



CITY MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER



Volume II Issue 47

November 21, 2014

THANKSGIVING OBSERVANCE



In observance of the Thanksgiving holiday, all non-emergency City offices will be closed on Thursday and Friday, November 27th and 28th.

**HAPPY
THANKSGIVING!**

THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY IMPACTS GARBAGE PICKUP

As a reminder, the Thanksgiving holiday will alter the garbage pickup schedule for residents during the week of November 24th through November 28th. With Thanksgiving falling on Thursday, residents with normal garbage pickup on Thursday or Friday will have their garbage picked up one day later. For example, those residents that normally have garbage picked up on Friday will need to place their garbage out for collection on Saturday. Any questions should be directed to the City's garbage contractor, MDC Environmental Services at 815-568-7274.

SERGEANT CIPOLLA NAMED POLICE OFFICER OF THE YEAR

Chief Robert Lowen is proud to announce that **Sergeant Constantino "Tino" J. Cipolla** has been chosen as the 2014 Woodstock Police Officer of the Year. He will be honored as such by the Woodstock Moose Lodge on Saturday, November 22nd at their annual Community Hero Awards Ceremony. The event begins at 6:30 p.m., dinner served at 7:00 p.m. with the awards ceremony to follow. Tickets are \$15.00 per person and are available at the door.

Sergeant Cipolla has been with the WPD since March 2002. He was appointed to the Detective Division in January 2006 and has been a Patrol Sergeant since June 2008. He is a certified Juvenile, Gang, Bicycle and Field Training Officer. Sergeant Cipolla is fluent in Spanish and is currently pursuing his Bachelor's Degree.

Sergeant Cipolla started the department's Police Explorer Scout program and continues to guide it. Until recently, he ran the department's College Internship program as well. Sergeant Cipolla currently manages both the WPD Firearms and Field Training programs. He is also the department liaison to the Illinois Special Olympics for which he has organized the department's participation in such charitable events as the Polar Plunge; Torch Run; Plane Pull and Bowling and Volleyball Tournament Fundraisers. Sergeant Cipolla also participates in many volunteer events such as the annual Shop with a Cop and Misericordia Home Basketball Game.

Congratulations, Sergeant Cipolla, on receiving this well-deserved honor – you earned it! Keep up the great work!

Great Job!

- | | |
|----------|-------------------------------|
| 2 | Park in the Square |
| 3 | Winter Driving |
| 4 | Bates Park |
| 5 | Safe Routes to Schools |
| 6 | Recruitment News |
| 7 | Holiday Eating |

MAINTENANCE OF PARK IN THE SQUARE

The Woodstock Square is a popular location for many events throughout the year. The highly-traveled grassy areas in the Park in the Square need to be maintained on a regular basis. Recently, the City's **Parks Division** employees removed dead grass, prepped the areas, and installed new sod. Public Works is looking into options that will allow for use of the Park without damaging the grass.

If you have any questions about this project, please contact the **Department of Public Works** at 815-338-6118.

Before:



After:



COLLECTION OF BAGGED LEAVES

The week of Monday, November 24, 2014, the Department of Public Works will pick up BAGGED leaves curbside. If you have leaves on your property that you want to be collected this fall, please rake & bag leaves, using biodegradable yard-waste bags only. (yard waste stickers are not needed)

Call the Department of Public Works to request pickup, 815-338-6118.

BATES PARK BALL FIELD RENOVATIONS

Within the City's park system there are many areas maintained. One of these areas is Bates Park ball fields. Recently, the Woodstock Girls Softball League donated 2 semi-truck loads of ball field mix; the City purchased 1 semi-truck load and rented a sod cutter. **Parks Superintendent Ernie Nelson, Parks Foreman John Mecklenburg, Parks Crew Leader Tad Lester and Parks Maintenance Workers Phil Mass, Tim Spring, and Chris Birdsell** were able to complete the following tasks on fields at Bates Park:

- Sod Cut infield lips on Roskie Field and Field 3.
- Graded Field 3, adding approximately 60 yards of ball field mix.
- Added approximately 30 yards of ball field mix to Roskie field, which will help eliminate lips around the grass infield and outfield areas.
- Removed the 3rd base line swale on Field 4.

If you have any questions about this project, please contact the **Department of Public Works** at 815-338-6118.

Before:



After:



NO MORE MUDDY FEET: 2014 IDOT/SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOLS FUNDING RECEIVED

The City was informed this week that Woodstock has been awarded \$140,000 for sidewalk improvements in response to the 2014 Safe Routes to Northside Schools Complex grant application. Combined with the required \$35,000 match, the funding will allow almost 3,000 feet of level sidewalk to be installed in areas along Tappan and Meadow on the northside of Woodstock. These improvements will greatly add to the safety and comfort of students walking or biking to Verda Dierzen Early Learning Center, Mary Endres Elementary School and Northwood Middle School. Engineering will commence next spring with construction expected in 2016.

IDOT/SRTS granted the entire amount requested by the City; the award was one of 58 made from applications across the state, and was the only award for a McHenry County community. Hats off to **Assistant Public Works Director Jeff Van Landuyt** and **Grant Writer Terry Willcockson** for their efforts in compiling this successful application.

