

Voice of Johnsburg

A Hometown with Spirit



Winter 2013

MEET & GREET SANTA

Please join the Village of Johnsburg for a Holiday Celebration on Sunday, December 1st at the Johnsburg Community Club from 12:00 to 3:00. The event will include crafts and snacks for the children and a picture with a special visitor who is expected to attend around 1:00. Festive holiday music will be performed and a Christmas tree lighting ceremony will take place at 2:30. Food and beverages will be available for purchase from the Johnsburg Community Men's Club. In the spirit of the season, we ask that you bring a gift for donation to Toy for Tots.



JOLLY-PA-LOOZA

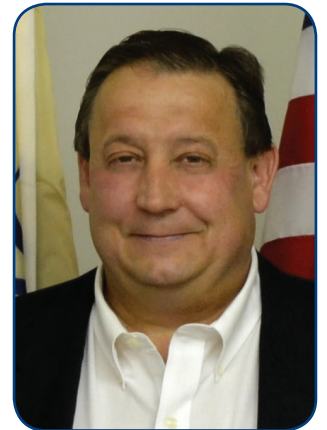
RAISIN' CASH FOR CANCER

Come out and join us to support a worthy charity and have a fun-filled evening while doing so! The doors to the Johnsburg Community Club will open at 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 7th for Jolly-Pa-Looza. The event will feature live music by Valentine and 4 Grand & Friction and will include food, beverages, raffles and a silent auction. A \$5 donation is collected at the door.

Go to walla-pa-looza.org for more information.

President's Letter

Fall has brought about cool, crisp days with colorful leaves quickly falling to the ground- a reminder that winter is just around the corner. This is always a busy time of the year in our community. In September we celebrated the 42nd annual Saufen und Spiel event. 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 Club, 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 again 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. Len Keil for coordination of this effort and for driving in the parade along with Johnsburg resident Jerry Michna, and drivers Pete Kramer, President of the club, Dan Anderson, Tom Bruin, Ed Levin, Bill Werth, Doug Rodgers, Lloyd Schellin, and Ken Smizinski.

Weeks leading up to October 5th kept the Community Affairs Committee busy organizing the Village's annual Celebration in the Park event. Even though the start of the event was accompanied by rain showers, the community still came out to celebrate in the park. I would personally like to thank all of the generous contributors who made this event possible. Much thanks also goes to the young men of the Johnsburg Skyhawks football team. See the article on Page 4 for more about the event and our generous contributors.

I am saddened to report on the passing of Gordon R. Crombie. Mr. Crombie was a bagpiper who could always be counted on to participate in the Johnsburg Memorial Day Ceremonies, leading the parade through town towards the Armed Services Flag Memorial at the Johnsburg Community Center, setting the patriotic tone for the ceremony. For more information about Mr. Crombie, please read the article on Page 6 regarding the Johnsburg VFW. Mr. Crombie will be greatly missed but his legacy will carry on.



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 Wednesday of each month - 6:30 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
2nd Thursday 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.

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Ed Hettermann

Village Board of Trustees
John Huemann Greg Klemstein
Mary Lou Hutchinson Kevin McEvoy
Rich Janusz Janice Sisk

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



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



I would like to take a moment to thank Justin Wallace for his efforts in helping out the Johnsburg Lion's Club recently on their Candy Day fundraiser. It's great to see one of our young residents come out and volunteer their time to help someone less fortunate than themselves. Justin is the son of two of the Walla Pa Looza and Jolly Pa Looza organizers, Craig and Joann Wallace. He is a fine example that supports the saying "the apple doesn't fall far from the tree".

The Economic Development Committee has been working diligently on the second phase of their Downtown planning efforts which consists of the visioning phase. The Committee will be seeking input from the community through a survey on our website which will be available in January. Watch for more information regarding the survey through eblasts and our e-newsletter. Your participation is crucial. When the survey becomes available, please take a moment to fill it out so that we can develop a vision for our downtown that reflects the desires of our community. I cannot emphasize enough of how much your participation in this survey will influence the future of our community.

The first phase of the Johnsburg Road Improvement Project is almost at completion and it is exciting to resume full traffic movement on Johnsburg Road. Although the construction created inconveniences for all of us, the end result will greatly improve vehicle and pedestrian movement in our community. I would like to thank everyone for their patience and cooperation throughout the construction project. Keep abreast of the second phase of the construction expected to begin next spring by signing up for email notifications and updates on our website at www.johnsburg.org.

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 Sunday, December 1st, 2013 from Noon to 3:00 PM at the Johnsburg Community Club. Also take some time to attend this year's Jolly-Pa-Looza event being held on December 7th at the Johnsburg Community Club. The Lion's Club's meat raffle will be held on December 5th at 7:00 p.m. at Chef DeVito's Restaurant. All proceeds from this fundraiser will go to the Johnsburg Lions Club's eye, hearing, and people in need fund. This past year the Johnsburg Lions Club has contributed over \$14,000 to two corrective eye surgeries, four hearing aids, a reading machine, and over 20 eye exams and glasses for students at Johnsburg schools. They need your support to continue these services so please come out for the December 5th meat raffle.

