



CITY MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER



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MAPLES AT THE SONATAS

At next week's City Council meeting, the developer of the Maples at the Sonatas Planned Unit Development will be seeking approval of a third revised final plat of subdivision for this development. The area being re-platted is in the previously approved Maples at the Sonatas site and is part of the overall Sonatas Planned Unit Development located at the northwest corner of Ware and Raffel Roads.

The Maples at the Sonatas development, which is marketed for individuals 55 years of age and older, allows 4-unit buildings and single family detached residences, as well as a community center and pool, and off-street parking amenities. New homes intended in this area will be similar to the existing Maples' residences that have been built or are under construction. If the re-plat is approved, it will accommodate 13 detached dwelling units. The new plat was approved by the Plan Commission on April 25, 2013.



LIBRARY FINES TO INCREASE

The overdue fines will be increasing for Woodstock materials that are checkout on or after May 1st. The new fines are:

- \$.20 for everything but DVDs and video games
- \$.25 for DVDs and video games
(games are forthcoming)

THREE BROTHERS REMODELING ACTIVITY

Efforts began earlier this week to remodel portions of the Three Brothers Restaurant at the southwest corner of Lake Avenue and IL Route 47. An existing office will be remodeled in order to accommodate future video gambling facilities and a small area behind the cashier's station is being converted into office space. Work is expected to be completed by Monday. Once Three Brothers receives State and City gaming permits, this the new area will be available for public use.

APRIL TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT INITIATIVE

The **Woodstock Police Department** has announced that April's Special Traffic Enforcement Initiative will target Posted Speed Limit and School Speed Zone violations as well as Cellular Telephone Use within School Zones.

The primary goal is to reduce the incidence of speeding and the use of cell phones while operating a vehicle in a school zone while school is in session. Equally important is the continuing education of the motoring public by encouraging mandatory compliance with posted speed limits and all other traffic laws.

For further information or questions regarding this special traffic enforcement initiative, please contact **Sergeant Dennis Leard** by phone at 815-338-2131 or by email at dleard@woodstockil.gov.

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NATIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATORS' WEEK



This Sunday is the start of the *National Public Safety Telecommunicator Week* which runs from April 14th through April 20th this year. The **Woodstock Police Department** will join Public Safety agencies from across the

country in recognizing the tireless efforts of the men and women who work in the E 911 Communications Centers.

This is an opportunity for all of us to say “Thank You” to our dedicated group of nine men and women who act as the “first” first responder in the emergency situations that develop in our community.

They are the calm and professional voice that answers all of our citizen’s initial telephone calls for help. Whether the call is related to a life and death situation, or simply someone calling for travel directions or information, these dispatchers respond promptly and professionally. These dispatchers are called upon to support others at times of extreme crisis and personal suffering, and each of them does possess a great capacity of patience, persistence, and compassion on a daily basis.

At times they are chastened by upset callers, at times they are taken for granted by the public, and all the while they respond calmly while seeking to address and meet every callers’ needs.

So take a moment sometime this coming week and join **Chief Robert Lowen, Deputy Chief John Lieb** and **Sergeant Charles “Chip” Amati** in expressing a big “**Thank You**” to our very own **Public Safety Telecommunicators** and unsung heroes **Robin Karolewicz, Bruce Hilstrom, Chad Peterson, Kathi Gallagher, Pat Eichinger, Amy McKendry, Tony Bittig, Yesenia Carreno** and **Natalie Walker** for all that they do for our Community and Department.

WATER TREATMENT PLANT EMPLOYEES COMPLETE FILTER REPAIR

Water Treatment Plant employees recently completed an ‘in house’ repair to one of the four iron removal filters at the Seminary Avenue Water Treatment Plant. To save project costs, the filter media was re-used. Plant operators have been monitoring pressure within the filter during backwash cycles. Increased pressure is an indicator that the flow through the filter is becoming restricted. Continued use of the filter in this condition could result in damage to the under drain system and decrease the filter’s iron removal efficiency. This project took approximately three weeks to complete. In addition to the **Water Treatment** employees, **Parks Division** employees **Nick McCahill, Brandon Eddy, and Tim Spring** helped complete this project.

