

VOICE OF JOHNSBURG



Village of
JOHNSBURG

Settled 1841 – Incorporated 1956

A Hometown with Spirit

Spring 2011 Newsletter

www.johnsburg.org

President's Letter

The Village Board kicked off the New Year by holding its 5th Strategic Planning Session Saturday, January 15th. Thirty six participants consisting of the President and Board of Trustees, Committee members, staff and other area representatives attended the all day planning session. The session started off reviewing a timeline of key events in the Village's history along with the outcomes of previous strategic planning sessions. This timeline can be viewed on the Village's website at www.johnsburg.org. Dr. Frances Glosson, EdD, RN, facilitated the session while participants utilized the "SWOT" analysis method to identify the Village's Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats. Strategies were then developed for the objectives identified. Dr Glosson is the Director of Community Learning Strategies and Integration for Centegra Health Systems. She is also a resident of Johnsburg. Dr. Glosson has 40 years of progressive healthcare experience with a focus in organizational development which was truly beneficial in facilitating the Village through the Strategic Planning process. I would like to thank Dr. Glosson for her involvement in this important planning session along with Township Supervisor Donna Schaefer and her staff for providing the facility for the session and helping to coordinate all of the setup arrangements. I would also like to thank all of the volunteers who generously gave their time to attend and participate. The efforts of Saturday's session will be documented in a report and available on our website in the near future. We will be reviewing the Strategic Plan Summary with Dr. Glosson at the March 24, 2011 Committee of the Whole meeting. I would like to thank the following participants for donating their valuable time: Ellen Bathje, Phil Bartmann, Bruce Bennett, Clark Bierman, Richard Bright, Kim Coleman, Laurie Cwerenz, Dick Doyle, Josh Hagan, Tim Hartnett, John Huemann, Tony Huemann, Mary Lou Hutchinson, Kim Husby, Dan Johnson, Greg Klemstein, Mike Koeshall, Scott Letzter, Harold May, Conrad Mazeski, Jill McEvoy, Kevin McEvoy, Cassandra McKinney, Mark Niggemann, Karl Nitz, Claudett Peters, Rick Quinn, Dick Seaborn, Michael Smoron, Terri Stade, Keith VonAllmen, Jeff Vorisek, Dave Wilcox, Mike Wolf, Ron Zanko.

The Dutch Creek Restoration group was once again hard at work clearing brush in the Dutch Creek area north of Johnsburg Road near

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Consolidated Election April 5, 2011

The last day to register to vote for the April 5, 2011 Consolidated Election is March 8th. You can register to vote at the McHenry Township office or at the Johnsburg Public Library. Name change and change of address cards are also available. Please bring two forms of identification with your current address and a picture ID. Early voting will be Monday, March 14th through Thursday, March 31st (closed Saturdays and Sundays) at the McHenry Township office, 3703 N. Richmond Rd. Absentee Voting, also at the McHenry Township office is Friday, April 1st from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; Saturday, April 2nd from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.; and Monday, April 4th from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Early Voters and Absentee Voters must display valid photo identification.

VILLAGE OF JOHNSBURG T-SHIRTS & SWEATSHIRTS

The Village of Johnsburg has T-Shirts, Sweatshirts and Hooded Sweatshirts featuring the Johnsburg Village logo available for sale through the Village Hall.



T-Shirts \$10.00
T-Shirts are cream with a burgundy logo. Sizes Medium, Large, X-Large and XX-Large. All sizes of T-Shirts are in stock.



Sweatshirts \$20.00
Sizes Medium, Large, X-Large and XX-Large

Hoodies \$22.00
Sizes Medium and Large

Hoodies \$28.00
Sizes X-Large and XX-Large.

Sweatshirts and hoodies are burgundy with cream logo. Orders for sweatshirts and hooded sweatshirts are being taken. (Most sizes in stock.)

Please contact the Village Hall at 815-385-6023 to place an order. Proceeds from the sale of these items will go towards The Celebration in the Park.



Village of JOHNSBURG

VILLAGE HALL HOURS

Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

MEETING SCHEDULE

Committee of the Whole

Last Thursday of each month - 7:00 p.m.

Community Affairs

4th Tuesday of each month - 7:00 p.m.

Development & Government Affairs

4th Tuesday of each month - 7:30 p.m.

Economic Development

2nd Monday of each month - 7:00 p.m.

Finance

1st Wednesday of each month - 7:30 p.m.

JCAN

3rd Thursday of each month - 7:30 p.m.

Ordinance

2nd Monday of each month - 7:00 p.m.

Plan and Zoning Commission

2nd Tuesday of each month - 7:00 p.m.

Public Works

4th Wednesday of each month - 7:30 p.m.

Village Board

1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month - 7:00 p.m.

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

VILLAGE DIRECTORY

Village President

Ed Hettermann

Village Board of Trustees

Bruce Bennett	Harry May
John Huemann	Mary Lou Hutchinson
Karl Nitz	Ron Zanko

Village Hall: 815-385-6023

Email: villagehall@johnsburg.org

Website: www.johnsburg.org

Public Works: 815-363-8667

Police (Non Emergency): 815-385-6024

Police/Fire Emergency : 911

Riverside Drive. Twenty seven volunteers worked to eradicate invasive willows, buckthorns, Chinese elms and box elders to enhance this natural wetland. The newly cleared area will be planted with oak trees during Arbor Day in an effort to restore the area to its original condition.

