

GRINDSTONE NEWSLETTER

July/August/September 2024



Amherst Garden Club

90th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Thursday, September 5th
from 6:00 - 8:00 pm

at the Hickory Tree Grange
at Sandstone Village
763 Milan Ave, Amherst

Please join the
Amherst Garden Club
in celebrating their
90th Anniversary!

Please check "Amherst Ohio Garden
Club" Facebook page for more details!

Save the Date

"Murder on the Petulant Express"

by Jack Pachuta and directed by Valerie Farschman

SEPTEMBER 21-22

With the prospect of a second world war looming, tensions run high and emotions are at the forefront as the plot unravels in this murder mystery script. You will meet and question an international cast of suspects. All of them have a motive for murdering wealthy industrialist Peter Petulant, the owner of the Petulant Express.

Tickets are \$35 for members
& \$40 for non-members.
Please contact us for more information!

LIVING HISTORY EVENT

CAMP MAXEY, 1944 99TH INFANTRY DIVISION

Saturday, August 3 • 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

at Sandstone Village, 763 Milan Avenue, Amherst

Witness soldiers of the 99th Infantry Division during final stateside training and maneuvers before their deployment overseas to France in 1944. Learn about life for military and civilians on the Home Front. **Village Buildings & Sandstone Village Shops will be open, with Refreshments for a donation at the Canteen.**



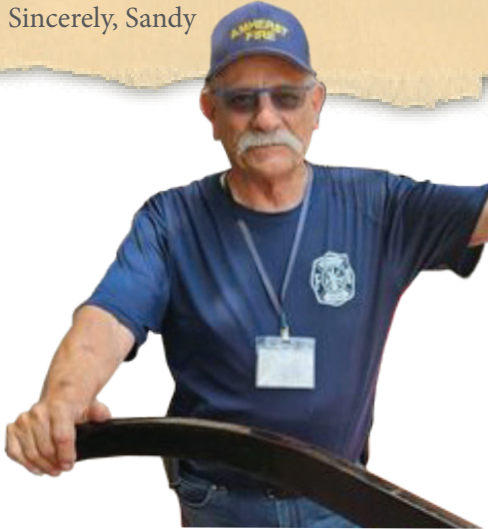
For more info, please contact the Amherst Historical Society at
440-988-7255 or office@amhersthistoricalsociety.org

A Letter from the Executive Director, Sandy Kaiser

Dear Members and Friends,

I'm taking a break from my normal letter to remember Jim Wilhelm, Amherst Fire Chief, avid community supporter, and friend. Everyone was amazed at his extensive knowledge of history and his positive attitude about life in general. The Amherst Historical Society wishes to recognize Jim for all he did for our organization. We are grateful for his leadership as a member of our Board of Directors and for the countless hours he so generously volunteered. He is truly missed.

Sincerely, Sandy



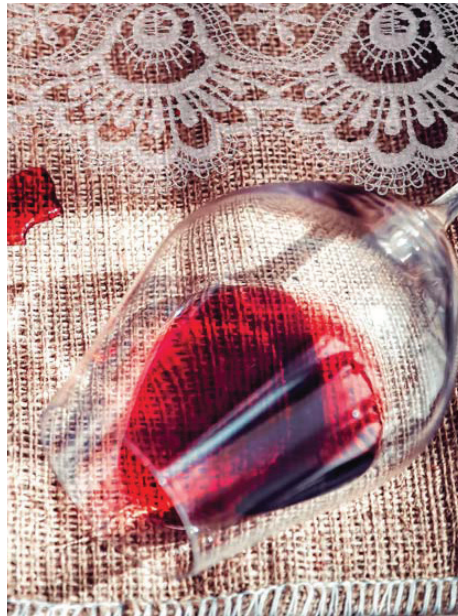
UPCOMING EVENTS FOR THE AMHERST COMMUNITY



Main Street Amherst

Main Street helps promote and maintain our historic downtown and business district with events, volunteer opportunities, and more!

mainstreetamherst.org

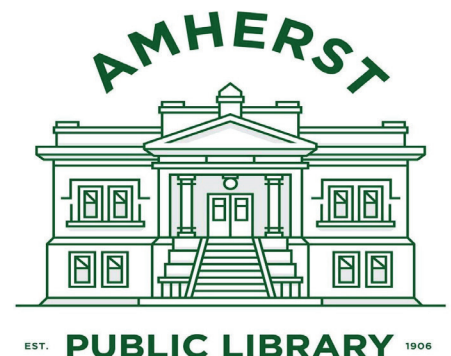


Arsenic and Old Lace

A classic dark comedy about the only thing more deadly than poison: family.

