



THE JOHNSBURG VOICE

HOMETOWN WITH SPIRIT

March and April 2009

FROM THE VILLAGE PRESIDENT

David G. Dominguez



As I remarked in the winter newsletter, this article would be my last as your Village President. It's amazing to think that 14 exciting years have flown by. I consider myself to be very fortunate to have served as Village President for this time period. The residents were great and supportive; the various board members worked together to resolve problems; and our planning efforts were excellent. We worked together to grow our community slowly and with purpose.

My job was busy but most of the work was refereeing – trying to ensure that residents with village issues were being treated fairly; and that ordinances were being equally applied. My next key responsibility was to represent the Village in endeavors that required Village presence. This required traveling throughout the county for early morning meetings, late night meetings, and those dreaded meetings that occurred during the work day. The last major responsibility was to see that the Village operated effectively in providing good service to our residents. Here I was fortunate to have a staff of people whose hard work made my job much easier.

Some of the key achievements attained during my time in office include:

- Establishing Strategic Planning for the Village
- Annexation of Rte 31 Properties
- Change of Facility Plan to Include Rte 31 Properties
- The Development of the 2020 Land Use Plan
- Reconstruction of Private Roads to Public Roads
- Establishing a full time Public Works Department
- Receiving a 1 Million Dollar Federal Grant for the Sewer Project
- Ground Breaking and construction of Sewer plant
- Achievement of Cost Savings by Using an Existing Building for the Sewer Plant
- State Grant for Lift Station and Force Main
- Border Agreements with Our Neighboring Communities
- Approval of our FPA by the IEPA
- Construction of the Water Tower

- Renovation of the Village Hall
- Obtaining a State Grant for Hiller Park's Construction
- Construction of Hiller Park Concession Stand
- Reconstruction of Johnsburg Road
- Purchasing the Public Works Facility
- Purchasing the Rescue Squad Facility and it's Renovations as a Police Department
- Receiving \$2.6 Million in Additional Grants for the Sewer Facility
- Obtaining 17 Acres for an Athletic Field
- The Construction of our first major Retail Development in 30 Years.

I cannot claim being responsible for all of these achievements; rather board members, committee members, Village employees and the residents who served with me during my terms in office achieved these results.

Some of most memorable celebrations were those supporting other community endeavors, such as supporting the VFW Memorial Parade, the lighting of the Village Christmas Tree, or the Celebration of our 50th Anniversary of the incorporation of the Village. These proceeding got neighbors together and all enjoyed themselves.

My greatest achievement was having more than 50 residents participating in some function of the Village. I don't believe any other Village operates with that much participation.

There have been some disappointments along the way. The sewer project is one of those disappointments. Due to the severe economic downturn in the past year and a half and the high increase in costs resulting from the project's delay, the Village board has announced it will re-evaluate the sewer project looking closely at increased costs related to financing, material and labor, project scope changes, and the potential of new funding through the Federal Economic Stimulus package before moving forward with the project.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT CONT. & CHURCH STREET

Message from the President Cont:

Had the project began as anticipated ,we could have been two years through the project and closer to the completion of Phase 1. Another project I had hoped would be further along is the acquisition of the right of way on Church Street. This is still in the works and will be resolved soon. Lastly, I had hoped to see more progress on the Metra train site. The Village is actively working on this project so that we can all benefit from this much needed regional transportation improvement.

The future is bright for Johnsburg. There will be good news about additional business development on Route 31 announced shortly. With that development, you will continue to see improvements to Route 31. Likewise, we'll see improvements at the intersection of Chapel Hill Road, Johnsburg Road and St. Johns Road as McHenry County pursues its plans to improve traffic flow at that intersection. If we are fortunate, we will acquire some grant money for additional sidewalks throughout town This is truly ironic. When we placed the first sidewalks along Johnsburg Road, residents asked if we were nuts, believing that we were just wasting money. Today we receive many calls and letters inquiring when sidewalks can be placed in other parts of town.

We made great strides in the past 14 years, and more will come. I know this because I live in a town that cares about its residents, businesses, homes and its community. It's been a real pleasure to serve as your Village President. If you see me in town or in the yard, stop by and we can talk about how they did it in the old days.

