



CITY MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER



Volume XXIII, Issue 2

January 11, 2013

POLICE ANNOUNCE JANUARY TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT INITIATIVE

The **Woodstock Police Department** has announced that their Special Traffic Enforcement Initiative for January will target stop sign violators. As always, the ultimate goal of this initiative is two-fold, both to prevent traffic crashes that result from dangerous driving behaviors such as failure to come to a full stop or yield the right-of-way, and to encourage motorists to voluntarily comply with traffic laws.

Questions regarding this or any other traffic enforcement issue should be directed to **Sergeant Dennis Leard** at 815-338-2131 or at dleard@woodstockil.gov.



DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES OFFICE BEGINS EXPANSION



Construction has started on the expansion of the Department of Children & Family Services office at the northeast corner of Clay and Newell Streets. The 5,580 square foot second story addition will be used for increased office space and meeting areas for the Department's clientele and case workers. The \$750,000 project will give this site a total of 18,600 square feet of work space. The expansion activity will also include the installation of a new elevator in order to meet Federal and State access requirements.

ROSATI'S EXPANSION PLANS APPROVED



Building and construction plans for the 1,701 square foot expansion of Rosati's Pizza, located at 1650 South Eastwood Drive,

were approved by the **Department of Community and Economic Development** earlier this week. With the use of the new area, which was previously a self-serve laundry, the restaurant will have a total area of 3,400 square feet and will be able to accommodate a total of 99 diners.

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LIBRARY NEWS

Preschool Fair - January 12

The Woodstock community has a wide range of terrific programs available when it comes time to send your little one to preschool. If you are interested in learning more about our area's preschools, mark your calendar and drop by this "open house" event. Representatives will be available to share information and answer your questions. The event will be held in the **Library** meeting rooms on Saturday, January 12 from 10 AM- 1 PM.

Reading with Kalani - January 19

Reading aloud is a great way for students to become better readers, and no one is a better listener than certified-therapy dog Kalani and his friends! Independent readers in Grades 1-5 are encouraged to bring a book and read aloud for 15 minutes to a patient, furry friend in a no-pressure environment. Saturday / January 19 from 10:00-11:30 a.m., call [815-338-0542](tel:815-338-0542) or email library@woodstockil.gov for more details.

Love to Read Week in D200 Schools

Love to Read Week is February 4-8 and is designed to promote literacy and the importance of reading as a lifelong activity to students. Join Woodstock Public Library staff and other community members and volunteer to read aloud to students in a D200 classroom. Applications to be a volunteer are available at the Woodstock Public Library and the D200 Administrative building. Deadline for applications is January 23.



ALTERNATE FUEL VEHICLES PUT INTO SERVICE



The **Fleet Maintenance Division** has recently put two **Public Works** vehicles into service that are powered by propane rather than conventional fuels like gasoline or diesel. These propane driven vehicles are pickup trucks that are assigned to the **Street/Parks Division** and the **Water Treatment Division**. These vehicles will be evaluated for operation and maintenance as compared to conventional fueled vehicles in order to determine whether more vehicles of this type should be purchased and utilized by the City in the future.

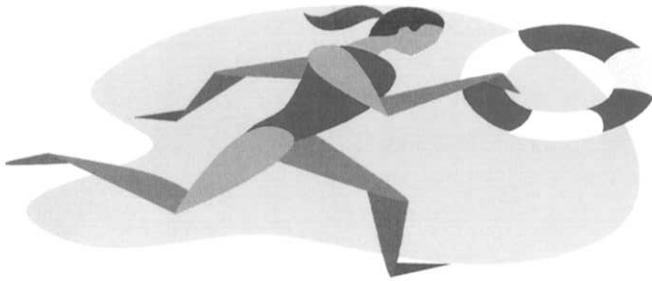
The Fleet Maintenance division worked with a local supplier to organize and coordinate the installation of a propane fueling station at the Public Works Facility. At this time, unleaded fuel is being purchased at \$3.77 a gallon and propane is being purchased at \$1.40 a gallon. In addition, tests have shown that propane fuel's high octane rating, low-carbon, and oil-contamination characteristics result in greater engine life, reduced exhaust emission, and extended intervals for oil changes. Conversion systems were installed by an EPA certified company and through an available grant, 80% of the installation cost is paid through a program administered by the EPA.

RECRUITMENT NEWS

Seasonal **Recreation** and **Public Works** summer positions remain posted and available for application, including: Certified Lifeguards and WSI Swim Instructors, Pool Cashiers and Playground Program Counselors. Minimum age requirement is 16 for all seasonal Recreation positions.

Also, Public Works general Seasonal Maintenance Workers, \$8.25 per hour. Minimum requirements are age 18, with a valid Illinois driver's license and good driving record.

Applications for 2013 summer positions will be accepted through **Thursday, February 28th**. To request an application please do so at: humanresources@woodstockil.gov, or call or visit Woodstock City Hall **HR Department**, 815-338-1172.



Quote

Happiness is never stopping to think if you are.

-Palmer Sondreal

WINTER/SPRING CITY SCENE MAILED

The Winter/Spring City Scene was direct mailed last week to over 15,000 residents in the 60098 zip code and the west side of Wonder Lake (District 200 boundaries).

The 64-page brochure was compiled by the **Recreation Department** with submittals from various City departments. In addition to the general information about City services that are published in each edition, there is also program information for the Challenger Learning Center, **Opera House, Library, NISRA, Woodstock Water Works**, the Recreation Center, and the Recreation Department.

This edition of the City Scene features important information on Snow/Ice Removal from the Public Works Department, along with a schedule for the 20th Anniversary of Groundhog Days.

