



VILLAGE OF
Johnson Creek
WISCONSIN

The Creek

NEWS FROM THE CROSSROADS - SEPTEMBER 2025



John L. Swisher
Village President

From Global Business to Local Treasure: What's Next for Johnson Creek

The Village of Johnson Creek continues to experience strong momentum in its local business climate, with new opportunities and returning favorites helping to shape our growing community. Most recently, two significant business developments were approved that will bring jobs, community events, and new energy to the Village.

The first development marks a substantial investment in our community, as an international company has chosen Johnson Creek for its new North American headquarters. Abet Laminati USA, a global manufacturer of decorative laminate products, will partner with the original land developer, MSI General, to construct a state-of-the-art industrial space designed specifically to meet their unique needs.



Kyle Ellefson
Village Administrator

The facility will begin at approximately 230,000 square feet, with space already reserved for future expansion. This thoughtful design ensures that Abet Laminati can grow in Johnson Creek for years to come. The building will feature advanced technology that allows the company to manage its entire manufacturing process from start to finish under one roof, in addition to modern office areas and a showroom to highlight their innovative products.

This project has been the result of more than a year of collaboration between Village representatives, Abet Laminati, and MSI General. Together, the partners have worked to ensure that the facility meets both the technical needs of the company and the long-term goals of the community. When complete, the project is expected to create roughly 100 production and warehouse positions, along with another 20 jobs in sales, administration, and related operations. MSI General is anticipating site grading and early construction activities to begin this fall.

The second announcement is one that blends the Village's history with its future. The Gobbler Theater, a well-known and beloved Johnson Creek landmark, is set to reopen under new ownership. The new operator has recently applied for a Liquor License and Conditional Use Permit, paving the way for the theater to once again become a vibrant part of the community.

Plans for the Gobbler Theater include a wide range of programming designed to bring people together. From concerts and comedy shows to sports viewing parties, private gatherings, community celebrations, and charitable events, the renewed Gobbler aims to offer something for everyone. Its reopening not only restores a historic venue but also adds another layer of cultural and entertainment options for residents and visitors alike.

Together, these two announcements reflect our continuing economic strength and the unique character of Johnson Creek. On one hand, we are welcoming an international manufacturer and creating new employment opportunities that will benefit families across the region. On the other, we are celebrating the return of a community treasure that will provide entertainment, foster local pride, and strengthen our identity as a place where business and community thrive side by side.



vi.johnsoncreek.wi.gov



(920) 699-2296

WELLNESS IN THE CREEK

On September 20, the Village of Johnson Creek and the Johnson Creek Public Library welcomed the community to the first-ever Wellness in the Creek. Families enjoyed exploring health and wellness booths, visiting with first responders, winning prizes, and experiencing live music, inflatables, free food, and even a Flight for Life helicopter. We extend our heartfelt thanks to the volunteers, Village Board members, and everyone who attended for helping us launch this new tradition.

Thank you to our sponsors:



Inflatables Sponsor

Lyle Wuestenberg & Family
Food Sponsor



Music Sponsor



Thank you to our participating organizations:

Crossroads Kids Connection, Culver's of Johnson Creek, Enough is Enough, FIT LAB WI, LLC, Flight For Life Transport System, Fort HealthCare, Habitat for Humanity - Waukesha & Jefferson Counties, Jefferson County Drug Free Coalition, Jefferson County Head Start, Jefferson County Wisconsin Health Department, Johnson Creek Community Garden, Johnson Creek Fire & EMS Department, Johnson Creek Food Pantry, Johnson Creek Historical Society, Johnson Creek Police Dept., Johnson Creek Veterinary Care, K9 Moose Tracks, Karate America Johnson Creek, Massage Day, Natural Carnivore, Orthopaedic Associates of Wisconsin, PremierBank, TDS, Watertown Regional Medical Center, Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP), Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Wisconsin State Patrol

TOURISM & COMMUNITY PROMOTION

CONNECTING LOCAL BUSINESSES

On September 25, local business representatives came together for a morning of networking, Village updates, and a presentation on the history and work of Milford Hills.