HYDRANT FLUSHING BEGINS MONDAY

The Spring hydrant flushing has been scheduled for:

- Monday, April 15 through Friday, April 19 – west of Illinois Route 47
- Monday, April 22 through Friday, April 26 – east of Illinois Route 47

No scheduled hydrant flushing will take place on Saturdays or Sundays.

During these two weeks, some loss of pressure and discoloration of water will occur. This condition will not present any health hazard and will only be temporary. Due to this discoloration, residents are urged to check their water quality prior to doing laundry and to avoid doing any laundry when hydrants will be flushed in your area. If you have any questions regarding the hydrant flushing, or when flushing will occur in your neighborhood, please contact the Department of Public Works at 338.6118, or via e-mail at pwdept@woodstockil.gov.



GOT DRUGS?

On Saturday, April 27, 2013, the **Woodstock Police Department** will again participate in the United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) National Drug Take-Back Day event from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the public parking lot (east side of the building) located at 656 Lake Avenue.

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 destroyed by the DEA in an environmentally safe manner.

The service is free and your privacy is protected. You don't even have to get out of your vehicle – Officers will be on hand to assist you – you can drive-by, drop off and be on your way.

During the first five take-back events, the WPD collected a total of 562 pounds of drugs. The nationwide total stands at more than *2 million pounds (1,018 tons!)*

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

SENIORS PLAY BINGO FOR BASKETS

A special thanks to all of the City of Woodstock employees from **City Hall, the Recreation Department** and the **Recreation Center** who donated themed items for *Basket Bingo for Bingo Day* at Stage Left Café. The baskets were the bingo prizes.

The themed baskets included; Pizza, Pasta, Healthy Snacks, Baseball, Pink, Soup and Candy. The picture shows the Pink and Pizza baskets.



QUILTERS' FORUM

The Quilters' Forum invites you to join them on Tuesday, April 16 at 7:00PM at the Woodstock Public Library for their monthly meeting. Open to any topic relative to the art of quilting: construction, design, tools, books, and more! This group meets on the third Tuesday of each month.

LIQUOR LICENSE HOLDER MEETINGS HELD

On Thursday, April 4th, **Chief Robert Lowen** held the annual mandatory meeting for all Liquor License Holders in the City of Woodstock. Chief Lowen offered two sessions in an effort to accommodate the business owner's schedules. Owners and managers of each establishment are required to attend each year; their employees are strongly encouraged to do so as well.

Chief Lowen began each meeting with a brief but concise overview of local liquor laws. He highlighted closing times; prohibited activity; underage patrons; and sting operations.

Cindy Smiley, Executive Assistant to the Liquor Commissioner, **Mayor Brian Sager**, went over the liquor license application process. She stressed due dates, fees, and the importance of updating owner, manager, and contact information for establishments holding liquor licenses.

The guest speaker at both sessions was Lee Roupas from the Illinois Liquor Control Commission and the head of their BASSET Program (a training program for all those who serve liquor.) He spoke of the importance of identification checks and recognizing over-served patrons and shared many anecdotal stories from his own experience to illustrate his points.

RECRUITMENT NEWS

Please join us in welcoming **Mary Ryan** who begins work next Monday, April 15th, as **Youth Services Librarian** with the **Woodstock Public Library**. Welcome as well to **Victor Cortes** who has been hired effective next Monday as **LPT Playroom Attendant** at the **Woodstock Recreation Center**.

S&W Maintenance Worker Veronica Trevino has resigned her position effective April 19th. Current **Public Works** employees who might be interested in potential transfer opportunities are encouraged to discuss their interest with **Interim Public Works Director Jeff Van Landuyt** by the end of day Monday, April 15th.

The recruitment below was posted this week and is open for application as shown. :

FT Maintenance Workers/Public Works
The City of Woodstock has two (2) full-time entry level openings for experienced, CDL-licensed Maintenance Workers. Positions perform manual labor and operate vehicles and equipment in the maintenance and repair of City streets and throughways, parks and recreational areas, or sewer and water maintenance. Visit www.woodstockil.gov under Employment Opportunities for position details and application process. **Application deadline: Friday, April 19, 2013.** EOE.

