



CITY MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER



Volume I Issue 13

July 26, 2013

NEW COFFEE SHOP AT DEPOT



The City of Woodstock is pleased to welcome Stella's off the Square to the Woodstock train depot

building. The new shop is expected to open for business in early August. The café will be offering smoothies, teas, coffee, Panini's and fresh baked goods. Their coffee roaster offers organic coffee that is roasted to order and delivered with 24 hours of placing an order. They support local bakers for fresh Danishes, scones and muffins. Stella's off the Square will have a comfortable, spacious seating area perfect for catching up with a friend or for social and business meetings. WIFI will be available in the facility for added convenience on behalf of their customers.

BATES PARK RECEIVES NEW PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT

The playground structures available in the City's parks provide an important part of the overall quality of the park system and play options for residents. The City continues to provide funding for the replacement of each of these facilities not only to ensure safety but also provide new and different options for the children. Due to the age of the structure, and the availability of replacement parts, the playground structures located at Bates Park are currently being removed and recycled by **Parks Division employees**. A new structure was funded during this current budget year and was delivered on July 25. Employees will start construction during the last week of July. Completion should be within the next two weeks, weather permitting.

OLSON PARK SPRAY POOL TO BE CLOSED FOR SEASON

The spray pool located in Olson Park is an amenity that is offered to residents during the summer months when the temperature reaches 80 degrees or above. This facility has been in operation for over forty years. Unfortunately, the water service that supplies this feature rusted through and broke causing the feature to be closed down for the remainder of the summer. City crews will repair this line with operation expected to resume at the beginning of the 2014 season.

STREET RESURFACING PROGRAM SET TO BEGIN NEXT WEEK

A pre-construction meeting was held at the Department of Public Works on Friday, July 19, 2013 to discuss the City's 2013 pavement resurfacing program. The low bidder, Geske and Sons of Crystal Lake plans to begin work during the week of July 29 and, weather permitting, hopes to complete all work on or before September 2nd. The City has budgeted \$1,000,000 this year to reconstruct and resurface approximately 2.95 miles of roadway. Damaged and deteriorated sections of curb and gutter will also be removed and replaced prior to resurfacing the roadway. Numerous handicapped ramps throughout the targeted streets will be improved and made ADA compliant as part of this project. If you have any questions regarding this work, please contact the **City Engineer, Al Wilson**, at 815-338-6118.

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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT POLICY

The City last week updated its economic development incentive policy. The changes to the policy are meant to address the needs of Woodstock-based businesses wanting to expand while maintaining the integrity of the original plan and holding them to the City's standards in growth and expansion. The submittal requirements and evaluation criteria of the original plan have not changed. Nor has the focus on high-priority development/redevelopment areas within the City. The minimum \$100,000 in annual municipal sale tax is also retained. Incentive requirements for existing retailer expansion/relocation within the City are written as:

Minimum requirements for the consideration of incentives shall be the development or redevelopment of a building the same size or larger than existing location and maintaining all current FTE and PTE positions. Projects which reduce the number of employees will not be considered. To be considered, existing retailers must demonstrate in each of the previous three years net municipal sales tax revenue not less than \$100,000 and show projected growth in sales tax revenue as a result of planned expansion/relocation.



REC DEPARTMENT OFFERS HORSEBACK RIDING LESSONS AND CAMP WITH JOHN WHITE STABLES



The **Recreation Department** has partnered with Lisa White and John White Stables to offer *Horseback Riding Lessons and Horseback Riding Camp* for children ages six-eighteen years old.

The focus of the lessons is to provide our riders with confidence, self-esteem, a sense of achievement, and an understanding of horses and horsemanship in a safe environment.

As their skills develop, riders will be encouraged to participate in local academy shows where they will ride on one of our horses and compete against other beginning riders.

The final classes for the summer session started this past week. A total of four different sessions were offered this summer.

Two camps were offered for summer. One camp ran from June 18-21 and a camp that starts on July 29th.

Activities included horse care, games, arts and crafts and of course, horseback riding. It is a perfect week for horse lovers!

For more information about John White Stables, visit the website www.johnwhitestables.com.

Classes will be offered this fall on Monday and Tuesday evenings. For more information about our Horseback Riding lessons, visit our website at www.woodstockrecreationdepartment.com.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

On Tuesday August 6th 2013, neighborhoods throughout Woodstock are being invited to join forces with thousands of communities nationwide for the “**30th Annual National Night Out**” crime and drug prevention event. National Night Out (NNO), which is sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch and co-sponsored locally by the **Woodstock Police Department**, will involve over 14,625 communities from all 50 states. In all, over 36.7 million people are expected to participate in “America’s Night Out Against Crime” on August 6th, 2013. NNO 2013 is being supported in part by Woodstock Culver’s Restaurant.

