

Bismarck Village News

August 2020



Calendar

➤ **Wednesday**
September 16th-
Water Board
Meeting
7:00pm-8:30pm

➤ **Tuesday September**
22nd- Village of
Bismarck Meeting
6:30pm
(Please note date change)

****Due to Covid 19**
restrictions, those wishing
to join the meeting will
need to do so virtually....
Please look for the virtual
link on agenda that will be
posted on the Village
website and on the village
office doors.

HOLIDAYS

BACK TO SCHOOL:
Student Attendance:
August 25th, 2020
August 26th, 2020
JH/HS-2:15 dismissal
ES-3:00 dismissal

Teacher Institute:
August 27th and 28th

August 2020 Welcome

Welcome to August Village of Bismarck Residents. The newsletter will be disseminated in the middle of the month moving forward to ensure we can get upcoming information for each month, as many activities do not get shared until the beginning of each month.

We will be revving back up with school starting and we will have the hustle and bustle of trying to figure out the new "normal" for this school year. We heard the theme this year for the school is "Whatever it Takes". Those residents who are lifelong members of the Bismarck community and those who have moved to Bismarck and gotten to know the community will know how true that theme is for Bismarck. We here at the Village Board would like to Welcome all the children back to school and we truly hope this year is the best one yet!! Good Luck and remember to make memories!! You will never have another year like this one! Reminder to Village Drivers: Please remain diligent in watching out for the children walking and riding their bikes to and from school in the morning and afternoon.



Please follow the Village of Bismarck facebook page @bismarckvillage for updated information. This is where we will post updates and events that may be of interest or importance to our community. Reminder to also follow us on our website villageofbismarck.org.

Please send any information/fliers on any events you have coming up to bismarckclerk@gmail.com so we can promote it on our social media and in our newsletter!!!

Message from President/Mayor Brown-

Hello fellow residents. I want to encourage everyone to please remain safe and healthy during this time. I would also like to remind our residents to continue following social distancing guidelines as the COVID-19 reports continue to increase in our County at this time. Please reach out to any of the Board Members if you are in need of anything, such as food, pick-up medications, household supplies, etc. The Village Board wants to remind all residents that the Board is here to help you in any way that we can.

The Board continues to work on ways to support a storm water drainage system and/or ways to make repairs to help with the concerns in the Village. The Village Board is excited to announce we have finished Phase 1 along Prairie Dr. The Village has been a recipient of REBUILD ILLINOIS funds that were allocated to our Village. These funds can only be allotted for certain projects and Your Village Board has agreed that one way to utilize these funds to make the most impact is to clean and work on the Village Basins. You will be seeing some work starting on this soon around the Village and although we know this will not fix the entire issue of the Storm Water Drainage, it will be a tremendous start and in some areas make a huge difference. The Board would like the Village residents to know that the board continues to look and investigate grants and opportunities to help support this infrastructure.



Upcoming Events/News

Please email Village Clerk at bismarckclerk@gmail.com if you would like your event announced in the monthly newsletter. Please have submitted by the 5th of each month.

GETTING TO KNOW MEMBERS OF YOUR VILLAGE BOARD- Village Board Trustee- Mary Potter



The month of August we are getting to know Mrs. Mary Potter, Bismarck Trustee. Mrs. Mary Potter writes:

Hello All Bismarck Residents,

My husband Russell and I moved to Bismarck in June of 1964. Shortly after our move we had a bad rain and we were blessed with the Lake of Bismarck running through our property. This was just the beginning of our problems with little or no storm water drainage. It had been a problem for many years before we moved here.

I became a board member in 2014 and my goal was to get involved with the Storm Water Drainage Project. It looks like after many, many years the Village is going to get some of the drainage projects completed.

Russ and I are Bismarck-Henning High School graduates as well as our 3 children: Jane, Julie and Jim and 3 of our grandkids: Matt, Ashley and Kelsey. The 4th generation great granddaughter Rae Lynn has started pre-kindergarten at BHES.

