



CITY MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER



Volume I Issue 1

May 3, 2013

IT'S BUILDING SAFETY MONTH!



The month of May is observed as "Building Safety Month" throughout the United States. This recognition effort is indicative of a public-awareness campaign offered each year to help individuals, families and businesses realize what it takes to create and sustain structurally safe structures. The campaign reinforces the need for adoption of modern, model building codes, a strong and efficient system of code

enforcement and administration, and a well-trained, professional workforce to maintain the system.

The campaign is celebrated by the International Code Council and the International Code Council Foundation, by Woodstock's building and code inspectors, and by the numerous individuals and construction, design and safety companies in the community. Corporations, government agencies, professional associations, and more have come together to support Building Safety Month because they understand the need for safe and sustainable structures where we live, work and play.

Woodstock's building inspection and code enforcement staff (**John Bertram, Rob Walkington, Dan Streit, and Donovan Day**) invites you to take part in Building Safety Month by supporting the City's ongoing efforts to ensure safe and sound housing and business facilities for everyone. Stop by and say hello, and give them a big "tip o' the hat".

FORMER CITGO TO OPEN AS "GAS CAP"

The former CITGO Gas Station on Route 47 will be reopening as a "Gas Cap" gas station. The interior of the existing building is being cleaned and remodeled, and shelves are being stocked. New signage has been approved by the City and installed, and opening of the new facility is expected within a week or two.



POLICE SPONSOR BIKE RODEO

Woodstock Police Department will sponsor a Bike Rodeo on Monday, May 13th from 9:00AM to 3:00 PM. at the Emricson Park Main Pavilion. **Officers Cory Fink and Rich Dolan** will run the event aimed at elementary school students. No sign up is required; students need only show up with their bicycle and helmet to participate.

For further information, contact **Officers Fink or Dolan** at 815-338-2131.

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CITY SEEKING RFP'S FOR TRAIN DEPOT AND VACANT SPACE AT CITY HALL

The City of Woodstock is seeking responses for Request for Proposals (RFP's) related to the rental of the Woodstock Train Depot and for space at the rear of City Hall currently occupied by the Special Education District of McHenry County (SEDOM).

The Train Depot contains approximately 1,000 square feet of floor area, plus a utility closet and additional storage space. It has separate access doors leading to both the train depot platform and an adjoining parking lot, and includes quarry tile



floors, oak doors and trim, decorative light fixtures, forced air heat and central air conditioning. The heating and cooling units have separate

controls for the leased space and the lobby area, and there are two public washrooms in the site which serve the leased space of the Train Depot. The rent requested by the City is \$800 per month; however, this amount is negotiable.

The vacant space at the rear of City Hall consists of the former Woodstock 2nd floor fire station and has a floor area of approximately 1,400 square feet, plus a small utility closet. There are separate access doors leading to the front entranceway and to a rear exit. The space is located on the second floor and must be accessed utilizing stairs; a chair lift is available in the rear stairwell to facilitate handicapped access. There is no elevator to access the lease space. Adequate parking is available directly next to the building. The building interior includes carpet, tile and has been painted and remodeled. Although the previous rent for this space was \$700 per month, this amount is also negotiable.

Both of the RFP proposals are due in the Office of the City Manager by no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, May 10, 2013, and both RFP documents are available on the City's web site (www.woodstockil.gov).

WOODSTOCK HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR SERVICE DAY

The City of Woodstock and the **Department of Public Works** extends our thanks and appreciation to Woodstock High School's Graduating Class of 2013 for their excellent work completed during this year's Senior Service Day. Some of this year's projects included painting fire hydrants, painting the fountain in Sesquicentennial Park, painting identification signs at Emricson and Raintree Parks, painting picnic tables, mulching trails through-out the Albert property as well as completing miles of roadway clean-up.

Some of the students also worked on building a Kiosk, which the Parks Division installed on Forest Avenue. This Kiosk contains information about the Albert property, which is currently being utilized by District 200 for outdoor class room space and environmental studies, and student- led community-service projects.

