Come to Amherst and experience the quaint, small town feeling of a charming community with a distinctive business district, unique architecture, and a historic downtown that characterizes nineteenth century America. Main Street Amherst has been designed to promote all aspects of the downtown and commercial business districts by improving economic management, strengthening public participation, recruiting new businesses, rehabilitating buildings, and making Amherst a fun place to visit.

Amherst Events

Basket Bingo
Basket Bingo is like regular bingo except that the prizes are all baskets. The baskets will be filled with products from local businesses. There will be a Chinese raffle and a 50/50. Come and bring your friends to enjoy an afternoon of fun! Tickets go on sale on the first Thursday of February and August as this event takes place twice a year. Check out our website for the dates.

Wine and Chocolate Walk
First Sunday after Mother’s Day. Stroll downtown Amherst while being treated to a sample of wine and/or chocolate from our local businesses that are participating.

Jingle Bell Bus
This experience includes a wonderful evening with magic in the air. Jingle Bell Bus comes to life when the bus departs from Main Street Amherst for a journey through the City of Amherst to view the beautiful Christmas lights. Watch the joy on the children’s faces while riding along singing Christmas Carols and viewing all the lights. Tickets go on sale the first Thursday of November.

History of Amherst
The first land clearing in the Amherst area was by Jacob Shupe in 1811. Shupe built a log cabin in this clearing, which is next to a stream he later named Beaver Creek. This original settlement was on a hill near what is now Cooper Foster Park Road. Shupe built the first frame house in this area and it still stands today. Amherst was known by many names during those founding years - one of which was the Corners. Jonas Stratton, a cabinetmaker who came from Amherst, New Hampshire in 1819, started a cabinet shop at the Corners and gave the name of Amherst to the township.

Among the first commercial establishments were a gristmill, saw mill and several quarries. Underlying Amherst were extensive layers of sandstone that were responsible for much of the growth of the town for some years. The quarry industry brought the railroad to our city and stimulated the shipping industry on Lake Erie. With their development many Swiss immigrated and added to the large numbers of German settlers already established. The sandstone quarries produced a fine grade of stone used in many major buildings in Ohio and Canada.

Visit our website at www.mainstreetamherst.org for more information or one of our social media sites:

https://www.facebook.com/mainstreetamherst,
https://twitter.com/MainStAmherst or
https://www.instagram.com/mainstreetamherstohio/