

# VILLAGE OF DIVERNON *News*

Issue 26

February 2023 [www.divernonil.com](http://www.divernonil.com)

## FROM THE MAYOR AND THE VILLAGE BOARD

Happy New Year!

The Village Board is looking forward to a great 2023, and is excited about everything this year has to offer. We are also excited to recognize the winners of the Christmas Light Contest. Best Theme - Vickie and Robert Caldwell, Most Traditional - Jay and Debbie Sergent, and Best Light Show - Randy and Judy Graeser.

Our plans for 2023 include more work on updating the water-mains, more work on roads, and continuing to work to grow Divernon. Last year the Board was able to fund the demolition of the south gas station, and we are excited to announce the Village has negotiated to purchase the properties to more easily facilitate future business expansion. We cannot wait to share further progress.

The Village has also adopted a new *Business Development and Incentive Program*. Thanks to the TIF and Business Districts, the Village has funding available to help support existing and new businesses. Program details and the funding application are available on the Village website.

Planning for the Block Party is underway. If you would like to help, contact Craig Busch. The annual village yard-sale is set for April 29<sup>th</sup> and the cleanup/recycling day is May 6<sup>th</sup>.

The Village website at [www.divernonil.com](http://www.divernonil.com) contains the most current information on Village activities, new ordinances, and more. 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.





## PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Jeremy Rhodes, Supt.

**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!**

The Annual Drinking Water Report is available and can be found on the Village website at <http://divernonil.com/community/public-works-department/>, or copies can be obtained at the Village Hall.

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



## POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief Jason Martin

The Department has recently welcomed Officer Lavin to our team. Please welcome him as he helps keep our Village safe.

There have been sporadic issues with vandalism, and the party or parties found to be responsible are being held financially responsible for the damages. We have also been increasing surveillance around the square to help deter damage.

Before the weather gets warm, all residents with Golf Carts are reminded to review the Ordinance and permissible areas and times for use. Please make sure to have your annual inspection and permitting completed before taking to the roads.

The Divernon Fire Protection District needs members immediately to be able to continue the services they provide. Membership is low enough that some services may need to be discontinued. Contact us at 217-628-3341 or stop by on Thursday evenings.

Volunteers need to be at least 18 and live in the fire protection district. Most training is provided locally, or online. Looking for individuals to help on medical and fire calls



## Upcoming Dates

**April 4th**  
Consolidated Election Day  
**April 29<sup>th</sup>**  
Village Yard Sale  
**May 6th**  
Cleanup Day



Families in need are encouraged to apply for energy bill assistance through the Help Illinois Families program. All families who meet the criteria and provide required documentation are eligible to receive bill assistance for natural gas, propane, and electricity through the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).

Families can apply by visiting [helpillinoisfamilies.com](http://helpillinoisfamilies.com) or by visiting their local agency. Families can also call 1-833-711-0374 for assistance in 30 languages.

LIHEAP provides one-time payments directly to energy service providers on behalf of recipients. All families who meet the qualifications and provide proper documentation will receive support until funding is exhausted.

## 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. If you're interested, please contact Nancy Crawford at 217/725-4513.

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

**AMERICAN LEGION NEWS** - 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 6:00 p.m. The Legion Pancake and Sausage Breakfast will be held on March 12 from 9-12.

**THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY** – The auxiliary has been very busy this past year with several fundraisers, which has allowed the following: \$1,500 donation to Wreaths Across America funding 100 wreaths at Camp Butler, donations to the Quincy VA Home of 36 items valued \$1,300, \$500 for Veterans to attend Honor Flights, and gift cards for our local active duty servicemen. Thanks to everyone that helped make this all possible.

**DIVERNON CLOTHING CLOSET** is available to all residents of Divernon and surrounding communities. All clothing is FREE with sizes from infant to Adult 3X. Shoes, belts, and other accessories are also available. Clean, gently used clothing is accepted. The closet will be open Wednesdays 4:00-6:00 PM or by appointment.

If assistance is needed after hours, please contact Cheri Pfeiler at 217/303-2255 or Nancy Crawford at 217/725-4513. The Clothing Closet is located in the Presbyterian Church, 265 S. Second Street on the SW side of the Square.

**BRAMLEY FUNERAL HOME** announced the purchase of the old Divernon Masonic Lodge. While still updating the chapel side of the facility, located at 150 Reichert Road, the reception side has been completed. If you would like more information on renting the facility for your next birthday party, family reunion, or get together please contact the Bramleys at 217-628-3612.

**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 – 6:30 p.m. every Monday. *Please note the new winter hours as of November 7<sup>th</sup>.*

Donations of non-perishable food items and paper products are always welcome. The Pantry cannot accept homemade goods. 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 TOWNSHIP LIBRARY** Everyone is invited to take advantage of the resources available at the library such as books, DVD's, audio books and computers. As a member of IHLS, books can be requested and delivered to Divernon at no cost. 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. For more information, please contact the library at 217/628-3813 or visit [www.divernontownshiplibrary.org](http://www.divernontownshiplibrary.org).





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

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Postal Customer  
Divernon IL 62530

**Website:** [info@divernonil.com](mailto:info@divernonil.com)

**Email:** [divvlg@comcast.net](mailto:divvlg@comcast.net)

**Police Department** 217/628-3355

**Fire Department** 217/628-3341

**EMERGENCY: 911**

**Village President:** Jim Copelin.....[divernonmayor@comcast.net](mailto:divernonmayor@comcast.net)

**Village Clerk** Gail Hedges.....[divernonclerk@comcast.net](mailto:divernonclerk@comcast.net)

**Trustees:** Larry Baer, Tyler Bramley, Craig Busch,  
Chuck Apgar, Joe Bukantos, Dianne Brenning

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

**NEWSLETTER INFORMATION** The Village of Divernon News will be issued every quarter.

The next newsletter will be available in May. If you have information on your business or club that you would like included, please contact the Village Office at 217/628-3416.

In addition to the Village website, you can also visit [Divernon Community Information](#) on Facebook

## 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, Adult Sunday School at 9:00am. Open Heart sewing ministry meets Tuesday from 9:30 until 11:00am. For more information call 217/628-3530.

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF DIVERNON** - REGULAR WORSHIP TIMES - 9:30 a.m.—10:30 a.m. and Fellowship Breakfast on the last Sunday of the Month at 9:00 a.m.

**MESSAGE CHURCH** - REGULAR WORSHIP TIMES - Sunday's at 9:30 a.m. Come as you are. Baptismal always open. For more information call 217/741-3498.

**We have many great local businesses in Divernon!**  
**By supporting them you help support our Village!**