CHURCH STREET

Village officials and staff are frequently asked why the Village does not repair the potholes on Church Street located west of the intersection of St. Johns Avenue. Please be aware that section of roadway is situated on private property and is not a Village road. Statutes prohibit the Village from expending public funds on private roads therefore we cannot perform repairs to the roadway. The Village has been working with both St. John the Baptist Church and the Johnsburg Community Club to acquire the road through a right of way dedication. Once the area is dedicated to the Village,

Church Street Cont:

maintenance repairs can be done and plans to improve the roadway can be pursued. We appreciate your concerns regarding the condition of the road and ask that you travel cautiously through the area. Your patience in this matter is greatly appreciated.

For the 3rd time in the past year, members of the Community Club Mike Clark, John Clark, Trustee John Huemann, Jeff Huemann, Trustee Ed Hettermann, Jeff Meyers, Marty Palmer and Allen Stilling, donated their time on February 28 to patch potholes on Church Street. The Huemann's donated the use of their backhoe and Rick Quinn donated a semi load of gravel to help with the repairs on Church Street. Many thanks to the Community Club and its members for their outstanding efforts.

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COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

As we are fast approaching the end of fiscal year 2008, the Community Affairs Committee is heavily focused on the year ahead. But first I would like to recap some of our important accomplishments in 2008.

First, Hiller Park baseball fields have undergone a remarkable transformation. The "Showcase" field now sports a new warning track and permanent "green" screening (buffer zone) behind the center field fence line. The Bronco field, used by teams ranging in ages between 9-14, saw even bigger changes. The entire infield was re-graded and moved back 20 feet toward the backstop and the walking path that previously encroached upon the left field foul territory has been relocated to allow for unobstructed play. Due to recent equipment purchases and manpower commitment, the overall maintenance and condition of the fields have improved dramatically. Look for more Hiller Park improvements this spring.

Second, the recent construction of the new Johnsborg Community Park shelter was the first phase of a multi-stage plan for the build out of Johnsborg's newest park, located in the Jak-Anna subdivision just west of the Community Club. The shelter's design and orientation was carefully chosen to permit passive gatherings for centralized "in-town" activities. Again we would like to thank Representative Jack Franks for his efforts in helping the village secure a state grant for the purpose of constructing the park shelter. One day this park could serve as the social epicenter of Johnsborg.

Next, I'd like to congratulate our social affairs subcommittee on the planning and execution of another hugely successful "Celebration in the Park" community fall festival. Residents turned out in large numbers to enjoy live music, food, fun and fireworks that were second to none.

And finally, Jill McEvoy, Ellen Bathje and the rest of the Community Affairs Committee would like to thank all those who braved the arctic temperatures and gale force winds to attend our family Holiday Celebration at Sunnyside Park. Unfortunately, the outdoor evening event fell victim to December's blistery winter weather, which proved to be fit for neither man nor beast. A special thanks goes out to Johnsborg's Turtle Soup Company as well as Chase Bank for volunteering. The highlight of the event were special guests, Mr. and Mrs. Santa Clause, who lis-

tened to Christmas requests from hopeful little ones whose enthusiasm was in no way diminished by the frigid wind chill. Many thanks to the fire department, Johnsborg Police, Village staff and volunteers for their efforts in making this evening possible.

Now, for a look ahead. In 2009, our ambitious 2012 goals, as outlined in the Community Affairs Committee Strategic Plan, voted on and approved last year, will be carefully reviewed and updated to reflect the current economic realities facing the Village and its residents. Although we will forge ahead wherever possible, we must remain flexible and consider possible modifications to allow for prudent and responsible decision making.

On the radar for 2009:

- Implementation of a newly designed website and newsletter.
- Further development of our comprehensive park plan.
- Fully integrated community calendar of events.

Check out our website www.johnsburg.org to see the complete Community Affairs Committee Strategic Plan or email me at mlhutchinson@johnsburg.org for questions and to learn how **you** can become more involved in **your** village.

Mary Lou Hutchinson
Chairman Community Affairs



NEWS FROM PUBLIC WORKS AND THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Building Permits

Spring will be here before you know it, now is the time to start planning for that remodeling project, shed, deck or any other home improvements you may be considering. Since a Building Permit is required for home improvements, applying for the necessary permits early will help alleviate delays in getting your permit on time to start the project. Please be aware that during the spring and summer months, it may take as long as 30 working days to receive a permit, depending on the work being done. Building permits are issued in the order that they are applied for.