A special thank you to **Kate Lynn Lisk, Finance Office Clerk** in the City of Woodstock **Finance Department**, for the great cover photo! The photo features the Recreation Center's popular new fitness class, TRX.

MEETINGS NEXT WEEK...

Tuesday, January 15 – Cultural and Social Awareness Commission, 10:30, Council Chambers

Tuesday, January 15-Opera House Advisory Commission, 4:30 PM, Opera House

Tuesday, January 15 – City Council, 7PM, Council Chambers

Wednesday, January 16-Transportation Commission, 7PM, Council Chambers

WELLNESS DAYS PARTICIPATION REAPS FINANCIAL REWARDS

The City received outstanding participation in this year's Wellness Days health assessment opportunities on 1/3 and 1/8, with 126 employee and dependent assessments performed. Those who were able to participate will notice their reduced health insurance premiums, effective with next week's payroll.

Employees who indicated their intention to participate by entering the reduced premium amounts on their 2013 Benefits Open Enrollment Forms, but who were unable to participate, will see the resulting higher premium reflected in their deductions.

All participants will see their comprehensive analysis in their home mailbox very soon!

FLEX CARDS RENEWED FOR 2013

Employees who participate in the City's Flexible Spending Account program are reminded that at the beginning of the new year, Allied adds your 2013 committed funds to your current Flex Debit cards electronically, and no new cards will be sent out. If you need an additional card, you may call Allied's customer service number at 866-455-8727 and request it, being sure to specify whether your need is the Flex Debit card or the Allied ID card.

Also, 2012 funds may still be accessed to cover qualified expenses incurred prior to 1/1/13. Submit your receipts, or copies of your Allied Explanation of Benefits (EOB) forms indicating the amount of unreimbursed expenses you are claiming, along with a Flex Reimbursement form, to Allied's Flex Department anytime before March 31, 2013. If the expense was billed prior to 1/1/13, the bill will be processed using available 2012 funds. Flex Reimbursement forms are available on the City's Shared Drive, or through the **HR Department**.

HEALTH & SAFETY MESSAGE: FLU, FLU, GO AWAY!



Numerous reports validate that this year's flu season is one of the earliest and most widespread in many years. Employees are strongly encouraged to stay home if they experience flu-like symptoms; infecting others in the workplace results in less work accomplished overall, not more. While winter "bugs" like colds and stomach viruses are certainly unpleasant, the "Real" Flu is distinguishable by the following symptoms:

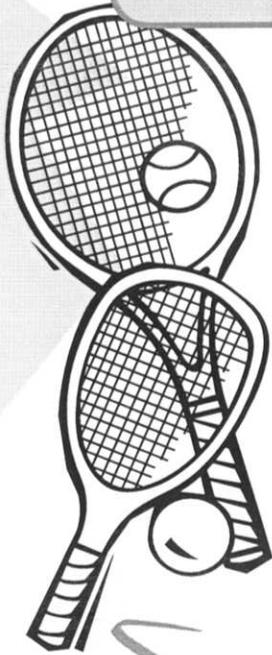
- Rapid onset
- Prolonged, overwhelming fatigue and weakness
- Chills and fever
- Aches and pains, headache, sore throat
- Upper respiratory congestion, dry cough

Tests that verify actual influenza can be performed within the first 48 hours of experiencing symptoms and prescribed medicine such as Tamiflu can sometimes reduce the duration. Even with rest, plenty of fluids and good care, this malady can hang on for a week or two before feeling back to normal.

It is still not too late to derive benefit from receiving a flu shot, as well. These are often available without appointment at Walgreen's, Osco, and many other convenient locations. While they require payment initially, the receipts may be forwarded to Allied using a Medical Claim Form available on the City's Shared Drive, and the cost will be reimbursed to employees and dependents covered under our health plan.


MERCY HEALTH SYSTEM
KICKOFF Night FRIDAY, JANUARY 11
5:00-8:00 pm • FREE Event

- Can your fitness skills stand the test of the inflatable obstacle course?
- Try out the pool.
- Light refreshments will be served.
- Mercy Health System FunFest.
- Family Fitness Class, 6:30-7:30 pm



Friday Family Fun Nights




Drop in on Friday nights and spend time together as a family beginning January 11.

January 11-March 29

Friday nights from 5:00-8:00 pm

FREE to Recreation Center members and their families

\$10 for Non-Member Families

FAMILY FUN NIGHT

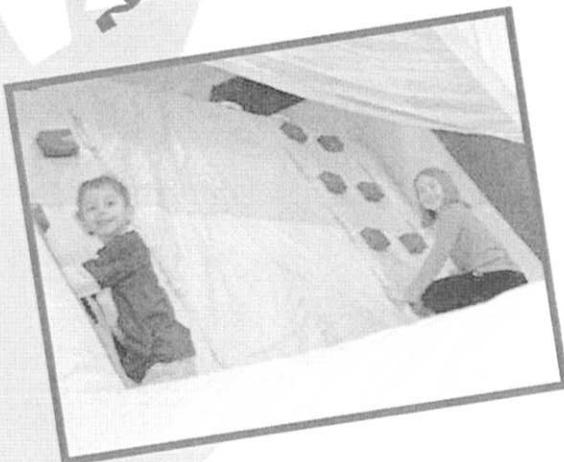
MONTHLY GYM SCHEDULE

1st Friday - Basketball

2nd Friday - Family Fitness Class
at 6:15 p.m.

3rd Friday - Soccer

4th Friday - Kickball





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

WPD Detective Sergeant Jeff Parsons and Patrol Sergeant Dan Wesolek will discuss Active Shooter Scenarios and how to recognize the potential for work place violence.

Coffee with the Chief



Monday, January 14, 2013
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.