



CITY MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER



Volume II Issue 13

March 28, 2014

MCRIDE – DIAL-A-RIDE TRANSIT SERVICE IN MCHENRY COUNTY



McHenry County's dial-a-ride transit service for Crystal Lake, McHenry and Woodstock is called

MCRide. Dorr Township, Greenwood Township and McHenry Township are included. This service makes it easier for people to travel from suburb to suburb and provides greater mobility for the elderly and people with disabilities. MCRide is funded in part with Job Access Reverse Commute and New Freedom federal transit grants administered by the Regional Transportation Authority and the McHenry County Senior Services Grant Fund.

It is suggested that reservations are made 24-hours in advance; however, they will take reservations one-hour in advance if their schedule allows. You are encouraged to register on-line, although it is not mandatory.

Service hours are Monday-Friday 6:00AM - 7:00 PM and Saturday 9:00AM - 5:00 PM.

For further information about MCRide, such as fares, service area, policies or eligibility, or to register, please contact the McHenry County Division of Transportation at # 815-334-4985, sahennings@co.mchenry.il.us or go to <https://www.co.mchenry.il.us/county-government/departments-j-z/transportation/mcride>

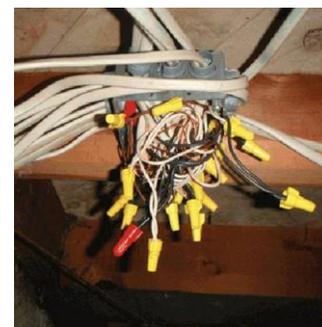
To schedule a ride, call 1-800-451-4599 (TTY 1-888-454-4724).

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WE'RE BUILDING INSPECTORS AND WE'RE HERE TO HELP!

Do you have questions about your building or home improvement project? Or have you started your latest job and are now trying to figure out what to do next? Or perhaps you're wondering how come your friends laugh at the plumbing job that you did under the kitchen sink? Even if you are a "do-it-yourself" expert, it's always good to have your projects reviewed by someone who knows what's required. Have



your plans reviewed by one of Woodstock's highly qualified building inspectors before you start working and save yourself trouble down the road. Not only will they make sure your plans meet applicable construction and safety code standards, but they'll also tell you whether or not you need a building permit. The City's building inspectors are certified by the International Code Council (ICC) and/or the State of Illinois, and participate in numerous continuing education and training opportunities in order to maintain and enhance their knowledge of building techniques and new construction technology. So give the inspectors a call or stop by their offices at City Hall and save yourself from having problems down the road!

ILETRSO T-SHIRT SALE HAS BEGUN

The McHenry County leg of the Illinois Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics doesn't take place until the first weekend in June, but you can purchase a commemorative race T-shirt today!

The T-shirts are available in sizes small, medium, large, XL and (a few) 2XL. The cost is \$15.00 and the proceeds will benefit Special Olympics. Please make your check payable to ILETRSO and forward it to the attention of **Sergeant Constantino Cipolla** at the **Woodstock Police Department**. If T-shirts are not your thing, but you'd still like to support Special Olympics, donations are always welcome.

Spring is *finally* here and summer is not far behind; get ready for the warmer weather by purchasing a cool T-shirt for a very good cause – Illinois Special Olympics!

For further information on the T-shirts or how to register to run in the race, please contact Sergeant Cipolla at 815-338-2131 or ccipolla@woodstockil.gov.

OFFICER NAATZ GRADUATES FROM THE POLICE ACADEMY

Officer Christopher Naatz graduated from the Police Training Institute yesterday in Champaign. **Deputy Chief John Lieb** represented the **Woodstock Police Department** at the ceremony.

Officer Naatz will report for duty on Saturday, March 29th, to begin sixteen weeks of Field Training before beginning solo patrols.

Congratulations on a job well done and welcome to the WPD!



RECRUITMENT NEWS

The following position has been posted for public application:

Water Meter Technician

Position performs a wide variety of manual labor duties and operates vehicles and equipment as required to read, install, and repair water meters; assist with sanitary sewer collection and water distribution maintenance; perform routine maintenance tasks; and other related duties as assigned. The work is performed under the supervision of the Sewer & Water Maintenance Division Foreman and Supervisor. Position normally works Monday through Friday, 7:00AM – 3:30 PM, with on call assignments and overtime, as required. Bilingual ability is required for this position.

