Memorial Day in Johnsburg

The Johnsburg VFW will conduct the opening Memorial Day ceremony honoring veterans, both past and present, on Memorial Day, Monday, May 30th beginning at 9:00 a.m. at the Waterfront Hotel & Marina riverfront patio by the Chapel Hill Bridge. A river wreath ceremony will be held to honor those lost at sea during naval battles. Flying aircraft are again part of this year’s ceremonies. Residents and their guests should be on the bridge sidewalk by 8:30 a.m. to observe and enjoy the patriotic performances of the Johnsburg High School band, choir, and buglers. A parade after will proceed to the Johnsburg Community Club’s Armed Forces Memorial along Chapel Hill Road through the roundabout to Church Street then west to the Johnsburg Community Club Armed Forces Flag Memorial, where the concluding ceremony will take place. A baseball game, sponsored by the Johnsburg Community Men’s Club (JCMC), will follow. Antique and military vehicles will also be on display. Food and beverages will be served picnic-style by the Johnsburg Lions Club and JCMC members will tend the bar in the clubhouse. For updated information and parade applications please email george-braun@comcast.net directly. Food and donations are being provided by Johnsburg residents and business owners. Anyone wishing to donate to this patriotic event can do so by dropping off a check off at the Village Hall made out to the Johnsburg VFW Post 11496.

Local Sales Tax

The March 15, 2016 primary election included a referendum question asking voting residents of the Village of Johnsburg whether or not they support raising local sales tax by ½ percent on goods purchased in the Village.

The result of the votes cast, as certified by the McHenry County Clerk, indicated 1,241 voters were in favor of and 941 voters were opposed to the sales tax increase.

As a result, the Johnsburg Board of Trustees passed Ordinance 2015-16-34 raising the local sales tax rate from 7.0% to 7.5%. This increase is to take effect July 1, 2016.

The additional revenue generated by this increased sales tax will help support under-funded budget items such as capital improvements and road resurfacing.

The Village’s fiscal year 2017 budget, beginning May 1, 2016 and ending April 30, 2017, will see only a partial year increase in sales tax revenue as the first receipt from the Illinois Department of Revenue will likely not happen until October, 2016.
President’s Letter

Our red, white, and blue “Hometown with Spirit” is getting ready to warm up with summer 2016 right around the corner. Playgrounds are beginning to fill up once again, the smells of grilled food are in the air and the sounds of lawn mowers can be heard as residents work to maintain their yards. When these activities start taking place throughout our great community, they remind us that summer is almost here.

The Village’s Community Affairs Committee was busy this spring organizing the 3rd Annual Easter Egg Hunt which was very successful and very well attended. I’d like to thank the Community Affairs Community for their dedication and time in making this event fun for children of all ages.

I’d like to give a special thanks to the Johnsburg Area Business Association (JABA) who hosted their 15th Annual Business & Craft Expo this past March. For the past 15 years this event has been a wonderful success bringing some of our community’s best businesses together to showcase their products and services. I look forward to seeing this event grow each and every year.

With the onset of warmer weather, I would like to remind residents that the Village does permit the use of golf carts and certain utility vehicles on village streets provided that they meet specific requirements. In order to operate these vehicles on village streets, you must have a valid driver’s license; they must be inspected by the Johnsburg Police Department for proper equipment; and it must be registered with the Village. A registration fee applies. The warmer season also brings about a lot of home improvements. Please make certain to apply for building permits for those improvements that require a permit. For information on whether you’ll need a permit or not please visit our website at www.johnsburg.org or call the Village Hall at (815) 385-6023.

(continued on page 3)
Summertime brings about many fun and exciting events. The Community Affairs Committee is busy planning the 2nd Annual Dancing with the Stars event scheduled for Friday, June 24th. Please see page 4 for more information. Don’t miss out on the VFW’s annual Memorial Day festivities on May 30th; see page 1 for more information. The Lion’s Meat Raffles will continue throughout the summer and are typically held the first Thursday of each month at Raymond’s Johnsburg Bowl.

Polish Legion Post 188 will join all other Polish Legions nationally to host Veterans Day 2016 at our nation’s National Mall in Washington D.C. this year. A two day fundraiser in memory of Past Post Commander Ted “The Head” Siok will be held at Sunnyside Tavern on June 25th & 26th to support the event in Washington D.C. See page 10 for more information.

