

November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Bremen Chamber of Commerce

Hosted at Bremen 1<sup>st</sup> Source Bank

- 1<sup>st</sup> Source Bank
  - Recently introduced their tap to pay debit cards
  - Discussed high new interest rates
  - Highlighted their full staff and Shelby's new promotion
  - Offered to have a guest speaker come to Chamber meetings/individual businesses to talk about fraud. This could be anywhere from 20 minutes to an hour.
- Newsletter Updates:
  - December
    - Spotlight: Movie Theatre
    - Community Spotlight: H&R Block
- Business to Business holiday scavenger hunt (promoting businesses within the community) November 23-December 14. Everyone will be given a candy bar for participating, but winner will get \$50 Chamber bucks that they can use at participating businesses. 10 businesses are participating.
- Lighting Ceremony November 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 pm (need volunteers to hand out scavenger hunt sheets). Brian said that he can help, and Claire will if possible. Meet next Wednesday at 1:00 in the Town Hall to judge the drawing contest.
- Possible chamber sponsored theatre night (speak with Katie Barts for info)
  - The Theatre offers two different options for people/businesses:
    - \$30 an hour to rent out the theatre that sits 160 people, but you provide your own video/slideshow and do your own promoting. This has to be over within an hour of movie premieres.
    - Around \$300 a month, based on company to sponsor a movie for the whole time it plays. This will be advertised the same as usual show times.
- Executive Director of Marshall County Lifelong Learning Network: business opportunities for grants, skills and employee education (still need to pick date and RSVP event). Discussed having this in December because of time sensitivity, which Aneka is looking into. If we push it back, we still want to do it in the winter, along with 1<sup>st</sup> Source's guest speaker. Both could be at the BPL with drinks and snacks.
- Wanting to get more business (HR) employees to attend meetings for 2023 also would like to get meetings into business settings. Feel free to reach out to have a meeting at your business!
- 2 new businesses
  - The Dog lb. (gourmet hotdogs and doughnuts). Owner Lela was at the meeting and said that the kitchen is being fully remodeled, but hopes to have some soft openings and taste testings coming up.
  - Seven Store LLC (t shirts, posters, flyers, and snacks). Aneka is looking into who the owner is. Located where the old Mexican restaurant used to be.
- Bremen Arts Collective has storage space available, very affordable rates. Call Derek at (574) 315-8327. Limited but large spaces, can hold things like RVs, boats, and campers.
- Blood Drive today at the high school from 9am-2pm

- Open Discussion
  - VFW update
    - South of 6 will be playing for New Years
    - Will be hosting a holiday event where they either collect toys for tots or have a \$10 cover fee for fundraising. Details to come
    - The “Underground” band will be playing on December 10<sup>th</sup>
    - Starting to do more Karaoke
    - 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday’s of each month, are spicy spaghetti days
    - They just put in their new roof and are very happy with the company they worked with
    - Starting to serve breakfast most days
    - On the 30<sup>th</sup>, the entertainer Abby Thomas will be there
    - On the 19<sup>th</sup>, they’ll be hosting a feather party where they give away chickens and turkeys as door prizes
    - Looking into doing a Turkey BINGO
    - Still doing BINGO, line dancing, and regular events as well
  - Lochmandy Motors
    - Weekly pancake breakfasts are still going on
    - Big drawing’s each month are going on. Some upcoming ones include \$1000 gift cards and TVs
  - Bremen Food Pantry
    - Always looking for help with loading/unloading goods and donations
    - On December 3<sup>rd</sup>, Santa will be at the lake at the Bremen Conservation Club for the Christmas party/firetrucks around the lake event
  - BPL
    - Christmas Extravaganza and Ugly Sweater contest coming up that we’d really appreciate participation in.
  - La Parilla Caliente
    - Doing a huge fundraising event this week to support Riley’s Children’s Hospital and raise money in Bremen
  - HR Block Bremen and Plymouth with Lisa Knepp just made top 100 US Franchises. Lisa is in Las Vegas right now at a conference for it.
- Next meeting December 14<sup>th</sup> was going to be at HR Block, but is now TBD based on possible guest speakers

**19 people in attendance:** Town of Bremen, Bremen Library, Cutrite Tree Services, La Parilla Caliente, VFW, Police, 1<sup>st</sup> Source Bank, NISCO, ACE Hardware, Indiana Carton, Bremen Theatre, Dog Lb., Lochmandy Motors