

# VILLAGE OF **DIVERNON** *News*

Issue 22

November 2021 [www.divernonil.com](http://www.divernonil.com)

**FROM THE MAYOR AND THE VILLAGE BOARD** The seasons are beginning to turn, and as temperatures are falling please be sure to check on the status of your heat before it gets too cold. Likewise, if we do end up with snow, don't forget to keep the ventilation for your furnace, mailboxes, and fire hydrants clear and accessible. We also want to remind everyone to be observant when driving through town, as our children are traveling to school and waiting on the school bus. Also keep your eyes open for some changes coming as your drive into town on Brown Street. Thanks to a generous donation, we hope to soon have a nice new row of pine trees flanking the road and welcoming people to Divernon.

The Divernon Block Party was a big success, and it was great to see smiling faces in the parade and the park. It was a great reminder of how small communities can come together and support each other. We appreciate all the efforts that went into planning out all the festivities, and the vendors and musicians who added to the enjoyment.

The Holidays are rapidly approaching and our Churches and Community organizations had a lot of ways for you to help the less fortunate if you can, or get a little bit of assistance if you need it. We are also looking forward to the annual Christmas Decoration Contest. The Divernon Fire Protection District will judge for the best traditional display, and the Village will be judging the best light show and best theme.

The Village Board has been hard at work for our community, and we are working diligently to ensure the American Rescue Plan Act funding is put to good use. The gas crisis in February continues to have an impact and if you're having difficulty with paying your gas bill, there are federal programs available through Sangamon County. The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) has received additional funding for utility assistance. Assistance for other services is also available through the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG). For more information on LIHEAP and CSBG, please contact the Sangamon County Community Resources office at <https://co.sangamon.il.us/departments/a-c/community-resources/programs-and-services>. Also consider applying for the Illinois Home Weatherization Assistance Program (IHWAP) also through Sangamon County to help reduce energy consumption.

The Village has joined into a partnership with the Springfield Sangamon Growth Alliance to enlist the services of Nextsite. Nextsite is a commercial development firm, and will be actively engaging a wide range of businesses to bring them to our area and our Village.

The Village continues to share helpful information, and if you subscribed to text alerts you may have received a notice about an update to the number that the messages come through. If you haven't signed up, please go to the CivicPlus website at <https://divernon-il.myfreealerts.com>. Also, please sign up for general information notifications. For your convenience, a link has been added to our website for easy sign-up. Contact Heather Rideout with questions or for assistance.

COVID continues to have a major impact on our small businesses. Please continue to support them as they struggle. Buying local will help them as they are an integral part of our community family. Times are tough, but we will get through this!

The Village website at [www.divernonil.com](http://www.divernonil.com) contains the most current information on Village activities, new ordinances, etc.. Please note that the Village website continues to be updated including a calendar of events and information on resources. It's important that you visit the Village website frequently to keep abreast of Village news, projects and programs.

**PCM Presents: Coffee Talks:** Precision Conservation Management, Otter Lake Water Commission and SIU-Edwardsville are hosting six "coffee talks" in our area. These are informal meetings to drink some free coffee and discuss farming, local conservation efforts, and more.

To see the meeting schedule and locations you can check out the flier on the village website [www.divernonil.com](http://www.divernonil.com) or visit "217 Lakes and Recreation" on Facebook.



# PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Jeremy Rhodes, Supt.

THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT Work has been completed on oiling and rocking the streets. The Village is looking good thanks to our Public Works Department! When you see the crew around town working to improve and clean up our community, thank them for the work they do!

**NATURAL GAS SURVEY** - Please check your mailbox for the Natural Gas Survey that is sent out on behalf of the Village to gauge the public awareness of safety surround the use of natural gas. This survey arrives in a white envelope with blue flame printed on the front and "Village of Divernon" is printed in the return address location.

As a reminder, if you suspect a gas leak, call 217-628-3416 immediately.

**VILLAGE SEWAGE DUMP** - Only Divernon Village proper (does not include Comanche Village) residents are allowed to dump at the site. Only yard waste, including grass clippings and tree branches, are allowed. Violators will be contacted and possibly fined.

**BUILDING PERMIT APPLICATIONS** are available at the Village hall. Prior to beginning any building project, an application must be filed. This includes sheds on skids. Please contact Jeremy Rhodes if you have questions. Completed applications must be submitted to Village hall. **NO WORK SHALL BEGIN UNTIL THE APPLICATION IS APPROVED!**

**PROPERTY MAINTENANCE** - Please keep drains and culverts clear of debris. Sticks and limbs must be piled neatly by the side of the street in front of your property for the Village to pick up. If you have an extra-large load of branches, please call the Village office to check on pickup fees. Burning of yard waste is allowed on your property only from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Burning of garbage is prohibited at any time. Remember to keep your garbage cans stored off the street when not out for pickup. It's important that we take care of our properties in a manner that is inviting to people who visit our community!



# POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief Jason Martin

THE POLICE DEPARTMENT continues to keep our Village safe. Our Officers patrol the streets protecting our families, especially our children. Thank our police officers when you see them out patrolling.

**ORDINANCE VIOLATIONS** will continue to be addressed as needed. Junk vehicles or other junk or trash must be removed from properties. Properties in need of the owner's attention due to an ordinance violation will be identified, and the owner will be contacted. Please do not park vehicles on or block sidewalks or mailboxes. Vehicles parked on the street must be parked on the side of the street in the direction headed. Unless there is a shoulder for parking, cars cannot be parked in the street on a regular basis. Fines will be assessed for all occurrences. Please help us keep the Village safe and clean! As new issues arise, new ordinances will be considered.

**OPEN BURNING ORDINANCE 4-1-2** states that open burning of any garbage, hazardous waste, nonwood products, human or animal feces or human or animal flesh, on the ground or in any container is prohibited. No burning is allowed on public property including streets, gutter, curb, sidewalk, or property owned by the Village (alley). No fire may be located less than twenty-five feet (25') from any building or private property. No fires, except for permitted recreational fires, may be started before 7:00 a.m. or allowed to burn past 7:00 p.m. Failure to comply could result in a fine of \$75 up to \$300. Ordinance 4-1-2 can be found at <https://codelibrary.amlegal.com/codes/divernonil/latest/overview> updated June 2018.

**GOLF CARTS** must be inspected and approved by the Village Police Department. There is an annual fee for the sticker for each golf cart. Golf carts are not to be operated in any inclement weather. Please contact the Police Department for information on the correct requirements for your golf cart. Four wheelers and side-by-sides are not street approved.



## VILLAGE EVENTS, COMMUNITY CLUBS & SERVICES

**THE DIVERNON H.S. ALUMNI ASSOCIATION** – The Association always needs volunteers and is hopeful volunteers from the newer classes will get involved. Please consider volunteering to keep this banquet going. If you're interested, please contact Nancy Crawford at 217/725-3413. .

**SCHOOL NEWS** – Visit the school website for school information at [www.auburn.k12.il.us](http://www.auburn.k12.il.us).

**DIVERNON MASONS LODGE** - Contact John Lewis at 217/741-7567 if you are interested in joining the Masons Lodge or renting the building.

**AMERICAN LEGION NEWS** - COVID-19 has had a major impact on fund raising activities this year. If you would like information on joining the American Legion please contact Gene Brenning at 217/741-0920 or for building rental contact Jim Richards at 217/691-2881. Meetings are the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. The Veterans Day Dinner will start at 5:30pm for cocktails and 6:00 for dinner. The men continue to make improvements to the building, and thank the community for their continued support.

**THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY** - Unfortunately fund raising is still being affected by the pandemic. At this time we are planning the Annual Bazaar and Bake Sale for November 20th, as well as a Veterans Day dinner. We are still collecting Christmas decorations you're no longer using for the bazaar. Please consider donating them to the American Legion Auxiliary. Funds raised during the year benefit the American Legion building, clothing and supplies for veterans, honor flight, scholarship, etc. If you so choose, you can donate to the American Legion Auxiliary so that we are able to provide services to those serving or having served our country. We enjoy serving our veteran family, our seniors and a high school senior! Please contact Nancy Beaty at 217/628-3383 to arrange for pickup of your Christmas decorations.

If you have a loved one currently serving, please provide their name and mailing address as we like to reach out to our men and women in the military. Meetings are held the 1st Thursday of the month at 6:00 p.m. If you are interested in joining please contact Nancy Beaty at 217/628-3383.

**Village Electronics Cleanup** - BLH Computers is scheduled to return to the Village on May 7th for electronics recycling.

More details to follow on the Village-wide yard sale and clean up day.

**DIVERNON YOUTH GROUP CLOTHING CLOSET** is available to all residents of Divernon and surrounding communities. All clothing is FREE with sizes from infant to Adult XXL. Shoes, belts, and other accessories are also available. Clean, gently used clothing is accepted. If assistance is needed after hours, please contact Melissa Layton at 217/801-6533. The Clothing Closet is located in the Presbyterian Church, 265 S. Second Street on the SW side of the Square. **The closet hours have changed to Wednesdays 3:00–5:00 p.m on the following dates: November 3rd & 17th, December 1st & 15th. All donations are appreciated! Thank you!**

**DIVERNON CHRISTIAN YOUTH GROUP** This group is open to all youth in the community from 5th through 12th grades. Food, activities and a community service project are provided at each meeting. If you would like to get involved or donate, either monetary or as a volunteer, please contact Melissa Layton at 217/801-6533.

