



CITY MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER



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DRIVE SOBER OR GET PULLED OVER

The **Woodstock Police Department** urges motorists to safely celebrate St. Patrick's Day this weekend or risk becoming a statistic in their *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over Crackdown* on drunk drivers.

The WPD announced yesterday they will be conducting special saturation patrols March 14 – 17 in an effort to catch and arrest anyone who is driving drunk. Unbuckled motorists will also be ticketed.

Designating a sober driver and not letting friends drive drunk are two simple steps to help avoid an arrest for drunk driving, or worse, a tragic crash. And remember, if you are hosting a party, you can be held liable and prosecuted if someone you serve is involved in a drunk-driving crash.

The *St. Patrick's Day Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over Crackdown* is funded by federal traffic safety funds from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and administered through IDOT's Division of Traffic Safety.

For further information, contact **Sergeant Dennis Leard** at 815-338-2131 or via email at dleard@woodstockil.gov.



PARKS DIVISION INSTALLS MOWER-BLADE BENCH VICES

The **Department of Public Works Parks Division** has installed its first mower-blade bench vices at their shops in Emricson Park and Merryman Park. In the past, mower blades were sharpened by hand; but with the addition of the bench vice, which holds the blade stable and at the proper angle, all mower blades will be sharpened uniformly and consistently with the help of the bench vice. This process allows blades to last longer and wear more evenly as well.

Parks Division employee, Tim Spring, Maintenance Worker, had worked with bench vices in the past, and he believed this addition would be helpful to the department. Tim shared the information with **Bob Hoadley, Parks Division Supervisor**, and together with **Troy Flahive, Maintenance Worker**, they fabricated bench vices using many in-stock supplies.



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POLICE TRAINING SCHEDULED FOR MARCH AND APRIL

The **Woodstock Police Department** spends considerable time, effort and resources to continually train personnel on new skills and refresh and update current ones. **Deputy Chief John Lieb** and **Patrol Sergeant Constantino Cipolla** work jointly to schedule and monitor the training that occurs within the department.

In March, **Patrol Sergeant Dan Wesolek** will attend a two day seminar on *Online Investigation Techniques and Resources* at Judson University in Elgin. It will be jointly presented by the Major Investigations Assistance Team (MIAT) and the Paladin Jordan Detective Agency.

In April, **Officers Dan Pauley** and **Adam Schraw** will take part in a week long (40 hour) *Gang Enforcement Skills Program* at the Lake in the Hills Police Department Safety Learning Center. **Detective Sergeant Jeff Parsons** and **Detective George Kopulos** will train on *Writing Effective Search Warrants* in River Grove. **Detective Rob Branum** will learn about the *Financial Exploitation of Seniors* at the Round Lake Beach Police Department. **Detective Jason Bernstein** will train on *Gypsy and Traveler Crime Investigations* at the Highland Park Police Department. **Detective Sergeant Jeff Parsons** and **Detective Rob Branum** will then turn their attention to *The Laws of Interrogation – How to Take Statements* at the LaGrange Park Police Department. **Detective Rob Branum** and **Detective George Kopulos** will participate in a week long (40 hour) *Basic Narcotics Investigator* class at the Elgin Police Department. **Officer Fred Eiselstein** will take a week long (40 hour) *Juvenile Specialist Skills Program* at the LaGrange Park Police Department. All of these classes will be presented by Northeast Multi-Regional Training (NEMRT.)

Lastly, **Detective Sergeant Jeff Parsons** and **Patrol Sergeant Josh Fourdyce** will finish out the month by attending the two day *Illinois Association of Property and Evidence Managers (IAPEM) Training Conference* in Lisle.

LIBRARY NEWS

MINI-LINKS AT THE LIBRARY

There will be fun for the whole family on Saturday, March 16 from 10AM to 3PM (last tee time). Admission is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children 8 and under. Tickets may be purchased at the door.

Golf professionals from Bull Valley, Woodstock, Boulder Ridge and Prairie Isle country clubs will play a round in the afternoon. Participants who beat their scores will win prizes. Golfers who hit a hole-in-one at the designated hole will win a (model) car.

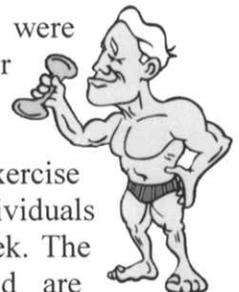
Raffle prizes include the Tower of Games, golf accessories, and Page for a Day for Rep. Jack Franks. The raffle started on March 1 and winning tickets will be drawn at the end of the event. Winners need not be present to win. Raffle tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5.

LIBRARY CELEBRATES DR. SEUSS WITH VERDA DIERZEN STAFF

Woodstock Public Library employees recently visited Verda Dierzen School to celebrate Dr. Seuss night. A good time was had by all and the library signed up 36 new library users.

ANYTIME FITNESS COMES TO WOODSTOCK

Building and remodeling plans were submitted earlier this month for the proposed "Anytime Fitness" business at 11613 Catalpa Lane. The new facility will provide exercise and fitness opportunities for individuals 24 hours a day and 7 days a week. The plans have been reviewed and are expected to be approved shortly after minor corrections are made.



