



The Village Voice

Bremen Ohio's Monthly Newsletter

9090 Marietta Road SE, Bremen, Ohio 43107

Phone: 740-569-4788

Email: administrator@bremenvillage.com

Website: www.BremenVillage.com

June 2017

Council & Committee Meetings



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

- ❖ Administrative Process Committee:
June 1st at 7:00 PM
- ❖ Zoning Commission:
June 5th at 6:30 PM
- ❖ Recreation & Facilities Committee:
June 6th at Noon
- ❖ Hammond / Bowersox retirement reception:
June 12th at 6:30 PM
- ❖ Village Council: June 12th at 7:00 PM
- ❖ Safety & Infrastructure Committee:
June 21st at 6:00 PM
- ❖ Financial Process Committee:
June 28th at 6:00 PM
- ❖ Zoning Commission:
June 3rd at 6:30 PM

If you would like to speak at the Council meeting, please contact the office ahead of time 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.

Community Swimming Pool Update

Following the announcement in last month's newsletter that we had a shortage of certified lifeguard applicants, we were contacted by several members of the public expressing their concern that the pool would not be able to open this season, and that they would help try to recruit lifeguard candidates.

Unfortunately, even after extending the lifeguard search several additional weeks, we still do not have the number of lifeguards needed to properly staff the pool. It is no longer realistic or practical to move forward with trying to open the pool for Summer 2017.

Thank you to all those who tried to help solve the problem.

Proposed Ordinance to be Reviewed

For purposes of public safety, village council has been considering the prohibition of on-street parking on the north side of Marietta Street, between Strayer Avenue and School Street. Several affected residents attended recent council meetings to voice their concerns about the proposal. Based on that input, council decided to refer the matter back to the Safety and Infrastructure Committee for further review and discussion of alternatives. This will be a topic on the agenda of the committee's June 21st meeting.

Update Your Contact Info

Please make sure the village utilities office has your current phone number(s) and other contact information.

It is important for the office to know how to reach you in the event of a problem with your water or sewer service, a billing concern, or other time-sensitive matters.

Storm Damage Recovery

Early in the evening of May 19, a cold front blew through Fairfield County from west to east. Bremen experienced a brief but intense burst of heavy driving rain and strong wind. Left behind, were several downed and badly damaged trees. Even the roof of a baseball dugout at the park was blown off. Fortunately, there were no reported injuries or electrical outages.



Fallen trees blocked streets at multiple locations, generally along the Walnut Street corridor.



The roof was blown off a baseball dugout at Howell Park.

Cleanup started in earnest the next morning, with village crews focusing on clearing debris from streets and sidewalks. All the village employees, plus several volunteers participated in the effort and had the streets open after about 8 hours of work.

Logs and branches were dumped at a temporary staging area in the cinder parking lot along East Main Street, near the Howell Park oil derrick. The logs, branches and brush is available to anyone who wants to retrieve it. It is on a first-come first-served basis, so don't delay.

The Village will be hiring a professional contractor with the proper equipment and expertise, to perform the remaining work on the street trees.

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped during Saturday's cleanup. At the risk of unintentionally overlooking someone, here's who we recall helping (in no particular order): Jennifer Crook, Nathan Crook, Erin Noice, Jim Noice, Cody Noice, Amber Fisher, Crystal Wittman, Samantha Myers, James Bushee, and Chris Towe (the guy with the crane).



Several residents came out to assist village employees with clearing the streets.



Moody's of Dayton, Inc., contributed their crane truck and an operator, to help remove large tree trunk sections.

The Village Tree Board Wants You

The committee responsible for making decisions about managing the village's trees needs additional members who are village residents

The group typically meets about four times per year, on Saturday mornings, for about an hour.



Community Connections

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

One Person's Trash is Another's Treasure

The annual Bremen community-wide yard sale will be Saturday, June 17th from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Rushville is holding theirs on the same day.

Please expect extra traffic and pedestrians in the Village that day.



Bremen Farmers Produce Auction

Sale days are Tuesdays and Fridays starting at noon, on the following dates this month:

❖ June: 2, 6, 9, 13, 16, 20, 23, 27, 30

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

Weekly Games at Howell Park



Horseshoe Pitching: Singles and doubles every Monday and Thursday starting at 7:00 PM.

Cornhole Toss: Singles and doubles every Monday and Thursday starting at 8:00 PM.

\$5.00 entry fee. Proceeds go to the Bremen Horseshoe Club and Howell Park.

Everyone should feel welcomed to watch or participate!

Village Employee Retirements

Two long-time employees of the Village have retired and will be recognized at an upcoming community event.

Ed Hammond, who started in November 1995, retired at the end of February 2017, marking just over 21 years of service.



Ed Hammond

Byron Bowersox, started in February 1995, and retired at the end of April 2017, marking just over 22 years of service.



Byron Bowersox

Byron and Ed co-operated Bremen's water and wastewater systems.

The public is invited and encouraged to attend a reception for these two individuals, on Monday, June 12, starting at 6:30 p.m. This will be prior to the village council meeting. Everyone should come and enjoy refreshments while saying hello and farewell to Ed and Byron.

Effective Mosquito Control

The customary practice of fogging an area with insecticide tends to not be very effective at controlling mosquito populations.

Instead, the absolute best strategy is for each property owner to eliminate the conditions on their property where mosquitoes can reproduce. That means eliminating stagnant water and damp conditions.



A mosquito larva can develop in a very small amount of stagnant water.

