

THE VILLAGE VOICE

A Newsletter From Your Village Administrator: Douglas Hockman

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THOUGHTS: I love this time of the year in Bremen... There is so much going on. Please use the Village Website www.bremenvillage.com. When you go on the website you will see two buttons on the front page. To the left there is a button that says "COME VISIT BREMEN". When you put your cursor over it there will be two drop down boxes leading you to all the activities, current and future for the Village. The other button is right in the middle of the header on the front page in bright blue ink which says "CLICK FOR CURRENT ACTIVITIES". These buttons will keep you up to date with what is going on in the Village.

If you do not have internet access, The Village Voice will always have reminders from month to month as to what is going on. Speaking of which, I love this time of year. We just celebrated the Spring Craft Show (ladies – the noodles are magnificent) and the Baked Steak Supper, and the Hoot 'N Howlin' in Howell Park on March 26th. Coming up on April 12th and 13th the Historical Society will have their Annual Dinner Theater; the Tree Board will celebrate Arbor Day on Sunday, April 21st; don't forget the American Legion's PANCAKES IN MAY; and in the immediate future the Red Cross Blood Drive on May 28th with the Bremen Community Yard Sale on June 15th. Details are included in this edition of The Village Voice.

Last week, the Village said "Good Bye" to long time resident Mrs. Frances Labrasca. She has moved to Texas to be close to her son Russell and his wife Judy. The day before she left, she was presented with a plaque saying "FOREVER FRIENDS" and recognizing her involvement in the Bremen community. We wish her the best in her new adventure!

I hear really good things from up on the corner of Rt. 37 and Rt. 664. I have had many good comments about the stop lights at the intersection. It has taken some "getting used to" because I even find myself stopping, looking, and then wanting to proceed while the light is still red. Please be aware of the color of the light and be safe.

The other "great" event on the corner has been the opening of the Fairfield Healthcare Professionals, an affiliate of Fairfield Medical Center, in the "doctor's office building" just behind the Dollar General store. Primary care services are being provided by Certified Nurse Practitioner Anita Thompson and occupational health services are being provided by Dr. Jennifer Ross. Appointments are available on Tuesday through Friday for such things as basic checkups, treatment of common illnesses, rapid strep tests, allergy shots, flu shots, and other immunizations. Patients must be 18 months old and older. Dr. Ross will have regular business hours Monday through Wednesday, with same day appointments available and walk-ins as first come – first served appointments. Call (740) 569-4141.

SWIMMING POOL NEWS: Attention teenagers (16 years and up) and adults – life guards needed!!! If you take training and receive your certification this year and are hired for the Bremen Pool, we will reimburse your costs for certification by paying an additional \$10.00 per week until you are fully reimbursed. Call the “Y” in Lancaster for certification needs. Reimbursement is based on working a minimum of 20 hours per week.

WHEN YOU HEAR THE SIREN... That means there might be a tornado, hazardous materials spill, or a train wreck; unless it is 12:00 noon on any Wednesday. An ATTENTION or ALERT Warning Signal is a three minute steady signal from the sirens, horns, or other devices followed by seven (7) minutes of silence then the siren repeated as needed in this sequence. In addition to any other meaning or “requirement for action” (find immediate shelter) the ATTENTION or ALERT signals indicates ‘TURN ON YOUR LOCAL TELEVISION OR RADIO AND LISTEN FOR ESSENTIAL EMERGENCY INFORMATION’. In spite of today’s technology... yep... I still have a battery powered AM/FM radio... Do you?

When the emergency is over... a one (1) minute signal means ‘ALL CLEAR’. REMEMBER – a test procedure is conducted in Bremen every Wednesday at NOON; the ALERT WARNING signal sounds for one minute or less. With storm season upon us, pay attention when you hear the sirens go off. Have a routine of safety for your family when the siren sounds!!! It is important we teach our children what to do, especially if they are playing outside.

GARDEN PLOTS ARE AVAILABLE AGAIN THIS YEAR... The empty lot on Ford St. which is owned by Fairfield Union Schools has been marked for individual plots for any who need space and want to have a small garden. The BESAFFE committee of Bremen Elementary is offering this opportunity. If you are interested in acquiring a plot for vegetables please contact Rose Ann Elliott at 740-438-3596 and leave a message with your name and phone number. Plots will be given out on a “first come – first served” basis. Those participating will contract to care for their plots, including planting, watering, weeding and harvesting; as well as to contribute to the over-all care of the community site.

RENTING THE SHELTER HOUSE: On Saturday and Sunday we are trying to set up a “lunch” schedule from 11 – 4 and a dinner schedule from 4:30 – 8 for those wishing to reserve the shelter house. When you call in and ask for a reservation, you will be asked if you want a lunch period or dinner period. You cannot reserve both on the same day. Another change is if you need electric. If you use just the electric in the shelter house there is a \$20.00 fee with \$10.00 refunded if the shelter house is cleaned up and the trash disposed of properly. For those needing the concession stand, there is a \$50.00 fee with \$25.00 refunded if the shelter house and concession stand is cleaned up and the trash disposed of properly.

Annual Dinner Theater – April 12th and 13th at the Historical Society building at 161 Carter St. A play written by local playwright Frank O. Muckensturm will be performed by the cast of Bremen Players. A steak dinner will be served at 6:00 pm both evenings followed by the entertainment. Dinner Theater tickets are \$12.00 prepay and may be purchased by contacting Terry Borah at 740-569-4457 or email to bahs1984@frontier.com. This is always a fun evening out. Come see your “neighbors” perform their Hollywood rendition of this humorous play! Thank you Frank for your creativity.

