



CITY MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER



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MARCH TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT INITIATIVE

The **Woodstock Police Department** has announced that the March Traffic Initiative will target Speeding violators. Officers will pay special attention to motorists exceeding the posted speed limit, including those ignoring the limits in school, construction and maintenance zones.

The primary goal of the initiative is to reduce the incidence of speeding-related motor vehicle crashes and the possible resulting injuries or fatalities through highly visible increased enforcement. Equally important is the continuing education of the motoring public by encouraging mandatory compliance with posted speed limits.

A little extra speed makes a big impact. Consider this:

- Hit by a vehicle traveling at 20 MPH, 9 out of 10 pedestrians survive.
- Hit by a vehicle traveling at 30 MPH, 5 out of 10 pedestrians survive.
- Hit by a vehicle traveling at 40 MPH, only 1 out of 10 pedestrians survive.

For further information or questions regarding this traffic initiative, please contact **Sergeant Rob Pritchard** by phone at 815-338-2131 or by email at rpritchard@woodstockil.gov.



OFFICER MORTIMER HONORED AS EVERYDAY HERO

Yesterday morning, **Woodstock Police Department School Resource Officer Jeremy Mortimer** was one of a dozen honorees at the 2016 Northwest Herald Everyday Heroes First Responders event held at the Holiday Inn in Crystal Lake. The event was held to celebrate the selfless efforts of McHenry County Police, Fire and Rescue personnel who serve and protect our communities and often risk their lives to keep ours safe.

Officer Mortimer was joined at the breakfast by his wife, **Hollie**, and his children, **Kylee** and **Kasen**, as well as **Chief Robert Lowen**, **Deputy Chief John Lieb** and his Supervisor, **Detective Sergeant Jeff Parsons**.

Congratulations, Officer Mortimer, on yet another well-deserved honor!



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RECRUITMENT

School Crossing Guard (Limited Part Time/Seasonal) – Woodstock Police Department: The City of Woodstock is accepting electronic submissions for the position of **School Crossing Guard** with the Woodstock Police Department. **We are seeking two (2) regular School Crossing Guards and one (1) relief School Crossing Guard.** The crossing guard staff is responsible for six (6) dedicated school crossings in the City of Woodstock, providing for the safe transit of our community's children to and from school. Guards work Monday through Friday at a designated location during the school year. Most positions are scheduled in two shifts, 1 - 1 ½ hours in the early morning and 1-1 ½ hours mid-afternoon. Salary: \$9.57 per hour; no additional benefits are provided. **Application Deadline: Friday, March 21, 2016 at 5:00PM.**

Water Meter Technician I – Public Works Department: The City of Woodstock is accepting electronic submissions for the position of **Water Meter Technician I** with our Public Works Department. The position performs a wide variety of manual labor duties and operates vehicles and equipment as required to read, install, and repair water meters; assists with sanitary sewer collection and water distribution maintenance; performs routine maintenance tasks; and other related duties as assigned. The position normally works Monday through Friday, 7:00AM – 3:30PM, with on-call assignments and overtime, as required. **English-Spanish bilingual ability is required for this position.** Salary: Starting salary rate is \$16.51 per hour in accordance with current Union contract. Position includes eligibility for full benefits package of group health insurance, benefit time and IMRF retirement plan. **Application Deadline: Friday, March 11, 2016 at 5:00PM.**

Summer Seasonal Positions: The City of Woodstock is accepting applications for Summer Seasonal Positions with the Woodstock Recreation Department and Public Works Department as outlined below:

- **American Red Cross Certified Lifeguards, WSI Instructors, Swim Aides:** These positions provide safety and instruction to swimmers at Woodstock Water Works. Work shifts will include days, evenings and weekends, dependent on pool attendance and weather. Lifeguards ensure the safety and health of all pool patrons, while WSI Instructors and Aides provide proper instruction/teaching for all City of Woodstock Recreation Department swimming lessons. Minimum age is 16. **Candidates must attach copies of certification to application, or must show proof of certification by program orientation date in late spring.** Pay rate to be determined, but will be at least: \$8.46/hour (Certified Lifeguards); \$8.67/hour (Certified Instructors); \$8.25/hour (Aides).
- **Playground Program Counselors:** Counselors interact with and supervise a group of 8-12 children, ages 4-12 years, in a recreational setting. This position requires planning, implementing, and evaluating daily activities, and communication with participants' parents on a regular basis. Counselors ensure safety of campers at all times. Minimum age is 16. Experience working with elementary school-aged children is preferred. **This position requires attendance at the training session the first week of June and the ability to work during the entire 7-week session that runs thereafter. Tentative Dates: May 31st – June 3rd (Training Week) and June 6th – July 22nd (Program).** Pay rate to be determined but will be at least \$8.25/hour.

