

Welcome to our first edition of the Community Newsletter. We hope this publication will keep you informed about current and upcoming events within our community. Our civic and service organizations are also welcome to provide articles for this newsletter. You may email your news to info@newbremen.com or just mail it to the Village of New Bremen, PO Box 27, New Bremen, Ohio 45869. Note that the news you provide may be edited to accommodate for limited space requirements.

This first issue arrives with news and notes about how our community is progressing but we'd like to hear from you about any ideas that you might have on what we could call this newsletter. We are always glad to listen so please let us know.

Have you returned the one-page survey form you received two weeks ago? Remember that your view point on our community's most critical current needs are important to us. In order for us to set both short and long-term goals for growth and prosperity in our community, it is important to hear from you so please return it as soon as you can.

We also wish to thank all our citizens for a good 2002 and look forward to 2003 with much enthusiasm! Being a close-knit community like ours is like having an extended family and we hope this year brings your family closer together too. Let's keep our community's spirit and teamwork alive! Talk to you soon.

NEW BREMEN EMERGENCY SQUAD

The New Bremen Emergency Squad has been providing emergency care in the Village of New Bremen and surrounding areas for over 25 years. The Emergency Squad has aspired to the highest standards of patient care to provide a valuable resource and service to our community.

However, the New Bremen Emergency Squad is facing a severe manpower shortage, which is placing a severe burden on the members and its roles in the community. The New Bremen Emergency Squad wants to continue to provide a valuable service to our community. We believe that the local members provide this service as a part of our community pride.

We are now asking for your help. The Squad desperately needs new members. Prospective members must be eighteen years of age or older and have a valid driver's license. The squad will be willing to accommodate reasonable family and work schedules. The squad will pay for all training with the only requirements being that the individual complete the class and attempt reasonable efforts to pass the state registry. Upon completion of the course and passing the state registry, the individual will be required to fulfill a one-year obligation of service to the squad. However, once you have joined, we are sure that the community service and pride that you feel and provide will encourage you to remain on our squad for many years to come.

In addition, the squad will also consider interviewing individuals to act as drivers for the squad on an as needed basis. The drivers must complete a first responder's course, have

a valid driver's license and meet other minimal requirements.

Please contact Jim Kronenberger at 419-629-1531, Lester Schmackers at 419-629-2149 or Jason This at 419-629-8108 as soon as possible. If we have enough interest, the squad will attempt to provide a local class this winter. Thank you for your cooperation.

From the Office of the Clerk

Trimble, Julian & Grube, Inc. will be auditing our records for the years 2001-2002 starting February 24. The firm has started the audit off site and should take approximately one week.

COUNCIL NEWS

Pending legislation

Ordinances:

- 3rd - 2003-1-6 N. Walnut St., Right of Way Street Plat
- 3rd - 2003-1-7 Base-load coal-fired generation facility
- 2nd -2003-2-8 Indigent Burial Fund

Resolutions:

- 2nd - 2003-2-6 New police car
- 2nd - 2003-2-7 Sealed bids for impounded vehicle

CANAL MUSKRATS

During trapping season, Chris Houseworth trapped approximately 80 muskrats along the canal. They were trapped because they were causing damage to the ornamental plants in the area and also causing erosion to the canal banks.

DIRECT PAYMENT FOR UTILITIES

The Village of New Bremen has implemented direct payment of your utility bill from your bank account. For your convenience, your bank account will be debited on the 10th of each month. This service is especially beneficial to residents who relocate for the winter months. You will receive a utility bill as before, however, the lower left hand side or your utility bill card will read your account will be automatically debited. Your water readings can be called in, e-mailed to us or placed in the night deposit drop. You can also send your water readings to us from our website.

If you are interested in this service, please obtain a form from the Utility Office, complete it and return it to the Utility Office.

UPCOMING EVENTS...

Community Garage Sales - April 26

Spring Clean-Up - May 3

REFUSE PICK-UP

We are losing revenue because people are putting items out loose or filling large cans and tying the Mahargs bags on the handles. All refuse must be in the Mahargs bags or it will not be picked up. The entire Village is picked up on Friday mornings. The Mahargs bags may be purchased at the Village Office, Big Bear, Howellis IGA, or Wagners IGA. The bags are in packages of five for \$6.00. If you have larger items that do not fit in the bags or items such as furniture or appliances, special tags can be purchased at the Village Office.