September 19th - 22nd & 27th-29th

www.workshopplayers.org



Amherst Public Library

During the month of August, go on an adventure around town and search for the secret code on display at local businesses. Free for all ages!

amherstpubliclibrary.org

If you have an upcoming event you would like posted in The Grindstone please reach out to the Amherst Historical Society at 440-988-7255 or office@amhersthistoricalsociety.org

BLACK TUESDAY

THE STOCK
MARKET CRASH
OF 1929
BY ROBERTA
SILVERMAN & STEVENSON
NEW YORK, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1929
The stock market crashed today, and the result was a panic in the streets. The Dow Jones Industrial Average fell 23.14 points, or 11.73 percent, to 306.58. This was the largest one-day drop in the history of the market. The crash was the result of a combination of factors, including overvalued stocks, speculation, and a loss of confidence in the market. The crash led to a period of economic hardship known as the Great Depression.



Experience 1930s “Hooverville”

Saturday, September 7, 2024

10 am – 5 pm

Free to attend!

Sandstone Village

763 Milan Ave, Amherst, OH

(Parking at Sandstone Village)

Games, Music, and Pastimes of the 30s

Soup Kitchen for donation!

Hobo Jungle and Culture

Kids' activities

Blacksmith Shop and

Village Buildings open for Tours, and more!

Donations are appreciated!

For more information, please contact the
Amherst Historical Society at
(440) 988-7255 or
office@amhersthistoricalsociety.org





Thank you to everyone for an incredible **THE TASTE OF HISTORY 2024**

Over 3,500 people attended and around 200 reenactors brought history to life! Thank you to all the reenactors, many who traveled from other states, for volunteering their time, as well as sharing personal collections and their vast knowledge! Thank you to all the volunteers who generously donated time and talent before, during and after the event!

The Taste of History is a partnership with Military History Preservation Group, the Amherst Historical Society, and Lorain County Visitors Bureau, with support from Amherst Exempted Village Schools, the City of Amherst, and our incredible community!

**PEOPLES
CHOICE**



**BEST
OVERALL**



**BEST
TASTE**



**BEST
DISPLAY**

Photos taken by: Tim Branscum,
Brandi Drexler, Jack Ecklund,
Elizabeth Fought, Russ Marty, and George Siss

This year, The People's Choice and Best Overall went to the **WWII German POW**,
Best Taste went to the **Revolutionary War, 13th Virginia**, and
Best Display went to the **WWII 318 Infantry Regiment, 80th Infantry Division**.



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS:

DIVISION SPONSORS

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AMVETS Post 32 Elyria

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Legion Post 118

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Post 1662, Amherst

State Representative
Joe Miller

Sliman's in Amherst
Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep, Ram

Thom Hall and
Katie Wohlever

The Fought Family

Car & Bike SHOW



The Car and Bike Show had a new addition this year with awards for Best Truck, Best Paint, and Fire Chief's Pick honor Chief Carl Lazevich, thanks to Elyria Firefighters Local 474! Dave Hribal, Greg Willoughby, and Pat Monda judged and the winners of the awards were:

Best Truck Award: Jeff Stempowski's 1935 Ford Pick-Up

Best Paint Award: Charlene Friend's 1977 Mustang Cobra

Fire Chief's Pick: Kody Beiswenger's 1963 Pontiac Catalina

Thank you to Dave Rivera and Mz. Nikki with WOBL/WDLW;
Charles Chapman State Farm Insurance for sponsoring and having a table;
Honor Wreaths Lorain County, CMBeez, Mary Kay, and RimPros for being vendors,
and Triple S Food Truck, POPS Shaved Ice, and Pogies for being food vendors!

Thank you to everyone who came out to support the event, even with the rain!