Swimming Pools — When is a Barrier Required?

There have been a lot of questions over the last couple years regarding swimming pool barriers. By definition, an outdoor swimming pool is any structure or device intended for swimming or recreational bathing (both permanent and temporary) that has a *sidewall of 24 inches or greater*. This includes in-ground, above ground and on-ground pools, hot tubs and spas. Within the Village there are many inflatable pools that are taken down every year. Since temporary pools do not require a building permit to install, many believe that the barrier requirements do not apply. **This is not the case.** Village Ordinance requires a 48 inch barrier around any swimming pool, whether it is permanent or a temporary, inflatable pool. If the pool walls are 48 inches above grade, they will act as their own barrier and no other barrier is required. The purpose behind the barrier regulation is to make sure a child does not have access to the pool. The Village strongly enforces this regulation because it helps keep our neighborhoods safe for our children. Notices will be sent to those residents who are found to be in violation and a timeframe will be given to comply. If you have any questions regarding swimming pools, when barriers and permits are required, or any other building related questions, please contact Jerry Adams or Jennifer McBride at (815) 385-6023.

Illinois Safe Routes to School Update

Our Safe Routes To School (SRTS) application was submitted at the end of 2008. The decision by the SRTS Committee is slated for the next 2-3 months. The Safe Routes to School concept began in the late 1970s in Odense, Denmark over concern for the city's pedestrian accident rate. The town implemented a number of improvements including a network of pedestrian and bicycle paths, slow speed areas, narrowed roads and traffic islands. The result was an 85% reduction in traffic injuries to children. Because of the success of the program in Denmark, the SRTS concept spread internationally, with programs developing throughout Europe, Australia, New Zealand, Canada and the United States. The first SRTS program in the United States was started in 1997. In August 2005, federal transportation legislation devoted \$612 million for The National SRTS Program from 2005 through 2009. It is this program that funds Illinois' Safe Routes to School Program.

Currently, Julia Gasior from the Johnsburg High School Advanced Placement Government Class is working on a research project to develop a volunteer plan for bike and safety assistance programs. The Village, District 12 and volunteers working together are the foundation for this project to succeed. SRTS application acceptance is limited but the Village will be able to reapply should our application not be chosen this year. Needless to say this is a long term project and goal of the Village, the School District, residents and students such as Ms. Gasior, which will truly benefit the community. The Village, along with District 12, will once again participate in the **2009 International Walk to School Day** which will take place on **Wednesday October 7, 2009. Mark your calendar!!**

If you have any questions or would like to be on our mailing list for the Safe Routes to School Program and International Walk to School Day 2009, please contact Faith Brady at the Village Hall at 815-385-6023 or fbrady@johnsburg.org.

HOW LOCAL GOVERNMENT WORKS IN JOHNSBURG

EXPLORER POST #567

How Local Government Works In Johnsburg

Oftentimes, people wonder how local government works. The Village of Johnsburg is unique in that our structure incorporates the thoughts and ideas of more than 50 people in the decision making process. Currently seven committees, with the assistance of Village staff, research and obtain public input and provide recommendations regarding Village matters. By utilizing committees made up of residents of the Village who bring their own experiences and expertise, the Village Board receives recommendations based on the ideas and knowledge from a broad spectrum of our community.

Our Village is made up of the following committees: Public Works, Ordinance, Finance, Community Affairs, Development and Governmental Affairs, Planning and Zoning, and Economic Development. Matters that come before the Village Board are often first reviewed at one of these committees. If you have an issue that needs attention by the Village, the best course of action is to contact Village Hall so that you can be directed on how to proceed.

The public is encouraged to ask questions, voice concerns and provide input and supporting information at the committee level. Once the proper committee has reviewed and discussed all of the information, a recommendation is made to the Village Board. The Village Board, consisting of six Trustees and the Village President, will then consider the committee's recommendation, along with all of the information provided at the committee meeting, including any input from Village staff, before making a final decision.

In addition there are three committees that work in concert with the Village. They are the Johnsburg Community Action Network (JCAN), Johnsburg Police Pension Committee and the Johnsburg Police Commission.