D.A.R.E. GRADUATION HELD TODAY

Friday afternoon a D.A.R.E. Graduation Ceremony took place at St. Mary Elementary School. **D.A.R.E. Officer Mike Gustis** proudly presided over the ceremony with the able assistance of **Police Chief Robert Lowen, Monica Amraen** and other local dignitaries..

Congratulations to all the D.A.R.E. graduates on their wonderful accomplishment!



POLICE OFFICERS KNOCK OUT THE COMPETITION

Last Sunday night, two Officers from the **Woodstock Police Department** took part in a charity boxing event in Aurora. The 3rd Annual "Tuition Knock Out" event was hosted by the National Latino Peace Officers Association at East Aurora High School. **Officer Dan Henry** and **Officer Dave Sharp** represented the WPD well by both handily winning their matches! (It should be noted that Officer Henry was a last minute entry in the competition filling in for someone else who had to drop out!)

Chief Robert Lowen, his wife, **Debbie** and **Sergeant Josh Fourdyce** were on hand to support the Officers as they slugged it out for a good cause.

Congratulations on a job well done!

MEETINGS NEXT WEEK...

Monday, November 24 – Historic Preservation Commission 7PM, Council Chambers

Quotation

Gratitude is the inward feeling of kindness received. Thankfulness is the natural impulse to express that feeling. Thanksgiving is the following of that impulse.

[Henry Van Dyke](#)



RECRUITMENT

Congratulations to **Jorge Zermeno** who transferred from the Sewer and Water Maintenance Division as Water Meter Technician I to **Maintenance Worker I (Street Division)** as of Sunday, November 16th.

Congratulations to **Abigail Alegre** who has been offered and has accepted the position of Part-Time Library Desk Assistant for the **Woodstock Public Library** – Abigail's first day at the library was Monday, November 17th. Abigail most recently was the Secretary for Woodstock School District 200, where she was a Spanish Interpreter for staff and meetings, managed the main office and student records and assisted parents and staff.

Congratulations to **Mark Stoll** who has been offered and has accepted the position of **Split Maintenance Worker I (Streets and Parks Divisions)** – Mark's first day is Monday, November 24th. Mark most recently was a Maintenance Floater for the Central School District 301 in Burlington, IL, where his responsibilities included maintenance, grounds and custodial tasks.

Congratulations to **Travis Behrens** who has been offered and has accepted the position of **Split Maintenance Worker I (Streets and Parks Divisions)** – Travis's first day is Monday, November 24th. Travis most recently was a Sales Account Manager/Driver for L&V Distributors in Crystal Lake.

Congratulations to **Phil Lechner** who has been offered and has accepted the position of **Streets Maintenance Worker I** – Phil's first day is Monday, December 1st. Phil most recently was an Installer for Nicor Home Solutions in Lombard, where he installed furnaces and air conditioners, as well as ran gas pipes and performed electrical work.

Congratulations to **Kevin Kucharski** who has been offered and has accepted the position of **Parks Maintenance Worker I** – Kevin's first day is Monday, December 1st. Kevin most recently was a Research Field Station Intern for McHenry County Conservation District, where he evaluated, planned, performed restoration on various conservation sites and developed interactive exhibits for the public on the local ecology. In addition, Kevin was also a seasonal temporary employee for several years with the City of Woodstock's Park's Division.

Congratulations to **Jason Dyer** who has been offered and has accepted the position of **Mechanic I** – Jason's first day is Monday, December 1st. Jason most recently was a Service Advisor for Buss Ford in McHenry, where he provided customer service, oversaw repairs for proper procedures, and sold repairs.

HEALTHY HOLIDAY EATING TIPS FOR THANKSGIVING

Do you know that the average Thanksgiving dinner has over 2000 calories? It can be a real challenge if you are watching your waistline. The following are some eating tips so that you can still look good and be healthy after the Thanksgiving dinner without having to deprive yourself.



Healthy Holiday Eating Tips for Thanksgiving

If you are a guest of a Thanksgiving dinner:

- **Don't go to the Thanksgiving dinner hungry:** we often eat faster and more when we are hungry – therefore eat a wholesome breakfast and lunch on the day to avoid overeating at dinner time.
- **Thanksgiving dinner is not an all-you-can-eat buffet:** Fill your plate half with vegetables, one quarter with a lean meat and the rest with a starch of your choice. Eat slowly and stop when you are full.
- **Turkey – go skinless:** choose your 4-oz turkey portion skinless to slash away some fat and cholesterol. Save your appetite for the side dishes and desserts.
- **Side Dishes – watch your portion size:** go for smaller portions. This way you can sample all the different foods. Moderation is always the key.
- **Make a conscious choice to limit high fat items:** high fat food items can be found in fried and creamy dishes as well as cheese-filled casseroles in a traditional Thanksgiving meal. For instance, mashed potatoes are usually made with butter and milk; green bean casseroles are often prepared with cream of mushroom soup, cheese and milk and topped with fried onions; candied yams are loaded with cream, sugar and marshmallows. If you cannot control the ingredients that go in to a dish, simply limit yourself to a smaller helping size. Again moderation is the key.
- **Drink plenty of water:** alcohol and coffee can dehydrate your body. Drink calorie-free water to help fill up your stomach and keep you hydrated.

