

# THE VILLAGE VOICE

## A Newsletter From Your Village Administrator: Douglas Hockman

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**THOUGHTS:** Well, I hope we have turned the corner on this winter. The weather we have experienced has taken its toll on all our nerves. Finally, last Friday, ODOT called and said they had 20 ton of a salt / grit mix they could release to the Village. I am just grateful to have the opportunity for a small surplus. I have been asked a lot of questions about snow removal and the homeowner's responsibility. In a perfect world everyone would follow the rules that have been established by the Village.

1. When there is going to be a snow-fall of more than two inches ALL vehicles are to be moved from the street to an alternative parking area until the snow plow has cleared the street then parking on the street can resume.
2. If you have a fire hydrant on your property it is the homeowner's responsibility to keep the snow cleared away from the fire hydrant.
3. ALL sidewalks are to be cleaned off and if you live on a corner you are responsible for clearing your part of the sidewalk which is part of where people cross the street.

The Village is not responsible for clearing the bottom of your driveway when they plow. The Village is not responsible to dig out your vehicle when left on the street and it gets plowed in. The Village is not responsible if you choose to drive and leave your home during a Level 2 or 3 Snow Emergency. The streets may or may not have been addressed.

I am amazed at the phone calls I have received in the past eight weeks.

There have been several water main breaks this winter. Usually what happens when there is a break, the Village workers will shut off the water line where the break is. So if you are on the part of the line where no water is entering, you will experience a lessening of pressure. However, if those residents continue to flush their toilets and using the water left in the line, you will experience no pressure and loss of all water. If you experience air in your lines, just to be safe, you should observe a boil alert status for 24 hours after pressure is restored. The water will have rust in it and be discolored. If an OFFICIAL BOIL ALERT is to be called, it will be announced on television and the local radio stations. YOU MAY OR MAY NOT SEE OR HEAR THE ANNOUNCEMENT. That is why I say, to be safe, should you experience low or no pressure and the water is discolored when restored, PLEASE OBSERVE YOUR OWN BOIL ALERT. Even if we could go door to door you may not be home or answer the door.

Use common sense when it comes to your health and safety. You can always call the Village Office to see if a boil alert has been called, otherwise observe your own safety choice.

Inspite of the recent "thaw" we will try and continue the ice skating rink at Howell Park's Tennis Court. This is FREE to the public. The Village has a big tub of ice skates you can borrow and use during your time at the park. For more information, please call 569-7821.

The Bremen First United Methodist Church is having their Annual Baked Steak Supper on March 8<sup>th</sup> from 4:30 – 7:00 in the evening.

The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Craft Show will be March 15<sup>th</sup> at the Bremen Rushcreek Fire House from 9:30 – 3:30. Lunch will also be served with the traditional "oodles of noodles".

**TIME CHANGE IS COMING** when you go to bed Saturday night March 8<sup>th</sup>. **SPRING AHEAD!!!**

Faith Apostolic Tabernacle is having their FREE LUNCH on March 22<sup>nd</sup> from 12:00 noon until 2:00. Use the side entrance to the church. They also continue their classes for those who struggle with drug and alcohol issues every Thursday at 6:00 pm. You can contact Matt Olson at 740-468-9277 should you have questions.

**I CAN'T SAY THIS STRONGLY ENOUGH:** When you see our village workers out on the street please observe safety. We have had village residents zoom around snow plows and just last week a motorist was stopped by our worker doing traffic control. A school bus was coming the other way. The motorist decided he didn't have time to wait so he hit his accelerator almost hitting the village worker and barely making it before the school bus was fully in the traffic lane. I have told my workers to get any license plate number and I will file charges with the Sheriff Deputy. **SHOW RESPECT FOR VILLAGE WORKERS TRYING TO HELP YOU!**

**INCOME TAX INFORMATION:** The Village is contracted with RITA, the Regional Income Tax Agency. You will not receive tax forms in the mail. You can pick up a set of tax forms at the Village Office or Bremen Library. To ensure timely processing, please use RITA's website at [www.ritaohio.com](http://www.ritaohio.com) and use the accurate, secure, and FREE E-File service to file and pay your municipal income taxes. If you have questions and need to speak with someone, you can call 1-800-860-7482. Filing deadline is April 15, 2014.

Looking Ahead please put on your calendar:

Bremen Area Historical Society will have their Annual Dinner Theater April 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> with dinner at 6:00 followed by their play entitled "A Loving Christmas Eve".

Village of Bremen Arbor Day Celebration will be Tuesday, April 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm in the Howell Park Butterfly Garden. There will be a new tree dedication hosted by the Bremen Tree Board and Bremen Scout Pack 93.

My friends... I have been thinking of those families who have lost loved ones in the past two months and wish them all our sincere condolences. Hang with me for another month and we should be well into Spring. Then for sure we will have warmer and happier days. If you need to speak to me, please call or stop for a cup of coffee. Respectfully, Douglas Hockman