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 as well as

solving everyday problems. The valuable knowledge and experience you will gain by serving on these committees will provide you with an in-depth understanding of Village issues and 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 www.johnsburg.org or contact the Village Hall at 815-385-6023.

EXPLORER POST #567

Johnsburg Police Explorer Post #567 is hosting a Community Shred Day on Saturday May 16 from 9:30 am to Noon to raise funds to purchase uniforms, equipment and to support post events and training. On this day we encourage residents of Johnsburg to bring all their sensitive documents, old bills, medical files, etc., to Sunnyside Park for secure, on-site shredding provided by Abraham's Shredding & Document Destruction. Staples and paperclips are ok, please no plastic or vinyl. Minimum donations are requested as follows : \$5 up to 50 lbs, \$10 up to 130 lbs, and \$25 for more than 130 lbs. In addition, the Explorers will be providing an identity theft awareness and prevention presentation.

Exploring is a work-site based training program for individuals 14-20 who learn responsibility, leadership, positive character traits, career training, and life skills to help make ethical choices and achieve their full potential.

JABA ANNUAL BUSINESS EXPO

The Johnsburg Business Association (JABA) will hold its annual Business Expo on Saturday April 4th from 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at the Johnsburg High School. There will be over 40 exhibitors who will showcase their Johnsburg businesses and civic organizations. In addition, there will be crafts, games for the kids, appearance by balloon sculptor Holly Nagel, plus a visit by the Veggie Van from the Field Museum. The Veggie Van will be on display in the parking lot from 11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. It's an excellent way to have a fun filled day for free (free admission, parking and door prizes) while finding out about local businesses and organizations.

Lunch will be available at the Expo for a small fee from 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. 5

HILLER PARK AND SUNNYSIDE PARK FIELD SCHEDULING

In preparation for the 2009 season, the Village has instituted a new scheduling policy for our soccer and baseball fields at Hiller and Sunnyside Parks. Please be advised any organization utilizing Village fields are required to complete a registration form and submit a copy of their schedule with an original insurance certificate naming the Village of Johnsburg as an additional insured. Due to limited field space and the number of teams requesting field time, **local teams will take precedence for game field use before anyone else.**

During the months of March and April please be prepared for field closures due to weather conditions that could result in damage to our fields. Notices will be posted on our website www.johnsburg.org.

You may pick up your registration form at the Village Hall or call and request to have a form mailed to you. If you have any questions regarding this policy, scheduling or the use of the fields, please contact Faith Brady at 815-385-6023 or fbrady@johnsburg.org.

Johnsburg High School Advanced Placement Government Class: Story by Stephanie Nemec

As a community, we can work together to help reduce plastic consumption. Plastic bags are very harmful to the environment. They are not biodegradable so in turn they stay in our landfills for many years. Please reduce, re-use and recycle all of your plastic bags. Below, please see a few **MUST KNOW FACTS** about plastic bags.

- It is estimated that 500 billion to 1 trillion plastic bags are used worldwide.
- Plastic bags are made out of petroleum, a non-renewable resource.
- The EPA ranked the 20 chemicals whose production generates the most hazardous waste, and five of the top six were chemicals commonly used by the plastic industry.
- In the U.S. four out of five grocery bags are now plastic.
- Approximately one billion seabirds and mammals die every year by ingesting plastic bags.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

- Reuse bags you have collected from past shopping trips.
- Plastic produce bags can be reused as many as 50 times.
- Purchase cloth bags to carry items home. You may purchase online at www.reusablebags.com.
- Recycle your plastic bags.



DO SOMETHING DRASTIC.....CUT THE PLASTIC!!

A MESSAGE FROM JCAN

On April 7, 2009 the citizens of Johnsburg will go to the polls to elect a new Village President and three Village Board Trustees. The Village of Johnsburg, like the rest of our country, is at a critical point in history. The next four years will require exceptional leadership qualities coupled with skills and experience to navigate the tumultuous and uncharted territory that lies ahead. These unforgiving economic times leave no room for error on the part of our leaders and apathy is no longer a choice our residents can afford to make.

