



CITY MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER



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GOT DRUGS? SAVE THE DATE!

Once again, the **Woodstock Police Department** will be participating in the United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) **National Drug Take-Back Day**, scheduled for Saturday, April 28th, 2012 from 10:00AM to 2:00PM. This is the third time this event has been held in Woodstock since its inception, and it continues to be very successful in collecting large amounts of unwanted pharmaceuticals for safe disposal.

So start your spring cleaning now in your medicine cabinets, cupboards and drawers. Any and all prescription or over-the-counter drugs will be accepted if they are in pill form (no liquids or syringes.) You can bring in as few or as many as you have – there is no minimum or maximum. The drugs will be accepted no-questions-asked and will then be properly destroyed by the DEA in an environmentally safe fashion.

If you cleaned out your own medicine cabinet last time, help your parents or grandparents clean out theirs this time around. The service is free and your privacy is protected. You don't even have to get out of your vehicle – you can drive-by and drop off and be on your way. The Take-Back is being held in the Woodstock Police Department parking lot.

For further information, please call 815-338-6787 or visit www.nationaltakebackday.com.

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APRIL TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT INITIATIVE

The **Woodstock Police Department** has announced they will engage in a special enforcement initiative targeting **Center Lane/Median/No Passing Zone Violations**, during the month of April. This enforcement effort is intended to educate motorists, as well as reduce the number of traffic collisions that occur on our city streets because of **Center Lane/Median/No Passing Zone Violations**. As part of this initiative, all Woodstock police officers will be paying special attention to such violations.

The purpose of this traffic enforcement initiative is to change driving behaviors and encourage motorists to voluntarily comply with traffic laws.

Officers will primarily focus their efforts on the below listed locations that are known for a high incidence of such infractions but will remain on the lookout for offenders throughout the City.

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.

The following locations have been identified as locations that are known for a high incidence of center lane/median/no passing zone violations:

- Northbound and Southbound Eastwood Drive @ Lake Avenue
- Northbound Eastwood Dr. @ Country Club Road
- Northbound Eastwood Dr. @ McHenry Ave. (Afternoon Shift)
- Southbound Eastwood Dr. @ McConnell Road
- Northbound Eastwood Dr. @ Irving Avenue



LIBRARY NEWS

Library Closed Until Noon for Staff Training on
April 20th

Date: 4/20/2012

Start Time: 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Description: Even when the library building is closed our website is always open. Take advantage of the many online resources that are available through our website, including downloads of eBooks and audiobooks, magazines, newspapers, genealogy materials and more. All that is needed to access these materials is a Woodstock Public Library card number. **REMINDER:** Library materials may be returned in the book drop to the right of the library doors and at the book return at the Wonder Lake State Bank in Wonder Lake IL (3316 Thompson Road).

Wrigley Field's Last World Series

Date: 4/19/2012

Start Time: 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Description: Wrigley Field's Last World Series: The Wartime Chicago Cubs and the Pennant of 1945 -- Sports fans and history buffs alike will enjoy author and sports historian Charles Billington's presentation of the Chicago Cub's domination during the team's first 70 years of existence and the profound effects that World War II had on baseball. Rare film footage of the 1945 World Series as well as 1940's music dealing with war and baseball complement this program. This program will be held at the [Woodstock Public Library](#) in the Meeting Room.

Build Your Own Pinata

Date: 4/28/2012, 5/5/2012

Start Time: 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Description: Families are encouraged to register for our "Build Your Own Piñata" workshop! This two-session workshop is for families to work together to create their own unique piñata. The library will provide basic piñata-making supplies but families are encouraged to bring decorations or other items to make their piñata unique. Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. This program is intended for children five years and older with up to four participants per family. Piñatas will be

displayed in the library following the second sessions and patrons will vote on their favorite. Program will be held in the meeting room.



Woodstock Fine Arts Program: Alice Ozma
(Author) of The Reading Promise

Date: 4/14/2012

Start Time: 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Description: Woodstock Fine Arts Association, in partnership with the Woodstock Public Library, welcomes Alice Ozma, author of The Reading Promise: My Father and the Books We Shared. Ozma will share her childhood story about her father's promise to read to her every night for 100 nights. While celebrating their accomplishment over breakfast after they reached this goal, they made a decision to continue reading for 1,000 consecutive nights. "The Streak," as they called it, continued until her first day of college. Come hear Alice talk about her book and the promise that started it all!