I worked as a cook for the B-H grade school and high school for a total of 32 years, retiring in 2006. A couple of good memories from school include giving the kindergarten kids a ride around town in a Model T Ford and showing the children our log cabin and telling them how people lived many years ago.

My hobbies include crochet, knitting (especially helping daughter Jane knit about 40 stocking hats for the Pre-K classes) and collecting UHL Pottery.

It has been very interesting learning about government rules and regulations and serving on the board to address our biggest village project: The Storm Water Drainage.

Thank you Mrs. Potter for your time and expertise of serving our Village. Please reach out to Mrs. Potter if you have any questions, concerns or just want to give your ideas and suggestions. Also, IF YOU STILL NEED THAT GOLF CART PERMIT, Mrs. Potter is your person to reach out to!!

Bismarck Village News and Updates



The Village Board wants to remind Village Residents: **Side by Side's, ATV's, Dune Buggies and Motorcycles "NOT" registered and licensed are illegal.** They are not to be driven on the County Roads and/or the Village Streets in the Village of Bismarck without being legal by state law.

If the Vehicles cannot be registered and licensed, then they cannot be driven on the roads or streets of the village.

Golf Carts are to be inspected annually. If the Golf Cart passes the inspection, a sticker is purchased for \$35. **If you have a Golf Cart and have not paid the fee, you will get a letter from the Village Clerk, asking you to schedule a time with Trustee Mary Potter for compliance. If you are not in compliance and found driving, you may be ticketed by the patrol officer in the Village.** This is a privilege for the folks in the Bismarck Village. Please respect the Village requests to take the time to have the Golf Carts inspected and have current stickers visible on the back of the cart.

The County Police have been requested to monitor the streets in the Village area to resolve the problems with people not respecting the law and "Ticketing" the vehicles that are breaking the law.

YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH TRAINING- OFFERED FREE At Northside Church of Christ

The Village of Bismarck would like to thank Ms. Aubrey Carpenter from Bismarck-Henning CUSD #1 and Mr. Jim Russell from The Vermilion County Mental Health 708 Board for reaching out about this wonderful training opportunity being offered to our community members **FREE of Charge** at Northside Church of Christ. With all the uncertainty that COVID-19 has brought us in 2020, now is a great time to learn about how EVERY member of our Village can be a support for the Youth in our Community who may be struggling, not only with effects of COVID-19, but with any mental health challenges.

This training is open to anyone (mothers, fathers, aunts, uncles, grandparents, coaches, teachers, etc). Please call Beth Bray Knecht at 217-516-2298 or email at bethbrayknecht16@gmail.com to sign up. There will also be Registration Flyers at the Bismarck Post Office.



MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID
Why Mental Health First Aid?

On average, there are
123
SUICIDES A DAY.
American Foundation for Suicide Prevention

From 1999 to 2018,
630,000
people died from
DRUG OVERDOSE.
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Nearly **1 in 5** U.S.
adults live with a
MENTAL ILLNESS.
National Institute of Mental Health via the
National Survey on Drug Use and Health
and the Substance Abuse and Mental
Health Services Administration

WHO SHOULD TAKE IT

- Employers
- Police officers
- Hospital staff
- First responders
- Faith leaders
- Community members
- Caring individuals

WHAT IT COVERS

- Common signs and symptoms of mental illness.
- Common signs and symptoms of substance use.
- How to interact with a person in crisis.
- How to connect the person with help.
- NEW! How to administer naloxone in the event of an opioid overdose.

The course will teach you how to apply the ALGEE action plan:

- Assess for risk of suicide or harm
- Listen nonjudgmentally
- Give reassurance and information
- Encourage appropriate professional help
- Encourage self-help and other support strategies

More than 1 million trained!

TO FIND A COURSE OR CONTACT AN INSTRUCTOR IN YOUR AREA, VISIT
www.MentalHealthFirstAid.org OR EMAIL Info@MentalHealthFirstAid.org.

WANT TO TAKE THE COURSE?