The following opening remains posted through next week:

FT Police Telecommunicator

The Woodstock Police Department seeks highly responsible emergency dispatcher for police and fire/rescue calls. Min.qual: HS grad or equiv.; excellent communications and customer service skills; previous dispatching experience desirable; bilingual Spanish skills a plus. Position works assigned shift based on seniority with rotating days including weekends. Base salary to start: \$17.8216 hourly/\$37,069 yrly, with excellent benefits. Current resume including salary history, and cover letter highlighting qualifications, should be emailed to: humanresources@woodstockil.gov. Formal applications will be emailed to the most qualified candidates and must be returned by the specified deadline date in order to receive consideration. The City reserves the right to select only the most qualified applicants for an interview. EOE. **Deadline: Friday, April 19, 2013.** EOE.

The recruitment for **LPT Library Desk Assistant** closes today, April 12th, at 5pm.

Interviews were held this week with 4 candidates for **LPT Box Office Worker** at the **Woodstock Opera House**. Announcement of the chosen candidate will be made soon.

In addition to the **Public Works Director** recruitment shown below, the executive recruitment for the position of **Finance Director** is now also posted on targeted professional and social media websites as follows:

Public Works Director

Woodstock, a charming historic community of just under 25,000 and far northwest suburb of Chicago, seeks candidates for Public Works Director. This position reports to the City Manager and is responsible for directing, developing, organizing, planning, and implementing all Public Works-related services and programs covering 7 divisions: Administration/Engineering, Streets, Parks, Sewer & Water Maintenance, Water Treatment, Wastewater Treatment, and Fleet Maintenance. For more information about the Woodstock Public Works Director position, the position profile and how to obtain required application materials, please visit the employment opportunities section of the City of Woodstock website at www.woodstockil.gov. Application deadline: **Friday, April 19, 2013, 5:00 PM.** EOE.

Finance Director

Charming historic community and county seat of McHenry County, located 65 miles northwest of Chicago on Metra rail, seeks Finance Director candidates. Operating under council-manager form of govt., position is appointed by City Mgr., supervises a staff of 6, and oversees \$28M total budget serving population of 24,658. GFOA Certification for Achievement of Excellence in Financial Reporting for the past 18 years. Standard & Poor's bond rating AA-. Requires Master's degree in Finance, Business or Public Administration, or Bachelors with CPA certification, and 5 years increasingly responsible public financial administration experience. Desire innovative person with strong customer service, leadership, team building, strategic planning and communication skills. Salary range: \$84,277 (min) \$107,548(mid) \$130,819(max). Position profile and required application materials may be obtained at www.woodstockil.gov under Employment Opportunities. Application deadline: **Tuesday, April 30, 2013.** EOE.

ARCHERY CLASS TAKING FLIGHT



The winter session of the **Recreation Department's** Archery classes, which ended March 23, posted record numbers of participants. The Beginning Archery class had fifteen participants while the Family/Adult Archery had sixteen.

The new session of Archery started April 6th with almost equal numbers- sixteen in the Beginning Archery class and ten in the Family/Adult Archery class. These classes run Saturdays in the gym at the Recreation Center at 1 pm for the Beginner class and 2 pm for the Adult/Family class.

Info regarding the summer Archery session will be available in the Summer City Scene that will be direct mailed next week.

HEALTH & SAFETY MESSAGE: STICK TO THE MAGIC LIST OF GOOD FOODS

People rarely realize how influenced they are by the product placement and compelling sales techniques used in modern grocery stores. Sometimes it seems that those obviously unhealthy foods literally jump in our carts when we're not looking.

While everyone needs and deserves a few treats each shopping trip, one way to stop the impulse buying of too many snacks and high-calorie foods is to carry along a shopping list that reminds us of those foods that should be our priority purchases.

In general, priority foods would be those located on the outer aisles, and in the refrigerated sections of the store, where the freshest and most nutritious choices can be made. To keep such items top of mind, attached to this newsletter is a handy shopping list to refresh our memories and provide written reinforcement of good decisions when we need it the most.

QUOTE

The greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time.

Thomas Alva Edison

MEETINGS NEXT WEEK

- Tuesday, April 16 – Cultural and Social Awareness Commission, 10:30AM, Council Chambers
- Tuesday, April 16 – Opera House Advisory Commission, 4:30PM Opera House
- Tuesday, April 16 – City Council, 7:00PM Council Chambers