



The Creek

News from the Crossroads

June 2018

WASTEWATER TREATMENT UPDATES BENEFIT TAXPAYERS

Utility customers will benefit from the Village's continuous efforts to remain fiscally responsible and sustainable through their ability to secure additional funding for the community's wastewater treatment updates.

After our administrative and engineering representatives worked with the DNR to provide additional project funding information, the Village was able to take advantage of additional principal forgiveness. That means instead of the initial projected principal forgiveness of nearly \$325,000, we are receiving a total of \$650,000 in principal forgiveness; doubling our projections. This is a great benefit for our ratepayers, and will help the utility keep rate increases to a minimum.

The Village also received an additional \$15,000 for fiscal sustainability efforts. These funds, along with our staff time and expertise, allow us to use some specialized



Reinforcing steel being placed for the base slab of the Oxidation Ditch. (Photo from Stantec)

equipment to evaluate inflow and infiltration in targeted areas, particularly during and after storm events. The data gathered will help identify areas with significant inflows, and we can then prioritize those areas for improvements.

GOOD NEWS: BUSINESS GROWTH IN JOHNSON CREEK

The Village serves as a business-smart community with a friendly staff and board willing to help business find the perfect place to call their home. From site acquisition to building completion, the Village is ready to assist new businesses with every aspect of the building process.

We are happy to welcome the following new businesses to our area: Breathe Salt & Sauna, Starbucks, Hoof Health, and QDOBA.

For more information on business development in John-

son Creek, please contact Village Administrator, Kyle Ellefson at 920-699-2296 or kylee@johnsoncreekwi.org.



VILLAGE TRUSTEE VACANCY: DEADLINE JUNE 18



After serving several years on the Village Board, Trustee Dale Theder resigned recently to focus on his business. We are very thankful for the time Dale has dedicated to the Village.

We are currently seeking a community-minded individual to fill this vacancy. Candidates must be an eligible elector of the Village of Johnson Creek and must be available to attend evening meetings. Committee of the Whole meets the second Monday and the Board meets the fourth Monday of each month.

At times, there are additional even-

ing Committee and Special Village Board meetings with varying dates that may be required.

The term expires April, 2019.

Interviews will be conducted at the Village Board meeting June 25, 2018, starting at 5:30 p.m. **Please submit a letter of interest no later than: 12:00 p.m. on Monday, June 18, 2018** to: Johnson Creek Village Board, 125 Depot Street, P.O. Box 238, Johnson Creek, WI 53038.

LONG-TIME VILLAGE EMPLOYEE TO RETIRE

Department of Public Works Director Lee Trumpf is due to retire June 22, after 21 years of Village service. His experience and happy go-lucky spirit will be missed by his colleagues in Johnson Creek.

As Department of Public Works (DPW) director, Trumpf oversaw garage operations, the maintenance and repairs of Village machinery and equipment, and the maintenance of all Village Parks.

Trumpf was also responsible for the very much needed, but often thankless, job of plowing and maintaining over 22 miles of Village streets.

Known for his modesty, great sense of humor, and delicious baking skills, Trumpf served as the Village Santa for a number of years, as well as our resident go-to fix-it expert.

"Lee is a great boss to go to for guidance," said Matt Schlatter, DPW Parks supervisor. "I'll miss his leadership, perspective and stories. I wish him all the best."

"He's a boss who treats you like an equal member of the team," DPW Staffer Joshua Wegner noted. "I'll miss working with my friend, but I know he'll be happy working on his cabin in the woods."

"While I'll miss all the people I worked with, I am looking forward to retiring to my new home with my wife, Cathy. Plenty of projects wait for me on my 27 acres," said Trumpf. As for being Santa, Trumpf chuckled, "Sometimes I would pass a school bus full of kids while plowing and waive to their surprised faces."



Lee as Santa for the Village.

Trumpf has seen many changes in the Village in his 21 years of service. Most notably are the additions of two parks (Bell, Centennial) and the increase of roads to care for since the Village has essentially doubled in size since he started.

"It was certainly bittersweet when Lee turned in his letter of intent," Village President John L. Swisher shared. "I'm very happy Lee is able to retire with good health and spend more time with his lovely wife, Cathy. This will allow the two of them to spend more time at their home in northern Wisconsin. Lee will certainly be missed, as he leaves the Village with 21 years of Johnson Creek knowledge. We wish Lee the best as he begins his next journey," Swisher continued.

TOURISM REPORT: NEW GRANTS AND NEW WEBSITE ON THE HORIZON

AWARDED GRANTS

The first newly revamped tourism commission grant applications have been processed and awarded. Grants are reviewed for marketing efforts outside Johnson Creek that would increase the likelihood of overnight stays at the Johnson Creek hotel. Grant recipients include:

- Johnson Creek Firemans Festival
- 2018 Spyder Rendezvous
- 2018 Timothy Johnson's Founders Float
- Wisconsin AgTech Day: a 2-day entrepreneurial learning session by Golden Angels Investments, LLC; bringing investors and companies in the AgTech industry to town to establish Wisconsin as a hub for agricultural investments.

Upcoming deadlines for grant submissions are the first Mondays in August and October. Please visit www.johnsoncreekwi.org or call 920-699-2296 for more information and grant applications.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **June 9:** Summer Reading Begins
- **June 19:** Summer Reading Performance—Kaytales
- **June 23:** Tour da Goose (rest stop at Veteran's Park)
- **July 10:** Summer Reading Performance—Hillbilly Science
- **July 24:** Summer Reading Performance—Tom Gill
- **August 2:** Child Safety Fair
- **August 11:** Fireman's Festival
- **August 16-19:** 2018 Spyder Rendezvous
- **September 15:** 2018 Timothy Johnson's Founders Float

NEW TOURISM WEBSITE

We are creatively working on the final stages of web development, so be on the lookout for the new Visit Johnson Creek website soon! It will feature a calendar of events, photos, and all things Johnson Creek.

