



CITY MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER



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ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY

The City of Woodstock has a very active Adopt-A-Highway program, managed by **Public Works Office Manager Susan Gullotto**. Currently, we have 15

Agreements with school groups, service organizations, and individuals who provide cleanups on 12½ centerline miles of roadways. Four new Agreements have been adopted within the past year with WHS Future Business Leaders of America (Country Club Road); Iron Justice M/C of McHenry County (US Rt 14); Woodstock Jaycees (Dean Street); and Woodstock Moose Family Center (Washington Street), and newly designed signs for these organizations were installed last fall.

Letters will be mailed within the next few weeks to all of the adopting groups encouraging them to take advantage of the uncharacteristically warm weather and schedule their first cleanup of 2012 to beautify our roadways.



POLICE DEPARTMENT GOT GAME

Chief Robert Lowen and fellow members of the **Woodstock Police Department** traveled on Thursday, February 16th, to the Misericordia Home in Chicago to participate in a sporting event with its residents. **Detective Sergeant Jeff Parsons, Sergeant Tino Cipolla, Detective George Kopulos** and **Telecommunicator Chad Peterson** joined Chief Lowen's son, **Matt**, 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. This was the sixth year in a row a contingent of WPD personnel and family participated in the event which is highly anticipated by the residents of Misericordia Home.



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MORE G.R.E.A.T. NEWS

Woodstock Police Department D.A.R.E./G.R.E.A.T. Officer Mike Gustis recently announced the final total for the 2011 G.R.E.A.T. (Gang Resistance Education And Training) Food Drive (*drum roll please!*) His seventh grade students at Creekside and Northwood Middle Schools battled to collect the most non-perishable food items to donate to the Woodstock Food Pantry.

Together the students raised a **grand total of 1300 pounds** of food for those in need in our community! Students at Creekside Middle School donated the most food, so they were rewarded with ice cream sandwiches for dessert after their lunch on Tuesday.

Officer Gustis and his generous students are to be commended for undertaking this remarkable community service project. “**G.R.E.A.T. Job**” to one and all!

PACKED GYM FOR ANOTHER HEART POUNDING WORKOUT

The Recreation Center Group Fitness Instructors have been offering a 2 ½ hour workout one Saturday each month. This past Saturday’s *Heart Pounding Workout* was the second one of the year, with over 40 participants attending. The workout included a half hour of each -Turbo Kick, Hit It, Butts & Guts and one hour of Barbell Strength. The average calories burned during the class is close to 1000. The next class is scheduled for Saturday, March 17 from 8:00AM– 10:30AM.



LIBRARY NEWS

Drop In Storytime!

Age Group(s): Ages 2 and up
Start Time: 9:30 AM - 10:00 AM

Description:

Come to one class or join us every week! We’ll share great stories, songs, and lots of fun during these drop-in sessions. Drop-In Storytimes are held every Tuesday from March 6-April 17. No registration required.

Contact: [Liz Delzell](#)
Contact Number: 815-338-0542

Stuffed Animal Sleepover

Age Group(s): Ages 4 to Grade 1
Date: 3/15/2012
Start Time: 6:30 PM - 7:00 PM

Description:

Bring one of your favorite stuffed animals to the library for storytime and a craft, then head home to your own bed while your stuffed friend has a sleepover at the library. Mrs. D will document all of the fun things the animals get up to – and you can pick up your friend and find out what they did the next day! Animal friends must be picked up during library hours on Friday, March 16. Registration is required.

MEETINGS NEXT WEEK:

Monday, February 27 – Historic Preservation – 7PM, Council Chambers
Thursday, March 1 – Environmental Commission, 5:30PM, Council Chambers
Thursday, March 1- Library Board, 7:30PM, Library

WHS STUDENTS AT MEETING

After completing a presentation to McHenry County's Transportation Board, students enrolled in Project Lead The Way: Engineering, Design, and Development class were invited to present their findings to **Woodstock's Transportation Commission** at a Special Meeting February 15, 2012. Zach Galuski, Samantha Hogan, Brad Lorr, Zakk Mueller, and Tieg Summers chose two local intersections to study: Calhoun at Madison and Madison/ South/ Lake. Students identified challenges that make each of these intersections difficult for both vehicles and pedestrians to maneuver around and through. They then proceeded to develop and discuss potential solutions for improving each of the intersections; finally agreeing upon and recommending one final solution. According to the Active Transportation Alliance, this final solution turned out to be the cheapest and most efficient as compared to others because it required the least amount of resources to complete. The Transportation Commission was very appreciative of these students for attending the meeting and for giving the presentation. They were also impressed by the thought and foresight that went into the intersection evaluations, and hoped that these students would find a way to stay involved in the functionality of the communities in which they live. WHS Industrial Tech Teacher, Mr. Steven Thompson attended the meeting with students and presenters reminded the Commission that fellow student Chris Dehn-Franklin who worked with them on the project, was not able to attend the meeting. Photo shows students presenting at the February Meeting