I am happy to report that construction is now complete on the Fairview Avenue, Reed Avenue and Chapel Hill Road sewer collection system project. To date, 19 households out of sixty properties have connected to the Village's sewer system and have abandoned their septic systems. Additionally, Half-time Bar and Grill is expected to be connected to the system by the time you read this article. Unfortunately the sewer connection for this project has caused some complications at the intersection of Johnsburg Road and Chapel Hill Road. We apologize for the inconvenience this may have caused, and are very grateful for the cooperation we have received from the community during this construction project. The Village utilized its email alert system to notify residents of the construction impacts and road closures. If you have not signed up for email alerts, please contact the Village Hall at 815-385-6023 or sign up on our website at www.johnsburg.org.

Our Committees have been busy the past few months working on many different tasks. The Village's Finance Committee has been busy working on the 2012 Budget which will incorporate a long term Capital Improvement and Maintenance Fund to plan for the Village's long term capital needs. The Community Affairs Committee has been working to plan for the communities sport field needs. Recently representatives of the Committee and I met with representatives of the area sports organizations to discuss their current and long term field needs. The Economic Development Committee has been working to develop a marketing plan for the Village. The Committee plans to have valuable information available on the Village's website to entice businesses to the area. They also are working to establish programs to help existing businesses within our community. The Development and Governmental Affairs Committee has been working to improve the Village's communications by expanding the Village's website, implementing Facebook as a communication tool and expanding the Village's use of email alerts and notice to keep our residents informed.

All of our committee members should be commended for their hard work on these and many other projects for which they dedicate their time. For more information regarding these committee efforts, please read the article on page 5 of this newsletter.

I want to thank all of our residents and business owners for their patience and cooperation during the recent blizzard and the clean up that took place thereafter. Our public works crews did a tremendous job getting our roads open for safe passage. I would like to thank our public works department, police department and administration staff along with all of the many hard working people in Johnsburg who helped by opening up roadways and clearing snow for their neighbors. This significant snow event brought out the best in our community and exemplified our motto that we are "The Hometown with Spirit."

Respectfully,
Edwin P. Hettermann
Village President

A Hometown with Spirit

Special Mentions of Johnsburg Residents working for others in our community from Village President, Ed Hettermann

It's hard to believe the holiday season has come and gone! I hope you had an opportunity to enjoy the season and the many area festivities with family and friends. Our community is so fortunate to have civic organizations, residents and business owners that are always there to help ease the burden on some of our less



Pictured from left to right: Rick Bright, Doug Carlile, Chief Keith Von Allmen, Joan Lunsman and Les Lunsman

fortunate residents. Once again, the Johnsburg Lion's Club with the help of spouses, family members, and the officers of the Johnsburg Police Department had enough funds for the annual Shop with a Cop Program to provide 15 area children of families that are less fortunate with the opportunity to shop for gifts for their family members and select a coat, boots, hat and gloves for themselves. For the last 13 years, the Johnsburg Lions Club, along with the help of Johnsburg residents and businesses in our community have raised over \$48,600 for the "Shop with a Cop" program. Once again, this year Joan and Les Lunsman, (pictured with Johnsburg's Police Chief Keith Von Allmen, Rick Bright, Doug Carlile of the Johnsburg Lion's Club) and the patrons of Sunnyside Tavern presented a \$1,500 check to the Johnsburg Lions Club for the program.

Craig Wallace, along with the Woodstock Infantry Club and his group of dedicated volunteers sponsored another successful Jolly-Pa-Looza event on December 4th at the Johnsburg Community Club. The event raised nearly \$8,000 to help fight cancer. Funds are used locally and nationally to treat cancer. The Rockin Relay Fundraiser (in its tenth year in conjunction with the Relay for Life) organized by Johnsburg residents Jerry Schillaci, Tammy Welninski, Tom Schommer, JoAnn Heidler, Elsie Munson, Tim Stewart, Lynn Haisma and many other dedicated committee members along with Fritz Larsen of 1/2 x Pizza and Ribs, took place on November 6th at 1/2 x Pizza and Ribs. This event was also a great success raising nearly \$2,800 for the American Cancer Society. Tim Stewart told me that as usual, Fritz Larsen's generosity was over and above. Thank you Fritz.

On August 21, 2010, Village residents Cassandra Yates and Carrie Posey of CC's Salon along with Raymond's Bowl, organized a Save the Sistas fundraiser for Breast Cancer raising \$7,000 dollars to go to the Centegra Gaver's Foundation for Breast Cancer. All of the proceeds raised by the Save the Sistas Organization stay in McHenry County.

The Johnsburg Rescue Squad Retired continues to work tirelessly to provide food to area families in need. In December, the Rescue Squad Retired was able to assist 238 families consisting of 907

individuals during their Free Food Distribution. The Johnsburg Rescue Squad Retired has been helping area families with their food distribution program for 3 1/2 years. Over this period of time, they provided 23 distributions and fed 5481 families, consisting of a total of 17,392 people. This year's distribution dates are February 23rd, April 27th, June 29th, August 31st, October 26th and December 21st at the Johnsburg Community Club parking lot. This year many local civic organizations sponsored one or more of the food distributions, each at a cost of \$650.00, this month's food distribution is being sponsored by the Johnsburg Community Club's Men's Club. If you or your organization would like to help sponsor a food distribution, contact Wayne Hiller at 815-385-8399.



