



# The Village Voice

Bremen Ohio's Monthly Newsletter

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## May 2018

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### Council & Committee Meetings

Members of the public should feel welcome to attend and participate at the following meetings regarding Village business:

- Planning & Zoning Commission:  
May 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM
- Village Council: May 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM
- Safety & Infrastructure Committee:  
May 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM
- Financial Process Committee:  
May 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM
- Planning & Zoning Commission:  
June 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM

If you would like to speak at the Council meeting, please contact the office by noon of the previous Friday so you can be added to the agenda.

These are the meetings scheduled as of the time this newsletter is going to press. Should the need for other Village meetings arise, they will be publicized by legal advertisement in the Lancaster Eagle-Gazette.

Meetings are held at the municipal building, 9090 Marietta Road, SE.

### Village Office Hours

The Village offices will be closed on Monday, May 28<sup>th</sup> in observance of Memorial Day.

### Pre-Season Pool Update



Preparations are in full swing for another refreshing, fun and safe summer season at the Bremen swimming pool.

The starting and ending dates of the pool season will be confirmed by the village council at their May 14<sup>th</sup> meeting. For updates, including about purchasing season passes and reserving pool parties, check our website or the Village of Bremen's Facebook Page, or call the village office at 740-569-4788.

Several citizens have been assisting in various ways with their time, talent and money. Sally Grimm, who grew up in Bremen, recently donated \$6,000 for the purchase of a backup pump for the large pool. Another pleasant surprise arrived via the US Mail in the form of a \$5,000 check from The Fairfield County Foundation for the pool.

Thanks to a donation of the materials from Corna Kokosing Construction Company, and the voluntary time and effort of Bremen residents Josh Groce, Cade Groce and Adam Dannaher, four doors have been replaced at the pool building. The value of this project is estimated to be \$4,000 and the workers sacrificed three of their Saturdays.



Mayor Henwood accepting the donation from Sally Grimm at the March council meeting.

## Volunteer Work Days in May

For those who want to be counted among the many who are helping to improve the community swimming pool, opportunities are coming soon...

Two volunteer work sessions are scheduled:

- Saturday, May 5, 9:00 AM to Noon
- Sunday, May 6, 1:00 to 4:00 PM

There are a number of projects planned, so there will be variety of tasks to be accomplished. Just show up for however long you are able. The tools and materials will be provided.

Special Note: Councilwoman Debbie Wolfe is requesting that on May 5<sup>th</sup> she could also use volunteers to spread mulch and move cement stepping stones at Howell Park. Workers will need to bring shovels, rakes and hoes for this work.



## Natural Gas Pipeline Project in Bremen

Columbia Gas has started a significant project replacing old gas lines in the oldest areas of town.

The project area is roughly bounded by Marietta Street on the south, Collins Street on the north, Bartlett Street on the west, and Broad Street on the east. About 180 residences will be directly affected.

Columbia Gas invites everyone to attend an open-house style public meeting on **Wednesday, May 2, at 6:00 p.m.**, at the Bremen Area Historical Society, 161 Carter Street. Details about the project scope, schedule and impacts will be provided.



Trench excavated along the east side of Oak Street for installation of a new Columbia Gas main line. A new concrete sidewalk will be provided.

## Bremen Water Quality Report

Bremen's Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report for 2017 is being distributed with this month's Village Voice newsletter. It is also available on the village's website.



Questions concerning the report may be directed to the village's water system operator Ron Stephens at 740-412-8198.

## Update about the Bremen Income Survey



As reported in the previous newsletter, the Village is conducting a door-to-door survey of households, gathering data that will determine Bremen's eligibility for certain state and federal funds and low-interest loans that would help pay for projects to improve streets, sidewalks, sewers and other infrastructure.

Thanks to the high level of cooperation by residents, the survey process is going well so far.

We're hoping to complete the data gathering within the next month or so. If a survey taker has met with you already, thank you very much for your participation. If you haven't been contacted yet, please be on the lookout for a surveyor to knock on your door in the near future.

The survey takes only about one minute. The questions for each household are very brief and generic, and the results will be compiled in a manner that will summarize the community-wide income status, not tied to specific persons or names.

The workers who are conducting the door-to-door survey can be identified by a Village-issued photo identification badge.

Information gathered will be handled confidentially and not be utilized for any purpose other than producing the statistics needed to characterize the community's income status.

Your participation will be very much appreciated and may enable us to eventually move forward on some much-needed infrastructure projects.

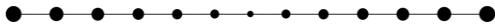
## Community Connections

Here are opportunities to get out and socialize with other members of the community...



### Pancakes in May

Mark your calendars and loosen your belts, because the pancakes will be stacked high each Sunday in May, 7:00-11:00 AM, at the Bremen American Legion, 201 North Broad Street.



### Bremen Farmers Produce Auction

This is an opportunity to purchase local produce from Fairfield and surrounding counties. Sale days are Tuesdays and Fridays starting at noon, on the following dates:

May..... 4, 11, 15, 18, 22, 25, 29  
June..... 1, 5, 8, 12, 15, 19, 22, 26, 29  
July..... 3, 6, 10, 13, 17, 20, 24, 27, 31  
August..... 3, 7, 10, 14, 17, 21, 24, 28, 31  
September... 4, 7, 11, 14, 18, 21, 25, 28  
October..... 5, 12, 19, 26

Location: 1511 Mt. Zwingli Road, Bremen 43107.

