# Voice of Contract of Contract

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### What's Happening at www.johnsburg.org

### **The Village Board Report**

The Village Board Report is placed on our website monthly to keep you informed of actions taken by the Village Board on ordinances and other significant matters. Visit http://www.johnsburg. org/?q=village-board-reports to view each report.

Scan this QR code with your smart phone to pull up our board reports.



Go to Facebook and Twitter, and join the Village of Johnsburg. We'll send you updates about Village news and happenings.

Also, don't forget to sign up for our e-newsletter at www.johnsburg.org



### Sewer Extension Update

The sewer extension project along Fairview Avenue has been underway since the beginning of October and is expected to be substantially complete as you read this edition of our newsletter. We greatly appreciate the patience and cooperation exhibited by not only those that reside along the construction area but also the entire community. We realize the closing of Fairview Avenue to accommodate this project has impacted everyone's daily lives and apologize for the inconvenience.



Pictured from Left to Right: Public Works Director Dave Wilcox, Village Administrator Claudett Peters, State Senator Pamela Althoff, Village President Edwin Hettermann, Trustee and Public Works Chairman Kevin McEvoy and Village Engineer Timothy Hartnett.

This project is possible because of Federal and State funding the Village received to further our sewer collection system project. We would like to thank Senator Pamela Althoff for her efforts in securing the State funds that were just recently released. The Federal funds were secured through the efforts of former Congresswoman Melissa Bean to whom we are also grateful. By installing this infrastructure, we will be that much closer to bringing sewers to more than 400 residents in our

community. The Village continues to work to find additional grant opportunities to help offset the cost to bring wastewater treatment to other neighborhoods throughout the Village.

If your neighborhood is interested in learning more about connecting to the Village's wastewater treatment system, please contact Village Administrator, Claudett Peters at 815-385-6023 or cpeters@johnsburg.org.



### VILLAGE HALL HOURS Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

### **MEETING SCHEDULE**

**Committee of the Whole** Last Thursday of each month - 7:30 p.m.

**Community Affairs** 2nd 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** 4th Monday of each month - 7:00 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 Thursday of each month - 7:30 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

John Huemann Mary Lou Hutchinson Rich Janusz

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

Kevin McEvoy

Janice Sisk

Ron Zanko

Johnsburg STATE BANK

Thank you to Johnsburg State Bank for their generous donation towards postage for the Voice of Johnsburg.

### **President's Letter**

all is always a busy time of the year in our community. In September we celebrated the 41st annual Saufen und Spiel event. We were blessed with beautiful weather as family, friends, and neighbors came out to enjoy games, fellowship, good food, music and the annual parade. I would like to thank the Johnsburg Community Men's Club and Johnsburg Lion's Club for



all of their hard work in making this event a success. Through the efforts of Village resident, Len Keil, who also serves on our Development & Governmental Affairs Committee, Village officials had the honor of riding in several classic Thunderbird convertibles in the Saufen und Spiel Parade provided by Classic Thunderbird Club of Chicagoland. I would like to thank Mr. Keil for his coordination of this effort and for driving in the parade along with the drivers Pete Kramer, President of the club, Dan Anderson, Tom Bruin, Gordon Gluff, Joel Greenberg, Art Hahl, Bob Hoge, Pete Kramer, Doug Rodgers, Lloyd Schellin, and Ken Smizinski.

Weeks leading up to October 6th kept the Community Affairs Committee busy organizing the Village's annual Celebration in the Park event. Despite the cold weather, the community came out to enjoy the event made possible through generous donations from residents, businesses and vendors. I would personally like to thank all of the generous contributors who made this event possible. See the article on page 10 for more about the event and our generous contributors.

I am saddened to report on the passing of a few long time Johnsburg residents -Ted Freund, Francis Schmitt, Mary Ann Quinn, Madelyn Johnston, Bill Prichard, Rich Jokela, and Roger Pechous. All of these individuals were active members of our community. Mr. Schmitt served through both the Johnsburg Community Club and the McHenry Township Fire District. We recently recognized his generous donation of land for our central lift station through the dedication of Schmitt Park located next to the Chapel Hill Road bridge. Mr. Freund served for many years as Treasurer of the Johnsburg Community Club. Mr. Jokela served on the Village's Ordinance Committee. Mrs. Quinn volunteered at Centegra Hospital in McHenry for years and Mrs. Johnston, Mr. Prichard and Mr. Pechous were always quick to help out whenever needed. They will all be greatly missed. Our thoughts and prayers go out to their families.