If you are the honorable chef of a Thanksgiving dinner:

- **Substitute** high fat ingredients with lower-fat or fat-free ingredients.
- **Leftover Turkey?** Instead of turkey sandwiches, use the leftover turkey to make a pot of soup with fresh chunky vegetables.
- **Experiment with new recipes:** we did a search on Google and found numerous delicious yet healthy low-fat contemporary Thanksgiving recipes. Experiment!

Want to Start to Get Healthy with an Exercise Program?

City of Woodstock employees receive an employee discount at the **Woodstock Recreation Center**. **The initiation fee is waived! Executive membership is \$35 per month. Full membership is \$25 per month.** Try a week for free! For more information, contact Mary Lynn Lisk or Renee Torrez at 815-338-4363 or visit www.woodstockrecreationdepartment for more information.

*2014 City of Woodstock
Employee & Family Holiday Party*



Join Us for Some Holiday Cheer!

Tuesday, December 16th, 5:00pm - 8:00pm

Stage Left Café (Woodstock Opera House)

125 E. Van Buren Street, Woodstock, IL 60098

**The evening will include music, appetizers,
dinner, wine & beer cash bar
(complimentary soft drinks), raffle and a visit from Santa.**

**RSVP by Friday, December 12th
to the Opera House at (815) 338-4212**



Woodstock Christmas Clearing House

P.O. Box 53 • Woodstock, IL 60098

Get into the Spirit of the Season... Help Christmas Clearing House

Christmas Clearing House was started in 1970 by Woodstock Girl Scout troops. In 1972 the Rotary Club of Woodstock took over the project and has coordinated it ever since, with the help of many other service clubs and community volunteers. Volunteers raise money to provide food, children's presents, gloves and mittens to families in need. Last year we served nearly 1100 families and 240 seniors.

Donations are a critical part of our effort. **Checks can be made out directly to Christmas Clearing House (501(c)(3)non-profit organization)** and mailed to P.O. Box 53, Woodstock, IL 60098 or deposited directly into an account at BMO Harris Bank.

Barrels will be placed throughout the community and in area schools for the collection of food and new toys. The last day for the barrels to be picked up is Monday, Dec. 15. No used toys, please.

To add a name to the recipient list, call **Kim** at (815) 338-3590. Cut off date is Friday, November 28.

Volunteers are needed for the following activities:

- **RECIPIENT VOLUNTEERS**

Volunteers are needed to verify recipient information and to make follow-up phone calls to recipients. Being bilingual is a plus. All this work is completed prior to Wednesday, Dec. 12. Please call Kim at (815) 338-3590 to help.

- **TAG DAY VOLUNTEERS**

Volunteers are needed to fill two-hour slots from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., **Wednesday, November 26** and **Friday, November 28** and 7 a.m. to 1 p.m., **Saturday, November 29**. Volunteers collect monetary donations in front of a pre-assigned location around Woodstock. Pick up your tags, signs and collection cans at the Dean St. Fire Station at the beginning of your shift and drop them off at the end of your shift. To volunteer, call Lynn Fiala at (815) 321-5017 or Laura Cullotta at (224) 276-2581. If you want to sign-up on-line, go to <http://vols.pt/C3KgRN>.

- **WAREHOUSE**

Wednesday, December 17 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. for bagging the toys. There is no need to sign up. Just show up.

Thursday, December 18 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. for packing food boxes. There is no need to sign up. Just show up.

- **DELIVERY DAY — Drivers Needed**

Saturday, December 20 from 8:00 a.m.-Noon. No need to sign up. Just show up and get ready to be filled with the true meaning of Christmas. We will be delivering baskets and gifts to over 1000 families and making their holidays a little bright. Brings lots of friends....baskets are heavy.

Location for the Warehouse and Delivery Days for us old timers is the "old Farm & Fleet" building and for the newcomers, it is the southwest corner of Routes 47 and 14 (old looking building, north of Woodstock Harley-Davidson. We are around the side, near the loading docks (south side of building).

For additional information, call **Joe Starzynski at (815) 245-4954.**

Thanks in advance for all the support and generosity. Your involvement makes this project the tremendous success it has become.

Fall Back Into Giving Blood!

City of Woodstock Recreation Department

Blood Drive

Wednesday, November 26th ~ 12:30 pm - 2:30 pm

At 820 Lake Avenue in Woodstock ~ On Heartland's Mobile Coach

To make your appointment, please call the Rec Center at 815-338-4363 or
schedule online at www.heartlandbc.org

Appointments appreciated ~ Walk-ins welcome!

Photo ID Required

Each Donor will receive a \$10 Target Gift Card!

Heartland Blood Centers is the sole provider of
all blood products to Centegra Hospitals

Thank you for giving
so others can continue living!!

**Make a Difference
this Fall.
Save a Life.**

 Heartland
Blood Centers
Your community blood service since 1943
1-800-786-4483
www.heartlandbc.org

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