This is a call to action message. **Please exercise your right to vote on April 7, 2009.** Who you vote for is your choice. If you are unsure of your voting precinct, contact the Village Hall at 815-385-6023. We only want to urge each and every one of you to take action by getting involved in your community. Consider joining JCAN to share your ideas and give input on the issues that affect the course of our village. Show up, get involved and place your vote!

JCAN

Johnsburg Community Action Network

“Citizens and Village working together”

Our Mission: *Support and promote strategic initiatives that benefit the Village and its residents, by creating awareness and engaging citizens through a unified community advocacy group.*

JCAN needs you! As you should all be aware by now, our first initiative has been to raise awareness of Johnsburg’s Waste Water Conveyance and Treatment Works Project in an attempt to help secure additional funding and reduce the cost of sewage treatment thereby making it more affordable to our residents.

In the months since our inception, we have had great success in bringing focus to this project and its regional environmental impact and have received outside support from legislators, government agencies, environment groups and other municipalities who share our concern for the environmental and economic viability of the Fox River and its connecting bodies of water. This focused appeal has brought us added attention at both the state and federal levels and will play a role in spotlighting our current submission to the proposed stimulus package.

On the next page, please find the letter of support we received from the United States Environmental Protection Agency outlining the need for sewage treatment and how our project is *“part of a solution to both a local and national pollution problem”*.

Other supporters of our project include:

MCHENRY COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
VILLAGE OF BARRINGTON
UNITED STATES EPA
VILLAGE OF LAKE IN THE HILLS
FOX WATERWAY AGENCY
VILLAGE OF PORT BARRINGTON
VILLAGE OF ISLAND LAKE
WILLIAM E. PETERSON, 26TH DISTRICT STATE SENATOR
RICHARD DURBIN, UNITED STATES SENATOR
MELISSA L. BEAN, CONGRESSWOMAN, 8TH DISTRICT ILLINOIS
RICHMOND TOWNSHIP
MCHENRY TOWNSHIP
CITY OF PERU
CITY OF CARPENTERSVILLE
VILLAGE OF WAYNE
VILLAGE OF SPRING GROVE
CITY OF PLANO
VILLAGE OF LAKEMOOR

To learn more about JCAN and how *you* can make a difference in *your* community, please email me at mlhutchinson@johnsburg.org.

Mary Lou Hutchinson
Bruce Bennett
JCAN Committee Chair



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

APR 24 2008

Ms. Mary Lou Hutchinson
Mr. Bruce A. Bennett
Village of Johnsburg
1515 Channel Beach Avenue
Johnsburg, Illinois 60050

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

WN-16J

Dear Ms. Hutchinson and Mr. Bennett:

This is in response to your letter of March 17, 2008, to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Administrator Stephen Johnson requesting support of the Johnsburg's Waste Water Conveyance and Treatment Works project. Your correspondence was forwarded to me for response. This also provides follow up to Mr. Phil Zahreddine's letter to you dated April 16, 2008.

The Fox River, along which the Village of Johnsburg is located, is an Illinois water resource much utilized for recreation including fishing, swimming and canoeing. It is also listed as impaired due to low dissolved oxygen levels. This project will replace septic systems with a sewer and treatment system. Septic systems located close to the Fox River, on small land areas and in unsuitable soils with high ground water conditions can adversely affect water quality. The operation of septic systems under these conditions can lead to both the deterioration of ground water and nearby surface waters due to excess nutrient and bacteria levels.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is presently examining ways to reduce nutrient loading to the central Mississippi River basin in an effort to reduce the Aquatic life dead zone caused by a lack of oxygen in the Gulf of Mexico. This area of the Gulf of Mexico is referred to as the hypoxia zone. The Fox River waters eventually end up as part of the nutrient loading to the Mississippi River and the Gulf of Mexico. Also, any reduction of nutrients to the immediate area will result in less local nutrient loading which can improve the oxygen levels of the Fox River. Thus, this project is part of a solution to both a local and national pollution problem.

For these reasons please register our position in support of Johnsburg's Waste Water Conveyance and Treatment Works Project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tinka G. Hyde".

Tinka G. Hyde
Acting Director, Water Division

cc: David G. Dominguez, Village President
Marcia Willhite, Illinois EPA
Karenn Katamay, Illinois EPA

JOHNSBURG BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

The Economic Development Committee continues business spotlight series with interviews with Johnsburg business owners. In this edition the Committee interviewed Mr. Phil Bartmann of Radicom Inc. located at 2604 North Chapel Hill Road in Johnsburg.