A big thank you to Milford Hills for hosting, and to all who attended and continue to support Johnson Creek's local business community.



ROB'S PERFORMANCE MOTORSPORTS FALL OPEN HOUSE & RIDE-IN

One of Johnson Creek's largest tourism draws returns this October! Rob's Performance Motorsports will host its annual Fall Open House & Ride-In on Saturday, October 11, 2025, drawing thousands of visitors from across the region. More information available at VisitJohnsonCreek.org.



VisitJohnsonCreek.org

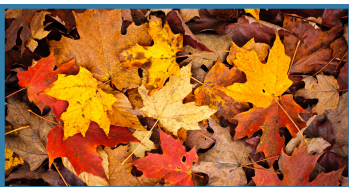
UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 10/4: Legends & Loes at the Cemetery
- 10/25: Renaissance Masquerade

SAVE THE DATE:

- 11/28-11/29: Christmas in the Village
- 11/29: Friends of the JCPL Holiday Fair
- 11/30: Christmas Tree Lighting

DETAILS FROM PUBLIC WORKS



LEAF COLLECTION

The Public Works team will begin to vacuum leaf piles in late October or early November. Leaf vacuuming will take place once per week until the first freeze. You may also bag leaves in biodegradable bags and take them to the compost site. Please avoid piling leaves around mailboxes and rake leaves to the terrace, but NOT into the street as this can clog storm drains.

CLERK'S CORNER

DATES TO NOTE:

Compost Pickup: October 6 & 20

Brush Pickup: October 13



NO ELECTIONS THIS FALL

The State of Wisconsin typically has no fall elections in odd-numbered years. You may see media coverage about elections in other states this fall, but there are no further elections anticipated in our area this year. If you wish to check that your personal information is accurate on your voter registration, visit myvote.wi.gov.

CLERK'S OFFICE SERVICES

The Village Clerk's office is open Monday-Friday, 8am to 4pm. Some services provided in our office include accepting water bill payments, setting up automatic ACH withdrawal for water payments, issuing compost site access cards, voter registration, issuing various licenses including pet licenses and alcohol licenses, accepting property tax payments (December/January only), and assisting residents with general questions. Our office also provides public information by maintaining the Village website and Facebook page, and posting agendas and minutes for all Village meetings on the Village website: vi.johnsoncreek.wi.gov

LIBRARY HAPPENINGS



Katie Martin

Saying Goodbye...

Saying goodbye to any staff member is never easy—but it's especially hard when that person has been a part of the library family for over 32 years. Katie Martin has officially retired, her last day was September 12. Throughout her remarkable career, Katie touched countless lives with her dedication, warmth, and unwavering passion for library service. Her presence, wisdom, and kindness will be deeply missed by staff and patrons alike.

As she embarks on this exciting new chapter, we extend our heartfelt gratitude and best wishes to Katie. May retirement bring her all the joy, relaxation, and adventures she deserves!

Library Hours Update

With Katie's retirement, the library will be holding off on extending evening hours for the time being. We will continue to remain open until 7:00 PM on Thursdays.

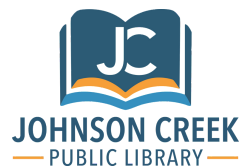
Memory Café - Wednesday, October 22 - 10:30am-12:00pm

Join us for a Memory Café of music, laughter, and memories as we enjoy accordion music from a local musician. We will also have small instruments for you to play along! Come for drinks, snacks and camaraderie!

A Memory Café is an informal social gathering for individuals living with early-stage memory loss and their care partner. For more information, visit librarymemoryproject.org.

New Logo!

New Look, Same Library You Love! We're thrilled to introduce our new logo — a fresh design that reflects the Johnson Creek Public Library's commitment to community, learning, and accessibility. The logo combines the initials "JC" with a subtle book motif, and it coordinates beautifully with the new branding from the Village of Johnson Creek and Tourism, while staying uniquely us.



BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT: TDS TELECOM

Did you know TDS Telecom has had an office in Johnson Creek since the mid-1990s? From this location, the company has expanded fiber internet within the Village and extended service to neighboring communities, including Watertown, Jefferson, and Fort Atkinson.

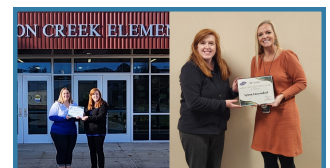
Before TDS, Johnson Creek was served by Rock River Telephone, which operated out of an office on Union Street. After TDS acquired the company, the existing office was constructed, ushering in a new era of connectivity for the area.

Today, TDS serves 31 states, employs more than 3,000 people, and offers fiber internet, TV, phone, and mobile as a service. The company has grown through innovation and by providing advanced technology to small and mid-sized communities. "Supporting the communities we serve is what makes us unique," said Anna Jensen, Associate Manager of Field Marketing. Locally, TDS takes part in community events like Nickel Night, the Tree Lighting, and Village business breakfasts. "The business breakfast is a great way to meet people and stay informed," Jensen added, noting her regular collaboration with the Tourism and Marketing Director.

Recently, TDS celebrated reaching 1 million fiber addresses nationwide. Fiber construction will soon ramp in Watertown, Jefferson, and Fort Atkinson.

TDS is seeking nominations for its Most Valuable Educator Award.

Community members are encouraged to nominate Johnson Creek teachers and school staff. The winner receives a Green Bay Packers prize package, and nominations are open at tdstelecom.com/educator.



Johnson Creek educators Katie Nikitin and Lyssa Laversdorf, both nominated last year for the Most Valuable Educator award.



Corey Vandezande and Anna Jensen at the Gosdeck Bridge Dedication.



Nelson Raisbeck, and Anna Jensen at last year's Tree Lighting.



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POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS

Dose of Reality: Drug Take Back Day

Too often, unused and expired medications find their way into the wrong hands. That's dangerous and often tragic. Bringing unused and expired medications to a Drug Take Back Day collection site protects you, your family, and your community.

The next Drug Take Back Day is October 25, 2025.

For more information on collection sites and what is accepted, please visit

dhs.wisconsin.gov/opioids/drug-take-back-day.htm.



Johnson Creek Village Hall

920-699-2296 | 125 Depot Street

Monday to Friday: 8 am — 4 pm

vi.johnsoncreek.wi.gov

Plan Commission: October 13 @ 5 pm

Committee of the Whole:

October 13 @ 5:30 pm

Board Meeting: October 27 @ 5:30 pm

Johnson Creek Public Library

920-699-3741 | 125 Lincoln Street

www.johnsoncreeklibrary.org

Library Board Meeting:

October 21 @ 4 pm

LIBRARY HOURS:

Monday to Wednesday: 10 am — 5 pm

Thursday: 10 am — 7 pm

Friday: 10 am — 5 pm

Saturday: 9 am — 12 pm

Sunday: CLOSED

TRICK OR TREAT



Mark your calendars and get your costumes ready! On Friday, October 31st, residents of Johnson Creek will be celebrating Halloween with a fun and festive trick-or-treating. The spooky, exciting adventure will take place from 5:30 PM to 7:00 PM, giving families and children plenty of time to enjoy the evening.



SENIOR EXERCISE

An exercise class designed for seniors is held every Monday and Thursday morning from 9:00 to 10:00am in the gym at Crossroads Church.

HEALTHY STEPS PROGRAM

Community Center | 417 Union Street
A therapeutic exercise and movement program held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 to 10:00am.
Register online at forthehealthcare.com

JC FOOD PANTRY

129 N. Watertown St.

JohnsonCreekFoodPantry@gmail.com

Open Monday and Thursday from 10 am to 12 pm and every fourth Thursday of the month from 4 pm to 5pm.

DIAPER CLOSET

Penelope's Diaper Closet | 111 South Street

Open the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month from 1-6pm

penelopesclosetjc@gmail.com