

THE VILLAGE VOICE

A Newsletter From Your Village Administrator: Douglas Hockman

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THOUGHTS: There are several things on my mind. The first is the disturbing report of a man (men) trying to entice children to their car offering candy and an X-box. This happened in the area of Walnut between Purvis and Fort. With school back in session, and our children walking and riding their bikes, PLEASE talk to your children, grandchildren, and those you babysit. Let them know what to do if they are approached by strangers or are enticed to go over to a vehicle for candy, to see a puppy dog, or some other "cool" thing. This really is a serious matter. Protect our children from becoming a victim!!! Sometimes we want to bury our head in the sand and pretend it won't happen in Bremen. However, it is not only possible but we are seeing evidence of it.

Along with the above, it is time for our reminder with school starting. Be on the look out for kids making their way to the bus stops and those walking home after the school buses drop them off. Please keep in mind, Bremen has several streets without sidewalks so the kids walk in the street. Be watchful for a child that could dart out from behind a parked car or run across the street where there is no cross walk. Please observe the speed limits in the village, and in fact, slow down below the speed limit. We have placed speed monitors throughout the village to help you see just how fast you are going. The Sheriff Deputy will be on patrol at random times and will pull you over and levy a ticket and fine.

Terminex is now spraying twice a month for mosquitoes. This spray is non-toxic to humans and animals. You can help by looking around your property and removing items that can hold water. Those are the breeding grounds for the pests.

The bids are in and have been opened. On August 11th, the Council awarded the bid to Newcomer Concrete Services for just under \$97,000.00. We were awarded \$108,000.00 for the curb and gutter work on Strayer so that leaves us a nice contingency incase we run into unforeseen issues. The other \$68,000.00 is our in-kind labor of removing the bricks and repositioning them after the new curbs and gutters are put in.

The work on Strayer will begin in the next three weeks. The first task is to remove 3or 4 bricks from the street and stack them in the dog walk. Then we will tear out the old curb and gutter and come in right behind the demolition with new curbs and gutters. The final task is the repositioning of the bricks. Repositioning the bricks is a tedious task. Every brick must be hand scraped; new compaction gravel; laying the slope; and repacking the bricks with sand. This last part will be the most time consuming and will require the most patience. We are still working with the contractor to do the street in 2 phases. If this becomes possible, it will make the project go more smoothly.

The Bremen Pool is now closed for the season. A special thank you goes out to Kendal Valesko and her staff for a successful season. They all did a great job!!!

The Water/Wastewater Dept. is working on South Mulberry laying the storm water separation pipe. The total project is about 1200 feet of pipe. Don't forget about Bower's Meats during this time. We are doing the project in stages to limit any disruption to the businesses. This is a continuation of the EPA mandated separation of the sanitary lines and the storm sewer lines.

The soccer fields and new parking area are progressing. The grass is filling in on the soccer field and the grind from Angle St has made a nice base on the new parking area. We still need to work out the soccer goals and lining the fields.

TAMMY NUSSER FOUNDATION will have their 5-K run on September 20th at Howell Park. All proceeds will benefit the Tammy Nusser Foundation which was formed to help cancer patients with non-medical needs associated with their illness. Register by August 29th, the entry fee is \$15.00 after August 29th and registration the day of the run is \$20.00. Go to Facebook.com\Tammy Nusser Foundation for more information.

TRICK OR TREAT will be Thursday, October 30th from 6:00 until 7:30 pm... NO RAIN DATE

The Historical Society will be hosting a Mystery Dinner Theater on October 25th. Watch for further details...

WATCH FOR TRAFFIC FLOW CHANGES on Strayer. Traffic will be one way running north from Angle St toward Marietta. Also Ford St. will be one way from Angle to Strayer during the school release of 3:30 to 5:00. Otherwise, Ford will be one way from Strayer to Angle as is now. Signs will be posted as we begin construction.

The Village does not give any credit on the Utility Bill for power washing or any other water use except for those who fill their swimming pool from the spigot.

There are still spaces open for using the Shelter House. Please call the Village Office to schedule your use.

The Annual Pumpkin Walk will be held October 18th, 5:30-8:30. It will be preceded with the Annual 5-K run/walk. Watch for details.

Bremen Bethel Presbyterian Church will host a road trip to see JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAM COAT on October 25th. For details contact Kathy Mowery 569-7333

Joe Westenbarger received the "Forever Friends" plaque from the Village as well as a Proclamation proclaiming Sunday, August 17th as Chief Joe Westembarger Day.

WELL... Another month has past and now that school is in session we are sure to have the "dog days" of summer. Wishing you warm and happy days!!!