Tom Fuchs, owner of Oak Park Lounge, and his team of hardworking volunteers are planning their annual firework display over Pistakee Bay again this year. The event is scheduled for Sunday, July 3rd at Oak Park Lounge. If you would like to donate to this event, please mail donations payable to Pistakee Bay Fireworks c/o Mr. Tom Fuchs, 801 W. Oak Grove Road, Johnsburg, Illinois 60051. Watch for more details in upcoming e-Newsletters.

The Village has many exciting projects underway. The Economic Development Committee has finalized the proposed Downtown Addendum to the Comprehensive Land Use Plan. A public hearing regarding the addendum is planned for Tuesday, June 14th. Monitor the Village’s website and e-blasts for more information regarding this matter. Additionally, in response to the request of residents along the 1900-2000 block of Sunnyside Beach Drive, the Village will be moving forward with the extension of sewers to their properties. Construction is tentatively scheduled for this fall.

Engineering details are being finalized for the Church Street Road Improvement project which is expected to be bid this fall with construction beginning next spring. The Village secured a $1.5 million dollar grant to help fund this improvement.

I hope to see both new and familiar faces out in the community with the warmer weather approaching. Come out and join family and friends at some of these great events throughout the summer.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve you as your Village President, if you have any questions about any Village concern call me at (815) 482-8605.

Respectfully,
Edwin P. Hettermann
Village President

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**PICNICS IN THE PARK**

With the warmer weather, families will be coming out to enjoy our parks. The Village provides shelters at Sunnyside Memorial, Hiller and Rescue Squad Memorial Parks which may be rented for private functions for a small fee. Go to www.johnsburg.org for the park application and fee information.
Dancing under the Stars

2nd Annual

The Village of Johnsburg in coordination with the Community Affairs Committee invites the adults (21 years and over) of the Village to the 2nd Annual Dancing Under the Stars event on Friday, June 24th from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. at Rescue Squad Memorial Park. The event will feature wine and craft brew tasting, music and dancing. There will be 30 wines, 9 brews and appetizers provided by International House of Wine & Cheese. Tastings are not limited. Music will be provided by Thompson Duo. Tickets are limited and are $30 in advance and $35 at the event. Tickets will be available from Community Affairs Committee Members, Trustees and the Village Hall after June 1st.

Use of Golf Carts on Village Roads

With the summer weather approaching here are a few reminders regarding the use of non-highway vehicles. Golf carts and other qualified non-highway vehicles may be driven on streets within the Village’s corporate boundaries with the exception of Johnsburg Road, Ringwood Road and any County roads. Signs have been posted on streets where golf carts are allowed.

In order to drive these vehicles in the Village, you must be 16 years of age, have a valid driver’s license and complete the mandatory annual inspection of your vehicle. The initial cost to register your non-highway vehicle is $50 and renewals are $10. This fee includes the cost of a sticker which is required to be displayed. If you have a golf cart or other allowable utility vehicle, or are thinking of purchasing one, please review Chapter 15.15 of the Johnsburg Municipal Code regulating their use. This code can be viewed on the Village’s website and at the Village Hall. You may print the non-highway vehicle application from the Village of Johnsburg’s website. Note that the use of four wheelers, motorbikes and other all-terrain vehicles with saddle seats are prohibited on Village streets.
Celebration in the Park

The Village of Johnsburg and the Johnsburg Community Affairs Committee are busy making arrangements for this year’s Celebration in the Park event. We are pleased to say that this event is growing every year. The event, held each October, is one of Johnsburg’s most popular events enjoyed by all ages! Family, friends and neighbors come out to Sunnyside Memorial Park for a fun filled evening with live music, delicious food and cold beverages, games, hayrides and FIREWORKS. This event is made possible through the generous contributions we receive from area businesses and residents. We are very grateful to our past contributors and hope you will consider contributing again so this event can continue. Donations, in any amount, from individuals, groups or businesses are needed and would be greatly appreciated. For more information or to contribute to this event, please contact Tim Haynes at (815) 385-6023.

Summer Events at the Johnsburg Public Library

Read for the Win!
Summer Reading Program for All Ages
Have fun with this year’s sports-themed summer reading program for youth, teens and adults. Complete the program requirements and be rewarded with prizes that include a spin on the giant prize wheel. You’ll also be entered in drawings for some fabulous grand prizes. Pick up reading logs and information at the Johnsburg Public Library starting June 1.