National Nights Out is designed to: (1) heighten crime and drug prevention awareness; (2) generate support for, and participation in, local anticrime efforts; (3) strengthen neighborhood spirit and police–community partnerships; and (4) send a message to criminals letting them know neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

From 6PM to 10PM on August 6th residents in neighborhoods throughout Woodstock and across the nation, are asked to lock their doors, turn on outside lights and spend the evening outside with neighbors and police. National Project Coordinator Matt Peskin said, *“This is a night for America to stand together to promote awareness, safety and neighborhood unity. National Night Out showcases the vital importance of police-community partnerships and citizen involvement in our fight to build a safer nation. On NNO, we invite neighborhoods nationwide to join us in Giving Crime & Drugs a Going Away Party.”*

The Woodstock Police Department will be participating in the National Night Out by hosting a special information area at the Woodstock Police Department between the hours of 6PM and 8:30PM. Residents will be able to visit with Woodstock Police Officers as well as Woodstock Fire District personnel. Representatives from Woodstock’s Neighborhood Watch Program will also be present providing crime prevention and neighborhood watch information. Additionally, volunteers from the Woodstock Culver’s will be present to offer their support as well as providing free giveaways, and other activities.

Anyone requesting additional information regarding the local event is asked to contact **Woodstock Police Sergeant Chip Amati** at 815-338-2131.



RECRUITMENT NEWS

Recruitment to find the most highly-qualified person to fill the Finance Director role continues, with a deadline extension until Wednesday, July 31, 2013:

Finance Director

The City of Woodstock continues its search for a dynamic financial leader with hands-on, involved management style to be our next Finance Director. This position reports to the City Manager and is responsible for supervising a staff of six and overseeing a \$28M total budget serving our population of 24,770. Operating under the Council-Manager form of government, Woodstock has received the GFOA Achievement of Excellence in Financial Reporting Award for 18 years and the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for 10 consecutive years.

A position profile outlining required application materials, formal opportunity notice and a fillable City of Woodstock job application for this role may be obtained by clicking the links on the website, or requested via email to humanresources@woodstockil.gov. Application materials will be accepted until Wednesday, July 31, 2013, 5:00 PM.

Welcome to new employees at the **Woodstock Recreation Center** and **Woodstock Opera House**: **Kendall Natrop** and **Loran Gibbs** started this week as **Facility/Events Workers** at the **Opera House**, while **Ayeshah Guzman** began work last week as **Recreation Center Cashier**.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Friday, July 26 – Woodstock Sidewalk Sales

Friday, July 26 – Movies in the Park,
Woodstock WaterWorks

Saturday, July 27 – Farmers Market on the
Square

Saturday, July 27 – Woodstock Sidewalk
Sales

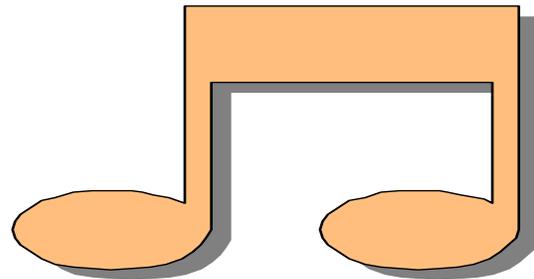
Saturday, July 27–Grand Opening of Kingston
Lanes

Saturday, July 27 – Offsides Music Festival

Saturday, July 27 – Mozart Festival, Opera
House

Sunday, July 28 – Mozart Festival, Opera
House

Sunday, July 28 – Offsides Music Festival



Quotation

*The most exhausting thing in life is
being insincere.*

~Anne Lindbergh

MEETINGS NEXT WEEK...

Thursday, August 1 – Library Board, 7:30, Library

WOODSTOCK EMPLOYEE EVENTS COMMITTEE PLANS FOR FUN

When it comes to figuring out how to encourage the largest number of City employees to gather together, in the great Chicago tradition of Daniel Burnham, “no little plans” are being considered. The City of Woodstock Planning Intriguing Events committee (COW PIEs) met this week to discuss options for not one, but FOUR upcoming employee events!