Phil and Janice (Wakitsch) Bartmann moved to Johnsburg in 1965. Janice moved to Johnsburg with her family in 1952. They love living along the banks of the Fox River in Johnsburg as they are avid boaters. All of the Bartmann children were raised and educated in Johnsburg schools. In 1969, when Radicom moved to Johnsburg, it was a CB radio and scanner shop and also maintained GE two way radios for many businesses in the area. When cellular services came along Radicom became a Cellular One dealer and eventually became a Nextel agent. At one point they operated three stores, plus the main corporate headquarters here in Johnsburg. Municipal, governmental and commercial users are the main entities that they do business with today. Their main business is selling and servicing two way radios and telephone systems for various police and fire departments and businesses.

Radicom has installed many 911 dispatch centers in Lake and McHenry county. Currently Radicom has 15 employees, 7 of whom are service technicians. Radicom also offers a variety of commercial telephone systems for a wide range of businesses. Radicom, Inc. also provides long distance and T1 service. Mr. Bartmann stated that there have been so many changes in the communications industry, that it has become a full time job keeping up with the new technology.

The majority of Radicom's clients are within 90 minutes of the Johnsburg area. Radicom's large client base includes the Chicago Transit Authority, the Lake County Sheriff's Department, the Walworth County Sheriff's Department, the Village of Johnsburg and many other public safety agencies and businesses.

Mr. Bartmann serves on the Board of Director for the Fox Waterway Agency. He is running this year for reelection. He is very proud to represent Johnsburg and the surrounding area on the Waterway Agency. Mr. Bartmann is also a long standing Trustee for the McHenry Township Fire Protection District where he served as an active firefighter for 30 years.

Mr. Bartmann spoke of how his business is constantly looking for new products. Radicom has recently installed a new and modern dispatch center for the

McHenry Police Department. The Village of Johnsburg Police Department is dispatched through this Center.

Mr. Bartmann enjoys living and having his business in Johnsburg so much that he includes "Johnsburg" as the location of his business on his letterhead.

Like many residents, Mr. Bartmann would like to keep the small town atmosphere here and likes the fact that the Village and its Committees are here for the residents.

Please call Mr. Bartmann at Radicom 815-385-4224 and congratulate him on his 45 years in business in Johnsburg. He or his staff will be happy to assist you with any questions regarding your business communication needs.

Richard Short and Kevin McBride, Attorneys at Law:

Richard Short, an avid boater, was naturally drawn to the Chain of Lakes area because of the vast boating opportunities offered. After a short time, Richard and his wife Barbara discovered Johnsburg and decided to settle here because of the very friendly, welcoming residents and overall atmosphere of this great community. Richard first opened his law office at 3604 Chapel Hill Road where his business grew and became very successful for many years. Currently, the Law Office of Short and McBride is located at 2015 Johnsburg Road. Richard was admitted to the bar in 1957 and has been practicing law for 54 years. He is a graduate of John Marshall Law School and he is married to Barbara Short. All of Richard and Barbara's children grew up in Johnsburg and attended Johnsburg schools. His current emphasis of practice is wills, estates and elderly law. Richard handled murder cases while working as an attorney in Chicago years ago. Richard currently serves as the Village Prosecutor for McCullom Lake and Prairie Grove. He has enjoyed staying active in the community with the St. John the Baptist church here in Johnsburg and the Johnsburg Community Club. He was the past president of the Johnsburg Community Club and currently serves as the Vice President. Richard & Kevin also represent the Johnsburg Retired Rescue Squad, the Johnsburg Community Club, the Johnsburg Community Men's Club and the Johnsburg Lion's Club. Mr. Short is very proud to say their way of giving back to such a fantastic community is the many pro-bono (no fee legal

JOHNSBURG BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

representation) cases they have performed throughout the years.