“One Book, One Johnsburg”
The book for this year’s community-wide reading event for adults is “Into the Beautiful North” by Luis Alberto Urrea. There will be a variety of related programs and book discussions. Books will be available for check out at the library starting June 1. Check johnsburglibrary.org for more details.

Meet Staley Da Bear, the Chicago Bear’s Official Mascot
For Preschool to 5th graders
Tuesday, July 12th, 2:00 p.m.
Staley and his emcee will jumpstart kids’ desire to pick up a book in the “Tackle Reading” program. By combining education and comedy into a 45 minute high energy, hands-on show, Staley promotes his love and enthusiasm for reading and learning. Registration required.

The Cryogenics Show with Mr. Freeze of Fermilab
Thursday, July 21st, 2:00 p.m.
For 2nd to 8th graders
Mr. Freeze will demonstrate and involve the audience in the fascinating field of supercooling. Fermilab engineers use liquid nitrogen to supercool magnets for least resistance. Learn about this cool field. Registration required.

Register for programs at www.johnsburglibrary.org, or call the library at (815) 344-0077. A complete listing of events for children and adults can be found on the library’s Calendar of Events page.
Spring Brush Pickup

The Johnsburg Public Works Department will be conducting its annual spring brush pickup beginning June 6, 2016. All brush must be placed by the road no later than 7:00 a.m. on June 6th. Crews will make one pass through each subdivision therefore any branches that are not placed by the road when they go by will not be picked up at a later time. All branches must be a minimum of 4 feet in length and no greater than 6 inches in diameter. They must be placed with their cut ends pointed towards the road in a neat and orderly pile. Branches that cannot be put through the chipper safely will not be taken. Evergreen cuttings must be kept separate from other tree branches and will be picked up separately. This service is being provided for larger branches generated from trimming or storm damage and is not intended for disposal of whole trees that have been removed.

JOHNSBURG JR. SKYHAWK’S 3RD ANNUAL STEAK FRY

The Johnsburg Jr. Skyhawk’s 3rd Annual Steak Fry is August 13, 2016 at Johnsburg Community Club. Doors open at 5:00 p.m.. Tickets are $25 and include two (2) beer or wine tickets, steak, potato, salad, dinner roll and dessert. Silent & live auctions will be held. Tickets are available to purchase at www.jrskyhawks.org.

To be a sponsor or volunteer to help at this event please email Maria Groves at mgroves@johnsburgfootball.org. To donate to the auction please contact Craig Wallace at cwallace4000@att.net.

Sponsor levels:
Blue $100 – Company name listed on a banner at the event
Gold $200 - Company name listed on a banner at the event and your logo (business card size) on http://www.jrskyhawks.org web site for one year
Platinum $300 – Your banner (up to 6’ length) displayed at our event and your logo (business card size) on http://www.jrskyhawks.org web site for one year
Ten Water Saving Tips

Water conservation helps prevent water pollution in nearby lakes, rivers and local watersheds and can help reduce your utility bill. You can do your part by following these recommendations:

1. **Check faucets and pipes for leaks.** A small drip from a worn faucet washer can waste 20 gallons of water per day. Larger leaks can waste hundreds of gallons.

2. **Don’t use the toilet as a wastebasket.** Every time you flush facial tissue or other small bits of trash, five to seven gallons of water is wasted.

3. **Check your toilets for leaks.** Put a little food coloring in your toilet tank. If, without flushing, the color begins to appear in the bowl within 30 minutes, you have a leak that should be repaired immediately. Most replacement parts are inexpensive and easy to install.

4. **If you are on a water system and have a water meter, use your water meter to check for hidden water leaks.** Read the house water meter before and after a two-hour period when no water is being used. If the meter does not read exactly the same, there is a leak.

5. **Install water-saving shower heads and low-flow faucet aerators.** Long, hot showers can use five to ten gallons every minute. Using a water-saving shower head means it uses less than 2.5 gallons per minute. Fitting all household faucets with aerators is the single best home water conservation method and it is also the cheapest!

6. **Insulate your water pipes.** It’s easy and inexpensive to insulate your water pipes with pre-slit foam pipe insulation. You’ll get hot water faster plus avoid wasting water while it heats up.