Johnsburg Rescue Squad Retired

On March 19, 2011, the Johnsburg Lions Club and Walla-Pa-Looza are sponsoring a fundraiser to help the Bertulis Family. Jessica Bertulis is fighting Ewings sarcoma which is a rare form of bone cancer. The event will be held at the Johnsburg Community Club and will include food and beverages along with live music by Bony Knees. See page 10 for more information on this fundraising event.

While writing this letter I reviewed an email from Johnsburg resident Sue Preston who, along with her husband Bruce, is chairing a benefit for Habitat for Humanity on Saturday, March 5th from 5:00-9:00 p.m. Come on out and support a great organization at the Moose Family Center, 3535 N. Richmond Road in Johnsburg. Enjoy a spaghetti dinner and have fun participating in the auction and silent auction. For more information call 815-759-1266.

I also received an email from Johnsburg resident Nancy Wendt who is looking for people to participate in a One Day Without Shoes event on April 5th to raise awareness of the impact a simple pair of shoes can mean to a child's life. One Day Without Shoes is an annual event hosted by TOMS Shoes in which students, friends, parents and co-workers host or participate by not wearing shoes in an effort to raise awareness for the many children in developing and undeveloped countries who grow up their entire lives without shoes. As a result, they are susceptible to debilitating diseases caused by the lack of foot hygiene and shoes for proper foot protection. To learn more about this event go to www.onedaywithoutshoes.com.

It's the generosity of these very generous individuals and businesses and our many organizations that truly exemplify our "Hometown with Spirit" motto.

With Gratitude,
Edwin P. Hettermann, Village President

Village Notes

VILLAGE BOARD REPEALS SSA 23

On February 8th the Village Board took action to repeal Special Service Area (SSA) 23 which was approved in 2007 to provide a financial vehicle through which residents could pay back the cost to construct sewers in their neighborhoods. At the time the SSA was approved, the Village was pursuing a \$10,000,000 sewer construction project that would have enabled approximately 670 households and businesses to connect to the Village's wastewater treatment system. An SSA was proposed so that residents would not have to pay their share of the cost upfront in one large sum. The SSA would enable them to spread the cost over a twenty year period by having it included as a line item on their property tax bill. At that time, the cost for the improvement was expected to be \$14,800 per property and the Village pledged five years of future grant monies to even further reduce the cost. Since that time, one million dollars in additional federal grants has been secured which would have reduced the cost of the 2007 project to approximately \$13,300 per household. Unfortunately, the SSA was challenged resulting in litigation delaying the project by more than two years. Although the Village was eventually successful in upholding the Special Service Area through an appellate court decision, the project did not proceed due to concerns regarding the declining economy.

This project continues to be a priority for our community. Many properties within the Village are not able to adequately sustain a properly functioning septic system because of sensitive soils, small lot sizes and high groundwater. Without sewers, many residents are faced with a costly dilemma when their septic system ceases to function properly and our community is faced with the negative environmental impacts caused by failing septic systems. This raises the question; "How do we balance the concerns of our residents regarding the cost of this project during an economic recession with the needs of those residents whose septic systems are failing?" In order to try and accommodate both of these concerns, the Village Board determined that the best approach was to still provide neighborhoods an opportunity to connect to the Village's wastewater treatment facility. The difference in the Village's approach today is that residents must come forward to express their interest and show that they have the support of at least 70% of the property owners in their neighborhood before the Village will consider proceeding.

To date, several neighborhoods have approached the Village to learn more about moving forward with sewer infrastructure in their subdivision. Construction was recently completed for the first of one such neighborhood which will enable sixty property owners to hook up to the Village's wastewater treatment system. We have been reporting on the progress of this construction project which encompasses properties on Fairview Avenue, Reed Avenue and Chapel Hill Road. SSA #27 is a \$905,000 project which shared by sixty property owners would have cost each property owner just over \$15,000. Fortunately, the Village was able to apply \$275,000 in grant funds to the project which helped reduce the cost for these residents.

With the establishment of SSA #27 for Fairview Avenue, Reed Avenue, and Chapel Hill Road, SSA 23 is now obsolete. However, a line item continues to show up on resident's property tax bills. Although dollars have not been assessed nor will they be assessed in the future for this project, property owners have expressed concern about the line item on their tax bill when trying to sell their home. As a result, the Board voted to repeal the SSA.

Although residents still have an opportunity to connect to the Village's wastewater treatment facility, it will unfortunately come at a greater cost than it would have had the project proceeded as proposed in 2007. By pursuing projects in smaller phases, the overall cost of each project will be higher. Additionally, the Village will be unable to keep costs consistent for each neighborhood. Rather than spread the cost evenly amongst 670 users as was planned in the original project, each neighborhood will now have to pay their fair share based upon the cost of the infrastructure needed for their specific neighborhood. The Fairview Avenue, Reed Avenue and Chapel Hill Road sewer project is the least costly sewer project because of the project's location next to the central lift station. Other projects will require additional infrastructure and are expected to be more costly. In order to try to balance the costs for each neighborhood, the Village continues to pursue grants to help reduce the cost.

If you would like more information on the Village's wastewater treatment system, please contact Village Administrator, Claudett Peters at 815-385-6023 or email her at cpeters@johnsburg.org.