This is something that every resident and property owner can and should do. How? By eliminating standing water and damp conditions that provide the habitat for mosquito larva to develop. Examples of things to watch for that can hold stagnant water are:

- ☞ Flower pot watering dishes
- ☞ Tarps
- ☞ Old tires
- ☞ Clogged rain gutters
- ☞ Derelict cars
- ☞ Uncovered boats
- ☞ Piles of damp leaves
- ☞ Sheds with leaky roofs
- ☞ Puddles in driveways and yards
- ☞ Open trash bins
- ☞ Water bowls for pets
- ☞ Children's toys
- ☞ Ponds
- ☞ Neglected swimming pools
- ☞ Rot holes in trees
- ☞ Buckets and rain barrels

If you have these conditions on your property, then you are likely contributing to a mosquito problem for you and your neighbors.



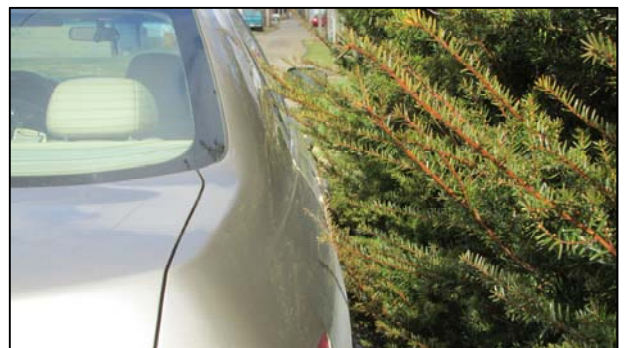
If you look closely into standing water and see tiny wiggling mosquito larvae like these, then there's probably an abundant mosquito population in the vicinity.

To combat mosquitoes, do the following:

- ✓ Empty or remove items that hold stagnant water around your yard or surroundings.
- ✓ Treat standing water that cannot be removed with larvicide to kill mosquito larvae (available at most hardware stores).
- ✓ Check and repair window screens around your home.
- ✓ Minimize your outdoor activity in areas when and where adult mosquitoes are flying.
- ✓ When outdoors, wear clothing that covers your skin.
- ✓ Use an EPA-registered insect repellent and carefully follow the label instructions.

Overgrown Alleys

Please remember to check the shrubs growing along the alley behind your house, and make sure there are no overgrown branches that could scratch someone's car. You must not allow your plants to encroach on the right-of-way.



Sidewalk Improvement Project Update

The construction contractor for the “Safe Routes to School” project currently plans to start on Monday, June 5.



Newcomer Concrete Services, Inc. intends to complete the project during the June-July period while Fairfield Union Schools are on summer vacation. ODOT is managing the project.

The project will provide new sidewalks and crosswalks near Bremen Elementary School, affecting sections along Strayer Avenue, Angle Street, Ford Street and Marietta Street.

A Pleasant Place for Gatherings

Howell Park’s picnic shelter house and concession stand can be reserved for group functions like birthday parties, family reunions and wedding receptions, to name a few examples.

Reservations are already being booked for various dates this year.

A reservation fee is required, part of which will be refunded if the facilities are left in acceptable condition.

For details and reservation form, please contact Crystal at the Village office, phone: 740-569-4788.



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.

A Deserving Citizen is Recognized

Long-time community volunteer Jean Doan was honored for her years of devoted service during a ceremony at Howell Park on April 30th. The event included a proclamation by the mayor, a commendation from the Ohio Secretary of State, and a tree planting. Over a period of many years, Mrs. Doan was the driving force behind many initiatives that helped to make Bremen a nicer place in which to live, such as being the organizer of the village’s former Octoberfest.



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

When planning outdoor home improvement projects, remember that by state law, everyone who is going to excavate or bore 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.



Attention Dog Owners

Many laws in Ohio deal with dog ownership and treatment, including both state statutes and local ordinances. **Dogs are not allowed to run loose.** They are required to be under someone's control. Furthermore, for those of you who walk your dog along the streets, on sidewalks and in other public areas, please remember to pick up after your pet has done its business.



Park Corner

By Debbie Wolfe, Parks & Facilities Committee

The park is slowly coming together. The electric around the pond has been completed. The flower bed around the new slate patio is almost completed. Because of the budgetary shortfall in the village, Deb Moio and I applied for a grant from South Central Electric, and were able to obtain \$5,000 for maintenance and improvements in the park. The funds will be used to reroof the baseball dugouts with metal roofs. Unfortunately, during the recent storm that hit the village, one of the dugouts had the roof and several cement blocks blown off, consequently this will take more than replacing the roof. The purchase a 24 foot long treated board to repair one of the bleachers at the baseball diamond that Jack Howell had made when the baseball fields were put in the park. Finally, the basketball court will be cleaned, repair the cracks, and reseal the court. If there is enough money left, the lines on the court will be painted.

The next generous help came from Alan and Maris Malher, Toni Harper, Tracey Shahan, and Debbie Brock for funding and purchasing flowers for the park. Without their help, we wouldn't have had the wonderful display of flowers for the park. It is people like them that make Bremen a nicer place to be a part of.

Two more great bits of help came to the park. Deb Moio and I had invited David Dye of the Fairfield County Historical Parks to visit the park earlier in the spring. He has just sent us an email to say he is bringing a contractor to see the oil derrick. As a result of the earlier visitation, the historical parks will be coming to Bremen to put a new wooden deck on the oil derrick. This is wonderful news because this work will be done with no cost to the village. The other bit of news came when an Elder from the Mormon Church was visiting the park. After an engaging conversation, he volunteered to do community service at the park. On Thursday, he brought three other men to help spread the mulch at the park. To put it mildly, I was thrilled because I so desperately need help at the park. Since there is no park department, there is no help from the village. David and I are always trying to get volunteers to help. The park has had Dan Rutherford, Kye Cook and a few others to help. But unfortunately, there is no one to help on regular bases. In conclusion, if anyone or group would be willing to help, please contact the village.