Where: Northside Church of Christ, 17167 E. 2750 North Rd., Bismarck, IL
When: September 12, 2020 8:30 AM – 4:30 P.M. (YOUTH Curriculum)

Register Here: Beth Bray Knecht 217-516-2298 bethbrayknecht16@gmail.com

USA
MENTAL HEALTH
FIRST AID ®

www.MentalHealthFirstAid.org

**Youth Mental Health First Aid
8 hour Course**

Saturday, September 12, 2020
8:30 AM – 4:30 PM

Hosted by: Northside Church of Christ
17167 E. 2750 North Road
Bismarck, IL 61834

Sponsored by: Vermilion County Mental Health 708 Board; Village of Bismarck;
Vermilion Healthcare Foundation

REGISTRATION

To register, please email the information below to bethbrayknecht116@gmail.com - If you do not have access to email, call 217-516-2298.

Questions? Call Beth Bray Knecht @ 217-516-2298

Name _____

Phone number _____

E-mail address _____

Occupation and employer name _____

Mailing Address _____

ALICE, the Mental Health First Aid Action Plan

Access for risk of suicide or harm
Listen nonjudgmentally
Give reassurance and information
Encourage appropriate professional help
Encourage self-help and other support strategies

Mental Health First Aid USA is coordinated by the National Council on Community Behavioral Healthcare, the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, and the Missouri Department of Mental Health.

Sometimes, first aid isn't
a bandage,
or **CPR,**
or the **Heimlich,**
or calling **911.**

Sometimes, first aid is **YOU!**

A young person you know could be experiencing a mental health challenge or crisis. You can help them.

You are more likely to encounter someone — friend, family member, student, neighbor, or member of the community — in an emotional or mental crisis than someone having a heart attack. Youth Mental Health First Aid teaches a 5-step action plan to offer initial help to young people showing signs of a mental illness or in a crisis, and connect them with the appropriate professional, peer, social, or self help care. Anyone can take the 8-hour Youth Mental Health First Aid course. It is for adults who work with or know young people, ages 12-18 — teachers, coaches, school staff, leaders of faith communities, parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, social workers, and other caring citizens.

Sometimes, the best first aid is you.
Take the course, save a life, strengthen your community.

Youth Mental Health First Aid Course

Sponsored by: Village of Bismarck;
Vermilion County Mental Health 708 Board
Vermilion Healthcare Foundation

Hosted by: Northside Church of Christ

TRAINING IS FREE & INCLUDES COURSE MATERIAL

For information contact:
BETH BRAY KNECHT
217-516-2298
Bethbrayknecht116@gmail.com

TREE LIMBS and BRUSH PICK-UP for VILLAGE RESIDENTS



The Village Board takes pride in our community and wants to make sure that all Village residents are able to help in Keep Bismarck Beautiful. The Village Board is excited to announce a new service to residents who reside inside the Village limits. If you have brush or tree limbs that you do not have a way to get rid of, you may contact the **Village Office at 217-759-7984 and leave a message.** Someone from the Village Board will call you back to set up a pick-up time to have Mr. Wright or a board member come by and assist you in loading it up on one of our trucks. The Village Board does ask that the homeowner or resident assist in placing the brush or tree limbs onto the truck with assistance from the Village Maintenance crew. We understand if you have medical concerns that would prevent you from assisting and you can let us know that when we call to schedule pick-up. The Village Board also encourages a monetary donation (suggested donation would be \$10) to help cover the cost of time and removal assistance.

Reminder: According to the Village Ordinance 2002-2, residents who do not keep their property well-maintained may receive a notice of violation from the Village Board. Those who receive this notice will have 30 days from the date the notice is mailed to get the violations corrected. For those who fail to do so, the Village Board will forward the violation to the Night Court unit, and the resident will be responsible for all fines and fees associated with the violation. Now that the courthouse and night court are re-opening, these ordinances **will be strictly enforced** once again in the Village.



The Village Board does not want anyone who is struggling to correct a violation to feel they do not have options. If you are struggling with keeping up with the weeds or grass please contact the Village Office at 217-759-7984 so we can try to assist you. Please call us before it gets out of control which makes it difficult for all involved. Your Village Board is here to help.