Minimum Qualifications/Requirements: HS grad or equivalent; 1-2 years' maintenance and customer service experience; valid driver's license and good driving record; bilingual English and Spanish fluency required, including conversational Spanish ability. Starting salary rate: \$15.64 per hour in accordance with current Union contract. Position includes eligibility for full benefits package of group health insurance, benefit time and IMRF retirement plan. To apply, contact humanresources@woodstockil.gov or visit Woodstock City Hall **no later than Friday, April 11, 2014**. EOE.

MEETINGS NEXT WEEK

Tuesday, April 1 – City Council, 7PM, Council Chambers Thursday

Thursday, April 3 – Library Board-7:30PM, Library

DOUBLE BLESSING

Woodstock Police Department Officer Adam Schraw and his wife, **Laura**, are the proud parents of twins born on Friday, March 21st. **Garrett Robert**, born at 8:06 a.m., weighed 9 lbs. 10 oz. and was 21” long. **Audrey Kathleen** came along one minute later and weighed in at 7 lbs. 1 oz. and was 20 ¾” long.

Everyone is doing well, including big brother, **Wyatt**, who just turned 3 years old on Tuesday. Congratulations and best wishes to the Schraw family!

Congratulations

SERVICE LINE WARRANTY PROGRAMS

A couple of years ago the City of Woodstock endorsed an optional program available to homeowners, provided through the National League of Cities (NLC) administered by Service Line Warranties of America (SLWA). The Service Line Warranty programs provide low cost, worry-free warranty protection for your privately-owned water and/or sewer service lines. “Enrollment is 100% voluntary and will protect the homeowners in the event of a service line failure.”

City of Woodstock homeowners are responsible for the water and sewer services lines that run from their private residence to the city’s water and sewer mains. If these lines break or leak, repairs can be very expensive. These programs offer warranty protection to help cover some of the costs of repairs and/or replacement of your water and/or sewer service line.

Again this year SLWA is mailing out information about their warranty programs. “This program is offered at no cost to the municipality and no public funds are used to promote or administer this program.” After only a decade in business, SLWA has an A+ rating with the Better Business Bureau.

If you have already elected either the water or sewer service line warranty, or if you are not interested in the warranty programs, and want to be removed from the mailing list, please contact SLWA directly.

For questions regarding these warranty programs, please contact SLWA at 1-866-922-9006 or visit www.SLWofA.com

QUOTE

Hope is like a balloon, it can’t soar to the heavens if you hold it by the string.

-Lyndsey Boucherle



**HEALTH & SAFETY MESSAGE: COLD,
COLD, GO AWAY!!**

In this Winter That Never Ends, there's even more opportunities for those nasty cold viruses to keep circulating throughout our homes and workplaces. While we all like to think we're strong enough to fight off such maladies in only a day or two, the reality is as plain as the dripping nose on your face: colds are often tougher than we are!

Therefore, try to avoid them as much as possible and spare your co-workers by staying home and resting when viruses do take over. Keep the statistics below in mind:

The Cold Facts--

- Adults on average get 2-5 colds a year, mostly between September and May. Young children can get as many as 7-10 colds.
- More than 200 different viruses cause colds, and scientists continue to discover new ones.
- Colds are most contagious about 2 days before symptoms start and in the early stages of illness.
- The average cold lasts 2-14 days. Coughs can linger up to 6 weeks.
- **Exercise, reducing stress, getting good sleep and hand hygiene can help prevent getting a cold.**



YARD WASTE REMINDERS

- Each year MDC Environmental Services picks up yard waste beginning April 1 through November 30.
- All grass clippings, leaves and yard waste must be placed into biodegradable yard waste bags with a 'yard waste' sticker attached.
- Yard waste and refuse stickers may be purchased at Woodstock City Hall, 121 W. Calhoun Street, the Department of Public Works, 326 Washington Street and the Woodstock Public Library located at 414 W. Judd Street.
- You may also use a 32-gallon container for yard waste disposal; be certain to mark the container with a large 'X', and affix a "yard waste" sticker to the container.
- The bags or containers should be placed curbside by 6:00AM and will be picked up by MDC Environmental Services on your regular garbage collection day.
- Branches should not be placed into a bag or container, but should be cut to no longer than 3 feet in length and no larger than 4 inches in diameter. The branches should then be tied with twine in bundles weighing no more than 25 lbs. and placed at your curb.

If you have any questions regarding yard waste or garbage collection, please contact MDC Environmental Services, 815-568-7274 or visit their website <http://www.mdces.com/>



PARDON OUR DUST

If you've been in the library much at all in the last few weeks, you've probably noticed a lot of stuff in slightly different places than before. If you were here earlier this week, or last week, you may well have heard some sawing, an occasional clang, or a bit of hammering. This week, you may have had to be a little careful upstairs so as not to trip on our drop clothes and disassembled shelving. We apologize for the mess and the noise—but you're going to like it when we're done!

