



Amelia Village Newsletter



Hello all! Amelia is growing and changing.
Here is our latest newsletter about the growth of our Village.

Your Council body has been busy working with our neighbors and businesses to continue to grow and give our residents the best place to live and raise our families.

We have installed new playground equipment that we received through a grant program, which allowed us to add this new and updated equipment at Groh Park and we will be installing more new equipment at Arrowhead Park. Council has also approved to put all new playground equipment at Spencer Shank Park. The equipment in the park has been in place for over a decade.

Road paving and patching started last year and Council passed an Ordinance to do repairs and patchwork on curbs and roads and also approved mill and fill on several other roads in the village this year.

The cemeteries, and especially the Odd Fellows Cemetery, with the help of hundreds of volunteers, have received an important upgrade to honor all the folks who are interred there.

The housing in Amelia has taken off with the potential of three new subdivisions : an add on to Amelia Park and Woodridge, plus Kline Station which is under construction.

We have started on the intersection at Tall Trees / Woodland Drive at SR125 / Main Street. We will be using TIF Funds (tax increment financing) to make this happen, thus saving money for you, the tax payer. This intersection will enable us to welcome another great business to Amelia called Premier Health. This is estimated to be a 30 million dollar development and create 150-200 full time jobs.

In just the past 5 years, Amelia has been able to bring our village over 500 new jobs including Kroger Marketplace, Dollar Tree, and other local businesses.

The widening of SR125 / Main Street at Woodlands Drive has relieved the congestion with a turn lane, by using TIF funds from the Kroger development along with other properties. There has been a zero accident rate with the addition of the turn lane at Woodlands Drive.

In December of 2017 we were told by ODOT that we would now be responsible for maintenance and pot hole repair on SR 125 / Main Street. We have already worked on the south east bound lanes to repair the pot holes in anticipation of winter this year. The repaving of Main Street will be an expensive undertaking, but we are able to start preparing for it now.

Two new great projects are coming this summer and the fall. The first one is the Village will be doing a joint project with Pierce Township to repave Jenny Lind Road, redo the culvert and create a left hand turn lane for Eastridge in the Sedona Ridge subdivision. The total for this project is \$277,899 with Amelia only responsible for \$15,000! Second, there will be a sidewalk extension on Chapel Road past Burnham Woods Road to the Amelia Elementary school property. This project is a joint venture with Clermont County to create a safe way for our children to walk to school. The total cost of this project is \$88,594 with Amelia only responsible for \$10,000!

In May of 2017 Amelia became a Charter Village, the first in Clermont County since Milford became a city. This will make the transition from a village to a city much smoother in 2020, thereby giving a welcome relief to the taxpayers in Amelia.

Amelia voters chose 15 residents to help accomplish the task of writing the charter. Following the advice of other municipalities and cities, they wrote our charter in an easy format, one that all residents could read and understand. This charter, like hundreds of others, will help build our village in the future.

Amelia has been my home for 30 years. I have raised my family here, as of many of you have. We are proud of our community.

With the upgrade of park events like the Easter Egg Hunt, Halloween Festival, National Night Out, the upcoming 2nd Annual Memorial Day Commemoration for all that served and died for our country and of course coming up on the 39th year for the Christmas Parade, let us not lose the things that makes impressions on our children for generations to come.

Todd J. Hart
Mayor of Amelia Village
"My Home Town"



Message From the Police Chief

The Amelia Police Department has always placed great importance on the relationships we have with residents, businesses, and organizations throughout Amelia Village. Creating and fostering these relationships is a high point for me and the members of the Amelia Police Department.

We enjoy spending time with residents and getting to know our community, however, we are also very aware that our relationships with the community heavily influence our ability to solve crime and improve quality of life in Amelia Village.

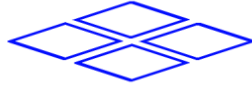
Many times, success in solving or preventing crime comes as part of a willingness of the community to share information with our officers. The members of our department and I will continue to get out into the communities and it is my hope that, if you see us, you will say hi and get to know us a little better.

We also ask that if you see anything suspicious in your neighborhood, no matter how small or insignificant you think it might be, please call us at 513-753-4747. Your calls could assist our officers in making your community a safer place to live, work and play.

Chief Jeff Wood
Amelia Police Chief



AMELIA VILLAGE COUNCIL MEMBERS COMMENTS



I'm proud to call Amelia Village my home. This Village is a perfect blend of town-and-country and an urban escape from downtown Cincinnati. The residents of Amelia create a welcoming atmosphere full of Midwestern charm. It is the perfect place to settle down and raise a family. Growing up in Amelia I have witnessed firsthand the growth and development of this area and look forward to its continual growth in the future. I am confident Amelia has a long and bright future ahead that will continue to create value for its residents.

Matthew Walriven - Council Member

I was born and raised in Amelia, attended St. Bernadette school from 1st to 8th grade. I went to Amelia High School and graduated in 1979. It has been a pleasure to serve my community for the past 2 years. I hope to be able to continue to serve for the years to come in whatever capacity is needed. Amelia is a proud community that believed in our history and all it stands for. My favorite quote is "We cannot become what we want by remaining where we are".