As the holiday season approaches, there will be many area events and activities for you and your family to enjoy. Come out and enjoy the Village's Meet & Greet Santa event on Friday, December 7th, 2012 from 5:00 to 7:00 PM at the Village Hall. Also take some time to attend this year's Jolly-Pa-Looza event being held on December 1st at the Johnsburg Community Club. The Lion's Club's meat raffle will be held December 6th at 7:00 p.m. at DeVito's Restaurant. All proceeds will benefit the Johnsburg Rescue Squad Retired's Free Food Distribution. Check the Village's website for more holiday events taking place in and around our community.

In closing, I would like to thank all of our residents and the business community for the opportunity to serve you again this past year as your Village President. I will continue to work closely with staff to address any concerns or questions you may have so please feel free to contact me anytime. I, along with the Village Board and staff, wish you and your family a safe and happy holiday season.

Respectfully *Edwin P. Hettermann* Village President

# **Holiday Happenings**



The Village of Johnsburg will bring in the Holidays with our Meet & Greet Santa event on Friday, December 7th, 2012 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Village Hall. We invite the residents of Johnsburg to come with their families and enjoy some treats, hot chocolate, decorate ornaments and of course, talk to Santa. The evening will end with a Christmas Tree Lighting at 6:45 p.m. We look forward to ringing in the Holidays with you!

### Shop With a Cop

The Johnsburg Police Department and the Johnsburg Lion's Club started the "Shop with a Cop®" program more than 15 years ago in an effort to build positive relationships between police officers and the children of the community. Police officers and the children get together one December evening to share a dinner together after which the true excitement begins. Each child gets an opportunity to shop with one of our police officers with the help of funds donated by local businesses and organizations. It is a very positive experience not only for the kids that are involved, but also for the officers.

Children are recommended for participation in the program by police department members, school employees, social agencies and family

shelters. Anyone can nominate a child who meets the criteria of being between the ages of five and fourteen and who has a social or economic need and who has not participated in past years.

The "Shop with a Cop®" program is



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



# Village Gratitude



In September Les and Joan Lunsmann along with their many dedicated patrons and volunteers at Sunnyside Tavern raised \$600 for the Johnsburg Rescue Squad Retired's Free Food Distribution. They also raised \$600 through a meat raffle held to benefit the Johnsburg Junior Skyhawks Football League. Fritz Larson, owner of Halftime Bar and Grill also sponsored many events this year benefiting local organizations such as Walla-Pa-Looza, JBBL, and Saufen und Spiel.

The **Johnsburg Lions Club** holds a monthly meat raffle on the first Thursday of every month. The proceeds go towards supporting a different cause each month. This past year the Johnsburg Lion's Club supported the following: JHS Football, Girls Volleyball, Cheers/Poms and LaCrosse; Walla Pa Looza; Legends Baseball; Sub Zero Girls Fast Pitch Softball; and community members with challenges.

Kevin Abernathy and Family recently held the "Do it For Duey" Poker Run on September 22, 2012, at Sunnyside Tavern raising \$5,000 for the Sage Cancer Center and families in need. This was the 2nd annual benefit held in honor of Duey Abernathy who passed away January 13, 2012 from Esophageal Cancer.

Congratulations to Shannon McCrea, president of the Johnsburg Junior Skyhawks Football League and its executive board for their hard work in forming a nonprofit feeder football organization. Shannon and his group are working closely with JHS Varsity Head Coach Maloney to insure the league will function as a beneficial feeder program. Additionally, **Bill Molidor** has been working on behalf of the League tearing down fencing and breaking up concrete at the high school in preparation for another field for the Junior Skyhawks. He has also been instrumental working with volunteers that have been striping fields, painting and repairing the football fencing. The Voice of Johnsburg strives to acknowledge the many generous hard working people that make our community a great place to call home. One individual that comes to mind is Arnie Diedrich. Arnie is a member of St. John the Baptist Knights of Columbus Council 9167 for which he was recently named Illinois Knight of the Year by the Illinois State Council. This distinguished honor was bestowed upon Arnie because of his hard work as Blood Drive Chairman for his Council. Selections are made from over 4,700 councils and 73,000 members. Through Arnie's efforts, thousands of lives have been saved over a span of nine years.

