

THE VILLAGE VOICE

A Newsletter From Your Village Administrator: Douglas Hockman

9090 Marietta Road SE
Bremen, Ohio 43107

740-569-4788 Office Phone
740-569-7085 Fax Number

oilcity2@frontier.com
www.bremenvillage.com

THOUGHTS: Thank you to all who asked about my son-in-law and daughter. Jeremy returned to Afghanistan the week following my last newsletter. Hopefully, he will be home again around Christmas.

I was thinking about the famous words of President John F. Kennedy: Ask NOT what your Country can do for YOU but what YOU can do for your Country. I seem to get a lot of "I want" type of phone calls or "You need to do" type of requests. I respect that fact we are all tax payers and feel our taxes need to go for what one personally feels the money should be spent on. The infrastructure needs of Bremen (streets, water issues, waste water issues, parks, pool, public lighting, etc) can be overwhelming. We have a lot of needs with maintaining our Village the way we all would like to see it maintained.

I, continually, am seeking out grant opportunities to take advantage of "free" money that might meet our specific needs. However, this "free" money has become available at a cost. With private Foundations and Trusts, there are those who worked hard during their lives to accumulate a measure of money. While it would have been easy for them to bequest their money to family members and their life comforts, many choose to establish Trusts or help fund Foundations which have the local communities in their best interest.

While most of us are familiar with Government sponsored grants there are many private funders who wish to be philanthropic to people whom they love and live among. The Village of Bremen, just yesterday, received a phone call from PNC Bank who manages the MARTENS TRUST with a grant award of \$9,000 to build a sidewalk from the corner of Broad St. and Marietta St. east along Marietta Road out to the first drive of Howell Park. This will help keep the bicycle and pedestrian traffic off Marietta Road.

IT IS WITH HUMBLER RESPECT THE VILLAGE OF BREMEN ACCEPTS AND GIVES THE DUE RECOGNITION OF THE MARTENS TRUST.

THE GRANT IS FROM THE TRUST OF NANNIE B. MARTENS AND McCLELLAN MARTENS IN MEMORY OF THEIR SON, RAYMOND BRANDT MARTENS.

Take pause and send your wishes of gratitude and thanksgiving by thought and prayer as we will always remember Raymond Brandt Martens' memory each time this sidewalk is used. May those of us who are able, follow suit in supporting those ventures that support the community work so needing to be done. Contact me if there is a gift of time, energy, or money that you would like to help the Village prosper by. We still have plenty of projects that you can help with. I would be grateful to have your services.

The Village has also received definite word on the COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT. We had asked for \$46,000 in the initial request. We have BEEN AWARDED \$39,600. We need to be grateful for the generosity of our County Commissioners and their sensitivity to our Village's needs for these handicap ramps. There were requests that far exceeded the amount of money our Commissioners had to work with. THANK YOU, on behalf of the Village residents, to our FAIRFIELD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS!!!

Thank you to our residents for their patience as we did major road repair on the extension off Highland Blvd., the west end of Marietta St. to corporation line, and the south lane of the hill on Northridge Dr. This cost was just shy of \$25,000.

PLEASE NOTE: It is on our schedule for September, to do the major overhaul on the ALLEY BETWEEN MULBERRY AND BROAD; and reconstruct CARTER ST. off Broad St. up to New St. This will cost \$16,000.

I am planning a major overhaul on Angle St. next year in the 2013 Budget. The parts needing done will be another \$25,000. We have done much needed patching on Angle St. so the holes are filled. I know it is in bad shape and will continue to monitor its condition.

Our area in Ohio is experiencing drought conditions. Please be conservative in your water usage. I know most of our grass is brown or close to it. When you water your yard, you are using treated water and sending your water bill higher than it would normally be. In the same breath, let me say that sometimes watering is needed just for the survival of your trees (especially if they are young) and other vegetation. Thanks for your help!

TWO NEW PICNIC AREAS at Howell Park are ready for your use. To the north of the shelter house are two areas with a picnic table and NEW CHARCOAL GRILL. This gives use three areas with grills. These two new areas are FIRST COME only. It is a nice space for a single family picnic. We are still accepting reservations for the shelter house. Remember... if you need the shelter house on Saturday or Sunday, we are splitting the day into a noon reservation 11 - 3 and an evening reservation from 4 - park closes. Please do not ask for the whole day. This facility is to be shared. I am thinking about providing another shelter house at some future date in Howell Park.

**SWIMMING LESSONS: BEGINNERS ages 5 and up - JULY 9th thru 13th \$35.00 each
INTERMEDIATE any age provided a beginner course was successfully completed at the Bremen Pool or any other pool by showing their certificate. JULY 23rd thru 27th The cost will also be \$35.00 per person.**

There will be NO MEETING with the Village Administrator at the Bulk Foods Store during the months of July or August. We will resume in September.

AT NO TIME... is there to be any kind of bonfire... ONLY self contained fires in a fire ring or portable fire pit. Call the Sheriff if you observe someone breaking this law!

I am headed for some vacation as you receive this. Love your Village, do good to those around you... Wishing you always... happy and sunny days!!!