7. **Use your dishwasher and clothes washer for only full loads.** Automatic dishwashers and clothes washers should be fully loaded for optimum water conservation. Most makers of dishwashing soap recommend not pre-rinsing dishes for a big water savings. With clothes washers, avoid the permanent press cycle, which uses an additional 5 gallons for the extra rinse.

8. **Minimize use of kitchen sink garbage disposal.** In-sink ‘garburators’ require lots of water to operate properly, and also add considerably to the volume of solids in a septic tank which can lead to maintenance problems. Start a compost pile as an alternate method of disposing food waste.

9. **When washing dishes by hand, don’t leave the water running for rinsing.** If you have a double-basin, fill one with soapy water and one with rinse water. If you have a single-basin sink, gather washed dishes in a dish rack and rinse them with a spray device or a panful of hot water.

10. **Keep a bottle of drinking water in the fridge.** Running tap water to cool it off for drinking water is wasteful. Store a pitcher of drinking water in the fridge.
How to Care for Your Septic System

Following a few simple rules should help to make a septic system trouble-free for many years. Be mindful about what you and your family put into your septic system. It doesn't take much to upset the delicate biological balance within the tank. You can extend the life of a septic system by watching everything that's introduced to the system.

Keep in mind the following recommendations:

- Using less water may increase the life of your septic system. Using too much water is a frequent factor in failed systems.
- Don't use excessive amounts of any household chemicals. You can use normal amounts of household detergents, bleaches, drain cleaners, and other household chemicals without stopping the bacterial action in the septic tank. But, for example, don't dump cleaning water for latex paintbrushes and cans into the house sewer.
- Don't flush anything except toilet paper into your septic system. This includes diapers, cigarette butts, coffee grounds, unwanted medications or paper products other than toilet paper. Products labeled as “flushable” may not be suitable for a septic system.
- Avoid dumping grease down the drain. It may plug sewer pipes or build up in the septic tank. Keep a separate container for waste grease and throw it out with the garbage.
- Dishwashers and washing machines should not be run at the same time.
- Don't drain water from hot tubs or swimming pools into your septic system. Large volumes of water can ‘drown’ your drainfield and chlorine can destroy important bacteria in your septic tank and drainfield. Drain hot tubs away from the system, especially the drainfield.
- Direct water from land and roof drains away from the drainfield. This additional water may prevent the drainfield from working properly.
- Don’t use a garbage disposal. Garbage disposals add solids and grease which can build-up quickly and clog or choke your drainfield. If you absolutely must use one, try to limit your use as much as possible.
- Don’t park cars and trucks on your drainfield or septic tank. In addition, keep patios, carports, decks and storage sheds off the drainfield and reserve areas. This will prevent soils from being packed down and pipes from breaking.

State of the Village

The Johnsburg Area Business Association is proud to sponsor the 6th Annual State of the Village dinner. The featured speaker for the evening will be Village President, Ed Hettermann. The dinner is being held at the Pistakee Yacht Club on Wednesday, June 8, 2016.

Cocktails begin at 5:30 p.m. followed by dinner at 6:30 p.m. There will be a cash bar and catering for the event will be by Maravela’s of Fox Lake. Tickets are $45.00 per person and $320.00 for a table of 8. If you are interested in purchasing tickets for this event please contact Deborah Adams at (815) 728-8000 or Joshua Hagen at (815) 385-2700 no later than June 1, 2016.
HOW IMPORTANT IS IT TO HAVE A BUILDING PERMIT?

If work is done without required permits, you can face fines, the need to redo work and problems when selling. This isn't an area where you want to beg forgiveness rather than ask permission.

Permits can also be a form of consumer protection. A contractor who won't pull required permits might lack appropriate licensing. That's something you should know before a project starts. Permits require a code-enforcement inspector to sign off on work at various stages, depending on the type of project. That provides assurance that the framing, plumbing, electrical or other work meets code. Also, a lack of required permits may affect your home's insurance coverage.

Skipping remodeling permits may cost you. If local authorities discover work done without proper authorization, you may be fined. Also, you may end up paying twice for work because the code-enforcement department may require you to remove drywall to inspect work. Other work you already paid for may also have to be redone.

Unauthorized work may also be discovered when future buyers hire an inspector, who may seek records related to improvements. The seller may end up paying fines and having problems selling the home.

But how do you know what projects require a permit? The easiest way is to contact the Village Hall at (815) 385-6023 and ask. Generally speaking, any improvement that changes the home's electrical, plumbing or structural systems requires a permit. This means adding on to the home or moving walls inside the existing structure, especially if the walls are load bearing.