VILLAGE TO USE SOCIAL MEDIA

The topic of using Social Media was first discussed a couple of years ago by the Community Affairs Committee. More recently, the Development and Governmental Affairs Committee was directed to start looking into Social Media to enhance ways in which we can communicate with our residents. Members of the Committee were presented with a comprehensive Social Media plan in early 2010. Unfortunately, implementing such a plan does take resources, primarily staff time. **In the short term, we implemented email alerts as a means of communicating important messages.** Many of you have received these alerts regarding recent street closings, blizzard updates, and community events. The Village has received positive feedback that the emails are helpful and appreciated. If you have not signed up for email alerts/emergency notices, you can do so through the Village's website at www.johnsburg.org, or contact the Village Hall at 815-385-6023. The Village will be moving forward to enhance our communications through Social Media in 2011. Watch for a Facebook and other links to choose your preferred method of communications from the Village. For more information regarding this endeavor, contact Development and Governmental Affairs Chairman, Bruce Bennett at 815-302-9552 or bbennett@johnsburg.org.



Community Affairs Committee

The Community Affairs Committee has been busy making preparations for the upcoming 2011 sports season in our parks. Building on past Strategic Planning initiatives, which were further refined at this January's Strategic Plan review, a CAC sub-committee is now working with the sports leagues in town (soccer, baseball, softball, football and lacrosse) to map out a plan for parks utilization and facility improvements in the coming years. As our community grows, it is important to understand how these activities will also grow and plan ahead to accommodate the future demand on our parks.

Village Engineer Tim Hartnett has compiled an inventory of our park assets and amenities. The sub-committee has gathered current and projected enrollments and field needs from the different leagues which will be used to build a plan to guide the Village in making improvements to our parks in the coming years. Additionally, we are taking into account all park facilities and fields in our region in order to foster further cooperation across the community and best utilize all fields for the benefit of the residents and participants in these leagues.

The Village of Johnsburg utilizes Village staff and volunteers from the leagues to help maintain and improve our parks. Johnsburg is not served by (nor assessed taxes from) a separate park district. Our parks are a function of our Village government and they are funded through building impact fees, grants, donations, and the general funds of the Village. Additionally, a fee is currently not charged for use of the ball fields. Reservations for league play time is coordinated with our Village staff. For more information on parks and programs, please email Trustee Karl Nitz at knitz@johnsburg.org.

Finance Article February 2011

2011 is proving to be another challenging year for the Finance Committee. The Village of Johnsburg, like all municipalities across the State of Illinois, continues to feel the adverse impact of our struggling economy and decline in revenues. McHenry County's high unemployment rate, 8.1% as of November 2010, the ongoing delay in distribution of our share of the state's income tax, (approximately \$183,630), and the precarious financial health of the State of Illinois as a whole, are all major concerns as we gauge our Village's financial outlook.

The Finance Committee is once again charged with the task of balancing the Village's financial solvency and planning for its future needs. Over the past several months, the committee has worked on the development of the Capital Improvements and Maintenance Budget for the newly created fund that is being implemented to insure the Village's long term capital needs will be met. Each operating department has submitted a forecast model with a detailed cost analysis of spending requirements, as well as maintenance and replacement schedules for their equipment, facilities and infrastructure needs. The final version of the capital budget is expected to be completed and submitted to the board for approval in April.

Later this month the Village's website will include a copy of the Village of Johnsburg's Fiscal Year 2011 Annual Budget Report. Limited staffing and resources have delayed this project. However, we are proud to announce the roll out of the very first version of this report electronically for your review. This is one example of how the Finance Committee is responding to our residents' desire for greater transparency and better communication. In keeping with our philosophy "do more with less" this is a true testament. For more information contact Trustee Mary Lou Hutchinson at mlhutchinson@johnsburg.org.

Economic Development

The Village's Economic Development Committee has spent considerable time developing a marketing plan for our business properties in Johnsburg. One of the first tasks was to identify business corridors throughout the Village. Four primary business corridors were identified to include:

- 1. Route 31 Retail Corridor** - consisting of properties along Route 31 from our southern corporate limits adjacent to the City of McHenry to our boundary with Ringwood, north of Pioneer Road.
- 2. Historic Town Center (Downtown)**; consisting of properties along Johnsburg Road beginning at Spring Grove Road and continuing to May Avenue, and Chapel Hill Road from Johnsburg Road to Bay Road;
- 3. North Town Business Center:** Consisting of Prairie Commerce Centre on Spring Grove Road and Heritage Commerce Center on Johnsburg Road;
- 4. Future Transit Oriented Development/ Metra Station** located north of McCullom Lake Road consisting of the vacant land adjacent to existing railroad tracks.

The Committee's main focus to date has been directed towards the Downtown area. Surveys of stakeholders have been conducted and analyzed. The Committee has walked the entire Downtown noting the strengths and weaknesses of this area from the viewpoint of a pedestrian (pedestrian safety, sidewalks, street/sidewalk lighting, signage and streetscape appeal). Sewer and water needs have also been identified and an inventory of developed and undeveloped parcels has been taken. The Committee noted an abundance of public open spaces in our Downtown area including Sunnyside Park, the Johnsburg Community Club grounds, Johnsburg Rescue Squad Memorial Park and the Francis M. Schmitt Park adjacent to the bridge on Chapel Hill Road. All this data has been compiled in draft form and should be ready for public comment within the next six months. With input and participation from our business community and residents, followed by a review by a professional planner, we hope to have a comprehensive Downtown Vision Plan ready for approval by the Village Board this next fiscal year. As always, comments by our residents and business owners are always welcome. If you would like to learn more about this important project, please contact Economic Development Chairman John Huemann at jhuemann@johnsburg.org. The Economic Development Committee meets at 7 P.M. on the second Monday of every month.