FOR YOUR HEALTH from Dr. James Grilliot

There are many things that are necessary to live a healthy life: good quality food, pure water, clean air, adequate sleep, suitable exercise, sunshine, loving relationships, proper functioning of your nervous system and a degree of cleanliness. Although you may have been brought up to believe that your health depends exclusively on the quality of your health care that you receive; the truth is, that your health is your responsibility. You are the only person who can make the lifestyle decisions that contribute to your well-being. Your power awaits in the choices you make everyday on your behalf. To improve your health and create wellness – you must expand your focus of what is the health you want and plan, then act accordingly. Your health is not because of bad blood, genes, or luck. It is typically because of bad choices! The benefits for people who are willing to even slightly change their lifestyle is a life full of more energy, joy, vitality and peace of mind. You spend the same amount of time doing something compared to doing nothing. The difference – the long term results! Don't blow, waste, spend or kill time. Time and health are precious commodities. Consider how you spend it in order to have – IMPROVED HEALTH! For more information on the Natural Wellness Center/Dr. James Grilliot, Chiropractic Physician/Clinical Nutritionist call 1-740-687-0279 or go to www.nwcdrg.com

A MEDICAL MINUTE from Dr. John Sutter

Are you having pain in your lower back or perhaps a sharp shooting pain radiating down your leg? If so, you are not alone. Pain in the low back is the second most common issue that sends people to see their doctor or leads to a trip to the emergency room. Studies show that about 84% of all adults have low back pain at some point in their life. Most of those people who develop back pain usually improve over time and have no long term issue. However, there are some symptoms such as loss of bowel or bladder control that could be a sign of a more serious issue when accompanying low back pain. People with these symptoms should be seen immediately.

One step we can all take to improve low back pain is to practice proper lifting technique. Whether it's our adorable grandchildren, heavy buckets of water or moving around furniture we should always use the large muscles of the legs, instead of bending at the waist. Relative rest is important, which means stay away from things that make your back pain worse, but it is not necessary to stay in bed for two weeks straight to get better. Also keeping a healthy weight and exercise regimen can prevent you from having back pain. Many people look for medications for relief but in reality this is just a temporary fix. As long as you have no kidney or liver disease, you may take ibuprofen (Advil), Aleve (naproxen) or Tylenol but this should not be taken for long periods of time (one to two weeks). If the pain does not get better over time, contact your primary care physician because there are many additional treatments your doctor's office can try.

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE – HOMEOWNERS RESPONSIBILITY

(C) PUBLIC NUISANCE: Any lot, premises, structure or building, which is in violation of this chapter is declared to be a public nuisance.

.05 (A) RESPONSIBILITY: All premises and structures, throughout the Village, shall be maintained in accordance with these regulations.

(B) SANITATION: All premises shall be maintained in a clean, safe, and sanitary condition.

(C) GRADING AND DRAINAGE: All premises shall be graded and maintained to prevent the accumulation of stagnant water thereon, or within any structure located thereon.

(D) SIDEWALKS, ETC: All sidewalks, walkways, stairs, driveways, parking spaces and similar areas shall be kept in a proper state of repair, and maintained free from hazardous conditions.

(E) MOTOR VEHICLES: No motor vehicle shall at any time be in a state of major disassembly, disrepair, or in the process of being stripped or dismantled except as within a wholly enclosed structure approved for such purposes.

No motor vehicle for which the State of Ohio requires a license for it to operate on a public street, shall be parked or stored outside a wholly enclosed structure without proper registration and a valid license.

For each residential unit not more than 3 motor vehicles shall be parked upon the said residential premises, or in the vicinity thereof, with the exception of motor vehicles belonging to temporary guests, and excepting vehicles which are enclosed in a structure in such a way as to be hidden from view. More than three vehicles shall be permitted when it can be demonstrated that more than 3 licensed drivers, all of whom do in fact operate a motor vehicle, and reside within said premises.

(F) RANK VEGETATION: Lawns and landscaping on private property and as well as **WITHIN A PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY** shall be kept from becoming overgrown and unsightly and shall be maintained so as not to constitute a blighting or deteriorating effect on the surrounding neighborhood.

(G) DEAD TREES AND BRANCHES: No owner or occupant of any premises shall permit a dead tree to stand so near to a public sidewalk or roadway as to endanger users thereof, should all or part of it fall. No such owner or occupant shall permit a dead branch to overhang a public sidewalk or roadway.

There are many more issues that are addressed in the Village Property Maintenance Code. We have a Code Enforcer, Sean Fowler, who investigates issues that are brought to the Zoning Commission by either complaints from residents or issues observed by Village officials.

.08 PENALTY: Whoever violates or fails to comply with any of the provisions of this chapter (Property Maintenance Code) is guilty of a minor misdemeanor and shall be fined a maximum of \$100.00 for each violation, and each day the violation continues shall be considered a separate offense.

For a second violation of the provisions of this chapter (Property Maintenance Code), the penalty shall be that of a misdemeanor of the 4th degree, and each day the violation continues shall be considered a second offense. As second violation or offense is hereby defined as a violation, for which notice is issued within 180 days of any prior notice of violation of the provisions of this Chapter (Property Maintenance Code)

Please look at your property and see what can be done to beautify and maintain it.