- **Public Works Seasonal Maintenance Workers:** These temporary positions perform various manual unskilled and semi-skilled tasks in the maintenance of City streets, parks and sewer/water utilities. Positions work under the direction of Superintendents and/or Foremen for the respective divisions of the Public Works Department. These positions work 7:00AM – 3:30PM., Monday - Friday during the specified time period. Parks positions generally begin in late April/early May and run through August, while other divisions generally begin in June. **Must be age 18 or over with a valid IL driver's license and good driving record.** Previous construction, landscaping or maintenance experience is preferred. Pay rate to be determined but will be at least \$8.46/hour.

Application Deadline for Summer Seasonal Positions: Friday, March 4, 2016 at 5:00PM.

Please refer to the City's website at www.woodstockil.gov and click on the Jobs section for further details and the application process on the above opportunities. *The City of Woodstock is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*

HR NEWS

We are pleased to announce the arrival of two new employees this week. **Heather Keenan** is the City's new **Office Manager for the Public Works Department.** Heather comes to Woodstock from the role of Public Works Administrative Assistant with the City of Crystal Lake, where she has worked for eight years. Welcome Heather!



We are also pleased to announce the hiring of **Maria Puga** as incoming **Part-Time Library Desk Assistant with the Woodstock Public Library.** Maria comes to Woodstock from District 155 Crystal Lake South High School where she was an ELL Paraprofessional. Maria acted as a Spanish translator between staff, parents and students. Welcome Maria!

POLICE DEPARTMENT GOT GAME



Chief Robert Lowen and fellow members and friends of the **Woodstock Police Department** traveled on Thursday, February 25th, to the Misericordia Home in Chicago to participate in a sporting event with

its residents. **Detective Sergeant Jeff Parsons, Sergeant Josh Fourdyce, Sergeant Rob Pritchard** and his wife, **Erin, Detective Rob Branum, Detective George Kopulos, and Officer Josh Rapacz**, joined Chief Lowen's son, **Matt Lowen**, Matt's friend, **Brandon Koenig**, and **Steve Amraen**, son of **City Manager Office Assistant Monica Amraen**, to volunteer their time to play basketball with residents for a few hours.

Ranging in age from their teens to their mid-forties, residents thoroughly enjoyed the interaction with police personnel and volunteers and a good time was had by all. Chief Lowen took t-shirts as gifts for the residents to commemorate the annual event.

A plaque was presented in appreciation to Chief Lowen and the group by Sister Rosemary which read "Thanks to our friends in the Woodstock Police Department for your support to Misericordia team sports over the years. You are truly a part of our Misericordia Family."

2ND CHANCE OPPORTUNITY...HAWA HEALTHPOINT CHECK-UP: VISIT A LAB

For those of you and your spouses who may have missed the onsite wellness HealthPoint Checkups...It's not too late!! You still have time to visit a lab for your HealthPoint Check-up.

Who is eligible? All Employees and their Spouses on the City's Medical Plan.

What does the Check-Up include? 35-panel blood draw including Vitamin D test, PSA for men 40 years and over, and an HgA1c for anyone with an out of range Glucose Level.

Request your lab order by emailing support@healthasweage.com stating you would like to visit a lab along with your name, date of birth, and promo code 4500.

You must complete your lab visit by March 15, 2016.

HAWA PERKS

If you participated in the HealthPoint Check-Up, **March 15th** is the deadline by which 100 points must be earned to receive a full calendar years' worth of applicable premium reductions (if 100 points are earned after this date, the premium reductions will be prorated by the number of full calendar months remaining in 2016).

To obtain a 2% premium reduction, you must earn 100 points by completing the following:

- Finishing your HAWA Profile (25 points)
- Complete your Medical History (25 points)
- Complete HealthPoint Check-Up (50 points)

Questions? Contact the **HR Department: Deb Schober** at ext. 11203 or **Jill May** at in 11206.

STAMP-A-STACK FUNDRAISER RESULTS

Woodstock Police Department Telecommunicator Robin Karolewicz, who also happens to be an Independent Stampin'UP! Demonstrator, held a fundraiser to benefit the **WPD DARE Program** last week. Sixteen happy crafters descended upon the department's training room to assemble three different cards (two of each including envelopes) plus two of an adorable 3-D project. Robin and a cadre of friendly helpers were on hand to assist those needing a little help.

The cost to attend the event was \$25.00; \$20.00 of which went directly to DARE. In addition, fifteen generous local businesses and restaurants donated an assortment of wonderful prizes to be raffled off during the course of the evening. Robin served refreshments, sold raffle tickets and kept everyone entertained throughout the event. At the end of the night, a whopping **\$642.84** had been raised for the DARE program! **DARE Officer Michael Gustis** was very happy with the success of the fundraiser and will put the funds to good use during future classes. Thank you to everyone who attended the fundraiser; the generous raffle prize donors; and most of all, to Robin who put it all together! Congratulations on an outstanding job, Robin!