SIGN UP FOR THE CITY'S DIRECT DEBIT PROGRAM



The City's Direct Debit Program is a convenient, FREE and totally optional service, which makes your life easier by automatically paying your water/sewer bill from your checking or savings account. On the last business day of the month that your water/sewer bill is due, your payment will be transferred from your checking or savings account to pay your water/sewer bill. The City will continue to send you a water/sewer bill and proof of payment will also appear on your checking or savings account statement. A message will appear on your bill identifying that payment is through the Direct Debit Program.

To sign up for the program contact the **Finance Department** at 815-338-4300 to request a direct debit form or mail your request to Direct Debit Program, City Hall, 121 W. Calhoun St., Woodstock, IL 60098. You will need to complete a form that will provide the account information to be used by the City for the Direct Debit Program. The City will send you a confirmation letter after your completed form has been received indicating your acceptance in the program. The Direct Debit Program is another example of the City's use of technology to improve the processing of payments and enhance customer service.

Quotation

"The time to relax is when you don't have time for it."

Sydney J. Harris



BLACKHAWKS ROLL LATE OVER THE BLUES

The **Woodstock Recreation Department** combined with McHenry Parks and Recreation to offer a bus trip to the February 19th Blackhawks game against the St. Louis Blues. The Blues led 1-0 after 2 periods. The Hawks came blazing back in the third scoring 2 goals and an empty netter to win the game 3-1. The pleased crowd from Woodstock could only ask one question, “Are you running this trip again next year?”

Blackhawks fans make sure to look in the Winter/Spring City Scene next year for another chance to see the Hawks play. We will also try to offer a Bulls trip next season.

REC DEPARTMENT OFFERS HORSEBACK RIDING LESSONS WITH JOHN WHITE STABLES



The **Recreation Department** has partnered with Lisa White and John White Stables to offer

Horseback Riding Lessons for children and adults. The focus of this program 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. For more information about John White Stables, visit the website www.johnwhitestables.com.

The first classes for this session finished this past week with 5 riders and a new session starts Monday, March 27 with 7 riders. Space is still available for the session starting April 2. For more information about our Horseback Riding lessons, visit our website at www.woodstockrecreationdepartment.com.

SUDOKU PUZZLE

Sudoku is the number placing game taking the world by storm. The rules of Sudoku are simple. Enter digits from 1 to 9 into the blank spaces. Every row must contain one of each digit. So must every column, as must every 3x3 square. Each Sudoku has a unique solution that can be reached logically without guessing.

This Week’s Puzzle!

	8	6		5	4		1	
7		5		1		3	8	
		1	3		2			
		9			8	4		
		8		2		5		
		3	5			8		
			1		9	2		
	6	2		3		1		5
	1		2	4		6	9	

EMPLOYEE ANNIVERSARIES FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY

Please stop by and congratulate the following employees on their anniversaries with the City.

Employee	Department	Day	# of Years
Shane Marshall	Police	February 5 th	8 Years
Natalie Walker	Police	February 8 th	2 Years
Dale Behm	Streets	February 9 th	34 Years
Anthony Bittig	Police	February 10 th	9 Years
Brian Loffmin	Police	February 10 th	6 Years
John Isbell	Public Works Administration	February 13 th	28 Years
William Lintner	Police	February 13 th	4 Years
Julie Fee	Library	February 14 th	28 Years
Jeff Parsons	Police	February 17 th	15 Years
Tim Maynard	Wastewater Treatment	February 17 th	15 Years
Joe Vasquez	Sewer & Water Maintenance	February 21 st	7 Years
Bill Kreutz	Fleet Maintenance	February 21 st	33 Year
Linda Knoll	Library	February 24 th	26 Years
John Burns	Finance	February 28 th	7 Years
John Bertram	Community & Economic Development	February 28 th	7 Years

A special thank you to all of these employees for their tireless efforts and commitment to excellence, which makes the City of Woodstock a wonderful place to work and raise a family, as well as for all of the future years of service still to come.