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

Respectfully
Edwin P. Hettermann
Village President

AREA NEWS

“Smoke Free Park” Contest

In an effort to promote a healthy community and the environment where we bring our children to play, relax, and participate in sports, the Village Board recently approved an ordinance restricting smoking in Village parks. In doing so, signs will be placed at all of our parks to notify individuals of the restrictions. **The Village in conjunction with the Community Affairs Committee, will be holding a contest for the sign design.** Submissions are being accepted now through February 1, 2014. Specific requirements apply therefore go to our website at johnsburg.org for more information.

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.

PUBLIC WORKS NEWS – SNOW REMOVAL

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

- Hazards at the roadside, such as boulders or driveway markers that may interfere with or damage plows, must be removed before the first snowfall. In larger storms it can be difficult for our drivers to see the edge of the road.
- Major roads and bus routes are plowed first, followed by secondary subdivision streets and finally cul de sacs and private roads.
- 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.

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CELEBRATION IN THE PARK

On Saturday, October 5, 2013, the Village of Johnsburg and the Community Affairs Committee held the 7th 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 Riverside Chocolate Factory, and beverages served by the Johnsburg Lions Club. Despite the pre-event rain, children enjoyed the moon jumps, games and hayrides 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:

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Wilmot Medical Associates

The event would also not have been possible without the hard work of the Community Affairs Committee, Johnsburg Community Men's Club, Johnsburg Lions, Riverside Chocolate Factory, 1st Midwest Bank employees, Mad Bomber, Bony Knees, Amy Blum & Jim Akers from the WIT Beverage Group, 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.



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



Shop with a Cop®

The Johnsburg Police Department and the Johnsburg Lion's Club created the "Shop with a Cop" program almost 20 years ago. The program has built many positive relationships between police officers and the children of our community. The Officers and the children begin their early December evening by having dinner. Afterwards the true excitement begins. Each child receives a fixed amount to spend on Christmas gifts at our local Walmart store. This evening positively impacts the kids as well as the Johnsburg Police officers and Lion's Club volunteers.

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

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

3rd Annual Citizen's Police Academy Class

The Johnsburg Police Department has announced the 3rd 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 or work within 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 Academy begins on Tuesday, January 21, 2014 and will meet once per week for a total of 9 two to three hour sessions. A variety of instructors from the Johnsburg Police Department, and guests, will be presenting an assortment of topics in order to provide the public with a comprehensive view of police work and the criminal justice system.

The Academy is offered free of charge to Johnsburg Citizens 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 please visit www.johnsburg.org for a printable pdf application. Any questions may be directed to Chief Keith Von Allmen at 815-385-6024 or by e-mail at police@johnsburg.org.

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AREA NEWS

JOHNSBURG RESCUE SQUAD

In each issue of the Voice of Johnsburg, we strive to acknowledge the many generous hard working people that make our community a great place to call home. In this issue, I would like to reflect on the men and women who served on the Johnsburg Rescue Squad.

The Johnsburg Rescue Squad was the first volunteer rescue squad in McHenry County and the first chartered rescue squad in the State of Illinois. In 1952 a group of twelve men solicited donations to purchase the needed equipment to form the squad and by 1953 the rescue squad was officially organized. The founding members consisted of Clem Freund, Gerald Hettermann, Fred Huemann, Kenneth Hamsher, Lloyd Oeffling, Richard Marshall, Albert Adams, John Stone, Bill Schmitt, Joel Himpelmann, Gerald Wakitsch, and Harry Freund. The Johnsburg Rescue Squad at that time served the unincorporated areas throughout the County and the surrounding communities including Fox Lake, Spring Grove, McHenry and Richmond. Since that time more than 98 men and women served on the volunteer squad until 1990 when rescue services were taken over by the McHenry Township Fire Protection District. These committed men and women saved many lives and were there in times of medical need for many people. The building we see today that houses the Johnsburg Police Department originally was home to the Johnsburg Rescue Squad and was built by members of the squad back in 1960.

After the McHenry Township Fire Protection District began to provide services, members of the volunteer squad had a desire to stay involved with the community. Over the years they have donated much time and money towards improving the community to include scholarship donations to students pursuing a career in the medical field; the purchase of the Johnsburg Community Sign located by the library and furniture for the Johnsburg Public Library. They organized food drives every other month for the past six years and financed (at no interest) the Village's purchase of the old rescue squad building to house the Johnsburg Police Department. The retired rescue squad also donated \$15,000 to the Johnsburg Community Club to replace the club's roof and aid in the replacement of windows. Most recently they donated more than \$150,000 in improvements to park land owned by the Village next to the Johnsburg Community Club which has been named "Johnsburg Rescue Squad Memorial Park". The improvements include tree clearing; grading and the creation of a detention area; construction of a gazebo and sitting area; an asphalt parking lot with concrete curbing and sidewalks; landscaping (including shrubs and trees); and the purchase and installation a flagpole, monument, benches and signage. A formal dedication of the park is planned for next spring. We hope you will come out and join us for the dedication and honor the members of the Johnsburg volunteer Rescue Squad. For more information regarding the Johnsburg Rescue Squad, visit their display at the Johnsburg Public Library.