Ken and Shawn Calhoun from Hiller Farms have been working for years as volunteers for the Johnsburg Boys Baseball League (JBBL) assisting with their field days by donating equipment, fuel and manpower so the baseball fields are ready each spring. You can also find the Calhoun brothers donating their time serving beverages during Banjo Beer night at Saufen und Spiel. Hiller Farms also donates some of the trucks and trailers used for the Homecoming and Saufen und Spiel parade each year.

We would also like to recognize **Adam Kottke and Justin Griletz.** Adam completed improvements at Alfred May Park and Boat Launch in an effort to receive his Boy Scout's Eagle Award. Justin keeps the Johnsburg Community up to date with his "Johnsburg Happening" Facebook page. He also helps with all of the design and art work for another local charity - Walla-Pa-Looza.

We would like to thank all of our generous community members and organizations for their contributions throughout the year. If we have overlooked a member of the community who has contributed towards making Johnsburg the wonderful place we call home, we apologize and ask that you bring it to our attention by contacting the Village Hall at 815-385-6023.

### JOLLY-PA-LOOZA – RAISIN'CASH FOR CANCER

Please join us to support a worthy charity and have a funfilled evening while doing so! **The doors to the Johnsburg Community Club will open at 6:00 p.m. on December 1, 2012 for Jolly-Pa-Looza.** There will be two bands, High Life & The Partyhardigans, plus food, beverages, raffles and a silent auction. A \$5 donation is collected at the door. Go to walla-pa-looza.org for more information.

# Village News

### **PUBLIC WORKS SNOW REMOVAL**

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

- Hazards at the roadside, such as boulders or driveway markers that may interfere with or damage plows, must be removed before the first snowfall. In larger storms it can be difficult for our drivers to see the edge of the road.
- Major roads and bus routes are plowed first, followed by secondary subdivision streets and finally cul de sacs and private roads.
- Please adhere to the "No Parking" along the road on days when a 2 inch snowfall has occurred or is being forecasted.
- Check your mailbox post to make sure it is sturdy enough to withstand snow being deflected from the plow. We will repair mailboxes only if they come in direct contact with the snowplow and will not repair them if the force of the snow knocks them down.
- Make sure the area around your mailbox is shoveled so mail can be delivered and around any fire hydrant that may be on your property.
- Increase the following distance when driving behind a snowplow. It is very difficult for the drivers to see cars directly behind them.

With your help and patience, this year's snow removal should run smoothly. You can view the entire Snow Removal and Ice Control Policy on our website at www.johnsburg.org.



In accordance with the Village's refuse removal contract, residents may purchase stickers to cover the cost to pick up garbage in excess of the 35 gallon limit included in the Village's contract. These stickers cover the cost of one additional 35 gallon can or bag of garbage (or yard waste - seasonal). In accordance with the contract, the cost to purchase a sticker is now \$3.20. Stickers are sold at the Village Hall and are also available at the Sunnyside Little Store, Novotny Sales and Angelo's Market.

Scan this QR code with your smart phone to visit The Village of Johnsburg website for community updates and events.





# Village News

### **Strategic Planning/Visioning**

Strategic Planning Sessions are held from time to time by the Village to establish goals and objectives with input from a broad range of stakeholders. In January of 2011, a Strategic Planning Session was held with participation



by 38 stakeholders. This exercise provided the Village Board direction on the Village's future. Upon completion of this review, strategic goals were identified. Strategic Actions were then established and assigned to committees. The committees designed Action Plans which include tasks and timelines necessary to achieve these goals. Many of these tasks have been completed while others are expected to be done by the end of the calendar year.

### Do you live outside the village limits but would still like to stay informed?

Request an electronic version of the newsletter delivered to your email address as an interactive PDF file at www.johnsburg.org.