RECRUITMENT NEWS

Internal Public Works postings

Several current bargaining unit members submitted resumes and interest letters for the posted openings of **S&W Foreman**, **S&W Utility Inspector**, or **Water Treatment Plant Operator I**, by the deadline date of 4/11/12. These submissions are under review and candidates will be contacted for subsequent interviews shortly.

MEETINGS NEXT WEEK:

Tuesday, April 17 – Opera House Advisory
Commission, 4:30PM, Opera House

Tuesday, April 17 – City Council, 7PM, Council
Chambers

REC DEPT ASSISTS WITH D200 REALITY STORE

Recreation Coordinator Alan Dunker chaired the Leisure/Entertainment table at the Northwood School Reality Store program last Friday. The Reality Store is a hands-on opportunity for middle school students to learn to budget household income and expenses based on the student's future profession, estimated income, marital status, and number of children. Students must budget for housing, utilities, transportation, food, clothing, insurance, and other living expenses.



ADULT BEGINNING CROCHET WRAPPING UP SOON

The **Recreation Department's** new *Adult Crochet* class began on March 17 and the participants are finishing up their final products. Scarves, pot holders, and mittens are some of the items that were chosen to be completed.

If you missed the spring session of this class, it will be offered again this summer on Saturdays from 9:30-10:30AM beginning June 9 at the Recreation Center. The fee is \$50 for residents and \$70 for nonresidents.

BENEFITS CORNER: CONGRATULATIONS! IT'S A QUALIFYING EVENT

Employees who are going through life-changing events may not consider visiting their **HR Department** as a top priority. However, when major changes occur, these are considered "qualifying events," and the employee's benefits are eligible to be adjusted accordingly, instead of waiting until open enrollment in the fall.

When dependents should be added or removed, or the employee relocates to a new address, it is very important that the **HR Department** be notified so maximum benefits are afforded to the employee and his or her family members, and written communication remains viable.

For example:

Address changes—may affect receipt of paychecks and W2's; City of Woodstock, IMRF, Allied health and Lincoln life insurance communications

Marriage, Birth/Adoption—new dependents may be added for coverage to health insurance, life insurance and vision insurance; may also be added as beneficiaries to life insurance and IMRF plans

Divorce, dependent decrease—information must also be shared when these events occur

Additions or removals of dependents may affect the employee's payroll deductions; such changes may also warrant adjustments to any committed Flex Spending Account funds.



**HEALTH & SAFETY MESSAGE:
PAINKILLERS CAN BE LIFEKILLERS**

A recent AP in-depth analysis confirms what many have long suspected—the number of US citizens becoming addicted to prescription painkillers has exploded in recent years.

The two most widely prescribed opioid pain relievers are oxycodone (OxyContin, Percocet & Percodan) and hydrocodone (Vicodin, Norco & Lortab). These drugs have seen tremendous increases in both distribution and abuse in the past decade, and reports indicate there are far fewer treatment centers than needed for the growing numbers of addicted patients. In 2008 alone, 14,800 overdose deaths occurred across the country.

Reasons for the sharp increases range from the baby-boomer aging demographic requiring higher numbers of pain-related prescriptions, to an epidemic of obesity straining the design limits of knees and hips. Some see a response to tighter controls on production of methamphetamine transferring over to these more easily-acquired prescription painkillers, which can often be obtained from multiple doctors.

Tragically, many teenagers become addicted by raiding medicine cabinets at home and at friends' homes, where the likelihood of finding such drugs is very good these days. Unfortunately, tolerance builds quickly when used recreationally. It's not uncommon to hear of kids taking handfuls of pills at one time and parents are rarely informed of problems before it's too late.

So what can be done to help control this new threat to our health and well-being?

Number one--eat right, stay in shape, and try to avoid putting the body in pain's way.

Number two--if you do require such medications—and no one can deny the benefits of controlled use in appropriate situations—follow your doctor's directions, take the minimum dosage needed, for the minimum length of time, and never obtain prescriptions from multiple doctors.

Number three—when medicines are no longer needed, destroy what remains and prevent unintended use or abuse by yourself or loved ones.

Quote



“Faith is not sure where you are going, but going anyway.”

-Frederick Buechner