VILLAGE BOARD UPDATES: BY VILLAGE PRESIDENT JOHN L. SWISHER

The last few months have been very busy for the Village Board as we will continue to address multiple opportunities and issues.

Over the past few months, the issue of allowing ATVs to travel on Village roads has been discussed extensively by the Board with a variety of opinions. Our attorney is working to craft a proposed Ordinance with sufficient rules and regulations that will reduce negative impacts on the community. There will also be an advisory referendum question on the November ballot so we can truly hear what our voters think of the issue.

The Board has also been working closely with a developer to bring another project to our community and we are in the final stages of securing a Developer's Agreement. Once built, this project would address some needs identified in our Comprehensive Plan. We hope to tell you much more in the next issue.

The Board also approved my appointments for the two remaining Library Board vacancies. Melissa Christian will serve as the School District Representative, replacing Kristine Blakely, who is retiring as Principal of the Elementary School. Kristine Blakely will, however, continue to contribute to the Library by serving as a Village resident representative on the Library Board. I want to congratulate Kristine on her well-earned retirement, and recognize her continued commitment to the community. Thank you again for serving!



Village President John L. Swisher and Village Administrator Kyle Ellefson deliver a proclamation to Fire Chief Jim Wolf, Assistant EMS Chief Jeff Penna, and their dedicated emergency staff. (Photo courtesy of JC Fire & EMS Department)

I recently had the opportunity to recognize the service of our dedicated Emergency Medical Staff during *Emergency Medical Services Week (May 20-26)*. On Thursday, May 24, I attended the EMS Open House, where many of our Paramedics, EMTs, and Explorers were present to welcome the community, demonstrate equipment, and provide tours.

It is always great to meet with high-quality staff who

serve our community at fun events like this. It's even more comforting to know when any of our residents need emergency medical care, these dedicated emergency medical professionals will respond.



Johnson Creek Elementary Garden Club plants flowers at Village Hall sign.

We have been fortunate to experience the dedication of community volunteers, such as the Johnson Creek Elementary School Garden Club, who gave their time and materials to plant flowers around the

Village Hall entrance sign. Gestures like this demonstrate their commitment to the community, and instill important lessons about the benefits of volunteering.

Our Village Administrator has also kept busy responding to the steady stream of inquiries and requests, preparing for and participating in a variety of meetings, coordinating with developers, hiring temporary summer help, and working with staff on improvements throughout the Village.

I close my notes with a quick reminder of our community meetings:

- Committee of the Whole: the second Monday of the month at 5:30 p.m.
- Board Meeting: the fourth Monday of the month at 5:30 p.m.

The Village Board addresses interesting and important issues at our meetings, and we receive many valuable updates from our Administrator, Engineer, and Department Heads. It is important the residents of Johnson Creek feel welcome attending our meetings. We look forward to seeing you at an upcoming meeting, and as always, just let me know if you have any questions about what is happening in the Village.

VILLAGE OFFERS LATER COMPOST HOURS

To be in compliance with the DNR, and avoid any further violations of non-compostable items found in our compost, the Village now offers several different compost hours to accommodate more schedules.

Our Department of Public Works staff open and close the facility during weekday business hours and the Police Department volunteered to open and close the facility during late night and weekend hours.

Because receiving an emergency call takes priority over opening and closing the compost facility, please know

the Police Department will do their best to accommodate the night and weekend hours. We thank the Police Department for their help with this issue.

Johnson Creek Compost Site Hours

Monday: 7 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. **Friday:** 7 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Tuesday: 7 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. **Saturday:** 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Wednesday: 7 a.m. - 7 p.m. **Sunday:** 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Thursday: 7 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

SUMMER READING: June 9-August 3



The Rockin' Johnson Creek Library Summer Reading Program kicks off on June 9, from 9 a.m – Noon. **Children, Teens & Adults** who sign up are offered fun prize

incentives to continue their love of reading over the summer, including a new book!

Three performance days on June 19, July 10, and August 2, will captivate young, and young-at-heart, imaginations. Visit www.johnsoncreeklibrary.com or call 920-699-3741 for more information.

LUCI BLEDSOE CHILDREN'S AREA

Through the generosity of donors, we have reached and surpassed our fundraising goal for the Luci Bledsoe Children's Area. We are currently reviewing designs and will have more updates coming soon!

STORYTIME IN THE PARK

Join Library Director Abby Armour Tuesdays this summer from 10:30 - 11 a.m. at the gazebo in Veteran's Memorial Park for Storytime in the Park. Stories, rhymes, songs & activities abound! For ages 0-5.



Village of Johnson Creek

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JOHNSON CREEK SNAPSHOTS

JOHNSON CREEK: TREE CITY

Johnson Creek has again been awarded the distinction of ***A Tree City*** by the Arbor Day Foundation. This is the 13th year the Village has been given this prestigious honor.

To celebrate the honor and Arbor Day, Village representatives planted a Royal Frost Birch tree at Firemans Park on May 14, 2018.



Village Clerk Heather Rupnow, Board Member Tim Semo, Board President John L. Swisher, and Administrator Kyle Ellefson celebrate a newly planted tree for Arbor Day.

SLIGHTLY NEW LOOK

The Village has revamped the newsletter to give it a slightly fresher look. We hope you enjoy it and we look forward to providing information on things happening in the Village. If you have any questions about the newsletter, or any specific story, please reach out to the Village at 920-699-2296 or info@johnsoncreekwi.org.