



# Voice of Johnsburg

*A Hometown with Spirit*

*Winter 2018*



*In this Issue:*

*Holiday Magic & Parade  
Sled Hill to Open  
Photo Contest*





# Village President's Letter



As I write this article, the weather has turned suddenly colder and I am reminded of how quickly winter will be here. The fall season is always a busy time at the Village as we prepare for the colder months ahead. The public works department is wrapping up projects and preparing vehicles and equipment for the snow removal season ahead. Fall in Johnsburg is also a time filled with fun community events.

In September, we celebrated the 46th Annual Saufen Und Spiel event. Thanks to the hard work and dedication of the Johnsburg Community Club, the Johnsburg Community Men's Club and Johnsburg Lions Club members the event was once again a success. Beautiful weather, good food and great entertainment made this year's event unforgettable. The Glockenspiel Show, new this year, was a great tribute to the German heritage of our community. Thank you to Jason and Emily Konrad, residents and owners of Konrad Construction, for coordinating and sponsoring the show. I would be remiss if I did not thank Johnsburg resident Len Keil and his friends from the Classic Thunderbird Club of Chicago. Len along with Bill Axelson, Dan Mrozek, President of the Club, Dan Anderson, Liz Werth, Art Hahl, Lloyd Schellin, Ed Levin, Jim Wilson, Lee Bakakos, and Bill Balogh drove Village officials in their classic Thunderbird convertibles in the parade again this year.

On September 22nd, the Community Affairs Committee hosted the first Annual Burg-B-Que. I look forward to watching this event blossom as I expect it will grow to be just as successful as other events coordinated by the Committee.

On September 29th, family and friends came out to enjoy the Village's annual Celebration in the Park event at Sunnyside Memorial Park. Although we all got a little wet from the rain, a great time was had by all. I would personally like to thank all of the generous contributors who made this event possible. I extend much thanks to the members of the Community Affairs Committee whose hard work and efforts continue to make this event a community favorite. Please see the article on page 11 for more about the event and our generous contributors.

This fall the Illinois Commerce Commission issued a final order regarding the rate increase proposed by Utilities Inc. Once again, the residents of our community came together in an effort to make a difference. I was amazed at the number of residents not served by the Utilities Inc. system that reached out to see what they could do to make a difference. The sentiment being - if it has a negative impact on some of our residents, it has a negative impact on our community as a whole. I am truly honored to represent a community of individuals that feel that way.

The Village Board, working in partnership with Johnsburg School District #12 and the Johnsburg Library District recently agreed to suspend school and library impact fees in an effort to stimulate economic growth in our community. Be sure to read the article on page 9 regarding this important matter.

As we head into the winter months, watch for the opening of the new sled hill at Sunnyside Memorial Park. It is always great to have some outdoor activities to enjoy during the winter months. When utilizing the sled hill, but sure to follow the posted rules to help prevent accidents. To read more about safe sledding practices, see the article on page 5 I look forward to seeing you out on the sled hill this winter.

If you missed some of the fun events coordinated by the Community Affairs Committee, do not fret, they have more fun-filled events planned this winter beginning with the annual Holiday Magic event planned for Saturday, December 1st. This year's event will start off with the first ever Holiday Parade. Read the article on page 5 for more information about this family favorite. In January watch for the annual Family Skate Night event at Rescue Squad Park tentatively scheduled for January 19th.

In closing, I would like to thank all of our residents and the business community for the opportunity to serve you again this past year as your Village President. I hope I have addressed any concerns you have had and if not, please contact me. I, along with the Village Board and staff, wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Respectfully,

Edwin Hettermann  
Village President



# 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Citizen's Police Academy Class



The Johnsburg Police Department has announced the 8th annual Citizen's Police Academy Class. A Citizen Police Academy is a program intended to educate adult citizens about police work and is designed to give the public a working knowledge of our department's organization, personnel, policies and procedures. The Citizen Police Academy is not designed as a preparatory class for individuals who desire to become a law enforcement officer. Rather, it is intended as an educational and informative offering for adults who both reside or work within our village and have a desire to learn more about their police department. Enrolled citizens will be encouraged to build a lasting partnership with the Department, with the ultimate goal of reducing crime and improving the quality of life in our neighborhoods.

The Citizen Police Academy topics will include the history and evolution of law enforcement, firearms familiarization, patrol tactics, gangs, drug enforcement, special response team operations, canine patrol, criminal law, crime prevention, media relations, crime scene processing, investigations, and others.