Kevin McBride moved to the Johnsburg area in 1995 and as with Mr. Short he was drawn to the area because of his love of boating and because the Johnsburg School District was highly rated in the state, which was a very important factor as he had two very young daughters. Kevin worked for the State's Attorney office for McHenry County prior to starting his own practice. He first opened his Johnsburg office in 1998. He is married to Jennifer McBride, who is employed by the Village of Johnsburg, and has two daughters, Elizabeth and Bridget who attend Johnsburg High School. His emphasis in law is divorce and criminal work. He has served on the Finance and Ordinance Committees for the Village. Currently, he still serves on the Ordinance Committee. Originally, the two attorneys were next door neighbors before becoming partners in law. In fact Richard built the house Kevin owns. The irony is Kevin bought Richards original home, and when purchased, did not know it was Mr. Short's home. Richard and Kevin met and together decided they would be better off having one law office between the two of them to better serve their clients and the community. They communicate constantly via telephone and computer to keep their business running smoothly. Their law office has hours by appointment and they are always available by phone. Appointments can be made in the evenings and on the weekends to meet the needs of their clients. The only two areas of law they do not cover is tax law and worker's compensation, but will work with residents to find representation in those areas.

Please call **Attorneys Richard Short 815-385-1717 or Kevin McBride at 815-759-1300** to schedule an appointment, discuss your legal representation needs or congratulate them on many years of dedicated service to the community. **Their office is located at 2015 Johnsburg Road.**

Half Time Bar and Grill: Mr. Fritz Larsen has owned **Half Time Bar and Grill located at 2405 Johnsburg Road** for 16 1/2 years. This June will mark Fritz's 17th year of business in Johnsburg. Mr. Larsen initially was going to college to become a veterinarian but after working at many upscale restaurants and learning the business hands on, he decided to go into business for himself. He was very lucky to be raised by two wonderful parents, Otto and Francis, who taught him the values of giving back to the community and to always be supportive of the school age children in the area. **Half Times** has undergone 4 major additions and remodeling projects over the years.

A life long best friend, Tom Popovich, embarked with Fritz on the quest to open a one of a kind sports bar and restaurant in the area and that is how Half time Bar and Grill came to be. They initially leased out the kitchen but after many days of not having the chef show up, Fritz decided to roll up his sleeves and learn that aspect of the business himself. Today the kitchen at **Half Time Bar and Grill** has grown to serve wonderful meals and very good pizza known locally for many years. There is a full service menu available at the bar as well as carry out. Fritz is very focused on his employees which currently total 25 people. When he started 17 years ago, he had a total of 5 employees. Most of his employees have been with him now for well over two years. He pays them a good wage and treats them all fairly. Fritz has invested a lot of money into making Half Times a place where people of all ages always want to come back. The age of the clientele is quite unique ranging from 21-over 60 years old. Fritz notes that each hour after 8:00 p.m. the age of the patrons goes down!!

There are many activities at **Half Time Bar and Grill** namely the volleyball leagues which started with 10 teams playing 2 days a week and is now up to 48 teams playing 4 nights a week. There is now an outdoor deck which features flat screen televisions and outdoor dining seven days a week when weather allows. Being near a residential area is not a problem in regard to noise as Fritz is always very respectful of those in the area surrounding him and there has never been any serious complaints. He emphasized he has very good neighbors and is a very lucky business owner in the area.

Fritz supports Shop with a Cop, the local little leagues, softball teams, pigtail leagues, and the White Lightning soccer teams. Fritz hosts a pizza day during which a local cub scout or brownie troops come in and has the opportunity to learn and actually make pizza themselves. Half Times also has a catering business which has donated time for events in the area such as Harvest Fest and Casino Night.

Please call **Half Time Bar and Grill at 815-344-0007** to congratulate Fritz on many years of service and dedication to the community; or to speak with one of his staff members regarding catering, events, or to place a food order for carry out.

COM ED APPLIANCE RECYCLING & FINANCE NEWS

Under **Com Ed's appliance recycling energy efficiency program**, Com Ed will do the following:

- Pay you \$25 each for up to two refrigerators or freezers;
- Have them hauled away;
- Dispose of them responsibly -- dismantling your appliances and recycling their parts in an environmentally friendly way.

To qualify for recycling, your refrigerators and/or freezer must be:

- Between 10 and 30 cubic feet in size;
- Empty and working at the time of pick-up;
- Accessible with a clear path for removal by contractor.

Com Ed will also pick up and recycle your old working room air conditioners along with your refrigerator or freezer.

