

THE VILLAGE VOICE

A Newsletter From Your Village Administrator: Douglas Hockman

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THOUGHTS: HAPPY FALL... There is so much going on in the Village. We are on the last leg of the work on Fort St., leaves will soon be falling, new handicap ramps are ready for installation, curbs and storm drain covers are being painted, continuing to spray weeds in the streets, closed up the swimming pool, mowing, and starting to winterize various things in the park. Whew!!! And there are many activities coming up!!!

The work on Fort St. is going well since we have had a break in the rain. We are finished up to the corner of Collins and have now stepped back to do the intersections at Walnut then Mill and Collins. Then we will finish the last block up to Carter. Deep breath... almost there!!!

Leaves will be picked up starting the third week of October on MONDAYS, weather permitting. Please have your leaves raked into piles at the curb leaving space for cars to park and not sit on top of the leaves. That really helps out our workers. There is no burning of leaves in the Village. Final clean up of leaves will be the first Monday in December.

Marion Spires Construction from Peebles, Ohio, will be the contractor doing our handicap ramps. They will be starting in the next week. All this work will be on Marietta Street so please be careful when you see the workers. Show them every courtesy as they do this important work for the Village. This was our Block Grant for \$39,600. Their bid came in at \$35,000, under budget. We are looking to add one more handicap ramp if money allows.

REMINDER: Unless you are with a group with special permission to be in any of our Village parks after dark, the hours remain DAWN TO DUSK (not dark!). The restrooms in our Howell Park will be closed for the year during the week following the Pumpkin Walk. There will remain a Porta John at the east end of the parking lot for use.

TRICK OR TREAT will be Thursday, October 31 from 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm... The weather forecast will be a chilly 51 degrees, light breeze, overcast but no rain!!!

The Fairfield County Health Department will be at the Bremen Historical Society on October 16th from 9:00 am – 11:00 am to give FLU SHOTS to the public, especially senior citizens. If you have your medicare card, your shot should be free. Please take advantage of the Health Dept. generosity in coming to Bremen to provide these much needed shots. If you have any questions please call the Health Department (Gwen) at 740-652-2830.

With the Wooley Worm presenting itself as jet black with a heavy coat, and the Farmer's Almanac saying a hard, cold, and wet winter ahead, I offer a few thoughts about preventing frozen water pipes. Did you know that if your pipe splits with an 1/8" crack it would spew up to 250 gallons of water a day. Both plastic (PVC) and copper pipes can burst. So here are some thoughts to consider.

For normal precautions: insulate exposed pipes with heat tape or thermostatically controlled heat cables. Place a 60 watt light bulb close to the water meter to keep it from freezing. If pipes are close to an exposed outside wall, open the cabinet door to let the room heat in, especially sink cabinets. Use a hair dryer or turn up the heat in your home to at least 75 degrees to thaw a pipe. Do not use a torch to thaw a pipe. Start by warming the pipe as close to the faucet as possible, working toward the coldest section of pipe.

If a pipe bursts, shut off the main valve usually located near the meter. Be aware that leaks sometimes do not show up until a pipe thaws, when they can cause extensive damage to walls.

For our snowbirds that go south for the winter: Shut off and drain the water system. Make sure the main shut off valve is turned off. Open all faucets. Turn off and Drain the hot water tank.

With school back in session, the Bremen Branch of the Library is open on Mondays from 10:00 am – 8:00 pm; Wednesdays from 10:00 am – 8:00 pm; and Saturdays from 10:00 am – 5:00 pm. However, the library will be closed on two Mondays: October 14th and November 11th. On Wednesday, November 27th they will close at 5:00 pm. They have a lot of special programming for children in October and November. Go to their website and look up the Bremen Branch. www.fcplib.org

With Fall upon us and Winter soon coming, I want to remind everyone about our set up at the firehouse. During the hours of 7:00 am and 11:00 pm there are persons on staff to immediately respond to emergency and fire needs. However, between 11:00 pm and 7:00 am there are no persons on duty and we rely strictly on volunteers. If you have a need after 11:00 pm do not hesitate for a moment to call 911. It may be that the dispatcher will have to call in another squad from another municipality. Especially if the weather is bad, do not hesitate to call 911 immediately if you begin to have any health problem. It is also a good idea to have a neighbor or friend's phone number by your phone that you can call after dialing 911. Be prepared and have someone with you when or if the need arises.

Heading into the harvest time, please remember our Village Food Pantry at Calvary United Methodist Church. You can always drop off canned goods at the Village Office during our regular hours if you are not able to take them to your house of worship. The FOOD DRIVE will begin with sacks placed on porches Monday, Nov. 18th. The sacks will be picked up on Saturday, Nov. 23rd between 8:00 am – 12:00 pm. Please begin picking up a few extra cans each week when you are grocery shopping to prepare a full sack if you are able. To receive a Christmas Basket on Dec. 21st you MUST sign up at the "Next To New Sale" at the Bremen First United Methodist Church on December 6th or 7th.

The Pumpkin Walk will be in the evening of Saturday, October 19th from 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm. All are invited to come to Howell Park and see the jack o lanterns surrounding the walking path. There will be a bon-fire for hot dogs and smores.

Don't forget the "MEET THE CANDIDATES NIGHT" at the Historical Society Building on October 22nd at 6:00 pm.

AS GOOD AS GRANDMA'S... The Bremen Bethel Presbyterian Church will be hosting their ANNUAL TURKEY DINNER on November 2nd from 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm. (the date was incorrect in the Brick and Mortar). Adults are \$7.00 and Children 12 & under \$4.00.

The Historical Figures Tour in the Village begins November 2nd and runs through the first week in January. For a tour map and music cd, go to the Historical Society Kiosk before taking the tour.

November 2nd will also be the Chamber Annual Dinner with the State of the Village Address by Mayor Josh Groce and the State of the Township by one of the Township Trustee. Dinner begins at 6:00 pm and the cost is \$10.00 prepaid and \$12.00 at the door. To make reservations call 569-9150 or email to bremencoc@gmail.com.

The Bremen Area Historical Society will have their ANNUAL MEETING on November 3rd at 2:00 pm at the Historical Society Building on Carter St.

Joe Hoover gave me this poem: YOUR TOWN

If you want to live in the kind of town like the kind of town you like...
You needn't pack your clothes in a bag and go on a long, long hike...
For you'll only find what you left behind for there's nothing that's really new,
And it's a knock at yourself when you knock your town...
For it isn't your town --- it's you.

Great towns weren't built by men afraid least someone else gets ahead...
When everyone works and nobody shirks, you can raise a town from the dead...
And if while you're making your personal claim; your neighbor, he makes one too...
Then your town will become what you want it to be...
For it isn't your town --- it's you!
Author unknown

As I close out this newsletter, I would remind us to look around and see who needs help this Fall with their yards, gutters, leaves, and any other presenting situations. I know we are all busy but what makes Bremen great is how we care for each other. Even little things like checking the furnace filter or making sure a neighbor has extra food when the weather turns bad overnight. Some times meals on wheels might not make it. I trust your goodness. Enjoy the Fall... wishing you warm and sunny days! Need me... call me... 569-4788

Douglas Hockman, Your Village Administrator...