



December 2009 Newsletter

(Available online at www.amberleighdublin.org)



Hello Amberleigh North Residents,

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Amberleigh Park Update

Below is a copy of the email I forwarded recently in case you missed it. Thanks to Ralph Neumann for contacting Fred Hahn personally about the lack of an explanation regarding the issue of the park entrance. Fred's response can be read in the **second letter** below. Apparently our request to move the entrance to Memorial Dr. is not optimal given the lay of the land, so to speak. If you are interested in voicing your concerns, the next Planning and Zoning Commission meeting (mentioned in the letter below) will be held on **Dec. 10th at 6:30pm in the Municipal Building Council Chambers** at 5200 Emerald Parkway. A copy of the agenda can be found at <http://dublin.oh.us/bdscomm/pz/2009/agenda12-10-09.pdf>. The Planning and Zoning Commission meeting schedule is located at <http://dublin.oh.us/bdscomm/pz/index.php>.

1st Letter from Fred Hahn

Amberleigh North residents,

Thank you for your comments about the park master plan. Your feedback and compliments are appreciated. Several of you expressed concerns about the location of the entry drive. After careful consideration of the merits of relocating the entry off of Memorial Drive, the decision is to stay with the location opposite of Somerset Way.

Attached please find our submittal for Amberleigh Community Park and shelter image. The submittal contains the master plan, phase one development plan, an image board and preliminary grading plan. We will be presenting the plan to the Planning and Zoning Commission (P&Z) on December 10, 2009. Part of the Planning & Zoning meeting is dedicated to public testimony. Residents interested in commenting on the design of the park will be welcomed to do so. After P&Z approval we will proceed with construction document preparation. The plans should be ready for winter (Jan.-Feb.) bidding, resulting in an early spring construction project.

If you have any additional comments about the plans, please feel free to contact Laura Karagory at 614-4707 or by email at lkaragory@dublin.oh.us

Respectfully,

Fred Hahn
Director of Parks and Open Space



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2nd Letter from Fred Hahn

Ralph,

The decision to proceed with the entry point off of Vista Ridge instead of Memorial Drive was based on what the land dictates. In order to use the existing grades to provide a park drive to the lower portion of the park, the drive needs to be close to the southern border. If the entry to the park was located off of Memorial Drive, the park drive would then parallel Vista Ridge the full width of the park. This in turn would bisect the parkland disrupting the open play area, cause unwarranted cost increases and add to the amount of impervious surface area. This in turn would cause unneeded negative environmental consequences.

During the public input session two main reasons were voiced from the residents desiring the Memorial Drive access point. The one reason was the vision of significant traffic increase caused by park users and the fear of this traffic causing unsafe conditions. The design elements of this park will not cause there to be significant influx of park users at any given moment such as the conditions at Avery Park during a soccer Saturday. Obviously there will be people using the park but this will not be the programmed use that causes a significant amount of users to come at the same time. The other reason given for the Memorial Drive location was that by doing so, this could have an impact on any future decision to build a bridge. As was said by staff during that meeting, a park access drive would be deemed an insignificant factor and a needed relocation of the drive at that time would have a detrimental impact on the park and its users.

Resident input is encouraged as part of the Planning and Zoning process. Staff believes the proposed park design is in the overall best interests of the community. For those residents that feel the proposed plans are flawed, their testimony at Planning & Zoning would be the proper course of action.

Fred Hahn
Director of Parks & Open Space
City of Dublin
Division of Parks & Open Space

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Key Cards

We were having some problems updating key card information. The problem has been resolved. If you have trouble with any of your key cards not allowing entry into the clubhouse, please let Stacia Collins know at scollins@casebowen.com.



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Annual Street Directory Update

The 2010 Amberleigh Street Directory will be sent out within the next couple of weeks. It is supposed to go out with the next quarterly billing. Contact Stacia Collins at scollins@casebowen.com if you do not have a copy by the end of December. There is a new **Community Helpers** section. This was intended to make it easier to look up residents in the neighborhood who are interested in babysitting, lawn care, snow shoveling, etc. We tried to make the list as current as possible. A BIG THANKS to Debbie Mikol for helping with this revision as well as the various resident updates.

Neighborhood Vandalism

In case you were not aware, Amberleigh North experienced some vandalism Friday, Dec. 4th sometime between 7:00pm and 9:30pm. I received the following from resident Steve Smith:

"FYI - some of our lights were ripped off shrubs and a tree. It looks like some of Gilliland's lights were pulled as well. I drove around the neighborhood. A car was egged just up from your house in front of the brown brick house, the carton is near the entrance at the gazebo. A concrete ornament was smashed in the road near Reza Zandi's house and a significant number of Christmas candy cane type lights were strewn in the street farther down and on one car that I saw on the same street. About a dozen pumpkins were smashed in the street along Vista Ridge. Someone called and I saw Officer Krumm on Vista Ridge. He said this has happened in other neighborhoods as well."