SNOW PLOWING

Please try to be aware of impending snowstorms. Please park cars in driveways and not on the streets. Cars on the streets cause problems for the snow plows trying to keep the streets clean.

SOUTH HAVEN SUBDIVISION SOUTH WATER STREET PROJECTS

Council passed RESOLUTION 2003-1-5 authorizing the Village Administrator to seek bids for the South Haven Subdivision and South Water Street Projects. The South Haven Subdivision project includes street reconstruction, sidewalks, gutters, curbs and alley approaches. The South Water Street Project is a joint project that includes paving the street and the parking lot in front of the Lions Club shelter house and alley. The engineering estimate is \$483,000.00. These joint projects will cost the Village \$443,000.00 and Crown Equipment \$40,000.00.

CONTACTING THE NBPD

As many Village residents know the Police Department maintains 24-hour coverage, but many times there are questions on how to contact or when to contact the police department. Residents should call 911 when they require emergency police services or to report a crime in progress. When a resident needs non-emergency police services, the police department can be contacted in several ways. For services that are not of an emergency, nature but require immediate police attention, call 419-394-5227 or 419-738-2147. For other requests that do not require immediate attention call 419-629-3371 and

leave a message. In addition it is very important that you report suspicious activity immediately and not wait until after the fact.

REMINDER FROM THE POLICE

A New Bremen Village ordinance prohibits unlicensed or disabled vehicles from being stored on any public or private property. The Police Department has received numerous complaints about these types of vehicles, which create an unsightly appearance in the neighborhood. Starting this spring, the Police Department will be contacting anyone having unlicensed or disabled vehicles on their property and give them thirty days to move these. Failure to comply with this ordinance may result in a citation being issued.

A Village ordinance also requires that all bicycles in the village be licensed. It is important to have your bicycles licensed in the event that they are stolen or misplaced. Licenses are available at the New Bremen Police Department for a cost of \$.50 per license.

PARKS DEPARTMENT NEWS

Greetings!!! How about this winter weather? Snow, snow and more snow. The good news is the ice skating rink is a great success. Last year we watched the ripples of water flow on the rink and this year we watch the drifts of snow. The biggest challenge of the ice rink was what to do about all of that snow. Thanks to the Public Works Department, we were able to keep a good handle on the snow removal. We appreciate your patience with us during this learning process. It has been strictly trial and error.

Ice hockey has been very popular this year, so we are hoping to have a Hockey Challenge night next season. We are open to suggestions if you have any input on how to handle this. The night-lights and heated bathrooms have been a great asset in allowing us to keep the rink open unlimited hours to meet the needs of people of all ages.

Once again we are planning to have the Old Fashioned Farmers Market. This will be held every Saturday morning 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. from May through October. We have extended the market an additional month to allow for the sale of fall harvest items such as pumpkins.

We are also volunteering our time to promote a healthy way to start your mornings. We are calling it a Walk in the Park. We will meet in the Bremenfest Park at 6:00 a.m. Monday through Friday and walk around the park. We will then journey to the Lock-One Park along the Miami Erie Canal heading south taking us through the Lions Club and the Jaycees Parks. Those who would like to walk a shorter distance can meet up with us at the Lock-One Park and walk from there. We plan to begin on March 31, 2003.

On Saturday, March 29, 2003 we will hold a Volunteer in the Park day starting at 10:00 a.m. Work will be done in all of our parks with hotdogs, hamburgers, and refreshments provided at 1:00 p.m. If you have any suggestions about what you would like to see done that day, please call us ahead of time so that we will be ready to go that Saturday.

We are considering scheduling a lawn care and landscaping seminar for the public. Experts in the field will be on hand to show us proper techniques on trimming, mowing, mulching, fertilization and watering. This free informational day will be located in the Lock-One Park along with the farmer's market. This hands-on clinic will hopefully provide us with information that will save us all time and money in the future. The date will be announced.