You can also find more information at their Facebook Page "*Bremen Farmer's Auction.*"



### Community Yard Sale in June

The annual Bremen community-wide yard sale will be Saturday, **June 16<sup>th</sup>** from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

## High Water in Bremen

The entire region – not just Bremen – recently experienced two significant rainfall events. These were much more than mere April showers, resulting in areal flooding throughout Fairfield and surrounding counties.

Over the period of April 3 - 4, the rain gauge at the Bremen wastewater plant recorded 5 inches! At its highest, Rush Creek was about 12 inches from going over Marietta Road on the east edge of town. This resulted in both the storm and sanitary sewer mains backing up into various locations around town. Also, the wastewater plant was overwhelmed with the surge of storm water coming in through the wastewater system. It took several days of pumping at the plant to cope with the volume.

Another round of heavy rain came on April 14-15, with 4.5 inches captured in the rain gauge. Again, the storm and sanitary sewers were backed up, especially in the west half of town.



The weather radar map showing bands of heavy rain going through the region in early April.

Aside from the fact that these were unusually intense rain events and the sheer volume of water that fell was tremendous, it raised questions about what can be done to improve the stormwater drainage system and what can be done to reduce the amount of storm water arriving at the wastewater plant.

We have retained the services of the civil engineering firm CT Consultants, Inc., to analyze these issues and provide recommendations.

Their personnel will be seen performing field studies throughout Bremen over the next couple months. Those studies will include inspection of storm drains, manholes, catch basins and pipelines.

This will also involve smoke-testing the systems. It involves blowing a non-toxic chemical smoke under pressure into the Village's pipelines and observing where the smoke escapes. This is an efficient method of detecting which pipelines are connected to the system as well as where leaks are.



Photo Rendering of smoke testing: City of Brandon Mississippi.

## Honoring Those Who Protect Us

Light up Bremen in Blue: May 9<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup>



Light Central Ohio Blue is a campaign to show support to the law enforcement personnel who protect our communities in Central Ohio and a way to honor and pay respects to the law enforcement officers who

have died in the line of duty.

Blue porch lights are available at most hardware stores and at the Friendly Bremen Banking Center (while supplies last).

## News about the Bremen Area COC

The Bremen Area Chamber of Commerce is being restarted after having been idle since last year.

All area business owners and interested parties are invited to attend the kick-off luncheon and meeting on Thursday, May 24<sup>th</sup>, starting at Noon. Location: Bremen Presbyterian Church, 142 Purvis Avenue.

Lunch will be provided free of charge to all who make a **reservation by Friday, May 18**. For reservations, contact Kathy Mowry at 740-503-8945.

## Yard Waste Disposal

To get rid of grass clippings, shrub trimmings, tree branches and all other yard waste, it needs to be prepared for trash pickup on Tuesdays.

Removal of yard waste is handled by our trash hauling contractor, Shackleford's Disposal.

Here are the rules for curbside yard waste pickup:

- ✓ Material (including grass clippings, shrub trimmings and branches) can be placed in bags or trash containers.
- ✓ Shrub trimmings and tree branches can be bundled with string, but must be no more than 4 feet long.
- ✓ Bundles, bags or containers must weigh less than 50 pounds each.
- ✓ Yard waste and household trash are collected at the same time, on Tuesdays.
- ✓ Just as it is for household trash, if you will have an unusually large amount of yard waste at once, then call ahead so Shackleford's can be alerted to plan for it.

## Remember to get zoning permits

As you plan projects such as building new structures, making additions to existing buildings, or installing fences, signs and swimming pools, remember to obtain the permits required by the Village's building and zoning ordinances. Contact the office at 740-569-4788 for more information.



## Reminder: Call 811 Before You Dig



As the warmer weather arrives, more people start making plans for their outdoor home improvement projects. By state law, everyone who is going to dig or drive a post into the ground – including homeowners and contractors – must contact the Ohio Utilities Protection Service (OUPS) at least 48 hours, but not more than 10 working days (excluding weekends and legal holidays), before beginning any digging on their property. By calling OUPS at 8-1-1 or 1-800-362-2764, that agency will coordinate with local utilities to have underground lines marked at no charge to you. It's the law.

## Employment Opportunity

The Village is currently accepting applications for Water-Wastewater Technician, who will perform duties concerning operation of the village's water and wastewater systems.

This individual will be expected to obtain their Ohio EPA Class I Water Certification within one year.

For a detailed position description and application instructions, contact the village office at 740-569-4788 or see the village website at [www.BremenVillage.com/employment](http://www.BremenVillage.com/employment).

Applications shall be reviewed as received and will be accepted until the position is filled.

## Newsletter Versions

As a cost-saving measure, *The Village Voice* newsletter is printed in black-and-white. The color version, however, is available on the website at [BremenVillage.com](http://BremenVillage.com).