The Academy begins in February, 2019 and will meet once per week for a total of 9 two to three hour sessions. A variety of instructors from the Johnsburg Police Department, and guests, will be presenting an assortment of topics in order to provide the public with a comprehensive view of police work and the criminal justice system.

The Academy is offered free of charge to Johnsburg Citizens as well as business owners and employees. Anyone interested in applying for the Academy must complete an application which involves a criminal background check and must meet the following criteria:

- Must be 21 years old or older
- No prior felony conviction
- No outstanding warrants
- No pending criminal cases

Class size is limited to 8 participants, and the class will fill quickly, so please visit [www.Johnsburg.org](http://www.Johnsburg.org) for an application. Any questions may be directed to Chief Keith Von Allmen at 815-385-6024 or [police@Johnsburg.org](mailto:police@Johnsburg.org).



## Shop with a Cop

The Johnsburg Police Department and the Johnsburg Lions Club created the "Shop with a Cop" program 20+ years ago. The program has built many positive relationships between police officers and the children of our community. Each child receives a fixed amount to spend on Christmas gifts at our local Walmart.

Children are recommended for participation in the program by police department members, school employees, social agencies and family shelters. Anyone can nominate a child who meets the criteria of being between the ages of five and fourteen and who has a social or economic need and has not participated in past years.

The "Shop with a Cop" program is fully funded by local donations. If anyone would like to donate to this wonderful program to help make a child's Christmas special, or would like to nominate a child, please contact Chief Keith Von Allmen at 815.385.6024.

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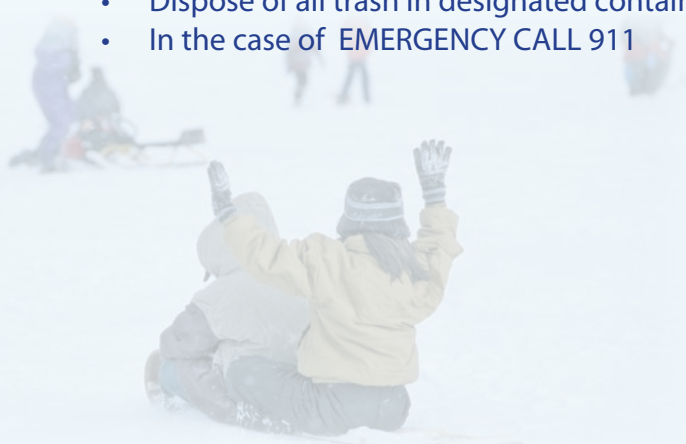


# Sled Hill To Open Winter 2018!



We are excited to announce that the Sled Hill at Sunnyside Memorial Park will be open this winter. Crews recently completed the placement of top soil and seed blanket on the hill and good grass growth is established. Safety fencing will be installed and instructional signage posted. We are excited to offer this fun, winter pastime for families to enjoy, but along with the fun comes some safety considerations. The Village has established the following rules and guidelines for use of the sled hill:

- Note that the Sled Hill is not supervised
- Always Obey "Sled Hill Closed" Signs
- Snowboards and Skis are strictly prohibited
- Do not alter the Sled Hill - Ramps are prohibited
- Children should always be supervised
- Bicycle or multi-sport helmets are recommended
- Sled in the designated area only
- Exit the bottom of the hill promptly
- Climb the hill in the designated walk area
- Do not walk in the sledding path
- Lights turn on at dusk and turn off at 10:00 p.m.
- Pets and Alcoholic beverages are strictly prohibited
- Dispose of all trash in designated containers
- In the case of EMERGENCY CALL 911



## Village of Johnsburg Holiday Magic



### Holiday Magic & Parade



On Saturday, **DECEMBER 1ST, AT 4:30 P.M.** the Village of Johnsburg and the Community Affairs Committee will kick off this year's Holiday Magic event with Johnsburg's first ever Holiday Parade. The parade will begin at First Midwest Bank and proceed along Church Street to the Johnsburg Community Club. A tree lighting ceremony will take place immediately following the parade. The event will include crafts, balloons, music, refreshments and special visit from Santa. This event is free to residents of Johnsburg. In the spirit of giving we ask that you please bring a new toy or an item for the food pantry for those in need.