Scan this QR code with your smart phone to subscribe to an electronic version of our quarterly newsletter and other electronic news updates.



### Follow the village on



In furthering this effort, the Village recently established the following Vision Statement: "A community that is proud of its past and excited about its future"

In support of this statement, the Village also established the following:

"Johnsburg is a village where history, hospitality and natural beauty come together to create a community that is proud of its past and excited about its future. Our prosperity depends on engaging our residents and businesses to be integral participants in Johnsburg's unique community while protecting our assets and preserving our natural resources."

### With this in mind, the over-arching goals to actualize our vision are to:

- Expand quality shopping venues and diversified commercial mixed use developments that translate into job opportunities and an increased tax base.
- Create a pedestrian friendly downtown business district that reflects the historic nature of our Village.
- Increase public access to our waterways and enhance our public spaces to offer a variety of outdoor recreational activities and cultural opportunities for residents and visitors.
- Provide essential services to enable, sustain and enrich our community lifestyle through the creation of sound, stable infrastructure that includes: well-maintained streets, environmentally sensitive storm water and wastewater treatment systems, a safe and reliable water supply, and telecommunication and utility grids.
- Work in collaboration with citizens and other public and private entities as advocates for the protection of our assets and preservation of our natural resources.
- Pursue opportunities for sustainable growth through diversified housing while maintaining a strong sense of hometown values.
- Maintain sound fiscal policies to ensure the Village's sustainability while providing the fiscal framework that supports our long-term strategic initiatives.

# Village News

# 2013 CONSOLIDATED ELECTION

Nomination petitions for Village President and three Trustee positions are now available at the Village Hall.

Petitions may be circulated immediately. The term of office for each position is four years. Petitions may be filed at the Village Hall from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. December 17th – December 21st and on December 24th between 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.



### The Consolidated Election will be held on Tuesday, April 9, 2013. For additional information please go to elections.il.gov.

If you are not interested in running for an elected office but would like to get more involved in local government why not volunteer for a Village committee. 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 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 <u>www.johnsburg.org</u> or contact the Village Hall at 815-385-6023.

### **Library Events**

HOLIDAY CHEMISTRY: CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE CHEMICAL KIND Saturday, December 1st at 2:00 p.m. for ages 5 and up. Registration begins November 12th.

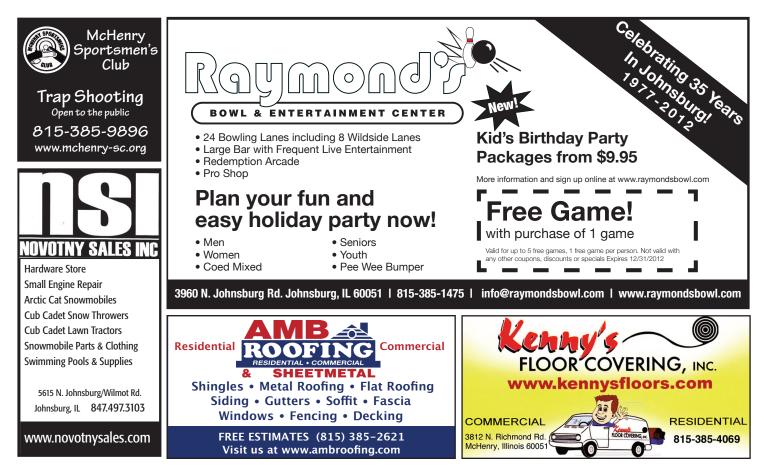
### HANDMADE GREEN SPA GIFTS

**Grades 6-12:** Friday, December 7th at 2:00 p.m. Chocolate Kiss Lip Gloss, Natural Hand Sanitizer, Fizzing Foot Soak, and Sweet Spice Body Polish.

Adult workshop: Saturday, December 8th at 2:00 p.m. Soothing Oatmeal Bath, Lavender-Mint Sachets, Mineral Salt Hand & Foot Scrub, and Nail & Cuticle Oil.

Advance registration is required and begins November 26th.

Find additional library events for children and adults at www. johnsburglibrary.org. Visit the Johnsburg Library at 3000 N. Johnsburg Road or contact them at 815-344-0077.