Regina Dietrich Rumke - Council Member

Amelia is where I was raised. I have been a resident for over 25 years. It's where I played football in my backyard, rode dirt bikes and ran around town without any worries from my parents. Amelia is a safe place with lots of opportunities and I am happy to live here. I can't wait to see what the Village will grow into.

Steven Hacker - Council Member

I love Amelia. Amelia means home. Having grown up in Amelia, attended the local schools and been involved in the community, Amelia will always hold a special place in my heart. Growing up, my own mother was one of the small business owners in Amelia, Linda's Creative Cakes. I learned what it meant to be part of a small-town life and how important it is to have community involvement. Being part of Amelia Village allows me to give back to the community in ways not afforded to residents of larger towns. I love the spirit of tradition that comes with our community. From the Easter Egg Hunts to the Christmas Parade and honoring our veterans, Amelia continues on in special traditions year after year. These activities as well as many others make our village stand out among the rest. I consider it a blessing to be able to raise my children in the same village that I grew up in. I am humbled and honored that the Lord has allowed me to be the pastor of the church I grew up in, was married in and my family and friends attend. As a pastor within the village, it is important to me, personally, to have involvement and to be able to serve our community. I count it a privilege to "give back" to the place that has been my home for a lifetime.

Andrew Sturm - Council Member

I was born and raised in Amelia, attended grade school at Amelia Elementary and St. Bernadette. To this day, I have friendships that were cultured and grew through my childhood years. Though my parents moved the family to Anderson Township when I was 11 years old, I have always had connections back to the Village and have always cherished those relationships. As an adult, I moved back into Amelia after volunteering many hours of hard work and sweat toward the improvement of the Odd Fellows Cemetery and the construction of a beautiful memorial in the cemetery. It was during this time that I grew to know the mayor and became familiar with some of the needs of the village. After accepting an appointment to Village Council, I subsequently ran for the position and was elected to my current term. I am proud to represent and serve the community and hope to remain in the position to be part of the future growth and development of a village, soon to be a city, that I am proud to call my home.

Doug Fischer - Vice Mayor

What Amelia means to me. As far back as I can remember as a small child, Amelia was always the place to be. I have probably spent over half my life in Amelia. I played baseball for the Amelia Police at the old baseball fields that used to be behind the old grade school which is gone now. I have donated much of my time to the Village. I have served 3 mayors for the village and am proud of Amelia so much so that I purchased my grandmother's house to make it my home. Yes, I love Amelia.

Clayton Fite - Council Member



AMELIA
OHIO
EST. 1898

Capt. Thomas, owner of Thomas Art Manufacturing, built his Victorian home on a 27-acre lot at 119 West Main Street, Amelia in 1898.

The second owner (1913) was Harvey Fuller who worked in the lumber business in Amelia. The house has a hidden closet/room, hidden shelves and cabinets which have led to the legend that the house was a speakeasy during the Prohibition Era of the 1920's and 1930's.

The Amelia Village Council bought the house, 3.9-acres, several outbuildings and a wooden deck overlooking a small stream in October 2014.

Surrender of Corporate Powers - Dissolution of the Village -

On June 29, 2018, a group of Amelia residents attempted to serve Amelia Council with petitions to dissolve Amelia Village. Council had the foresight to enact legislation to stop the dissolve to uphold the oaths that each council member swears to protect the Village.

In August of 2018, Initiative Petitions were filed with the Clermont County Board of Elections. One of those initiatives were to change the Charter and allow for the Dissolution and Surrender of Corporate Powers to be put back into the Charter and amend what the Village Council had enacted on June 29, 2018.

Unfortunately, a group of residents served Amelia Village with a petition for the Surrender of Corporate Powers - Dissolution of the Village on May 2, 2019.

What would happen if the Village was to dissolve?

- 1) Loss of the Amelia Police Department*
- 2) Loss of the accredited Union Township Fire Department for Amelia*
- 3) Likelihood of multiple lawsuits over contracts with the Village*
- 4) All bonds could possibly be called in for payment*
- 5) A tax could be placed on Village residents to pay the debt by Village Council*

As this is uncharted territory, we cannot speculate on all the issues that may arise.

More information can be obtained on the subject of the Surrender of Corporate Powers / Dissolution at the following WebPages:

codes.ohio.gov/orc/703.20
and
codes.ohio.gov/orc/703.21

Coming this Summer!
Spencer Shank Park will get a much needed upgrade in its
Playground Equipment



Upcoming events at Spencer Shank Park include:
National Night Out, Tuesday, August 6, 2019
Halloween Festival, October (date to be determined)

Spencer Shank Park also has a great Frisbee Golf course, the Dog Park, and the Amelia Fitness Park. The shelter can be rented for private parties, gatherings and functions. Groh Park also has some new equipment that Amelia received through a grant. It will also be installed soon. One piece has already been installed.



Amelia Fitness Park



Groh Park new equipment