Quotation

A GROWNUP IS A CHILD WITH LAYERS ON.

-WOODY HARRELSON

MEETINGS

Monday, March 7 – Board of Fire and Police, 5PM,
Council Chambers

Tuesday, March 8- Economic Development
Commission – 8AM, Council Chambers



5 WAYS TO PRACTICE COMMON-COLD ETIQUETTE

Catching a cold is a fact of life—but our busy lives usually won't allow us to spend the week a bed nursing the sniffles. Instead of snuggling under the covers when you're under the weather, you'll most likely find yourself working, carpooling, and doing your usual household chores. Here's how not to spread your cold when out in public, or with your family.

1. Cover up. Your mouth and nose, that is. One of the easiest ways to ensure that your germs spread rapidly is to sneeze and cough directly into the air. Keep tissues or a handkerchief handy for when the urge strikes. If you're not quick enough, a good alternative is to sneeze or cough into the crook of your arm. A few germs on your shirt beats those same germs launched widely into circulation.



2. Wash your hands. You'll launder that shirt you sneezed onto, of course, but it's also crucial that you wash your hands. And especially after you sneeze or cough. The proper way to wash: After lathering your hands, rub them together and thoroughly scrub the backs of your hands, between each finger, and under your nails. Do this for at least 20 seconds, rinse well, and air dry or use a clean towel.

You may be avoiding handshakes while you have a cold, but you're still touching plenty of things that are then touched by other people. Protect your coworkers, fellow students, and family by keeping your hands scrupulously clean.

3. Wipe down surfaces. Keep a small bottle of hand sanitizer or package of wipes with you and wipe off any surfaces you touch that other people also come into contact with—computer keyboards, phones, desks, and refrigerator door handles among them.

4. Carry your own pen. You may need to sign your name multiple times a day—when your packages are delivered, when your credit card is run through a machine, when you're depositing or withdrawing money at the bank, and when you're taking notes at a meeting. Instead of using the communal pens offered by stores and delivery men, which not only carry others' germs but will retain yours for future signers, keep one or two pens with you at all times and make sure you're the only user.

5. Soothe your throat. Coughing and sneezing are not only uncomfortable for you, they noise may be distracting to others. Arm yourself with cough drops before that important meeting so you don't spend it hacking loudly. Or, go to the bathroom to blow your nose instead of honking at your desk.

THE REC CENTER IS TRANSFORMED INTO A MAGICAL GARDEN FOR THE DADDY/DAUGHTER DANCE

Pictured are Eric and Allee Guzman, who were one of over 97 couples who danced the night away at the **Recreation Department's "Into the Garden" Daddy/Daughter Dance** on Saturday, February 27th at the Rec Center gym and multi-purpose room.

The night included a variety of snacks and sweets. Dads and daughters alike danced to fantastic music by Music in Motion DJs. Each couple will receive a photo taken by DeWane's Studio.

This was the 12th year the **Recreation Department** hosted the dance and participation was as popular as previous years.

After the event a parent posted on the Woodstock Recreation Department's Facebook page the following statement, "This was a really special night for my daughter and I-Thank you all so much for the thoughtful hard work you all put into it! Those little details you all paid attention to really make the night. Keep up the great work! This is sure to be a tradition for us!" It is safe to say, a magical night was had by all.

This event was coordinated by **Program Coordinator Renée Torrez** and was a success due to the help of several Recreation Department staff and volunteers. Many thanks to **Program Coordinators Becky Vidales and Alan Dunker, Recreation Center Manager Mary Lynn Lisk, Recreation Center Front Counter Staff Ron Schmitt, Karina Fuentes, Erin Sarich, Jessi Bloniarz, Ruby Santana, Ayeshah Guzman, Eilish Keane and volunteers Maya Torrez, Lydia Dunker and Ruth Schmitt** all of whom volunteered their time to help set up, serve food and clean up after the dance. The dance is a success due to all of their time and talents!!





**Want to Start to Get Healthy with an
Exercise Program?**

City of Woodstock employees receive an employee discount at the
Woodstock Recreation Center. The initiation fee is waived!
**Executive membership is \$35 per month. Full membership is \$25
per month.** Try a week for free! For more information, contact Mary
Lynn Lisk or Renee Torrez at 815-338-4363 or visit
www.woodstockrecreationdepartment.com
for more information.



You are cordially invited to join Chief Robert Lowen at the Woodstock Police Department for coffee, conversation and an informative program.

Susan Borucki, Emergency Response Facilitator, McHenry County Department of Health, will present a program entitled *"Preparedness & You – Getting the Whole Community Ready."*

Coffee with the Chief



Monday, March 14, 2016
7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Woodstock Police Department
656 Lake Avenue

For further information, please call
Tamara Reed at 815-338-6787.