School News

Pre-Kindergarten Registration and Screening

Johnsburg School District 12 will hold registration for all children who are three, four and five years of age and who have not yet entered kindergarten.

Registration at Ringwood School Primary Center

March 8th from

1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

March 9th from

9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

This registration applied to all preschool children ages three through five, even if the child has registered and been screened in previous years. For more information, please call the Ringwood School Primary Center at 815-728-0459.

Johnsburg High School Leads the County in English Scores on the PSAE

Every April, all high schools across the State of Illinois take the required Prairie State Achievement Exam (PSAE). These exams assess a school's and individual students' performance in the areas of Math, English and Work Keys. The results of these assessments are communicated back to the schools in the fall. The schools use these results to foster continual yearly improvement as we constantly prepare our students for the challenges they will face in the future.

This year, we are extremely proud to inform our parents and community that Johnsburg High School led the county in the English portion of the assessment on the Prairie State Achievement Exam. Over the past years, Johnsburg High School and the Johnsburg School District have made significant efforts to improve student achievement. Reading is the foundation for a successful educational experience for students. The efforts of Johnsburg High School and Johnsburg Schools have ensured that our students will be provided this solid educational foundation as they continue with their educational careers.

MAYC SPRING BREAK ACTIVITIES

McHenry Area Youth Commission will be holding the following youth activities during Spring Break:

March 28th Raymond's Bowl and Pizza. Bowling with friends and pizza! Bring extra money for the arcade.

March 29th CoCo Key's Water Resort. 65,000 sq ft of indoor water park fun!

March 30th Fox Lake Movie Theater. Movie TBA. Includes popcorn, drink and gummy worms.

March 31st America's Action Territory. Go-Karts, Bumper Boats, Lazer Tag, Mini-Golf and more. Bring extra money for the arcade.

All program hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Cost: \$30 per day.

They will also be providing open hour activities before and after the field trips including ping pong, air hockey, outdoor play/sports, pool table, games, crafts, painting and a whole lot of fun. For more information or to register please call 815-385-0001. If they do not have 15 participants registered by March 21st, they may have to cancel. Field trips subject to change without notice.

Information on passing stopped school busses

The police department has been receiving several complaints in regard to drivers passing stopped school buses while the stop arm is extended.

Our children's safety is very important and drivers must remember to be observant when approaching a school bus when it has the yellow flashing lights on. The yellow flashing lights mean the bus is nearing a bus stop. When the bus comes to a stop and the stop arm is extended all traffic must be stopped prior to reaching the bus. This applies while on a roadway and even while in a parking lot or on private property. If a driver should pass a bus, in either direction, while the red lights are on, they will be cited and must appear in court.

If convicted of passing a stopped school bus, the driver could lose their driving privileges. This is a reminder to be careful and observant around all school buses. Additional information can be obtained by reviewing the Illinois statute at 625 ILCS 5/111414.



JEPF GALA

Johnsburg Educational Partnership Foundation's Support of Local Schools Through Creative and Fun Events

Each year the Johnsburg Educational Partnership Foundation (JEPF) raises over \$40,000 to support Johnsburg Schools. Funds raised are used to purchase new technology equipment and software and to fund initiatives that further expand student learning opportunities in all grade levels of our school district. The JEPF works throughout the year to coordinate three primary fundraising opportunities including the Annual Orange Ball Golf Outing, Casino Night and the Shooting for the Stars Gala.

This year the 18th Annual Shooting for the Stars Gala entitled, "Mardi Gras Masquerade" will be held on Saturday, March 5, 2011 at the McHenry Country Club. This event will begin at 6:00 PM and feature a silent auction, live auction, complimentary cocktails, dinner, and dancing with live entertainment. Tickets are available for \$70.00 each, or you become a Merci Sponsor for \$650 which includes a table for 8 and special recognition at the Gala. If you or your business have creative ideas for services or items that could be used for the Gala auction, we would appreciate your support. Auction items in the past have included gift baskets, sports tickets, time shares, jewelry, power tools, trips, back yard barbecues, you name it! Contact Dawne Smith at (815) 344-1980 or via email at psmith905@comast.net for more information!

If you have never attended one of these events, we encourage you to learn more about each one of these exciting opportunities. For more information we encourage you to visit the JEPF website at, www.jepf.org, or by contacting the District Administration Office at, (815) 385-6916.

Thank you in advance for supporting our schools and children and for making Johnsburg Schools even better.

Pedestrian Safety

**Public Works & Public Safety Departments
Remind Residents To Be Safe**

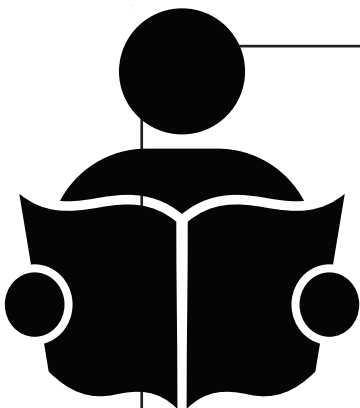
The streets in our neighborhoods should be safe places to walk, but pedestrians face many traffic dangers. Drivers, parents and kids can all do their part to help keep our streets safe for child and adult pedestrians.

