



The Creek

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VILLAGE CLERK/TREASURER RETIRES AFTER 21 YEARS OF SERVICE

The Village of Johnson Creek would like to thank Joan Dykstra, Village Clerk/Treasurer, for her 21+ years of service to the Village. Joan's last day at Village Hall will be Friday, March 17, 2017. The Village Board and all the Village employees would like to wish Joan the most enjoyable retirement. Please stop at Village Hall to wish Joan well. Everyone is invited for an open house for Joan at Village Hall on Friday, March 17, 2017 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Please feel free to stop by during that time to bid her farewell and wish her well in retirement!

Over the seventeen years as the Village Clerk/Treasurer, Joan has worked with five Village Administrators, seven Village Presidents and thirty-five Village Trustees. Prior to being the Village Clerk/Treasurer, she was hired as the Deputy Clerk/Treasurer on June 12, 1995. During Joan's tenure the Village population has grown from 1,476 in 1995 to 2,933 in 2017, which is almost twice the number of residents.

Those that have been to Village Hall for tax payments; water/sewer payments; dog licenses; or for any other reason, know Joan. She greets you with a smile, a big hello and sometimes, a huge hug. If you have ever received an email from her, you will most likely remember her signature of "keep smiling". (To some she is "Joanie" while others consider her a saint because of her always positive demeanor no matter what the situation.)

Employees, when asked to share some fun facts or Joan quips, had some fun things to share. Joan's favorite animal is a moose and she loves raspberries, chocolate chip cookies and hot dogs. When hearing the first Wednesday of the month siren, Joan says, "Senior Day at Shopko." She will often say, "You are the best" or "Things will get better."



Village President John Swisher said, "Johnson Creek has been blessed to have Joan as an employee the past twenty-one years. Joan's service to the Village, the residents, and businesses have been second to none. Joan is the real deal and not only cares about the Village but also views the Village employees and elected officials as her extended family. I can say that Joan shared her thoughts and wisdom with me these past three years which has helped me better understand the working of our local government. I will always be thankful to her and am honored to have Joan as a friend. We will deeply miss Joan, however, her retirement will allow Joan to spend more time with her husband Jim and her family. Joan, I wish you the best on your new journey!"

Trustee Fred Albertz sent in a message, "It's very sad to realize that the Village of Johnson Creek is losing one of the best of the best in the near future. Joan has been with the village for a long time and we have taken for granted many of the things she has done for us. Joan has been with us through many different circumstances. She has always been nothing but spectacular in her performance. I have had the honor to work with her for a long time and we have had many good times. I truly wish Joan the best in her new venture called retirement. I doubt she will just sit back and do nothing. Joan has always given of her time and talents to those around her. I have been very blessed to be a part of many of those aspects of her life as well. I hope Joan accomplishes all of the things she wants to do during retirement. May God bless her and her family during her new journey down life's new path for her." He signed it "A friend always, Fred Albertz."

Former Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Elissa Meltesen, who worked with Joan for fourteen years, said the following, "The Village is losing a tremendous asset with Joan's retirement. I remember once describing Joan to someone as the glue that held the office together because she was always working so hard to keep everything going no matter what happened at work or outside of work. During the busiest or most stressful times of year (preparing for an audit or a busy election, etc.) Joan never lost her friendly demeanor and willingness to help with a question or concern. Joan's work ethic, kindness and endless positivity have been an inspiration to me. I can't thank her enough for all that she taught me in the years I was lucky enough to work with her."

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Recollections from 1995...Gone is the driving range where Kohls and Menards are now, no more Colonial Inn – Premier Bank's location and no more than 2 choices for lunch on Fridays – Jacks R Better and the Corner Bar. Also, they took my typewriter away from me, which was used for typing all the liquor licenses, operator's licenses, some checks and many other documents. As you see, there have been many changes in Johnson Creek, but one thing that hasn't changed is the wonderful residents and dedicated employees. I will truly miss each one of you as you feel like family to me. I might have to volunteer someplace so I can continue to give HUGS.

Retirement plans...The Lord willing, I plan on spending time with family which includes our three grandchildren, Tessa 7 months, Julian 11 and Laci 9, and do some walleye fishing up at Puckaway, if my husband will continue to put the bait on, take the fish off and clean the fish for me. I do net his fish, but it does interrupt my reading.

Thank you again and again and as I always end my emails: Joan in Creek – Keep Smiling!

Love and Prayers, Joan



Village of Johnson Creek

www.johnsoncreek-wi.us

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IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS

DOG LICENSE: The 2017 dog tags are available for licensing. Applications can be found on our website or at Village Hall. The fee is \$10 spayed/neutered or \$15 if unaltered. If a dog is not licensed by March 31, a \$25 late fee will be charged. The Village also sells the Jefferson County Dog Park tags.

CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS: Village Hall has implemented a new credit card service company, GovPayNet, that allows the village to accept credit cards at Village Hall in addition to online and by phone. Please be advised there is a fee associated with the transaction.

WHAT'S INSIDE? VILLAGE CLERK/TREASURER RETIRES AFTER 21 YEARS OF SERVICE

ELECTION INFORMATION: Election date: **April 4**. Voting hours are 7 am to 8 pm. State law now requires a valid Photo ID before you can vote. The ID needs to have your picture and current name but does not have to have your current address. This is different than the proof of residence. When registering to vote or changing a name and/or address you will need to provide proof of residence. You can register prior to election day by stopping at Village Hall, 125 Depot St., Monday through Friday, 8 am to 4 pm until Friday before the election, or by mail until March 15, 2017. Registration is allowed on election day, however, be prepared to wait in line. If you are unsure if you are registered, visit: <https://myvote.wi.gov/>