The Village of Johnsburg would like to thank the advertisers of our newly redesigned newsletter. It is because of these sponsors that the Village is able to distribute this valuable communication tool to all of our residents and businesses. Please support these fine local establishments who have partnered with us in this important Village initiative.

AMB Roofing & Sheetmetal American Water Experts Angelo's Fresh Market **Bald Knob Marina** Blake Upholstery **C&S** Fabrication Chef Davito's Steakhouse & Italian Restaurant Foxhole Tap & Pizzeria Garrelts & Sons, Inc Halftimes Bar & Grill Huemann Water Conditioning Johnsburg's Dental Center Joseph H. Huemann & Sons, Inc Joyful Harvest Church Kenny's Floor Covering Language Express McHenry Sportsmen's Club Merlin 200,000 Mile Shops - Fox Lake Mike's Brass & Woodwind **Novotny Sales** Olson's Auto Body **Pro Circle Golf Center** Prudential First Realty, Joy Rossman, Broker **Ouality Tire Service Quality Mobile Installations Rabine Residential** Raymond's Bowl & Entertainment Center Spring Grove Insurance Agency Sunnyside Tavern Stade's Farm & Market White Lightning Soccer Club Wonderwave Internet (Fantastic Websites)



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# Area News

### **Citizen Police Academy**

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

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

The Citizen Police Academy is scheduled to start in January of 2013. The Academy will meet once per week for a total of 9 three hour sessions. A variety of instructors from the Johnsburg Police Department and guests will be presenting an assortment of topics in order to provide the public with a comprehensive view of police work and the criminal justice system.

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

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

Class size is limited to 8 participants, and the class will fill quickly, so contact the police department as soon as possible if you would like to apply. Any questions may be directed to Chief Keith Von Allmen at 815-385-6024 or by e-mail at police@johnsburg.org.

## Area News

### Johnsburg Educational Partnership Foundation



Over the last 20 years, the Johnsburg Educational Partnership Foundation has been a cornerstone in our community for raising funds to enhance the education of our children. The Foundation has provided hundreds of thousands of dollars to fund computer labs and technology in the classroom, scholarships for college, band uniforms, funds for outside learning experiences and much more. For the past five years, funds have been raised though three major fundraisers: JEPF Gala and Auction, Orange Ball Golf Outing and Casino Night. In response to feedback from the community, the JEPF Board of Directors has decided to cancel the Casino Night originally scheduled for Saturday, November 10, 2012. Instead, they intend to improve their other two events so that they can continue to raise the needed funds for our schools, while placing less pressure on the community to contribute and volunteer. **The 20<sup>th</sup> Annual JEPF Gala scheduled for Saturday, March 9, 2013 will have a new theme and be more affordable during these tough economic times and the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual JEPF Orange Ball Golf Outing is still scheduled for Friday, June 28, 2013 at the McHenry County Club.** 

For more information about JEPF upcoming events or to make a donation, please visit http://www.jepf.org.

### SMILE FOR THE CAMERA

In response to increased acts of vandalism at Sunnyside Memorial Park (located behind the Village Hall), the Village recently installed security cameras in an effort to deter offenders and help keep our parks safe. Cameras were installed several years ago in Hiller Park in an effort to reduce vandalism and have proven to be very effective. Over the years, the Village has been able to identify and prosecute many vandals through the help of camera footage obtained at Hiller Park. Vandalism is destructive and results in unnecessary costs to our community. Most people respect and appreciate what our parks have to offer. For those who chose to vandalize them we will work diligently to identify and prosecute the offenders fully.



# **Area News** CELEBRATION IN THE PARK

n Saturday, October 6, 2012, the Village of Johnsburg and the Community Affairs Committee held the annual Celebration in the Park event. Friends and family came out to enjoy a fun filled evening of live music by Bony Knees, food prepared and served by the Johnsburg Community Men's Club, desserts, coffee and hot chocolate served by Home Style Caterers, and beverages served by the Johnsburg Lions Club. Despite the chill in the air, children enjoyed the moon jumps, games and havrides and everyone was wowed by the incredible fireworks display at the end of evening.

