

NEWS RELEASE

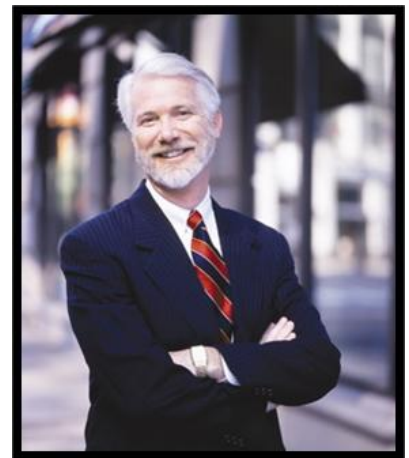
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Cambridge/Guernsey County to be Presented Award for one of Ohio's *Best Hometowns* in 2010 by *Ohio Magazine*

CAMBRIDGE, OH (November 9, 2009) – *Ohio Magazine* recently announced that Cambridge has been selected as one of *Ohio's Best Hometowns in 2010*. Cambridge is featured within the publication's November 2009 cover story available on stands now.

"Your achievement is especially impressive in light of the fact that Ohio is home to many of the best hometowns in America. Only one town is chosen from each of the state's five regions for this very special honor," *Ohio Magazine* Publisher and Editor Richard Osborne noted. "This award recognizes that Cambridge is among the best of the best."

Ohio Magazine editors selected Cambridge because the city embodies all of the qualities and characteristics that make Ohio hometowns so special: historic landmarks and architecture, quaint shopping and galleries as well as an amazing sense of community.



Osborne and staff members of *Ohio Magazine* will be on hand at 5:00 p.m. on November 28th at the Guernsey County Courthouse in downtown Cambridge to formally present the honor to the Cambridge Mayor Tom Orr, the Guernsey County Commissioners: Steve Allen, Tom Laughman, and Steve Douglass, and the Cambridge/Guernsey County Visitors & Convention Bureau. State and local officials have also been invited to attend the presentation.

The presentation is part of the annual Dickens Victorian Village festivities and courthouse holiday lighting event. Following the announcement by *Ohio Magazine* the Cambridge holiday parade will begin at 6:00 p.m.

Debbie Robinson, Executive Director of the Cambridge/Guernsey County Visitors & Convention Bureau, submitted the application for the designation in 2007.

"Each year, *Ohio Magazine* requests submissions for Best Hometowns in June," said Robinson. "The guidelines for the application include community spirit, education, entertainment, health and safety, business environment and culture and heritage. Using the criteria, I asked community leaders to write about each topic. Jonett Haberfield, co-chair of Dickens Victorian Village used the story of how Dickens Victorian Village was created to demonstrate community spirit. I reached out to Nancy Green at the Community Improvement Corporation to explain the business environment. Cindy Arent of the National Museum of Cambridge Glass and Tim Brown of the Byesville Scenic Railway used their respective attractions to tell about our culture and heritage. Southeastern Med explained about their community outreach programs for the topic of health and safety. Tamra Pace explained the unique partnership Willett-Pratt Train Center has

The application looked terrific and included photos and support material. Needless to say, we were all disappointed when we were not awarded the designation in 2007. Then, in September of this year, I received a call from Marie Catanese, Managing Editor/Custom Media of *Ohio Magazine*, informing me that we were one of the finalists for Best Hometown for 2010 and could she come and spend the weekend with us to see our community and experience it up close. Two days after her visit, we received a letter from the publisher and editor telling us we had been selected! It is a wonderful achievement for all of us.”

Cambridge and Guernsey County will also be featured on ONN's *Discover Ohio* on November 26 that airs multiple times throughout day at :45 past the hour starting at 5:45am and again on the 28th at various times throughout the day during a segment that highlights each of the 2010 Best Hometowns.

To learn more about the Dickens Victorian Village and holiday events, contact the Cambridge/Guernsey County Visitors & Convention Bureau or visit the Tourist Information Center at 627 Wheeling Avenue, Suite 200 in downtown Cambridge, call 740-432-2022, email info@VisitGuernseyCounty.com, or visit www.VisitGuernseyCounty.com .