uses the Community Safe call system to alert residents and provide important information. You can submit as many phone numbers as you wish to this system (ie cell numbers for several family members). The Public Safety Department asks you to update your numbers if any have changed by calling 531-2040. 🍏

Amberley: A Closer Look

Now there's an easy way to tell people about the advantages of Amberley. A two-page brochure highlighting key aspects of the Village has been created and is available as a pdf on the website. Just go to AmberleyVillage.org and click on the left side, "Village Brochure." It features many color photographs and is ideal for use when selling a home in the Village or encouraging friends to relocate here. 🍏

Neighborhood Reminders

Parking – When you have a party, please ask your guests to park only on the side of the street opposite where the fire hydrants are located. Should there be an emergency, this would aid the fire department in getting there in a timely manner. Many Amberley streets are winding and narrow, which would obstruct rescue vehicles when cars are parked on both sides.

Brush – Only brush that you cut and gather from your yard yourself is to be placed at the curb for Village pickup. Any brush waste generated by a contractor is to be removed by the contractor.

Dogs – Please scoop up after your dogs when walking through the neighborhood. 🍏

Amberley on the Road



Photo courtesy of Chuck Kamine

Look, the AV bag was traveling with Michael Moran, a resident of Arborcrest Drive, near the Statue of Liberty. 🍏

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Calendar

The Community Calendar at AmberleyVillage.org is regularly updated with information about events, meetings and programs in the Village.

August

2	Planning Commission/ Board of Zoning Appeals	7:00 p.m.
9	Council Meeting	7:30 p.m.
15	Ice Cream Social	6:00 - 8:30 p.m.
30	Environmental Stewardship Committee Meeting	7:30 p.m.

September

6	Labor Day - Administration Offices	Closed
TBA	Planning Commission/ Board of Zoning Appeals	7:00 p.m.
13	Council Meeting	7:00 p.m.
24	Spaghetti Dinner Pleasant Ridge Montessori	5:00 p.m.
27	Environmental Stewardship Committee Meeting	7:30 p.m.

October

4	Planning Commission/ Board of Zoning Appeals	7:00 p.m.
11	Columbus Day - Administration Offices	Closed
TBA	Council Meeting	7:30 p.m.
25	Environmental Stewardship Committee Meeting	7:30 p.m.
31	Halloween - Trick or Treating	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Summer and Fall Photo Contests

Our Summer Fun in Amberley contest runs until September 20. Photos taken in the Village from June 21 to September 20 are eligible for submission. Capture the beauty of summer and submit a photo for the contest! The winner will be notified by October 20.

When the season begins to change, keep in mind the Fall Colors contest theme, which will take place from September 21 to December 20, with the winner notified by January 20, 2011.


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 (preferred) to the Village Clerk, Nicole Browder, at NBrowder@AmberleyVillage.org. Or you can bring a print copy to Village Hall, 7149 Ridge Road, by the deadline. Entries will be judged by the Village Manager,

Bernie Boraten, and members of the Public Outreach Committee of 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. 

The Amberley Village News is the official publication of the Village Council. It comes out quarterly, approximately Feb. 1, May 1, Aug. 1 and Nov. 1. **Editor:** Peg Conway, Chair of Public Outreach Committee; **Production Assistant:** Nicole Browder; **Design and Printing:** Cox Ohio Media