

GRINDSTONE NEWSLETTER



April / May / June 2025



SANDSTONE VILLAGE SHOPS!

The Sandstone Village Shops will be reopening for 2025!

The shops are open every Saturday from April 26 to November 1 (except for June 14th for the Taste of History) from 10am-2pm at Sandstone Village, 763 Milan Avenue, Amherst, Ohio 44001. The Pine Tree, Gallery and White Barn are filled with fabulous and affordable finds! Donations of items to sell are always gratefully accepted, however, we do not accept clothing, shoes, or linens. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Thank you to everyone who has donated and shopped through the years. We are grateful for your support!!



Amherst Ohio Garden Club PLANT SALE

Saturday May 10, 2025

9:00 am-12:00 pm at Sandstone Village
763 Milan Ave. Amherst, Ohio

Come support the great selection of perennials, hostas, herbs, grasses, bulbs, ground covers and garden items. Most items are \$3-\$10.

Cash only, please.



AMHERST HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRESENTS A KENTUCKY DERBY *Night at the Races*

SATURDAY MAY 3, 2025

Doors open at 5:00 - Races begin at 6:00

Kentucky Derby Race begins at 6:57pm
at VFW Post 1662

165 Cleveland Avenue, Amherst, Ohio

\$25 A PERSON
\$20 FOR MEMBERS
PRESALE ONLY
no tickets sold at the door

JOIN ALL THE FUN!

\$2 wager Races • Dinner
Cash Bar • Basket Raffles
Prizes for best Derby
Hats and Attire.

Please RSVP by April 18th
to 440-988-7255



A Letter from the Executive Director, Sandy Kaiser

Dear Members and Friends,

In my last letter, I focused on our Sandstone Quarry Tours. I'm pleased to announce that the 2025 tours are sold out! Several of our other events are sold out as well. If you are interested in putting your name on a waiting list, please call the AHS office.

More exciting news! Beginning in March, we will be moving forward with the 150 Jefferson Street project. We will begin by remodeling the interior, creating an open floor plan, and give a facelift to the entire building. Next, we will replace and enlarge the deck. The goal is to have the building open by June. Other projects on the property include a sandstone garden area and a structure for entertainment. We are moving forward with our plans to have the land declared as one parcel which will allow us to create an historic district. It is our goal to create a beautiful area that is a compliment to the existing Sandstone Village.

As we begin to create this beautiful space there is much to be done. To finance this expansion, we are starting a Capital Campaign strategy this spring – more details to follow.

I am sorry to mention that some of our members have passed. We lost Bill Provident, our master stone carver, and just recently Ken Rosenbusch, retired Amherst Fire Chief. Both gentlemen were very active in the community and great supporters of AHS. Condolences to their families. They are truly missed by all who were lucky enough to know them.

Sandy

text or call
(440)
308-7088
email
thecmbeez@gmail.com



shop our site

Local honey and products made from our hives with love!



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UPCOMING EVENTS FOR THE AMHERST COMMUNITY



Amherst Office on Aging amherstohio.org/office-on-aging

The Amherst Office on Aging helps seniors live as independently as possible with Home Delivered Meals, Transportation, Information and Referral Services, and Activities!

Nordson Depot, 671 Franklin Avenue,
Amherst, OH 44001 • 440) 988-2817



Sister Act

July 24, 25, 26 at 7:30 pm
July 27 at 2:00 pm

Performing Arts Center at Lorain High School

For more info:
www.loraincommunitymusictheater.org/



Amherst Public Library

Watercolor Pencils and More Art Workshops with artist and instructor Mary Jo Clark. Enjoy learning new skills and techniques during this creative workshop where all skill levels are welcome. April 7, May 5, June 2, 12:30-2:30. Reservations required.

amherstpl.librarycalendar.com/events

History of Amherst, Ohio

103-109 CLEVELAND STREET

FIVE CORNERS

by George Siss

Cities are stories of people and buildings. The photo of Cleveland Street in the 1890's shows a dirt street, people loading a barrel on a horse drawn cart, fabric awnings, and an advertisement for coffee. The people, horses, and carts are gone into distant memory, but coffee is still available in the center of Amherst, and many of the buildings remain.

It's unusual for cities to have five streets intersecting; however, a map detail from 1894 shows these corners were established early. Luther Rood owned and operated a general store at the northeast corner of North Main Street and Cleveland Street from approximately 1846 to 1862. The store was a small square building that was his home and business.

Over the next several decades, that corner saw additional businesses come and go. J.B. Parker's Clothing & Shoe Store operated here from 1870-1874. In 1880, R.J. Wolcott Livery & Harness Shop was built on the far north end of the lot. Edward S. "Tinner" Smith Hardware, Clothing and Shoe Store served customers from 1874-1917.

The transition from horses to automobiles led to the construction of Schmauch's Packard-Ford Garage on the same site in the back. Throughout the first half of the 20th century, this central location housed a succession of businesses that sold tires, groceries, hardware, shoe repair, and appliances, depending on the needs of the Amherst community.