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# CELEBRATION IN THE PARK

On Saturday, Sept 29, 2018, the Village of Johnsburg and the Community Affairs Committee held the 12th Annual Celebration in the Park event. Friends and family came out to enjoy a fun filled evening with pumpkins donated by Richardson Farm, corn donated by Hiller Farms, pop and water donated by Angelo's Fresh Market, food and beverages donated by Sunnyside Tavern, prepared and served by the Johnsburg Lions Club and Johnsburg High School CARES and great music performed by LOL Chicago Band. Children enjoyed the moon jumps, face painting, games and despite the rain, everyone enjoyed the incredible fireworks display at the end of evening. We would like to thank the following generous contributors who made this event possible:

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The event would also not have been possible without the hard work of the Community Affairs Committee and the volunteers who support them, Mad Bomber Fireworks, McHenry Township Fire District, Village staff and members of their families who also donated their time. **Thank you to all!**



## Chapel Hill Golf Course

A year has quickly passed since the Village purchased the Chapel Hill Golf Course and we are pleased with the success of our first golf season. Many improvements took place this year and more are underway this fall starting with utility relocations in preparation for the removal of the old clubhouse. Over the winter, the McHenry Township Fire Protection District will utilize the clubhouse for training purposes and conclude their training with a complete burn of the building. We are pleased with the progress made this first year and look forward to another great golf season next year. 2019 Golf Passes are already available at **ChapelHillGC.com**. Don't forget, Johnsburg residents receive additional discounts.

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# Snow Removal

The Village of Johnsburg has a Snow Removal and Ice Control Policy in place to help insure safe roadways during inclement weather. As we prepare for winter weather, here are some things you should know:

- Hazards at the roadside, such as boulders or driveway markers that may interfere with or damage plows, must be removed before the first snowfall. In larger storms it can be difficult for our drivers to see the edge of the road.
- Major roads and bus routes are plowed first, followed by secondary subdivision streets and finally cul de sacs and private roads.
- There is no parking along the road on days when a 2 inch snowfall has occurred or is being forecasted.
- Check your mailbox post to make sure it is sturdy enough to withstand snow being deflected from the plow. We will repair mailboxes only if they come in direct contact with the snowplow and will not repair them if the force of the snow knocks them down.
- Make sure the area around your mailbox is shoveled so mail can be delivered as well as around any fire hydrant that may be on your property.
- Increase following distance when driving behind a snowplow. It is very difficult for drivers to see cars directly behind them.
- The Public Works department will be clearing snow from the downtown, Johnsburg Road, St. Johns Avenue and Church Street sidewalks. **ABSOLUTELY NO** snowmobiles are permitted on sidewalks or in the downtown area. Citations will be issued to snowmobiles who ride on sidewalks.

With your help and patience, this year's snow removal should run smoothly. You can view the entire Snow Removal and Ice Control Policy on our website at [www.Johnsburg.org](http://www.Johnsburg.org).

## Rescue Squad Park Ice Rink



The ice rink at Rescue Squad Park will once again soon be open. The rink is made possible each year through the generous efforts of the Community Affairs Committee and many volunteers from the

community. This year's Family Skate Night is scheduled for January 19th, 2019, weather permitting. Watch for e-blast updates with more information about this event. Find some time to come out and enjoy the rink this winter with the whole family.



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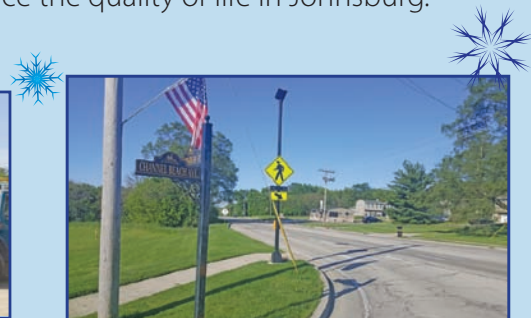
# Village of Johnsburg Public Works Department ❄️

Have you ever wondered what the Public Works department does for our community? Sometime their efforts are obvious, such as when they are making our roadways safe during a snowstorm. At other times, they are busy performing other tasks that may go unnoticed. Johnsburg's public works team is responsible for the maintenance of:

- Fifty miles of roadway, guardrails, shoulders, street lights, signage, culverts, curbs and other storm water infrastructure
- A waste water treatment system made up of a treatment plant, lift stations, sewer mains, E-1 pumps
- Two water systems consisting of a water tower, multiple wells, well houses, pumps, water mains and water meters
- Parks, open space, sidewalks, pedestrian lighting and entry signs
- Vehicles and equipment including a backhoe, front end loader, street sweeper, bucket truck, 5yd dump and pick-up trucks, plows, police squads, sidewalk plow and tractor, lawn tractors and mowers, and hand tools.

Our public works team is also depended upon to lend a hand in all of our wonderful community events, and assist with facility maintenance when needed.

The Johnsburg Public Works Department strives to construct, maintain, and operate our infrastructure and systems in an efficient and effective manner. Their efforts help to protect the public and enhance the quality of life in Johnsburg.