You can [enroll online](http://www.comed.com/homesavings/programs/incentives/appliancerecycling.htm) at <http://www.comed.com/homesavings/programs/incentives/appliancerecycling.htm> to **participate in Com Ed's Appliance Recycling program**, or call **Com Ed for pickup at 1-888-806-2273**. *Program funding is limited. Participation will be on a first-come, first-serve basis until funds are exhausted.*

Tough Economic Times but Local College Bound Students Get a Free Ride!

Recently the National League of Cities surveyed city finance officers and 84% reported facing fiscal difficulties. These results represent an increase of 20 percentage points from a survey done just six months ago. Johnsbury is no different from other municipalities and we are feeling the economic crunches. Common initiatives to resolving fiscal challenges include instituting hiring and wage freezes and delaying or canceling outlays for capital infrastructure projects. We continue to diligently review the Village's finances and respond proactively.

The McHenry County Community College (MCC) PROMISE is the biggest community funded initiative in the history of MCC. In fact, it's one of the largest privately funded community wide initiatives in McHenry County. During these challenging economic times, the MCC Promise has provided a life raft, peace of mind, or as already stated – a miracle for parents and students who are worrying about paying for college.

Here are a few facts about this extraordinary endeavor:

The MCC Promise will provide free tuition for high school seniors who graduate from a MCC District 528 high school, live in the district, and who choose to attend MCC full time and work toward the completion of a two-year degree or certificate; In exchange for free tuition, students enrolled in the Promise are required to participate in a volunteer service project for a minimum of 32 hours per year.

The United Way and Volunteer Center are working with MCC to help create exciting opportunities for students as they volunteer in the spirit of giving back to the community at various non-profit organizations throughout the County!

MCC Promise is funded by the citizens of McHenry County. Join the Promise! We need your support as it's a win-win for everyone involved. Help spread the word, find unique volunteer opportunities for our students, and donate your time and resources to the program. For more information on how you can get involved, please call the Friends of MCC Foundation at 815-479-7880.

VILLAGE DIRECTORY

Village President

David G. Dominguez

Village Board of Trustees

Ed Hettermann	Bill Sandell
John Huemann	Mary Lou Hutchinson
Harry May	Bruce Bennett

Police Chief: Kenneth Rydberg

Special Asst. to the President: Rick Quinn

Director of Village Operations: Claudett Peters

Village Accountant : Linda Sandell

Building & Code Officer : Jerry Adams

Deputy Clerk/Building Clerk: Jennifer McBride

Office Assistant/Collector: Faith Brady

Public Works Supervisor: Dave Wilcox

Building Dept, Facilities and Grounds Supervisor:

Bill Swartzloff

Village Hall: 815-385-6023

Village Hall Fax: 815-385-6054

Village Hall Email: villagehall@johnsburg.org

Website: www.johnsburg.org

Police (Non Emergency): 815-385-6024

Police/Fire Emergency : 911

VILLAGE HALL HOURS

Monday — Friday

8:00 a.m. — 4:30 p.m.

Phone: (815) 385-6023

Fax: (815) 385-6054

MEETING SCHEDULE

Committee of the Whole - Last Thurs. -
7:00 pm

Community Affairs - 2nd Weds. - 7:00 pm

Development & Gov't Affairs - 4th Tues. -
7:30 pm

Economic Development - 2nd Mon.-
7:00 pm

Finance - 1st Weds. - 7:30 pm

JCAN - 3rd Weds 7:30

Ordinance - 1st Weds. after the 1st Board
Mtg. 7:00 p.m.

Plan and Zoning Commission - 2nd Tues. -
7:00 pm

Police Commission - 3rd Thurs.-7:30 pm

Public Works - 4th Weds. - 7:30 pm

Village Board - 1st & 3rd Tues. - 7:00 pm

Please call the Village Hall to confirm a meeting
date and time. Meetings are re-scheduled from
time to time.

VILLAGE OF JOHNSBURG
1515 CHANNEL BEACH AVE
JOHNSBURG, IL 60051

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**CHECK OUT THE NEW VILLAGE OF JOHNSBURG WEBSITE FOR INFORMATION ON THE
ANNUAL MOOSE LODGE CARNIVAL MAY 6TH - 10TH!!**