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.

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



Go to the right column at www.johnsburg.org to sign up for E-News Blasts and receive emailed alerts and newsletters. Also, each issue of the Voice of Johnsburg Newsletter is available online as an interactive PDF.

Johnsburg VFW



The VFW traces its roots back to 1899 when veterans of the Spanish-American War (1898) and the Philippine Insurrection (1899-1902) founded local organizations to secure rights and benefits for their service. At that time, some of the veterans banded together and formed organizations that would later become

known as the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. The VFW's mission is to "honor the dead by helping the living" through veterans' services, community service, national security and a strong national defense.

George Braun and his team of dedicated members of the Johnsburg VFW do an incredible job honoring our fallen veterans through the Memorial Day festivities they organize each year. We are very grateful to those who have served to protect the freedoms we enjoy today and we greatly appreciate all that the Johnsburg VFW does to honor our veterans.

The Armed Forces Flag Memorial located at the Johnsburg Community Club was an Eagle Scout project pursued several years ago by Nick Savitzky, a young man from our community. The project was supported by the Johnsburg VFW, Johnsburg Community Club and many generous resident contributions. It incorporates the flags of each armed service, the American flag, our state flag and the POW flag.

Recently, members of the Johnsburg VFW honored Bagpiper Gordon R. Crombie who passed away in September after a bout with cancer at the age of 75. They presented him with a Resolution of Appreciation and Affection which was delivered and read to Gordon the night before he died by his wife Kathryn. Mr. Crombie had traveled for many years to Johnsburg to participate in the Memorial Day ceremonies, patriotically influencing the atmosphere of the event. He performed at the opening ceremonies on the banks of the Fox River and then led the parade to the Johnsburg Community Center where he again played to set the patriotic tone for the culminating ceremonies at the Armed Services Flag and Military Honors Commemorative Brick Memorial. He performed in the presence of many elected officials and local military veterans. Mr. Crombie was truly talented and will be missed.

AREA NEWS

Johnsburg School District 12 Continues to Increase Communication

Johnsburg School District 12 has been working diligently to increase and enhance the flow of information from the school and district offices to the community. The District wants to ensure that parents and community members have access to as much information regarding the schools in a time efficient manner. They have recently announced a new mobile app for smart phone and mobile device users. Be sure to check out the extensive article in the fall edition of the District's newsletter, Info 12, for more information! The district encourages all parents and community members to use these methods to stay updated on the latest academic and extracurricular announcements for each school.

Johnsburg Area Business Association (JABA)

JABA has had a very successful 2013 under the leadership of President William Wiltse, Vice President Frank Hosticka, Secretary Linda Wemple and Treasurer John Huemann. In 2013 JABA sponsored a very successful Johnsburg Business Expo with Richard Bierman as Chairman, the "State of the Village" Dinner, with Josh Hagen and Debbie Adams as Co-Chairperson, the Scholarship Committee chaired by Dr. Rachel Northern and the Membership committee chaired by Frank Hosticka. Newly elected 2014 Officers are President Frank Hosticka, Vice President Richard Bierman, Secretary Lori Boyle and Treasurer John Huemann.

With a growing membership of over 60 members JABA looks forward to 2014 with improved services to help local businesses grow. Consider becoming a member and take advantage of their services starting with discounts to exhibit your business at the next EXPO on March 15, 2014. For information about membership call Frank Hosticka at 815-385-9008 or go to the JABA website at johnsburgjaba.com.

JOHNSBURG PUBLIC LIBRARY UP-COMING PROGRAMS

Affordable Care Act Assistance

Learn about your health insurance options by meeting with a specially-trained insurance counselor. Appointments will be held at the library on Tuesdays from 5:00-9:00 p.m. To schedule your time slot, call the McHenry County Health Department at 815-344-4510.

Holiday Preschool Story Hour

Children ages 3-5 and caregivers are invited to come for holiday stories, songs, and crafts on Mon., Dec. 16 at 7:00 p.m. or Tues., Dec. 17 at 10:00 a.m. Register online or call the library.

Holiday Book & Craft Fun for ages 5-8

Join us for some holiday stories and a craft on Wednesday, Dec. 18, 3:45-5:00 p.m. Register online or call the library.

For a complete listing of all the library's upcoming programs, check the Calendar link on the library's website at www.johnsburglibrary.org.

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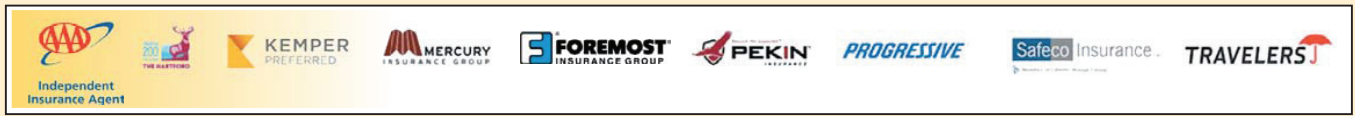
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