Undaunted by the challenge presented--that Woodstock City Departments reflect an unusually wide array of employee styles and interests, with workers assigned to 24/7 shifts, and spread out in facilities across town--representatives from City Departments combined creative forces hoping to please almost everyone...if not exactly all at the same time. Shout-outs to the imaginative and hard-working COW PIEs: **Monica Amraen**/City Manager’s Office; **Donna Limbaugh**/Community & Economic Development; **Becky Vidales**/Recreation; **Pam Moorhouse**/Library; **Daniel Campbell**/Opera House; **Jan DiFrancesca**/Police; **Jill Sullivan & Al Wilson**/Public Works, and **Terry Willcockson**/Human Resources.

So open up those calendars and tap in the following upcoming opportunities to hob-nob with your public servant counterparts both near and far—

Family Weekend at Woodstock WaterWorks—it’s a regular public weekend, but employees can come alone, or bring the spouse, kids and grandkids, present your City ID, and get a free day of poolside play at everyone’s favorite watering hole, next weekend, **Saturday, August 3rd, noon – 8PM, and Sunday, August 4th, noon – 7PM.**

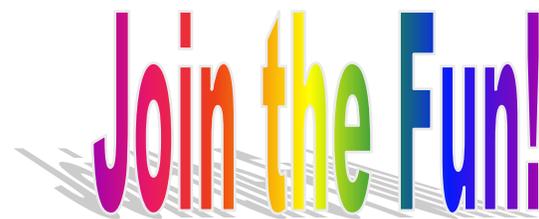
City Picnic: Return of the Chili Cook-Off—several years ago, enterprising employees held a highly popular gustatory celebration that resulted in a certain Police Department obtaining the Baddest Bean traveling trophy (and in somewhat controversial fashion, as rumor goes). This fall,

each City Department will have the opportunity to provide their own pot of delectable fiery stew in an attempt to bring fame and glory to another Department and their truly deserving employee chef. The Cook-Off kicks off on **Sunday, September 8th, at 2PM** at the Main Pavilion in Emricson Park. Bring the kiddies early to enjoy the Recreation Department’s scheduled Touch-a-Truck event that ends at 2PM at the same location! An afternoon of tasty treats, games & prizes will delight employees and their immediate family members until darkness descends.

Family Fitness Fun at the Rec Center—when winter weather threatens, the fun moves indoors. The Rec Center closes to the public and welcomes employees with City ID, and their immediate kin, for a **Pizza Party Swim & Gym, 5 – 9PM on Saturday, November 16th.**

And finally...for employees only...

Café After Dark Merry Mixer—providing a post-holiday stress debriefing, and an opportunity to test all those New Year’s resolutions, join us for this informal mix & mingle with fellow employees, new & old, past & present! This is a chance to meet several of the City’s newest faces, while recent retirees will be invited back to dazzle us with their life-beyond-Woodstock tales. Swing by Stage Left Café at **5PM or after, on Thursday, January 9th**, with refreshments and entertainment provided at nominal cost. (*And remember: what happens at the Café, stays at the Café!*)

A colorful graphic with the text "Join the Fun!" in a playful, rounded font. Each letter is a different color: 'J' is purple, 'o' is orange, 'i' is yellow, 'n' is green, 't' is blue, 'h' is purple, 'e' is yellow, 'F' is blue, 'u' is purple, and 'n!' is blue. The text is set against a white background with a subtle shadow effect.



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

Rick Atwater, Director of Behavioral Health Services at Employee Health Consultants, will present a program on the Heroin issue in McHenry County. Mr. Atwater will discuss: lethality and overdose stats, the difference between heroin and other drugs, habituation and addiction potential, criminal association and lifestyle, treatment options and solutions, and what recovery looks like.

Coffee with the Chief



Monday, August 12, 2013
7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Woodstock Police Department
656 Lake Avenue

For further information, please call
#815-338-6787.

**You're invited to the
Grand Opening Night of Kingston Lanes**

1330 S. Eastwood Drive

Woodstock, IL

(formerly known as Edgetown Bowl)

Saturday July 27, 2013

3pm till ???

**Come help us celebrate the opening of our new
entertainment center !!**

Bowling, horseshoes, bags & sports bar

DJ at our outdoor bar starting at 3pm

Patio Daddy-O will be playing the inside bar at 9pm

Burgers & Brats served outside 6:00-8:00

Hope to see you Saturday !!!



City of Woodstock

Employee Weekend
At
Woodstock Water Works

Saturday, August 3
Noon-8:00 pm
&
Sunday, August 4
Noon-7:00 pm

Please present your City of Woodstock Employee ID at the front desk for FREE admission for you and your immediate family on either or both days. Extended family and extra guests will be charged the daily rate.