The Kim family along Vista Ridge reported many of their decorations were damaged as were some of their neighbors. The Alcoxes indicated that some of their decorations were vandalized too.

This is an unfortunate way to begin the holiday season. Please help out your neighbors by keeping a watchful eye as you drive through the neighborhood, especially if you plan to be around Christmas and the New Year since many residents are away. Report anything suspicious to the Dublin Police at 614-889-1112.

Playgroup

There is no playgroup for the month of December. January's playgroup will be hosted by Cindy Roulstone on **Wednesday January 6th and 20th from 9:30am until 11:30am.** Contact her at 889-0904 for more details.

Girls Night Out (GNO)

There is no GNO scheduled for December.



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Dates of Interest

December	
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Christmas Tree Lighting in downtown Dublin (http://dublin.oh.us/events/treelighting/) ▪ A Christmas Carol presented at Abbey Theater (http://dublin.oh.us/recreation/theater/)
10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting involving review and approval for a final development plan for Amberleigh Park. Meeting is at 6:30pm in the Municipal Building Council Chambers at 5200 Emerald Parkway. ▪ Yuletide Yoga from 7-8om at Tuttle Mall. Check out http://healthydublin.org/ for more details.
11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Chanukah begins
13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dublin Snowflake 5K Run at 8am. Call the DCRC at 410-4550 for more details.
26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Kwanza
25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Christmas

Miscellaneous

Opting Out of Gas Consortium

In case you did not read it last week, there was a Dispatch article that discussed the lack of savings for participants in the natural gas consortium formed by Dublin, Gahanna, Grandview Heights and Upper Arlington. Thanks to Mary Willette for bringing this to our attention. She states;

"I just called IGS Energy to opt out of the City of Dublin consortium gas program and it just took a few minutes.

Residents received a letter to opt out but you can also call IGS at 877-448-6719 by December 11.

I wasn't sure whether to opt out until I read the Columbus Dispatch article which states:

Suburban residents participating in the consortium are paying a current rate of \$1.12 per 100 cubic feet of natural gas, more than double the 49 cents per 100 cubic feet paid this month by Columbia customers."

NOTE: If I recall correctly, the letter said there would be a 25% decrease in the current consortium price which would yield a cost of 84 cents per 100 cubic feet.

You can read the article at

http://www.dispatchpolitics.com/live/content/local_news/stories/2009/12/02/copy/nat_gas_plan_ART_ART_12-02-09_A1_PAFS4R1.html?adsec=politics&sid=101. The bar chart in the article provides a good visual summary of how typical monthly costs under the consortium compare to those for Columbia Gas.



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- **Stork Report:** use the monthly newsletter to announce new family arrivals. Just email Nicole Kelbick at nkelbick@gmail.com with the info you want posted, including a picture if so desired, and it will be included in the next monthly newsletter.
- **New to the Neighborhood**
If you are new to the neighborhood, please send me (nkelbick@gmail.com) a blurb about your family and I will include it in the next monthly newsletter. It is a great way to introduce yourself and your family and for current residents to “meet” their new neighbors.
- **Pet Alert**
If you have lost a pet or found a stray animal feel free to send me an email with a description of the pet and/or picture and the date you lost/found the animal and I will send it out to the community. You will also want to post the information online at <http://www.petfbi.org/>.
- **e-News From the City of Dublin:** To sign up for updates of your choosing from various areas of the City of Dublin’s government, submit your email address at <http://www.dublin.oh.us/cr/e-news.php>. This link has also been added under “Links of Interest” section on our website.
- **2009/2010 Playgroup**
A few changes have been implemented. Instead of meeting weekly, this year’s playgroup will meet on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month from 9:30am to 11:30am, unless otherwise noted. If you are interested in joining or have questions, please contact Nicole Kelbick at 760-0035 or contact that month’s coordinator.
- **Girls Night Out (GNO)**
The goal is for ladies in the neighborhood to get together for dinner roughly 5 to 6 times a year. A coordinator will pick a time and place to meet, greet and eat. The info will be included in that month’s newsletter.
- **Playgroup and Girls Night Out schedules** are now posted online under the What’s Happening section.

Take care,

Nicole Kelbick
8373 Autumnwood Way