A new crosswalk has been designated and painted at the intersection of Channel Beach Avenue and Johnsburg Road to allow for safer access to the sidewalk along Johnsburg Road. The Village encourages the use of crosswalks along Johnsburg Road on St. John's Avenue and on Church Street at school locations for safer crossing locations. For more information on crosswalks or other public works matters, please contact Trustee Harry May at hmay@johnsburg.org.

- Cross streets safely. Cross at a corner, using traffic signals/signs and crosswalks. Try to make eye contact with drivers before crossing in front of them. Do not assume that because you can see the driver, the driver can see you.
- Look left, right and left again when crossing, and keep looking as you cross. Walk, do not run, across the street.
- Walk on sidewalks or paths whenever possible. If there are no sidewalks, walk facing traffic, on the shoulder if available, but as far to the left as possible.
- Pedestrians should increase their visibility at night by carrying a flashlight when walking and by wearing retro-reflective clothing.
- Be a safe pedestrian around cars. Watch for cars that are turning or backing up.
- Parents and kids should hold hands in parking lots.

The Law Regarding Crosswalks

As a reminder to drivers and pedestrians the law requires drivers to stop and yield to pedestrians who are within a crosswalk. The law also states pedestrians shall not suddenly leave a curb or other place of safety and walk or run into the path of a moving vehicle which is so close as to constitute an immediate hazard. Lastly, these rules apply only to crosswalks where there are no traffic control signals in place. For the entire statute please refer to the Illinois Vehicle Code at 625 ILCS 5/11-1002.



Johnsburg Library Activities

**WHITE ELEPHANT BINGO for ages
17 and up
Thursday, March 24, and April 21
at 1:00 p.m.**

We all have things we're ready to part with (knickknacks, books, costume jewelry, etc.) Bag up an item or two and bring them to our bingo games. If you win, you'll get to choose from either another player's loot or from our stash of prizes. No registration is required.

Additional library activities can be found on the Events Calendar on the library's website, www.johnsburglibrary.org.
3000 N. Johnsburg Rd. Johnsburg, IL 60051
Phone: 815-344-0077 | FAX: 815-344-3524



SOMETHING FROM THE ARCHIVES

By: Johnsburg Historian Mike Clark

Leroy Hiller asks, “When was the first bridge put over the river in Johnsburg?”

I cannot say for certain when the first bridge was constructed, however I have seen postcards that depict the building currently situated on the east side of the river in the same picture as the bridge. That building was built in 1900. Additionally, when the church burned in 1900 there was a debate as to which side of the river the new church should be built upon, therefore we can assume the bridge was in existence at that time. The original Pearl Street bridge in McHenry was built around 1880 and it lasted into the 1970s at which time it was replaced by the existing bridge. Johnsburg’s original bridge was replaced in the 1930’s by the bridge we utilize today. If the Johnsburg bridge experienced a similar life to that of McHenry’s original bridge, it may have been constructed as early as the 1840’s or 50’s. If anyone knows when the original bridge in Johnsburg was constructed, please let us know.

Clark Bierman, President of the Johnsburg Community Men’s Club asks “How did the Johnsburg Community Men’s Club come to be?”

The Johnsburg Community Men’s Club originated as the Johnsburg Community Club which was formed in 1922 by a group of men who saw a need to give Johnsburg a voice in the area and in government. Over the years, members of the Johnsburg Community Club held many Township, County and State political offices. The Club was instrumental in replacing the old bridge in 1937; securing a voting precinct for Johnsburg; and establishing a steering committee that eventually led to the annexation of Johnsburg into Sunnyside in 1991.

Later in the 1990s the club, consisting of all male members, faced a discrimination charge which resulted in a determination that the Johnsburg Community Club could not be a private organization and operate a building of public accommodation. This meant that as originally structured they could no longer vote on membership and rent the hall to the general public. As a result, the Club reorganized as two separate clubs - the Johnsburg Community Club Incorporated, which owns the building and the property; and the Johnsburg Community Men’s Club, which leases the building for their meetings and functions. The newly formed Men’s Club still holds the traditions of the original club with its monthly meetings held on the first Monday of each month.

Besides paying the lease to the Johnsburg Community Club Incorporated, the Men’s Club donates money to several community initiatives such as the bi-monthly food bank sponsored by the Johnsburg Rescue Squad Retired and to several high school programs and youth sport programs. They have also donated money towards the upkeep and improvement of the Community Club’s kitchen and the historic Tigers Field.

The Joe Frett Memorial Golf Day held each year in June is just one of the fundraisers sponsored by the Men’s Club. It originally started out as a fun day of golf and festivities for members and friends in remembrance of Joe Frett who was a leader and businessman in the Johnsburg area. After a few years it became a fundraiser for the Joe Frett Memorial Scholarship at the Johnsburg High School. This scholarship is awarded to a graduating senior who demonstrates the civic and community involvement that Joe Frett did throughout his life. This year’s golf outing and dinner will be on Friday, June 17th and for the first time in its 39 year history the outing will not be a Men’s Invitational. It was decided last year by a vote of nearly 2 to 1 to open this year’s outing and dinner to everyone.

The Johnsburg Community Men’s Club meets on the first Monday of the month and is always looking for new members who are interested in Johnsburg and willing to put forth an effort to keep this historic club involved in our great community.