PERMITS ARE REQUIRED FOR ALL CONSTRUCTION (including but not limited to):

- New Buildings
- Additions
- Alterations – structural, electrical, plumbing
- Decks & Patios
- Re-Siding and Re-Roofing
- Fireplaces
- Demolition
- Driveways and Culverts
- Fences
- Heating/Air Conditioning
- Piers & Seawalls
- Relocation of Structures
- Signs
- Site Development (any moving or adding dirt)
- All underground work
- Pools (above ground and in ground, hot tubs)
JOHNSBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT 12 ANNOUNCES THE BOND AND INTEREST RATE OF TAX BILL LOWERED

During the 2014-2015 school year, Johnsburg School District provided extensive information to the community regarding the referendum and the impact of the passage of the referendum on the Bond and Interest portion of your property tax bill. As a component of that information, the community was informed, that the Bond and Interest portion of the property tax bill would remain at the same level of $1.06. The district is pleased to inform the District 12 community that they have been able to reduce this portion of your property tax bill by approximately 10%, while maintaining the same level of construction funding. Through prudent fiscal management, they are excited to let the community know that the Bond and Interest Rate portion of your property tax bill has been REDUCED to approximately $0.96.

VETERANS DAY 2016

The Polish Legion of American Veterans Post 188 will join all other Polish Legions nationally to host Veterans Day 2016 at The National Mall in Washington D.C. on November 11, 2016. The honor of hosting this event happens only once every 25 years. Our local veterans will be volunteering their time to make this public event a day filled with honor and respect.

A fundraiser has been set up at Sunnyside Tavern in Johnsburg on June 25th & 26th to help defray the cost of hosting the event in Washington D.C. This 2 day event will feature bands, raffles, a bike run and more. Monetary or raffle item donations are welcome and appreciated. Funds are being raised in memory of Past Commander Ted “The Head” Siok.

Mark your calendar and plan on having a great weekend while supporting our local veterans.

For more information or to make a donation contact Sam Klapperich at (815) 790-4422.
There are many things that should NEVER be flushed down the toilet. And to dispose of them via the toilet is to risk significant plumbing problems as well as environmental pollution.

1. **Bathroom wipes** – These “moist towelettes” are becoming an increasingly popular bathroom accessory. Despite the fact that they’re marketed to be flushed like toilet paper, these wipes are creating clogs and backups in sewer systems around the nation.

2. **Cotton Balls & Swabs** – It seems like these tiny tools would just get soggy and eventually break down in the watery pipeline, but they don’t. They eventually gather together in bends of the pipe, causing massive blockages.

3. **Prescription Medication** – Many people feel like they’re doing the safe thing, keeping meds out of the wrong hands by flushing them, but it’s actually very dangerous. These drugs destroy bacteria, contaminate groundwater supplies and can have terrible effects on wildlife downstream.

4. **Paper towels** – These are extremely wasteful and reusable rags/napkins are much better. However, if you do use paper towels, know that they’re NOT designed to break down in water like toilet paper. Flushing them can cause BIG problems.

5. **Cigarette butts** – Not only do they look nasty when floating in the toilet water, they’re full of incredibly toxic chemicals that just end up in the water supply.

6. **Band-Aids** – These are made from non-biodegradable plastic, which is terrible for the environment and can cause terrible clogs in the sewage system.

7. **Dental floss** – Despite feeling like string, dental floss is not biodegradable. Once flushed, it loves to wrap itself around other objects in the pipeline, making tiny clogs bigger in an instant.

8. **Fats, oil and grease** – This is a tough one, and everyone has done it at one point, but cooking fats should NEVER go in the drain or garbage disposal. It seems like a liquid when it’s hot, but as soon as this grease hits the drain, it cools and congeals, becoming pipe-clogging wax. Scrape it into the trash.

9. **Cat litter** – It’s just the cat’s poop and pee, right? But cat litter is made from clay and sand, two things that you should NEVER be put down a toilet. Not to mention that cat waste contains toxins and parasites that shouldn’t be in our water system.

10. **Disposable diapers** – just because there’s poop in it, doesn’t mean it belongs in the toilet. Diapers are made from toxic plastic that’s designed to expand when it comes in contact with water. In the slim chance you actually get it down the drain, it will instantly be caught in the u-bend, and cause a terrible back up.
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