The moving pieces, the clangs and bangs, are all part of our interior renovation and reorganization. It began last year, with the moving of our older issues of magazines down near the Marchi Reading Room and has included moving the Local History materials down to the reference area. But that is all somewhat small potatoes for what we're shooting for on Friday, April 18. That day, we'll be moving the Young Adult area upstairs into its newly remodeled space. Simultaneously, we'll be moving the New Materials over to the wall by the fish tank and the DVDs and the music CDs into the space being vacated by the Young Adult area. This allows us to "spread out" the audiobooks and the Large Print collection, and also allows us to establish a new gallery and display space where the New Materials were located.

We will be closed all day on Friday, April 18 to accommodate all that heavy lifting, shifting and reorganizing. But we'll reopen on Saturday, April 19 with our new arrangement, so stop in after April 18 and let us know what you think.

The goal of all this rearranging is to open up our front entry area, which has gotten a bit cluttered and "heavy." It should also make it easier to browse our DVD and CD collections. We're also excited to create a space to highlight local art and artists, as well as a more dedicated display area. And I know the young adults will be happy to move to a larger, better defined space than the one they currently have.

All in all, we believe this is a win-win all around, but it is definitely a work in progress—so for the next few weeks, we hope you will pardon our dust and a little bit of extra noise. We also hope you won't be shy in letting us know what you think of the results, since we'll be tweaking it in various ways for many a day to come.

Unrelated update: Please join us Tuesday, April 8 at 7PM for Jon Austin's presentation of a Civil War-era medical school lecture, using a re-enactor "corpse" as a visual aid. Learn about the verification of death in the 19th century, the preparation of dead soldiers for shipping and burial, and the mourning rituals of that time. Mr. Austin will also discuss Abraham Lincoln's funeral and the ways in which modern funeral practices have developed over the years. This program is being presented in partnership with the McHenry County Civil War Roundtable. For more information visit the library's website at www.woodstockpubliclibrary.org or call 815-338-0542.

ELECTRONIC PAYMENTS FROM YOUR BANK IS COMING TO THE CITY OF WOODSTOCK



The City of Woodstock is proud to offer a new service to our residents and businesses. Currently when a water and sewer customer makes a payment through their bank, a paper check is produced and mailed to the City. This process has a number of issues. First it is time consuming and often there is a 5- day delay in the payment reaching the City. Also since the check payment is coming directly from the bank, no payment stub is created, which increases the processing time. Lastly, since the payment is sent through the mail, there is a chance the postal service will lose the payment.

The City of Woodstock has partnered with a bank and is now able to accept these payments from almost **any** bank electronically through their online bill payment system. This offers advantages to both water and sewer customers and the City by significantly reducing the processing time since these payments will be received electronically, often as short as 24 hours, which gives our residents the ability to pay their bill the day before its due and not have it be late. In addition, the City will receive an electronic file that can be downloaded into our utility billing system which again will increase processing time.

All though this product has been implemented, it may take two to three weeks for our bank to notify each Bank's processing department that we are able to receive the payments electronically. A Customer will know the new service has been implemented at their bank when it says "electronic delivery" as the delivery method. An example is shown below of how the City of Woodstock is currently displayed at Chase Bank showing 5 days for a check. To the right is an example of Commonwealth Edison who accepts electronic payments and how the City of Woodstock will be displayed in the near future.

City of Woodstock

[Edit name/nickname](#) | [Delete payee](#)

Payee Settings for **Bill Pay**

[Edit](#) | [Delete](#)

Payment address: 121 W Calhoun St
Woodstock, IL 60098

Payee phone number: None

Account number: ...9-01

Delivery method: 5-business days check delivery

Default Pay From account: TOTAL CHECKING (...9950)

Bill Pay group: Ungrouped

[Schedule a Payment](#)

COMMONWEALTH EDISON

[Edit name/nickname](#) | [Delete payee](#)

Payee Settings for **Bill Pay**

[Edit](#) | [Delete](#)

Payment address: PO BOX 6111
CAROL STREAM, IL 60197-6111

Payee phone number: None

Account number: ...1000

Delivery method: Next business day electronic delivery

Default Pay From account: TOTAL CHECKING (...9950)

Bill Pay group: Ungrouped

[Schedule a Payment](#)

[Set Up a Repeating Payment](#)

In addition to this new service, the City also offers the ability to pay automatically through direct debit and by credit card using the online portal, which can be reached from the City of Woodstock website.