In the early 1950s, John Matthey bought the entire property, intending to build a new movie theater there. However, he changed his mind and decided to build a movie theater on Church Street where the Amherst Cinema stands today. In 1965, Matthey sold the entire parcel of land to the Texaco Oil Company, and a gas station was built.

Walt Wyvil operated and managed this Texaco station from 1965-1980. When Texaco moved out of the state of Ohio, in 1980, it became Wyvil's Marathon Gas Station and Service Garage, which Walt would operate until he was almost 70 in 2002. The family then took over the business. On June 23, 2011, Walt Wyvil died at the age of 78. In 2013, Bernice Wyvil sold the station to David Coleman, and the former Marathon Station became a Pure Gas and Convenience Station.

The next time you stop by the Five Corners Pure Station to fuel up, grab a bag of ice, or pour yourself a cup of fresh-brewed coffee, consider that you are a part of the most recent chapter in this long story of downtown Amherst's best-known intersection.



SOUTH MAIN STREET, LOOKING NORTH -1895



Cleveland Street — Amherst, Ohio



Acrylic Painting Classes

Brian Mickey continues to generously donate his time and talent with his Acrylic Painting Classes! The classes are at the Hickory Tree Grange at Sandstone Village, 763 Milan Ave, Amherst

Join Us for One or All of Our Saturday Classes from 2:00 - 4:00 PM:

APRIL 12 • MAY 10 • JUNE 28

\$15 a person- Limited to 20 people! All Ages Welcome - No Experience Necessary.

Please bring an 11"x14" canvas panel OR 11"x14" stretched canvas (can be found at Michaels or Hobby Lobby). Everything else is provided!

SEWING WITH FRIENDS BRING YOUR OWN CRAFT

Embroidery, Applique, Crochet or Other Hobbies and Join A Group of Women With Roots In Quilting!

Sewing with Friends shares ideas, techniques, information, and resources, however they don't teach these methods.

Weekly meetings are Thursdays, with the space available from 9am - 5pm at the Amherst Historical Society Hall, 113 South Lake Street, Amherst.

The cost is \$5 per person for each Thursday you attend.

They would love you to join their friendly and creative group!

For more information, stop in on a Thursday or contact the AHS office at 440-988-7255 or office@amhersthistoricalsociety.com.



QUARRY TOURS

Our 2025 Quarry Tours are SOLD OUT! The dates scheduled for 2025 are May 16, June 20, July 18, August 15, September 19 and October 17.

Each trolley tour begins at the Amherst Historical Society, travels to a working quarry, then to Cleveland Stone Companies in Vermilion. The tour includes time at The Shop at Cleveland Stone Companies, and returns to the Amherst Historical Society. The cost per person is \$25 for AHS members and \$30 for the public.

Thank you to Cleveland Stone Companies, the Lorain County Visitors Bureau, and The Shop at Cleveland Stone Companies, for making these tours possible. The sandstone quarries built Amherst economically and structurally, and are an important part of our region's history. Please contact us at 440-988-7255 or office@amhersthistoricalsociety.org to be added to the wait list!



DO YOU REMEMBER... THE WAY WE DID LAUNDRY?

By Vivienne Bickle

The wringer washer? How my mother loved her Maytag! Who wouldn't have, after using a scrub board and tub for the weekly chore?

When automatic washers became available, she refused to modernize. Her reasons were: "They didn't get clothes as clean." Of course, you had to consider that she used soap flakes which of course was forbidden in the new automatics. After rinsing with Clorox and "Bluing," of course, her clothes were very white! Her other complaint: "Automatics use too much water." True, when you consider all her clothes were washed with only one washer-load of water. Automatic dryers: "The clothes smell better, dried outside on a clothesline." Well, Mom, what about those rainy Mondays? Of course, Monday was always washday, rain or shine. She kept that same Maytag for 50 years and sold it to a young woman...wish I knew if it ever wore out.

My experience with laundry started with the beloved Maytag while I lived at home. After marrying my dental student husband and living in the cheapest apartment available, I used the wringer washer in the basement. All was fine until our eccentric landlord painted the stationary tubs with enamel paint. It quickly loosened, and gobs of grey paint floated in the rinse water. Sooo, because I worked full days and my husband had a summer schedule of working mornings only in the dental clinic, he volunteered to take clothes to the laundromat. I assumed he knew that you do not put a black nightie with white clothes. I was wrong. He brought home a lovely lavender batch of formerly white clothes. Fortunately, his shirts were now in style, as pastels for men were now "in."

I was determined to attend to the next week's clothes myself! I found a laundering paradise: eight automatic washers in a row, no other customers in sight, and me with seven loads. (Of course, separated by color.) I looked at the small box of detergents available and decided to add a second small box of detergent to each machine! I sat down opposite the row of machines to enjoy a magazine while waiting for the machines to do my work. I'm sure I had a smug, satisfied expression on my face that quickly turned to one of horror! Seven machines, seven monsters burping up detergent suds in great gobs! In minutes the washers were covered with suds that crept down their sides and covered the floor! We called the attendant after turning them off and asked for mops and buckets. It seemed he had only one set and chose, though angry, to do it himself! "No way, lady, do you put that much soap in these machines." I learned my lesson... and never went back to that Laundromat again because I knew they would never forget me.