INTERESTING FACT brought to you by Village Maintenance Tech Dan Wright



Few of nature's animals are as misunderstood as bats. Though often feared and loathed as sinister creatures of the night, bats are vital to the health of our environment and our economy. Bats play an essential role in pest control, pollinating plants and dispersing seeds. Recent studies estimate that bats eat enough pests to save more than \$1 billion per year in crop damage and pesticide costs in the United States corn industry alone. **Many bats**, and almost **all** in the United States, thrive on an insect diet. **A single bat can eat up to 1,200 mosquito-sized insects every hour, and each bat usually**

eats 6,000 to 8,000 insects each night. Their appetite for **mosquitoes** certainly makes a backyard more comfortable.

Unfortunately, bats are declining across the globe. Many bats are needlessly killed because people do not understand the important role bats play in a healthy ecosystem. The need for winter shelter during hibernation puts bats at another disadvantage. Human activity resulting in loss of habitat and disruptions during hibernation are detrimental.

Want to do your part to help bats? There are many ways to get involved!

- Spread the word - Share what you've learned about the importance of bats. We can all benefit from a greater understanding of the world around us.
- Watch for bats - Watching bats fly over you is a great way to further understand and appreciate all they do.
- Turn off unnecessary lights - Light pollution can disrupt or deter bats. Providing a dark environment can help improve conditions for bats.
- Plant a garden - Creating a garden will help attract insects that help pollinate plants and feed bats, contributing to the circle of life.
- Install a bat box - Providing shelter for bats is a great way to promote a healthy environment.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

<https://fws.gov/midwest/news/ImportanceOfBats.html>

Keep Bismarck Beautiful-Summer Awards

Each summer the "Keep Bismarck Beautiful" committee drives around town looking for beautiful yards to recognize for Keeping Bismarck Beautiful. Every couple weeks the committee selects 4 winners recognizing the residents homes for all the time and effort toward maintaining a beautiful yard/landscape. The committee began searching for these homes the first week of June and the committee is proud to announce the winners for the first round of July 2020!!!

The winners for the first round of July 2020 (in no particular order) are:



This beautiful home with the well known purple wicker chairs at 304 Chicago belongs to **Brian and Kelli Nesbitt**. From the purple wicker chairs, each flower pot going up the steps, the porch swing, and the floral wreath, everything right down to the sign inviting you to "Come sit" on their porch, says "you are welcome here, come sit and relax with me".





Go north one block to 212 Chicago, the home of **Ron and Susan Freedlund**, or better known by “the house with the BIG Nutcrackers at Christmas”. Here you will find the large front porch welcomes you with beautiful geranium plants and large comfortable white rocking chairs. On the south side of the house, you can get lost in a book, sitting by a water fountain listening to the soothing sound of the trickling water, or just smile contently as you watch the children quietly play house or make believe, amongst the shade of the trees, bushes, vines and little wooden bridge.

The only thing missing was a plate of Susan’s freshly baked cookies and a pitcher of sweet tea or lemonade, and of course children do not usually play quietly . 🙄

As mentioned before, sometimes our winners do not get chosen because of their exotic plants, rare species of fish in their pond, a flowing fountain or creek in the year. They are chosen for their simplicity in such a busy world. The last winner in this newsletter was selected for just that.



Take a drive down to 21 Prairie and see simplicity, yet beauty at **Ray and Cheryl Nardoni’s** yard. Every bush was precisely trimmed and not a weed could be found. In fact, Ray was doing some trimming while we were there.

This year, the KBB committee added a new category called “ Most Improved”. The award recognizes the winners of this award for all their hard work and efforts toward improving the looks of their yard.



This is the beautiful home of **John and Judy Pendleton**. It was Tuesday morning so we did catch John at home and not out golfing as he enjoys doing on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, leaving Tuesday and Thursdays for yard work.