## ❄️ Public Works News ❄️ ❄️ Infrastructure Maintenance ❄️

Public works employees are busy preparing trucks and equipment for the upcoming snow removal season. Over the past few months, they have been working diligently to complete an aggressive road patching, ditching and tree trimming program. Additionally, they have been working to clear brush and debris from major drainage areas to insure that the Village's storm water system operates properly. We are fortunate to have a team of skilled and knowledgeable employees who are able to perform much of the work in house, which enables the Village to do more while containing costs. This year roads in Dutch Creek Woodlands and Prairie Commerce Center were repaved along with Country Springs Drive. Additionally, the public works department performed road patching on Charnbrook, Channel Beach Avenue, Lakeview Drive, Hilltop Drive, Sandalwood Ct, Appleton Ct, Raintree Ct, Rosewood Ln, Sundown Ln, Blitsch Place, Hillcrest Place, Golden Rod Ln, Prairie Rose Ln and Hanging Fen Ct. Crews also pursued tree trimming throughout the Village to remove branches affecting line of site and safe travel along our roadways. Tree trimming will continue throughout the winter months. By taking a proactive approach to infrastructure maintenance, we can prevent the need to pursue costly repairs and rebuilding of our infrastructure in the future.



# Utilities Inc Rate Increase - Final Order Issued

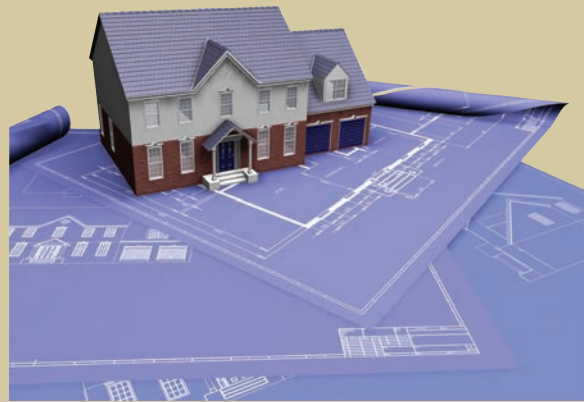
The Illinois Commerce Commission issued a final order regarding the rate increase proposed by Utilities Inc. Based upon the order, Utilities Inc. has set the monthly flat rate for a 5/8 and 3/4 inch meter at \$24.73 per month and a 1-inch meter at \$59.30 per month. The water usage rate will be \$10.07 per 1000 gallons of water consumed. Watch for more information from Utilities Inc. regarding the new rates and their effective date.



Thank you to our residents who got involved in this important matter. By working together and joining forces with other communities facing the increase, our voices were heard.

## School and Library Impact Fee Suspension

**"Come Build in Johnsburg!"** is the message the Village of Johnsburg, Johnsburg School District #12 and the Johnsburg Library District is communicating after jointly agreeing to suspend school and library impact fees for new residential construction. To further the effort, the Village Board has agreed to review land and construction values to determine if additional reductions should occur to park and other development related impact fees.



"Encouraging families to build in Johnsburg is important to the economic growth of our community as residential development will help to bring about new shopping, dining and employment opportunities for Johnsburg residents," said Village President Ed Hettermann. "I am truly grateful for the relationship we share with both District 12 and the Library that enabled us to work together in this endeavor".

The Village, School District 12 and the Johnsburg Library District have a history of working together in the best interests of the community. "This joint effort is an example of why Johnsburg is a great place to live and raise a family," Board of Education President Tom Oeffling said. "The suspension of school and library impact fees means you can choose your lot, select your contractor, and devote more of your investment into your new home."

The group agreed to review development activity annually and consider adjustments if warranted. "We are pleased to be a part of this decision and excited about the potential growth this change may bring to the community," said Library Board Treasurer Doug Liston.

The impact fee suspension took effect November 1, 2018, and will apply to all new residential construction within the Village of Johnsburg's corporate boundaries.

The impact fee suspension took effect November 1, 2018, and will apply to all new residential construction within the Village of Johnsburg's corporate boundaries.

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# Johnsburg Public Library Events

*Library programs are free of charge and require advance registration. Sign up online at [JohnsburgLibrary.org](http://JohnsburgLibrary.org) or call the library at 815-344-0077. A complete listing of upcoming programs is available on the online Calendar of Events at [JohnsburgLibrary.org](http://JohnsburgLibrary.org).*



**The Discovery of Magic**  
**Wednesday, November 14, 7:00 p.m.**

Presented by award winning magician William Pack. Intended for patrons 12 years and older.