For answers to your history questions or info on the Johnsburg Community Men’s Club or the Joe Frett Memorial Golf Day Email mclark@johnsburg.org

Here is a follow-up to the Johnsburg Airport question from last issue. Joe Miller, from Dutch Creek Woodlands supplied me with a picture of the developer’s plans for the subdivision. The plans depict where the channels were proposed and where the roads were to be located in the industrial section along Johnsburg Road. They also depict the location of the airstrip. Thanks Joe. Maybe we can get a copy of the picture into a future newsletter.

Learn more about the roots of the Village of Johnsburg. Email your history questions to Official Historian, Mike Clark, at mclark@johnsburg.org For more tidbits of Johnsburg History visit www.johnsburg.org.



www.johnsburg.org

'Burger Businesses



CHEF DAVITO'S ITALIAN RESTAURANT

For years our residents have asked for a quality restaurant and now Chef Davito and his wife Bee have delivered. Introducing Chef Davito's Italian Restaurant serving both northern and southern Italian cuisine in the beautifully remodeled facility that was previously occupied by C's and Tom's Café. The atmosphere is truly Italian with beautiful full wall murals, candle lit linen table cloth tables, full wine selection and rich Italian background music.

But the real treat is the authentic Italian fare that Chef Davito creates.

Chef Davito started cooking at age eight being taught the Italian ways of his grandmother he soon starting cooking for his family. After many years of experimentation and experience he opened his first restaurant, ShishKa-Bob House, in Bridgeport and was there for 12 years. Chef Davito then moved to Florida and worked as a chef at the 264 Grille on the island of Palm Beach. Davito then answered the call of his sister to come back to Illinois and help her set up Zsa Zsa's Italian Restaurant in Ingleside where he eventually built a huge following. His task then was to purchase and implement the right kitchen equipment, develop a full Italian menu and train the staff. What was supposed to be a two month trip turned into an extremely successful eight year job, cooking for his sister at Zsa Zsa's. After fulfilling the needs of his sister's restaurant, Davito felt the need to open his own place. Enter Davito's Italian Restaurant at Chapel Hill Country Club then on to our location in Johnsburg at the old Tom's Café building. Davito offers a fine dining experience that can meet almost everyone's price point. All entrees come with bread with olive oil and parmesan cheese for dipping, soup, salad, vegetable and choice of potato with your entrée. There is a fish fry on Fridays and Prime Rib on Wednesdays. He has a full menu including veal dishes, seafood, steaks, duck, as well as his many Italian entrees. The bar and kitchen are closed on Mondays and open from 3:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Sunday. A comprehensive website with menu offerings and specials will be coming soon. For more information, please call Chef Davito at 815-363-8300.

Johnsburg Area Business and Craft Expo

Sat., March 19th 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Location: Johnsburg High School



This year's expo promises to have something for everyone. **In addition to over 50 local businesses displaying their wares, there will be a special presentation by Jill Cataldo on Super Couponing.** Don't miss an afternoon of exhibits, prizes, games, and fun. Admission and parking are free. Lunch will be available in the cafeteria from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Booth reservation forms are available at the Johnsburg Public Library, 3000 N. Johnsburg Rd., 815-344-0077.



Economic Development

The Village's Economic Development Committee has spent considerable time developing a marketing plan for our business properties in Johnsburg. See page 5 for a full article about our goals and progress.

As always, comments by our residents and business owners are always welcome. If you would like to learn more about this important project, please contact Economic Development Chairman John Huemann at jhuemann@johnsburg.org. The Economic Development Committee meets at 7 P.M. on the second Monday of every month.

Local Charities



Happy 2011 From the Johnsburg Lion's

The Johnsburg Lion's would like to wish everyone a happy, safe and prosperous 2011. Thanks to all of our friends for your continued support in 2010. Due to your participation, the Johnsburg Lions' were able to assist many local families through our Banjo Beer, Candy Day, Christmas Wreath Sales and the monthly Meat Raffle programs. 2011 will be full of new challenges as the club

continues its efforts to assist those who are in need of eye, ear and other support within the Johnsburg community. Here is a list of upcoming Meat Raffles for the next two months for those who have an interest in having fun supporting any or all of the events planned.

Meat Raffle 1ST Thursday each Month @

Castaways: 614 Bold Knob Road Johnsburg, IL 60051

First Raffle begins approximately 7:30 PM

March 3, 2011 – Proceeds will go to the Johnsburg Post Prom Night

April 7, 2011 – Proceeds will go to the JBBL Baseball Program

Thank you in advance for your continued support and we hope to see you soon.

Please visit our web site www.johnsburglions.org for further information on scheduled events and fundraising opportunities that benefit our community.

JOHNSBURG COMMUNITY CLUB

SUPER RAFFLE

The Johnsburg Community Club will be holding its 19th Annual Super Raffle on Friday, May 13th. The Club opens at 6:30 p.m. with dinner being served at 7:30 p.m. Each Super Raffle ticket costs \$100 and includes one complimentary steak or chicken dinner and an entry into the double elimination Calcutta Super Raffle. Additional dinners are available for \$20. Advanced tickets are required and will not be available at the door. For more information, please call Len Eaton at 815-759-9375 or visit their website at www.johnsburgcommunityclub.com

DODGEBALL TOURNAMENT

The Johnsburg Youth Football Association is trying to raise funds for a new football field by sponsoring a Dodgeball Tournament on May 20th from 5:00 – 10:00 p.m. at Layton Athletics, 5402 Austin Ct in Ringwood. Registration fee for teams of 6 is \$90.00. Age brackets are 8 – 10 year olds; 11 – 14 year olds; and 15 – Adult and only 8 teams maximum per age bracket. Winners will receive a trophy. Registration and payment must be received by May 6th. For starting times, registration and payment information please email them at mgroves@johnsburgfootball.org.