Volunteer Opportunities at the Amherst Historical Society!

"Volunteers are the backbone of a community." - Unknown

In 2024, the total number of volunteer hours were 34,686! Thank you to everyone who generously gives of their time, talent and donations! Below are a few ways to support by volunteering:



Sandstone Village Shops– Assist in the sales buildings on Saturdays, 10am-2pm, from April 27 to November 1, 2025. Lunch is provided each Saturday!

Tour Guides– Spend time in a museum to share information with visitors.

Administration– Help is needed to organize documents, maps, photos, and more.

Pictures– Photographs are needed of many of our artifacts, as we continue to work on our new digital archival system.



Events– Help is always appreciated with set up, during events, and clean up, in a wide variety of ways!

Trades– Blacksmithing, woodworking, candle making, soap making, and more- no matter your skill level, help is needed to bring historic trades to life!

And many more options!



Please contact us for more information! Thank you for your support!!

Amherst Rotary



The Amherst Rotary has an exciting year planned! Their mission is to bring together community organizations, businesses, and individuals under the Rotary International motto of "Service Over Self." Members volunteer with partner organizations on the fourth Saturday each month, and plan to cultivate the Rotary Park garden soon. Volunteers are appreciated! Are you interested in becoming a Rotary member? Please attend a meeting as a guest!

Meetings are the second Tuesday each month from 12-1:30pm, at the Hickory Tree Grange in Sandstone Village, 763 Milan Avenue, Amherst, Ohio. Speakers at upcoming meetings include:

April 14: Deanne Kelbley, Nutrition Services Supervisor for Amherst Exempted Village School District, and Student Nutrition Counsel

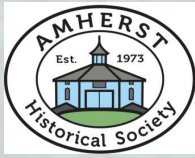
May 12: Kathy Hunter, with the SSG James P Hunter Memorial Foundation, LLC

June 9: Speaker to be announced

On Friday, May 16th, the Amherst Rotary is having a Wine Tasting to benefit the Healthy School Snack Initiative!

For more information on the Wine Tasting or to learn more about the Amherst Rotary, please reach out to Jeri Leigh Siss, President, at amherstohrotary@gmail.com

You can also follow on Facebook! <https://www.facebook.com/RotaryofAmherstOH/>



THE TASTE OF HISTORY 2025



Friday, June 13, 9am-5pm & Saturday, June 14, 9am-6pm
Sandstone Village, 763 Milan Avenue Amherst, Ohio 44001

**Step back in time at a one-of-a-kind Military Living History Event
with a stunning historic backdrop— with FREE ADMISSION!**

Experience the flavors that fueled soldiers through the ages—sample military rations from different eras with a donation. Explore fascinating displays featuring military life, the home front, and camp followers, plus enjoy hands-on activities for kids and more!

**FREE Parking and Shuttle at
Amherst Junior High, 548 Milan Avenue, Amherst, Ohio 44001**



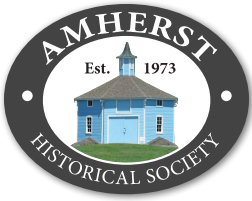
Post 32



Post 1662

Post 1079





The Amherst Historical Society
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 www.amhersthistoricalsociety.org

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The Amherst Historical Society wishes to acknowledge a charitable remainder trust by Mr. Evan Nord and administered by the Community Foundation of Lorain County

Grindstone Printed by SQP Print Center
 Grindstone Design donated by:
 Fox Designs & Creative Services, 440.320-8819

AHS 2025 EVENT CALENDAR

<p>April 13</p>  <p>FREE</p> <p>“Fashion on the Titanic” Amherst Historical Society 2:00 - 4:00 pm</p>	<p>April 26 - Nov 1</p>  <p>Sandstone Village Shops Open Saturdays 10:00 am - 2:00 pm</p>	<p>April 27</p>  <p>FREE</p> <p>VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION LUNCHEON 12:00 - 2:00 pm Amherst Historical Society PLEASE RSVP</p>	<p>May 3</p>  <p>Kentucky Derby Night at the Races VFW Post 1662</p>	<p>May 7</p>  <p>FREE</p> <p>The Lifeways of Native Americans in the Black River Watershed Amherst Historical Society 7:00 pm</p>
<p>June 12</p>  <p>The Taste of History</p> <p>Canteen Pub Crawl Downtown Amherst 8:00 - 10:00 PM</p>	<p>June 13-14</p>  <p>FREE</p> <p>The Taste of History 2025 Sandstone Village</p>	<p>Aug 24</p>  <p>FREE</p> <p>A Special Wish Car Show Sandstone Village 12:00 - 4:00 pm</p>	<p>Sept 6</p>  <p>FREE</p> <p>1930s Hooverville Sandstone Village 10:00 am - 5:00 pm</p>	<p>Sept 12-14</p>  <p>1930s Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre</p>

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