MEETINGS NEXT WEEK

Tuesday, March 19-City Council, 7PM, Council Chambers
Wednesday, March 20 – Transportation Commission, 7PM, Council Chambers

AT&T CELL TOWER PROPOSED



Plans were submitted to the City's **Department of Community & Economic Development** earlier this week for a proposed AT&T cell tower. The 190 foot tall tower is intended

to be built next to the Charter Dura-Bar building at the end of West Lake Shore Drive. Because the site is zoned for industrial use and the tower meets all applicable setbacks, a special use permit is NOT required. The City is, however, required to issue building and electrical permits for this project.

DODGEBALL CLUB

The winter session of the **Recreation Department's Dodgeball Club** offered two classes with a total of twenty-four kids ages seven to eleven enrolled ready to duck, dodge and throw until they got pummeled.

The first two classes of this session were cancelled due to the blizzards of the last two Tuesdays so the kids were very excited to get started. Classes are held at the Recreation Center until April 9. Fee for the class was \$20 for residents and \$30 for non-residents.



RECRUITMENT NEWS

The following recruitment was posted this week and applications are being accepted in the **HR Department** at City Hall:

LPT Box Office Worker/Woodstock Opera House

Renowned year-round performing and visual arts venue needs responsible Box Office Worker to compile ticket order information, operate computerized Box Office equipment, balance cash drawer and provide excellent customer service for events scheduled for the Opera House and Stage Left Café. Limited part-time position works a variable schedule of 10-16 hrs/wk, including evenings and weekends. Starting pay rate: \$9.57/hr. with no additional benefits. Must be HS grad or equiv. with excellent customer service skills. Cash handling and computer experience preferred. To request application materials contact: humanresources@woodstockil.gov or visit the HR Department at Woodstock City Hall, 121 W. Calhoun St., Woodstock, IL 60098, 815/338-1172. Deadline to apply is **Friday, March 22, 2013**. EOE.

Welcome to new employees at the **Woodstock Recreation Center**: **Michael Hicks** as **LPT Recreation Center Cashier** and **Amber Baugh** as **LPT Playroom Attendant**, also **Site Supervisors Celine Fenton** and **Caitrin Currao**, and **Dance Instructors Bridget Saladin** and **Eden Powell**.

Recreation Program Coordinators have reviewed the large number of summer applications and will be calling selected candidates soon for group interviews for **Playground Program Counselors**, and for skills pre-testing for **Lifeguards**. Candidates are also being considered for **Pool Cashier** and **Pool Maintenance** positions. As determinations are made, all applicants are notified via email if their application is no longer under consideration, so they may continue their summer job search.

Interviews have been scheduled next week with 5 highly-qualified candidates for **Youth Services Librarian**. Fifty applications were received for this position, with minimum requirements of a Masters degree in Library & Information Science and youth services experience.

BENEFITS CORNER: ANNUAL UPDATE TO HEALTH PLAN POSTED

With the help of our brokers, Corporate Benefit Consultants, and our plan administrator, Allied Benefits, the Summary Plan Descriptions (SPD) for the City of Woodstock health and dental plans are updated and made available to employees every year effective March 1st. Any changes now required due to Affordable Care Act mandates are closely monitored and precisely reflected in these annual revisions.

This year's updated SPD has now been posted on the City's shared drive, in the HR Files folder. Both the summary (Schedule of Covered Expenses) Medical 3-13, and the entire 86-page Medical SPD 3-13 (Summary Plan Description) are available for review.

Employees are further reminded that our plan includes a separate customized Dental component. While Aetna Signature is our PPO Network for Medical, we do not participate in the Aetna Dental plan. Both the summary document and the full Dental SPD are also available for review on the shared drive; however, as no changes have been made to this part of the plan in the past two years, the effective date shown for Dental coverage is March 1, 2011 (3-11).

HEALTH & SAFETY MESSAGE: LIVE LONG & PROSPER

It may sound like science fiction, but around the world, the fastest growing age group is centenarians—people who live to be 100 and beyond. At the rate this distinction is growing, the group is expected to number over 4 million by the year 2050.

While good genes certainly play a part in this achievement, the greater impact is seen from how we take care of our own personal health. It seems a combination of little things can make a tremendous difference in our longevity, such as:

- *Take a multivitamin*—studies have shown that those taking multivitamins were less likely to have chromosome changes linked to aging.
- *Weigh yourself*--it's cheap, it's easy, and the information is invaluable, yet how many of us bother getting on the scale very often. In one study, women with the highest amount of body fat lost an average of eight years of life. To determine your body mass index (BMI) use the handy tool at www.goodhousekeeping.com/bmi-calculator and make lifestyle changes accordingly!
- *Floss*—bacteria often causes low-grade gum infections that can result in inflammation and increase your risk of heart disease 72%. Brush twice a day and get into those nooks and crannies with floss for extra protection.

Have some nuts—these high protein nuggets are easy to keep on hand, and to carry around, and can stave off hunger in impressive ways. They're also full of heart-healthy omega-3 fatty acids, something our bodies can't get enough.



“Spring is when you feel like whistling even with a shoe full of slush.”

Doug Larson