**Murder at the Ugly Christmas Sweater Party**  
**Friday, December 7, 7:00 p.m.**

For adults 21 and older-includes dinner, drinks, and prizes.

**Nocturnal Animals**  
**Wednesday,**  
**December 12, 4:00 p.m.**

Presented by the McHenry County Conservation District. For kids ages 3-5 with an adult.

**Make a Gingerbread Friend**  
**Wednesday, December 19, 5:00 p.m.**

Hand stuff a plush gingerbread toy, then enjoy a cozy storytime. Ages 5 and up with an adult.

## Trick or Treat Survey

This past Halloween, the Village scheduled trick or treating on the Sunday before Halloween to enable residents with children to safely enjoy the event as a family. When Halloween falls on a weekday, traffic is much higher as people are coming home from work during trick or treat hours and many of our residents work outside of the community and are unable to accompany younger children or be home to greet trick or treaters. The goal of having the event on Sunday was to allow for safer movement throughout the community and for more families to be together. Many residents reached out to express both positive and negative thoughts regarding the change this year. We would like to obtain additional input from the community to help determine the trick or treating schedule for next year. Please take a moment to participate in an online survey at [www.johnsburg.org](http://www.johnsburg.org) and give us your feedback.

## Photo Contest



The Village is looking for great photos that capture the beauty and unique character of our community. If you have a photo that you would like to share, please submit it electronically to the Village of Johnsburg at [VillageHall@Johnsburg.org](mailto:VillageHall@Johnsburg.org) by January 1st. Photos that may be used on the cover of our Village newsletter should be high resolution and 3800 x 2500 pixels. Other photos may be 1500 x 1500 pixels at 300 dpi. Make sure to include your contact information with your submittal. If your photo is chosen for the cover of an upcoming newsletter, you will win a Village of Johnsburg sweatshirt and coffee mug. Photos may be utilized in Village publications, presentations or on our website. Some ideas for photos include nature, sunrise, sunset, architecture, recreational and/or community events. If you have any questions or need more information contact the Village Hall at 815-385-6023.

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# Thank You!

## ***A Big Thanks to our hardworking Community Affairs Committee***

We would like to thank the Community Affairs Committee and the many volunteers that have contributed their time and talents to bring the Village many memorable events this past year. In addition to all of the annual favorites, the Committee organized the first Burg-B-Que event this year and is gearing up for the first ever Holiday Parade, which will kick off the Holiday Magic event scheduled for Saturday, December 1, 2018. Come out and enjoy festively decorated entries traveling down Church Street to the Community Club followed by the annual tree lighting ceremony and a visit with Santa.

Don't forget to mark your calendars for another year of fun festivities in 2019!

- Family Skate Night – Saturday, January 19, 2019
- Easter Egg Hunt – Saturday, April 20, 2019
- Wine Tasting in the Park – Friday, August 2, 2019
- Celebration in the Park – Saturday, September 28, 2019
- Holiday Parade and Holiday Magic– Saturday, December 7, 2019
- Movies In The Park – dates to be determined
- Burg-B-Que – date to be determined

Sign up for email notifications of events and other important notices at [Johnsburg.org](http://Johnsburg.org).

If you would like to volunteer your time or talents to help on an event please contact the Village Hall at 815-385-6023.



## Save the Date



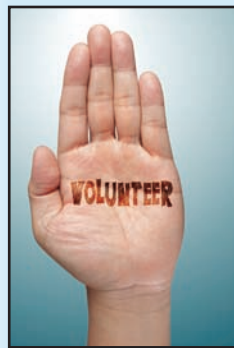
The Johnsburg Area Business Association will be holding the annual Business and Craft Expo at Johnsburg High School on **February 23, 2019.**

You can visit over

60 vendor booths where local business present their services and products. You can also take part in the Johnsburg High Schools Art & Music Departments “Bowl of Arts” event. There will be free parking, free admission, tons of raffle and doors prizes. Music and Art presentations will be ongoing throughout the event.

## Get Involved

The Village welcomes all its residents to get involved in their local government. Volunteering for a village committee is the best place to begin serving your Village. Here, you will have the opportunity to participate in making decisions that will steer the course of the Village well as solve everyday problems. The valuable knowledge and experience gained serving on these committees provides an in-depth understanding of Village issues and will help answer your questions regarding Village operations. If you are interested in serving on a committee or want to learn more about how local government works in Johnsburg, please visit our website [Johnsburg.org](http://Johnsburg.org) or contact the Village Hall at 815-385-6023.



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*From Village President Hettermann,  
Board of Trustees and Staff*