

THE VILLAGE VOICE

A Newsletter From Your Village Administrator: Douglas Hockman

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THOUGHTS: Happy Fall... Before we know it the leaves will be turning bright red, orange, and yellow. I want to address leaf pick up, Trick or Treat, salt for our streets this winter, what happens with our fire station after 11:00 pm, and get everyone excited about the Pumpkin Walk Festivities. I'm sure in the course of writing the newsletter other things will cross my mind.

Before I get into all "that" stuff, I am happy to report that my healing continues and for almost three weeks have been back to full time work. There is a lot happening in the Village with the continued work on Purvis and within days the work on Fort St. beginning for all new curbs and gutters. School is going full force so be aware of the kids walking and on bikes. Remember, they are kids and will do what kids do... be the adult and make sure of extra caution when driving down the streets and approaching intersections. Thank You!!!

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. 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.

With all the work going on with curbs and gutters I ask for your patience on LEAF PICK UP. We will, as weather permits, use Mondays to pick up leaves. Leaves will be picked up EVERY OTHER WEEK. Pick up will be broken up in two sections for the Village.

If you live on PURVIS OR ANY STREET & SIDE STREET EAST OF PURVIS... your leaves will be picked up on October 8, 22; November 5, & 19.

If you live WEST OF PURVIS INCLUDING ANY STREET AND SIDE STREETS WEST OF PURVIS... your leaves will be picked up on October 15, 29; November 12, & 26. Final Clean Up will be the first week in December.

Please have your leaves raked so that parked cars are not sitting on top of the leaves. Make piles in front of and behind where cars park. Residents... if you see a pile, please park on bare street. It just makes it easier for the Village workers. If there is bad weather on your pick up day, we may have to collect on another day. Please be patient... we will get your leaves.

TRICK OR TREAT IS OCTOBER 25TH FROM 6:00 PM TO 7:30 PM...

FLU SHOTS... FLU SHOTS... FLU SHOTS... The Fairfield County Health Dept. will have flu shots available at the Historical Society on October 17th from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. Seniors with Medicare should be covered but call Gwen at 652-2830 to make sure about any charge for your inoculation.

CARVE A JACK O LANTERN... bring your kids or grandkids to the firehouse for the Jack O Lantern "carve a thon" on October 18th & 19th from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm to carve a pumpkin for use during our Pumpkin Walk. The crowning glory of our Pumpkin Walk Festivities will be the lighting of all the Jack O Lanterns around the walking track at Howell park. Please remember to bring your own carving tools, gloves, etc.

WHAT HAPPENS AT THE FIREHOUSE AFTER 11:00 PM??? I recently had a conversation concerning the response time from the Bremen – Rushcreek Fire Dept. & Ambulance Service after 11:00 pm. This is good to remember... Lt. Brian Irwin was helpful with the following information. "We have staff at our station (in Bremen) from 7:00 am until 11:00 pm, 7 days a week. We try to have at least 2 Firefighters/EMT's during these hours. From 11:00 pm until 7:00 am we rely on the availability of our local (volunteer) members to respond from home, in the event of an emergency. We, along with virtually every other fire dept. in the country, have a mutual aid agreement with our neighboring departments. If we cannot assemble the manpower required to field a call, the dispatcher (911) will contact a neighboring department to respond in our place. There are obviously times we have no one available to respond to an emergency. There are also times we don't have enough people to respond to a large scale emergency requiring many fire trucks and/or ambulances. Unfortunately, the township's finances do not permit us to staff enough personnel to respond to every call, and we rely on the availability of our off duty personnel. Maybe, in the future the finances will permit around the clock coverage."

In the late night hours I would encourage all our residents to have a neighbor or close family member's phone number that you can call AFTER CALLING 911. Sometimes, having someone else with us helps the waiting for the ambulance especially. Of course, in the case of fire... get out of the house immediately. I hope this helps our understanding of the Bremen – Rushcreek Fire Dept. response time at all hours, day and night.

As we clean up for the Fall, please keep your plants and shrubs from obstructing the sidewalks and alleys. Put your clippings in bags for pick up by Big "O" Refuse on your day for trash pick up and NOT in your piles of leaves.

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. This is one project we all pitch in to help with. May we shine in our generosity toward others. Also check on your elderly neighbors who might need a hand getting ready for winter. Thanks...

FAIRFIELD COUNTY SHERIFF – NON EMERGENCY NUMBER IS 740-652-7900

GOOD NEWS on our Village Salt Contract!!! Last year we paid over \$62.00 per ton. This year our costs have been reduced to under \$50.00 per ton. We have 80 ton on order. Of course, we still wish for minimal use while having a mild winter per Farmer's Almanac!

EVERYONE WITH A PET... To help kick off the festivities at the Oct. 20th Pumpkin Walk Celebration there will be a PET PARADE! Officially, it is the Pumpkin Walk's First Pooch Parade in the Park. Time: 10:00 am in front of the stage area. Have your pooch all dolled up in costume. There will be prizes in three categories: Cutest... Scariest... & Most Creative. There is a \$1.00 entry fee you can pay the morning of the contest.