Again, a big THANK YOU to Woodstock High School's Class of 2013; thanks for helping to improve the community in which you live!

Best of luck to each of YOU!



RECRUITMENT NEWS

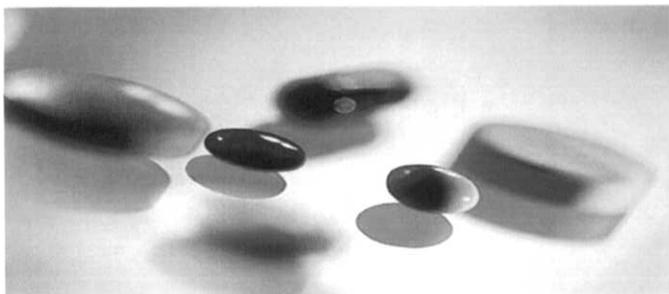
The recruitments for **Public Works Director** and for **Finance Director** have closed and all applications have been reviewed by the **HR Director** and the **City Manager**. Based on a thorough analysis, 13 candidates for **Public Works Director**, and 12 candidates for **Finance Director**, have been invited to complete a detailed writing assignment specifically targeted to further evaluate their knowledge, skills and experience in their respective fields of endeavor. Selected candidates will be invited for personal interviews upon completion and review of the writing assignment phase of the recruitment process.

The recruitment for **Police Telecommunicator** has also closed, and 25 out of 58 potential candidates have been invited to submit formal applications as the next step in this recruitment process.

DRUG TAKE-BACK RESULTS

Woodstock Police Department Sergeant Josh Fourdyce and **Officer Mike Karnath** collected 150 pounds of expired or unwanted prescription and over the counter drugs during the Drug Take-Back event on Saturday, April 27th.

The DEA announced that **371 tons** of drugs were collected nationally the same day!



POLICE RECEIVE GENEROUS DARE DONATION

Woodstock Police Department has received a \$500 donation from the Woodstock Professional and Business Women to support their D.A.R.E. program. The donation was given at the behest of their Woman of the Year, Laura Crain, who chose the D.A.R.E. program to receive the Angela Burden Award this year.

D.A.R.E. Officer Michael Gustis and the entire WPD are grateful to Laura Crain and the Woodstock Professional and Business Women for their generous support of the D.A.R.E. program.

DON'T FORGET TO BUCKLE UP!

Woodstock Police Department has announced that May's Special Traffic Enforcement Initiative targets both Impaired Driving and Occupant Restraint (seat belt) violations with equal emphasis on passengers, including children in child safety seats.

The primary goal is to reduce the incidence of motorists driving while impaired or without properly buckling up themselves, their passengers and their children. Equally important is the continuing education of the motoring public by encouraging mandatory compliance with Occupant Restraint laws.

May 10th will mark the beginning of the nationwide "Click it or Ticket" campaign. There will be mass media efforts at the Local, State and Federal level throughout the month. The Illinois seat belt compliance rate is at an all-time high of 93.6%. It is the State's goal to increase the rate to 94% in 2013 thereby reducing death and injury due to motor-vehicle crashes.

For further information regarding these traffic enforcement initiatives, contact **Sergeant Dennis Leard** at 815-338-2131 or at dleard@woodstockil.gov.

POLICE RECEIVE GRANT FOR EXPLORER PROGRAM

Woodstock Police Department is pleased to announce that they are the recipient of a \$4,000 grant from The McHenry County Community Foundation in support of their project entitled Boy Scouts of America – Police Career Explorers.

For 12 years the McHenry County Community Foundation has connected the generosity of donors with community needs by making grants to organizations working to improve McHenry County. In 2012, the Foundation, together with its donors, granted more than \$600,000 to non-profit organizations. They have strengthened physical and mental health programs, enabled animal service programs to continue to serve those in need, and protected the safety net for those hardest hit by the recession. To learn more, please visit the Foundation online at www.MCCFdn.org.