And a huge thank you to our Sponsors:

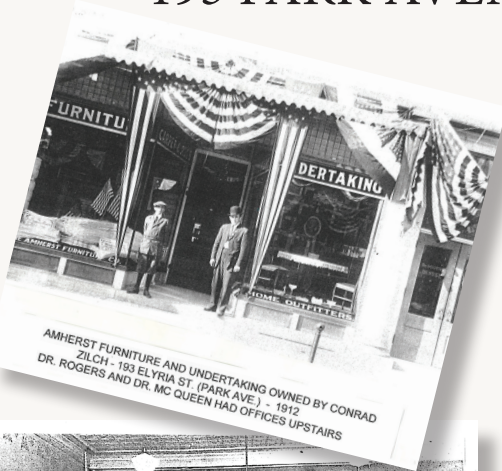
Charles Chapman with State Farm Insurance
Nordson Corporation Foundation
Mike Abraham Buick GMC Inc and
Nick Abraham Elyria Ford
First Federal Savings of Lorain
The Scott Group, Inc.



Amherst, Ohio “The Kolbe Block”

a SHOE STORE to ICE CREAM to a DELI to ZIGGY’S

193 PARK AVENUE (Former 193 Elyria Street) by George Siss



AMHERST FURNITURE AND UNDERTAKING OWNED BY CONRAD ZILCH - 193 ELYRIA ST. (PARK AVE.) - 1912
DR. ROGERS AND DR. MC QUEEN HAD OFFICES UPSTAIRS



GEORGE BROS. ICE CREAM & CANDY SHOP - 193 PARK AVE
TOM GEORGE AT CANDY COUNTER AT LEFT - 1920



NORTH SIDE OF ELYRIA ST (PARK AVE) WITH A. J. WOLCOTT'S BOOKSTORE AT LEFT OF NICHOLL BUILDING - 1900



GEORGE BROS. ICE CREAM SHOP - LUNCH ROOM IN BACK
193 PARK AVENUE - 1920

In 1983, Larry Niehart opened “Ziggy’s” Pub and Restaurant at 193 Park Avenue and Paul Sroka has been the general manager since 2007. Since the first business was identified here in 1878 – you could purchase shoes, ice cream, notions, clothes, alcohol, furniture – and arrange funeral services.

The current structure - the Kolbe Block - was not built until 1913. Previously this corner of Elyria and Church was occupied by a low wooden building. John Heuffed’s Shoes and Boots 1878 – 1890 is the first business identified at this location. In 1895 John Gerlack’s Shoe Repair opened and remained until 1901. Haircuts were offered from 1902-1910 at J.G. Ferris Barber Shop.

The wooden building that occupied the site was moved in 1913 to the lot that would become Wagner and Aebersold Ford Garage at 290 Park Avenue. After the building was removed, the new Kolbe Block was built.

Conrad Zilch owned Amherst Furniture and Funeral Home, and was the first tenant to occupy 193 Elyria Street (Park Avenue) in 1913. In 1915, Zilch sold the furniture store and moved his funeral business to the corner of Park Avenue and Prospect Street.

The next tenant at 193 Park Avenue was George Brothers Ice Cream Parlor. Owned by Tom and Mike George, they were in operation here from 1915 to 1935. From 1935 to 1948 Edwin J. Knapp was the proprietor for Knapp 5 Cent to One Dollar Store.

Churchill L. “Tote” Goodspeed then took over the operations of the variety store and operated it until 1955. Jim Bauer opened Bauer’s Men’s Wear, operating it from 1956 to 1964. After that the scene changed quite considerably. In 1964 the building was occupied by the Red-Carpet Lounge, operating until 1980. Then, for about a year and a half, it was the All-Nations Club, until Ziggy’s located here in 1983.



The Amherst Historical Society
113 South Lake St., Amherst, OH 44001
440-988-7255 • office@amhersthistoricalsociety.org
www.amhersthistoricalsociety.org

Board of Directors

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Grindstone Design donated by:
Fox Designs & Creative Services, 440.320-8819

AHS 2024 EVENT CALENDAR

April 20 - Nov 2  Sandstone Village Shops Open For the Season Sat. 10 am – 2 pm	August 3  FREE WWII 99th Infantry Division Living History Sandstone Village Sat. 10 am – 3 pm	August 4  Frank & Dean Fundraiser RSVP to AHS	August 6  Lake Erie Crusher Game Avon, Ohio Tues. at 7:05 pm	September 7  FREE 1930s Hooverville Sandstone Village
September 21-22  Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre RSVP to AHS	September 28  FREE Fall Festival Sandstone Village 10:00 am – 4:00 pm	October 19-20  Cleveland Avenue Cemetery Walk \$5 Donation 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm	November 9-10  FREE The Best Years of Our Lives Living History Event Sandstone Village	December 7  FREE German Christmas Celebration Sandstone Village

You can visit us at amhersthistoricalsociety.org, Facebook or Instagram