SPEAKING OF THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PUMPKIN WALK... I am getting so excited!!! This year, the Village will be having a day long celebration beginning at 10:00 am and going through the actual Pumpkin Walk until 8:00 pm. The day of festivities will have 10 large blow-up INFLATABLES for the kids to play on while the adults enjoy a fair of CRAFT VENDORS, POOCH PARADE, A 5-K RUN, A FUN RUN FOR THE KIDS IN HOWELL PARK AROUND THE WALKING PATH, FOOD, AND LIVE MUSIC THROUGHOUT THE DAY. It is a time to come and spend the day or afternoon or evening. Something will be going on at all times!

I know the committee is still needing volunteer help and there is still time to sign up as a vendor. TO SIGN UP FOR THE 5 - K RUN...call Tad Moyer, Race Director at (740) 569-7502. Entry Fee for the 5-K is \$15.00 before October 1st and \$20.00 on race day. The Fun Run for the kids is \$1.00 for the entry fee.

The kids will be able to buy a \$5.00 bracelet for unlimited use of the Inflatables

For Volunteering or to sign up as a Vendor call Kelley Tripp at 740-569-4807 or Jennifer Storey at 740-438-4423 or Douglas Hockman 740-974-4127.

Let's make this a great day for the gathering of not only Village residents but those in the towns and townships around us... Could you make some phone calls to invite those you know and then come down yourself for a day of fun?

To all on Fort Street: The Village will award the contract for the Fort St. Curb and Gutter Project this week. That means work will commence once the contractor is notified. You will receive more specific information once the details are set. While we are working in your block... plan now to park behind your residence off the alleys. There is no easy way to do this project except to jump in and do it. Yes, there may be some inconvenience. Yes, you may experience some aggravation. Yes, at times you might think we are not progressing as fast as you think we should. BUT... we will try to minimize any disruption to you. Please be patient with us. We will watch for where things are on trash day and make sure your trash is picked up. If we are working in front of your house, refer to the schedule for leaf pick up and on that day only rake your leaves into the dogwalk if possible. We will do our best to accommodate your needs. We are also at the mercy of the weather. Work with us and always keep in mind how beautiful Fort St. will look with new curbs and gutters as well as bricks repositioned like they should be.

OTHER ORANGE BARRELS... The intersection of Rt. 664 and Rt. 37 will be closed from October 8th to October 18th unless they get the work done sooner. Most of you know the back way around Bremen and Rushcreek Township. Use Bremen Rd. through North Berne to go to Lancaster. Use Marietta Rd to Jerusalem Rd back to Rt. 37 if going east or cut back to County Line Road around to Rt. 664 North to go to Rushville. During those dates think through the route you need to take and account for an extra 15 minutes or so because of heavier than usual traffic on those alternate routes. Don't forget there is also a detour near Lancaster on Rt. 37 near Snoke Road and where Rt. 37 joins Rt. 22. The upside to all of this is we will have a stop light at the intersection of Rt. 664 and Rt. 37 plus turning lanes and a new Railroad Crossing on Rt. 37.

October could be a trying month in the transportation arena!!!

DON'T FORGET... The Chamber of Commerce ANNUAL BANQUET will be held Nov. 1st at the Bremen Area Historical Society. Dinner will be served at 6:00pm. Cost is \$10.00 prepaid and \$12.00 at the door. Along with entertainment you will hear the State of the Village Address by Mayor Josh Groce & the State of Rushcreek Township Address from one of the Trustees. For reservations call: 569-9150 or email: bremencoc@gmail.com

Bremen Bethel Presbyterian Church will have their Annual Turkey Dinner on Nov. 3rd from 4:00 - 7:00 pm Adults are \$7.50 and Children 12 & under \$4.00

Beginning Nov. 3rd and running through Jan. 5th the Chamber will be hosting the "DRIVING TOUR THROUGH YESTERYEAR". Experience Creative Art Displays of Life in a Rural Community. Tour the village anytime of the day and view 14 handcrafted lifelike figures dressed in vintage clothing representing Bremen from a bygone era when life was more simplistic. These figures will be spread throughout the Village on different corners and settings. The self guided driving tour begins at the Bremen Area Historical Society located at 161 Carter St., where maps, audio CD and information will be available for pick up. To make a monetary contribution to this exciting project contact the Bremen Area Chamber of Commerce at (740) 569-9150. This project is a collaborated effort of labor among the Bremen Area Chamber of Commerce, the Bremen Area Historical Society, and the Village Council of Bremen and her residents. The figures were created by Dick and Barb Pettit, Somerset, Ohio and the Audio CD produced and funded by Refreshing 90.9 fm.

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 the compassion of her residents. Even little things like checking the furnace filter or making sure a neighbor has extra food when the weather turns bad over night. I trust your goodness.

In the midst of this preparation, don't forget to come down to Howell Park and enjoy the day of frolic and fun on Oct. 20th. Bring a little money, bring a smile, and allow yourself some time of relaxation and enjoyment! Wishing you warm and sunny days, always...