**The youth group is not currently meeting, but will begin meeting soon.**

**THE DIVERNON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH (DUMC) FOOD PANTRY** is in the Divernon Methodist Church, 503 South Second Street, Divernon. Hours of operation are 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. every Monday. Donations of non-perishable food items and paper products are always welcome. Drop-off locations are United Community Bank and the Village Hall. Arrangements can also be made to deliver items to the church by calling 217/628-3530. Monetary donations are always welcome and can be mailed to the address above.

**THE DIVERNON SPORTSMAN'S CLUB** has many activities available for children and adults. For information on joining, please contact George Brown at 217/652-8538 or Kevin Zimmerman at 217/717-7940. Check the sign at the Senior Center for times of events and other announcements.





50 East Brown Street,  
Divernon, IL 62530  
217/628-3416  
217/628-3076(fax)

Website: info@divernonil.com  
Email: divvlg@comcast.net  
Police Department 217/628-3355  
Fire Department 217/628-3341  
**EMERGENCY: 911**

\*\*\*\*\*ECRWSEDDM\*\*\*\*

Postal Customer  
Divernon IL 62530

**Village President:** Jim Copelin.....divernonmayor@comcast.net   **Trustees:** Larry Baer, Tyler Bramley, Craig Busch,  
**Village Clerk** Gail Hedges..... divernonclerk@comcast.net                      Chuck Apgar, Joe Bukantos, Dianne Brenning

**Board Meetings** 2nd and 4th Wednesday of Month at 6:30 p.m.

## VILLAGE EVENTS, COMMUNITY CLUBS & SERVICES cont'd

**THE AUBURN-DIVERNON ATHLETIC CLUB** is a sports booster club whose purpose is to produce an environment that inspires student athletes, coaches, parents and the community to collectively create a positive and spirited atmosphere for all athletic programs. If you would like to become a member or would like more information please email [adacbooster@gmail.com](mailto:adacbooster@gmail.com) or contact Tyler Bramley at 217/899-3667.

## WORSHIP IN DIVERNON

**FAITH BAPTIST CHURCH - REGULAR WORSHIP TIMES - 9:30 a.m.** Sunday School (all ages), 10:45 a.m. Morning Service, 11:45 a.m. Lunch, 1:00 p.m. Afternoon Service, 7:00 p.m. Wednesday Prayer Meeting - Pastor, Seth Ventress.

**DIVERNON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH – REGULAR WORSHIP TIMES - 9:45 a.m.** Morning Service, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Adult Sunday School at 9:00am. Wednesday weekly Bible Studies at Toni's Café, we eat at 6:30 pm. Open Heart sewing ministry meets Tuesday from 9:30 until 11:00am. For more information call 217/628-3530. Christmas Eve candle light services December 24th at 7:00pm. The Church is also starting its "Hands for Hope" Holiday Ministry season, consisting of Coats for Youth, Thanksgiving and Christmas Food baskets, and an Angle Tree. Donations are appreciated.

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF DIVERNON - REGULAR WORSHIP TIMES - 9:30 a.m.--10:30 a.m.** - Children's Sunday School 10:00 a.m., and Fellowship Breakfast on the last Sunday of the Month at 9:00 a.m. Christmas Eve Service is scheduled for December 24th at 6:00pm. Reverend Steve Smith—217/899-1002.

**THE DIVERNON TOWNSHIP LIBRARY** is an asset to our community. Everyone is invited to take advantage of the resources available at the library such as books, DVD's, audio books and patron computers. As a member of IHLS, books can be requested and delivered to Divernon at no cost to patrons. Programs offered are monthly movie night, weekly story hour, summer reading programs and accelerated reader points. Donations of audio books, DVD's or money are always welcome. The library also offers copying and faxing for a nominal fee. For more information, please contact the library at 217/628-3813 or visit the library's website at [www.divernontownshiplibrary.org](http://www.divernontownshiplibrary.org).

**NEWSLETTER INFORMATION** The Village of Divernon News will be issued every four months. The next newsletter will be available early 2022. If you have information on your business or club that you would like included, please contact the Village Office at 217/628-3416.

Besides the Village website, you can also join us at [www.facebook.com/divernoncommunityinfo](http://www.facebook.com/divernoncommunityinfo).