BENEFIT TO SUPPORT BERTULIS FAMILY

The Johnsburg Lions Club and Walla-Pa-Looza will be sponsoring a benefit to support the Bertulis Family on **Saturday, March 19th from 7:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. at the Johnsburg Community Club, 2315 Church St., Johnsburg.** Proceeds from this event will go to help Jessica Bertulis, who is fighting Ewing's sarcoma, a rare form of bone cancer, and her family with Jessica's mounting medical bills. A \$5.00 donation is being asked for at the door. There will be food and drink available for purchase - ages 21 and over, live music featuring Bony Knees, meat raffles and 50/50 raffles.

See page 3 for Special Mentions of Johnsburg Residents working for others in our community!

Area Information

GROUNDWATER

M*cHenry County is solely dependent on groundwater for all of its drinking water needs and this resource is finite.* The groundwater resources of McHenry County are found primarily within two zones of geologic material underlying the county:

1. shallow aquifers composed of sand and gravel deposits within glacial drift, coupled with dolomitic material in the shallow bedrock immediately underlying the glacial drift, and
2. deep bedrock aquifers or Cambrian-Ordovician aquifer composed of sandstone and dolomite units.

While seemingly abundant, the ability of these sources to meet the county's projected water demand is uncertain as highlighted with completion of a multi-year water resources study titled the Groundwater Resources Management Plan (GRMP) in November, 2006.



The GRMP concluded that there are several aspects of groundwater concerns in McHenry County. First, is the primary impact of increased groundwater pumping on the existing water supply. Second is the potential for groundwater contamination that grows proportionally with population increases and the increased business activity in the area. This threat includes spilling of hazardous materials on the surface and increased discharge of fully or partially treated wastewater and wastewater treatment residuals.

Finally, a less evident, but nevertheless important aspect of groundwater use, is the potential impact on natural wetlands, fens, streams and lakes. These natural areas are dependent on groundwater discharges to the surface, and excessive pumping may reduce or eliminate these flows.

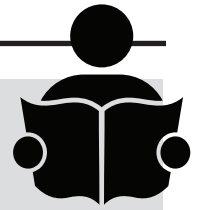
Demographic projections of the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) indicate that from 2000 to 2030, McHenry County's population is expected to grow by 190,000, and the number of households is projected to increase by approximately 65,700. These factors will contribute to growing demands upon McHenry County's water sources.

Visit our website at www.johnsburg.org to read the full article.
To learn about other water conservation ideas, visit www.mchenryh2o.com



—Village of—
JOHNSBURG
Settled 1841 – Incorporated 1956

Visit www.johnsburg.org often for community updates and events.



Johnsburg Library News

Download Digital Books

No late fees, no returns, available 24/7

The OverDrive eBook subscription will be available starting February 28!

Johnsburg Public Library patrons can download eBooks (text to view) and eAudiobooks (books to listen to) onto home computers and handheld devices with their Johnsburg Library card. These digital items are essentially "checked out" with your card and automatically returned when the time period is up.

An additional eAudiobook subscription from Recorded Books (distributed by NetLibrary) is also available. On NetLibrary, you can check out a maximum of 10 titles at a time for a period of 21 days.

Visit www.johnsburglibrary.org for more information.

WELCOME SPRING

Thursday, March 31st 2:00 p.m.

Ages 6 to 12

Paint sun-catchers and make sticker dot flowers, plus enjoy some activity sheets. Advanced registration is required and begins March 1st.

SPRING BREAK MOVIES

Spend some of your spring vacation with the library watching two new DVD releases on their large screen. Free treats for all. March 28th, Megamind will be shown and on March 30th, you can see Disney's Tangled. Both movies begin at 2:00 p.m. Advanced registration is required and begins March 14th.

www.johnsburglibrary.org

3000 N. Johnsburg Rd. Johnsburg, IL 60051

Phone: 815-344-0077 | FAX: 815-344-3524

Consolidated Election is April 5, 2011

Visit the link below for a list of polling places.

www.co.mchenry.il.us/departments/countyclerk/pages/index.aspx

Early voting: Monday, March 14th through Thursday, March 31st (closed Saturdays and Sundays) at the McHenry Township office, 3703 N. Richmond Rd.

Absentee Voting, also at the McHenry Township office is Friday, April 1st from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; Saturday, April 2nd from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.; and Monday, April 4th from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.



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 as well as solve everyday problems. The valuable knowledge and experience gained serving on these committees provides an in-depth understanding of the 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 www.johnsburg.org or contact Village Hall at 815-385-6023.

Visit www.johnsburg.org often for community updates and events.

VILLAGE OF JOHNSBURG
1515 Channel Beach Ave
Johnsburg, IL 60051

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RECEIVE YOUR VILLAGE NEWSLETTER ELECTRONICALLY

The Voice of Johnsburg newsletter will now only be offered electronically to resident subscribers. Simply go to www.johnsburg.org and register your email address to continue receiving this valuable communication about The Village of Johnsburg. If you are unable to receive the newsletter electronically, please contact the Village Hall at 815-385-6023 to get your name and address registered on the mailing list.