Continuing Dr. Strayer's vision to provide "fruit and shade to the traveler" the Village of Bremen will host the 2013 Arbor Day Observation on Sunday, April 21st, 4:30 pm at the Howell Park Shelter House. Bremen Scout Troop 95 and the Bremen Village Tree Board will be planting a Basswood Tree. The East-Central Beekeepers Association has given its official recommendation of this tree, also known as the "Bee Tree" for the number of bees that work its flowers every Spring. E-COBA has also generously agreed to donate another Basswood Tree to the Village later this year. These will be the first Basswood Trees to be planted in Bremen.

SPEAKING OF BEES... The arrival of Spring heralds a phenomenon that can strike fear into the hearts of some... bee swarms. There's no need for alarm... A honey bee will sting for two reasons - to protect her queen and to protect her honey. Generally, honey bees in swarm are calm and gentle, but on days of high humidity or rain they can get cranky. If you've never handled honey bees before or you have allergies to bee venom, do not approach a swarm.

There is a swarm "call list" at the Village Office. If you see a swarm, call here 569-4788 or visit the East - Central Ohio Beekeepers Assoc. website for information www.e-coba.org. Whoever you talk with will ask you a few questions: 1. How high up is the swarm? 2. How long has the swarm been there? 3. What is the swarm resting on? E-COBA represents a tremendous amount of knowledge and experience with honey bees. The beekeepers are always willing to answer questions. The recent droughts and "Colony Collapse Disorder" have been hard for the honey bee, so help us save all that we can. Have a honey of a Spring! ---submitted by Jennifer Storey

THE UTILITY BILLING CLERK NEEDS YOUR HELP: From now until August we seem to get a lot of people moving and changing residences. It is **IMPERATIVE** that you contact the Village Office **BEFORE** you move. The Village **must do a final reading!!!** Because we read meters every 3 months, your final bill needs to reflect your correct water usage. Please help us help you. If we do not perform a final reading and we do not know you have moved, you will continue to be billed for the water usage of that property; especially if the house remains empty after you move out. **LANDLORDS...** please help us with this and have the water shut off or put back into your name if you wish to leave the water on. As long as the water is on there is a minimum bill that will be sent out to someone. Ultimately, the landlord is responsible! We want to work with you but need your help. Thank You!

Please support our local veterans who make up the Bremen American Legion. They will be serving **PANCAKES** the whole month of May - each and every Sunday from 7:00 am until 11:00 am at the Legion Hall at 201 North Broad St. in Bremen. As they say, "Mark your calendars and loosen your belts because the pancakes are stacked high!"

The next Red Cross Blood Drive at the Bremen United Methodist Church is scheduled for May 28th from 1:00 pm - 7:00 pm. The Church is located at the corner of Walnut and Mulberry.

BREMEN COMMUNITY YARD SALE will be June 15th from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm. Remember - **One Person's Trash is Another's Treasure!!!**

BREMEN BRANCH of the Fairfield County Public Library is open on Saturdays!!!

YOUR FEDERAL INCOME TAX FILING DEADLINE IS APRIL 15TH THIS YEAR!!!

Have you ever wondered about how to PRUNE YOUR TREES correctly? Lisa Bowers (our tree guru) will be returning to Bremen on Saturday, May 4th, at 9:00 am. She will meet with any who wish at Howell Park and give us a pruning demonstration. We really appreciate Ms. Bowers and the time she spends helping us know more about our trees.

ARE YOU READY FOR SUMMER???

SWIMMING POOL HOURS OF OPERATION:

Monday, Friday, & Saturday 12:00 – 7:00 with Parties from 7:00 – 9:00

Tuesday 12:00 – 8:00 with Free Swim from 6:00 – 8:00 for all Village residents

Sunday, Wednesday, & Thursday 12:00 – 6:00 with Parties from 6:00 – 8:00

Daily Admission will be \$2.00 per person with Senior Citizens (over 60) FREE

Adult Season Pass (18 and older) \$80.00

Youth Season Pass (17 and younger) \$75.00

Household (up to 6 people living in house) \$150.00

Other additional people in household \$25.00 each person

Babysitter on Household Pass is additional \$35.00 each person

(Babysitter cannot use the Household Pass if swimming without children from household)

POOL PARTIES

Up to 25 registered people (2 guards) \$225.00

26 – 50 registered people (3 guards) \$250.00

51 – 100 registered people (3 guards, 1 supervisor) \$300.00

101 – 150 registered people (3 guards, 1 supervisor) \$350.00

There will be no Party larger than 150 people unless special arrangements are made with the Village Administrator and Pool Manager. Additional Fees may apply.

I am happy to announce that Kendal Valesko will be returning as our Pool Manager. She has done a great job for the Village and has been a great role model for our Pool Staff and all who attend the Bremen Pool!!!

If you have been on Fort St. you will have seen the bricks on the west side of the street are 85% done (except across from the Funeral Home) AND we are now with bricks from Marietta up the east side to the driveway at the Morgan Funeral Home. Once we get past the Funeral Home driveway we will cross back over and finish the west side in front of the Funeral Home. Our reason for doing this is because we have to tear the bricks out into the middle of the street. We will only do this if we have 3 or more good weather days. From there we will move on north up Fort. Once past Walnut, we will have the worst of it over with and should make great time on up Fort. Thank you all for your patience and kind remarks on how nice it is looking!!!

Hoping for a quick Spring into an Early Summer!!! Wish you warm and happy days!!!