A special awards breakfast to honor all of this year's grant recipients will be held on Wednesday, June 19th at the Boulder Ridge Country Club. **Chief Robert Lowen** and **Sergeant Constantino Cipolla**, the leader of the Police Explorers, will attend.

Quote

If more of us valued food and cheer and song about hoarded gold, it would be a merrier world.

-J.R.R. Tolkien

MEETINGS NEXT WEEK...

Tuesday, May 7- City Council, 7PM, Council Chambers



HEALTH & SAFETY MESSAGE: MANAGING STRESS—FRIEND OR FOE?

We've all been in situations where stress feels almost unbearable. Even that strange concept "good stress" can still result in difficult feelings with negative consequences. Sometimes it even feels like we are caught "between a rock and a hard place," with no hope of changing the stress factors involved.

While it may prove difficult to do, preventing and managing chronic stress is a vital skill that can help lower your risk for serious health problems like heart disease, obesity, high blood pressure, and depression. But with some awareness of stress symptoms and techniques to reduce the effects, things can definitely improve.

What feelings are usually signs of stress?

Worried
Angry
Irritable
Depressed
Unable to focus
Headaches

Back pain
Problems sleeping
Upset stomach
Weight gain or loss
Tense muscles
Frequent or more serious colds

Think you've got it? You can prevent or reduce stress by:

1. Plan your time.

Think ahead about how best to use your time. Write a to-do list and figure out what's most important – do those things first. Be realistic about how long each task will take.

2. Prepare yourself.

Prepare ahead of time for stressful events like a job interview or a hard conversation with a loved one. Picture the event in your mind. Stay positive. Have a back-up plan.

3. Relax with deep breathing or meditation.

Deep breathing and meditation are 2 ways to renew your spirit and clear your mind.

4. Relax your muscles.

Stress causes muscle tension. Try stretching or taking a hot shower to help you relax.

5. Get active.

Physical activity is one of the best ways to prevent and manage stress and improve your mood. Aim for 2 hours and 30 minutes a week of moderate aerobic activity, like walking fast or biking. Be sure to exercise for at least 10 minutes at a time.

6. Eat healthy.

Give your body plenty of energy by eating vegetables, fruits, and protein.

7. Drink alcohol only in moderation.

Avoid using alcohol and drugs to manage your stress. If you choose to drink, then drink moderately; no more than 1 drink a day for women and 2 drinks a day for men.

8. Talk to friends and family.

Tell your friends and family if you are feeling stressed. They may be able to help.

9. Get help if you need it.

Stress is a normal part of life. But over time, stress can lead to serious problems like depression, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), or anxiety. If you are feeling down or hopeless, or if you are feeling anxious, talk to a doctor or counseling professional. **The City offers a completely confidential resource through Allied Care Solutions at no initial cost to the employee or their dependents. Call the intake professionals at the number listed on the back of your Allied ID card, any time day or night: 1-800-440-1440.**

It's POOL TIME!

Woodstock
Water
Works

Opens Sat.
May 25th



SEASON PASS RATES*

	<u>Woodstock Resident</u>	<u>Non- Resident</u>
Individual	\$60	\$110
Family of Two	\$90	\$160
Family of Three	\$110	\$200
Family of Four	\$125	\$230
Additional member	\$15	\$30

Located at the southeast
corner of Route 14
& Kishwaukee Valley Road in
Emricson Park.

815.338.4363

woodstockrecreationdepartment.com

Enjoy our three heated pools - zero depth recreation pool, 8-lane lap pool, and baby pool - 1 and 3 meter diving boards, double flume slides, 4 play features, tot play lot, 2 picnic shelters, food court, and lots of green space.

- * Season passes must be purchased and photos taken at the Woodstock Recreation Center: 820 Lake Ave. Woodstock
- * Proof of Residence and all children's birth certificates are required for first time pass holders.
- * Daily rates and additional info available at woodstockrecreationdepartment.com
- * Named the Illinois Park & Recreation Association's "Facility of the Year."