REC STAFF PARTICIPATES IN D200 ACITIVITIES

Recreation Coordinator **Alan Dunker** and Recreation Center employee **Ron Schmitt** participated in the Northwood Middle School Reality Store last Friday. The Reality Store is a hands-on opportunity for 8th grade students to learn to budget household income and expenses based on the student's future profession, marital status, and number of children.

Students visited Alan and Ron at the Leisure/Entertainment table and spent their hard-earned money on leisure activities such as vacations, movies, health club memberships, and dinner out.



TWEENS TAKE OVER THE REC CENTER



Cabin fever sunk in and brought over 80 kids in grades 5th-8th to the Rec Center last Saturday night for the **Recreation Department's Tween Night**. For a \$4 drop-in fee, the tweens swam, played in the gym, played walleyball or racquetball, or played ping pong.

Thanks to **Rec Center Front Counter staffers Leah Baird and Scott Hicks, Recreation Coordinator Alan Dunker, and Recreation Director Dave Zinnen** for staffing/supervising the event.

The next *Tween Night at Kingston Lanes* is Saturday, April 12 from 3:30-5:30PM. For \$10, participants receive unlimited bowling, pop and a bag of chips. Pizza is available for purchase.

The next *Tween Night at the Rec Center* is Saturday, April 26 from 6:30-8:30PM.

For more information, visit www.woodstockrecreationdepartment.com.

National Walking Day

Share 81 Like 4k Tweet 361 +1 55 478 Updated: Feb 26, 2014



Get Up and Move!

These days, adults are spending more time at work than ever before. An unfortunate side effect is that, as a nation, we're becoming more inactive. This is a problem when you consider that physical inactivity doubles the risk of heart disease!

But take heart! It's a problem you can help fix by encouraging your community and company to take part in the American Heart Association's National Walking Day.

On this day, Americans are encouraged to lace up their sneakers and take at least 30 minutes out of their day to get up and walk. It's a great way to raise awareness of the importance of physical activity and to get your family, friends and co-workers started on a healthier way of life.

Get the Ball Rolling - Sign Up for Your Toolkit!

It's easy to participate in National Walking Day. Complete the appropriate registration form to receive the National Walking Day Toolkit. It includes lots of fun materials and tips to easily promote National Walking Day in your community or workplace. Your registration confirmation email will include links to a how-to guide, posters, flyers, email scripts and more.

| | | | |
|--|---|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| Company (HR Representative & Worksite Wellness Coordinator) Signup | Community Organization Signup | School Signup | Individual Signup |
|--|---|----------------------|-----------------------------|

Get Others Involved

- Host a walk and/or rally to show your commitment to living longer, healthier lives.
- Rally your family, friends and neighbors to walk that day and every day.
- Invite your co-workers to wear their sneakers to work.
- Encourage employees to get in their 30 minutes of walking that day.
- Change one of your meetings to a walking meeting, and let your colleagues know why.
- Join others across the country and be part of the solution to get America walking.
- Discover and share more information from the American Heart Association about why physical activity is so important.
- Start Shopping for some physical activity gear and show your support the American Heart Association's healthy living movement.
- Get your family, friends and co-workers involved in the annual Heart Walk in your community.

Get Healthy

Statistics show that one in two men and one in three women are at risk for heart disease, and research shows that poor lifestyle is a major contributor. From walking paths and clubs to healthy cooking tips and easy-made, heart-healthy recipes, the American Heart Association's My Heart. My Life.™ healthy living initiative helps individuals and families understand how to get active and eat healthy – all part of the American Heart Association's 2020 goal. Don't stop with signing up for National Walking Day; use our American Heart Association Walking Clubs and Walking Paths to keep you walking every day. Visit MyHeartMyLife.org to learn more.

This content was last reviewed on 01/09/2014.

Physical Activity

- Home
- The Price of Inactivity
- American Heart Association Recommendations
- Physical Activity Improves Quality of Life
- Getting Active
 - Getting Started
 - Tips to Get Active
 - Warm Up, Cool Down
 - 5 Steps to Loving Exercise
 - When is the Best Time to Workout
 - Food as Fuel
 - Top 10 Tips to Get More Exercise
 - Target Heart Rates
- Walking
 - Walking 101
 - Why Walking?
 - National Walking Day
 - Stretches for Walking
 - Preventing Injury
 - Walking: Morning, Noon or Night
 - What to Wear When You Walk
 - Wearing the Right Shoes
- Resources
 - Introduction
 - Physical Activity for Older Americans
 - Exercise Tips for Older Americans



#AHALaceUp

Sign up today and lace up April 2!