Before starting her day, Judy, a retired nurse from Danville School D118, enjoys quiet mornings on the patio, with coffee and a book. Judy told us that when they moved to their home at 28 Crystal Lane, the front yard was one giant hole and the entire yard was a mess. She says they both have spent many hours, making the yard decent. Congratulations John, Judy and Taylor, you are one of our “Most Improved” winners. Taylor a soon-to-be freshman and grandson, that they are raising and who lives with them.

Congratulations to all these wonderful winners! Everyone’s yard looked beautiful!! The KBB committee hopes everyone had a very happy and safe Fourth of July and hopes everyone takes necessary measures to be safe.

Public Health- IMPORTANT NOTICES

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

Questions regarding COVID-19 can be directed to the IDPH hotline, 1-800-889-3931. For additional information and Situation Summary updates regarding COVID-19, please refer to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and IL Department of Public Health (IDPH) website links below:

CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

IDPH: <http://dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/diseases-and-conditions/diseases-a-z-list/coronavirus>

OSHA: <https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/covid-19/controlprevention.html>



Discount Phone service for those eligible:

TO QUALIFY

To qualify for the federal Lifeline program, individuals or families must have an income of 135% or less of federal poverty guidelines or participate in any of the following programs:

- Medicaid
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Federal Public Housing Assistance
- Veterans Pension and Survivors Benefit Programs

If you are a recipient of one of these programs, you should call your local phone service provider to confirm your eligibility and to enroll.

For Frontier Communications, call 1-800-921-8101

For all other phone companies, call your local telephone provider.

Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA)

Pritzker Administration Extends Deadline to Apply for Emergency Rental Assistance Applications for Rental Assistance now Available until August 28 th at era.ihda.org CHICAGO – Today, Governor Pritzker announced the Illinois Housing Development Authority (IHDA) has extended the deadline for Illinois renters to apply for aid by one week to 12:00 p.m. on August 28th due to those impacted by the storms last Monday. In addition, landlords will be given an additional two days, through August 30th, to complete their portion of the application. The Emergency Rental Assistance program provides \$5,000 to eligible tenants who have seen their household income decline as a result of the COVID-19.

If you've been unable to pay your rent due to COVID-19, we're here to help you. It's important to continue paying as much of your rent as you can. Also, talk to your landlord on a regular basis about your situation.

Funds are limited so complete your application as soon as possible. Only one application per household is allowed and an application is not a guarantee of assistance.

If you are approved, you will receive a grant of \$5,000 that will be sent to your landlord to be applied against your rent.

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Renters requiring assistance navigating the application process, are encouraged to reach out to one of the 62 Community and Outreach Assistance organizations with which IHDA has partnered. These organizations can be found on the 'resources' page at era.ihda.org.

For additional help, applicants may also contact IHDA's call center at: (312) 883-2720, or toll-free at: (888) 252-1119. For those who are deaf, hard of hearing or speech-impaired, please contact Navicore Solutions for free assistance at: (877) 274-4309 (TTY).

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Your household income before March 1, 2020 was less than the maximum allowed for your area.
- You or an adult member of your household has had a loss of income due to COVID-19
- You have an unpaid rent balance that began sometime after March 1, 2020

Village of Bismarck Contact Information

Village of Bismarck	PO BOX 141	Office	217-759-7984
		Fax	217-759-3021

Website: <http://villageofbismarck.org> Facebook: @bismarckvillage

President

Mike Brown	mayor@villageofbismarck.org	217-759-7984
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Trustees

Jane Cress	cressfam29@gmail.com	217-759-7461
Terry Light	terrylight49@gmail.com	217-759-7320
Kris Kizer	busch1525@yahoo.com	217-304-5070
Mary Potter	carbking@soltec.net	217-759-7592
Sheila Switzer	smswitz60@gmail.com	217-497-7904
Karel Volpert	karelvolpert@gmail.com	217-759-7667

Village Clerk

Brandye Kizer	bismarckclerk@gmail.com	217-759-7984
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Village Treasurer

Adam Muehl	bismarcktreasurer@gmail.com	217-759-7984
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Village Maintenance

Dan Wright	dwbulldogs@gmail.com	217-474-0856
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