We would like to thank the following generous contributors who made this event possible:

Event Sponsor: Johnsburg State Bank, Rohm Haas

Gold Sponsor: H.R. Green, Dental Center, P.C., Raymond's Bowl, Les and Joan Lunsmann-Sunnyside Tavern

Silver Sponsor: Oak Park Lounge, Evans Froehlich & Beth, Evans Marshall and Pease, P.C., The Sisk Family, Ed and Lina Hettermann Family, Chas Herdrich & Son, Inc., Floorsmd, LLC, Joseph H. Huemann & Sons, Inc., Lakeland Service Center, Law Offices of Zukowski, Rogers, Flood & McArdle, Sud'n Shine Carwash, Waste Management

Bronze Sponsor: 7 Days Market & Restaurant, Associated Electrical Contractors, Bjorkman's Ace Hardware, Inc., Chapel Hill Bodyworks, LLC., Huemann Water Conditioning, Hydraulic Services & Repairs, Inc., J&M Transmissions, First Midwest Bank, McHenry Savings Bank, Ore of McHenry, L.L.C., Prem Magnetics, Sportdecals Inc, Sunnyside Company, Sunnyside Little Store

Patron Sponsor: 1ST Way Pregnancy Support Service, Crossroads Counseling Center, Direct Response Resource, Family Eyecare, Grading Places Home Inspection, McHenry Specialties, Northern Light Care, P.F. Pettibone & Co., R.B. Custom Design Inc., Rivera License & Title Services, Reiche Plumbing & Sewer, Ringwood Cabinetry, Inc.

The event would also not have been possible without the hard work of the Community Affairs Committee, Johnsburg Community Men's Club, Johnsburg Lions, Home Style Caterers, 1st Midwest Bank employees, Mad Bomber, Bony Knees, Johnsburg High School Football Team, Johnsburg High School CARES, Johnsburg Explorers, McHenry Township Fire District, and the Village of Johnsburg staff who donated their time.

### 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.

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



**T-Shirts** \$10.00

T-Shirts are cream with a burgundy logo. Sizes Medium, Large, X-Large and XX-Large.



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.

VOJ Sweatshirts

helped with the

chill at this year's

Celebration in the Park. Proceeds go towards next

year's Celebration.

Sweatshirts and hoodies are burgundy with cream logo.

# Area News

### **No-Cost Tips for Reducing Energy Bills**

We are all looking for ways to save money in this challenging economy. The following are simple steps that don't cost a thing, but can potentially save you 10-25% on your monthly energy bill.

- Use pots that fit the size of the burners on your stove. Use lids so you can cook at a lower temperature.
- Turn off lights and appliances when not in use. Don't forget your computer. Most new computers have sleep settings.
- In the cold months, set the thermostat to 68 degrees when home, and then back to 55 68 degrees when unoccupied.
- In the winter, open window coverings on the sunny side of your home to take advantage of free heat from the sun. Close the coverings on cloudy days or right after the sun sets.
- Make sure your water heater is set to 120 degrees. Some thermostats are preset to 140 degrees, which can cost you more money.
- · Close foundation vents in the winter months.
- Vacuum your refrigerator coils (underneath and in the back) and don't obstruct the coils. They need air space to work.
- · Keep the seals (gaskets) on refrigerators and freezers clean.
- Keep your freezer as full as possible. You can place containers or plastic bottles filled with water in the empty spaces.

- Make sure food is cool and covered before it goes into the refrigerator.
- Run full loads in your washer and dryer, and use "solar drying" (clotheslines).
- Use energy saver option on your dishwasher, allowing dishes to air dry.
- Unplug your televisions/VCR/DVD when you're on vacation. Most new sets draw power even when they're turned off.
- Keep lights and lighting fixtures clean, especially if you're reducing the number of lights you use. Dirt absorbs light. Let lights cool before cleaning them and never touch halogen bulbs with your bare hands. The oil from your skin can greatly damage the bulbs. Use a small piece of paper to hold the bulb.
- · If your dishwasher has a filter, keep it clean.

Follow the village on

· Clean the reflectors underneath the burners on stovetops.





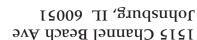
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Check out the newly redesigned Voice of Johnsburg quarterly newsletter inside!