



CITY MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER



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BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR – CLEAR SNOW & ICE FROM SIDEWALKS



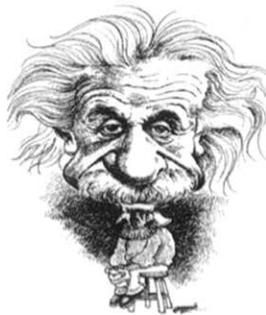
The City of Woodstock encourages all residents to remove snow & ice from sidewalks along the frontage of their homes and private property. The clearing of snow provides a path for school children and other pedestrians to safely maneuver throughout the City. This time of year snow and ice thaws during the day, flows across the sidewalk, and freezes again at night. For the safety of others, spread some ice melt in those areas where 're-freeze' occurs to aide in the prevention of slips and falls.

By not clearing the snow from your public sidewalk, school children and pedestrians may be forced to walk along the edge of streets, which can be dangerous for both pedestrians and motorists.

Please be a good neighbor and remove the snow and ice from your sidewalks as soon after a winter storm event as possible to help to keep the City of Woodstock a safe place for pedestrians to travel during the winter months.

AURORA UNIVERSITY ADDS CLASSROOM SPACE

Representatives of Aurora University have submitted plans for two additional classroom spaces at its facility on Church Street. The new rooms will be used for instructional activities, seminars, and student meetings and conferences. The plans are presently being reviewed and initial comments are expected to be received within the next 2 weeks. Construction is expected to begin in the spring.



AARP DRIVER SAFETY PROGRAM

The **Woodstock Police Department** will be hosting an *AARP Driver Safety Program* on Tuesday, February 26th and Wednesday, February 27th. The program will be held in the Training Room at the Woodstock Police Department located at 656 Lake Avenue. Classes will be held each day from 9:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. Participants must attend both sessions.

The *AARP Driver Safety Program* is the nation's first and largest classroom course designed especially for drivers age 50 and older. Course completion helps older drivers refine existing skills and develop safe driving strategies in today's challenging driving environment.

Successful completion of the course may entitle the participant to a discount on their auto insurance. Participants are charged a nominal fee for the program of \$12 for AARP members and \$14 for non-members.

Class size is limited to 30 participants. For more information or to register for the program contact **Administrative Office Manager Tamara Reed** at the Woodstock Police Department at 815-338-6787.

CITY MANAGER CLIFTON ASKED CHIEF LOWEN IF HE WAS TEACHING THE COURSE!

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LIBRARY NEWS

Shake, Rattle and Roll: A Sing-along: Join local musician Karen Slavin on Monday, February 18 at 9:00AM for this interactive sing-along program. Shake, rattle and roll to old favorites and new songs as well. This program is for children ages 2-4 and their caregivers. Registration is required and open only to residents living within the D200 school district.

Quilter's Discussion Forum: Open to anyone interested in any topic related to quilting, this is the monthly meeting of the Quilter's Forum. Join us in the library meeting room on Tuesday, February 19 at 7:00PM to discuss quilt construction, design, tools, books and more. No registration is required.

World Film Night: See films from around the globe at our monthly World Film Night program. This month we are featuring the French film *Free Men*, an official selection of the Cannes Film Festival. It will be shown at 7:00PM on Wednesday, February 20 in the library meeting room. The World Film Night movies are intended for adults and may contain adult situations or language. No registration is required.

For details on these and other events at the Woodstock Public Library, please contact us at: [815-338-0542](tel:815-338-0542).

BENEFITS CORNER: LOYOLA SYSTEMS JOINS AETNA SIGNATURE PPO

Good news for those seeking more professional medical options! Effective March 1, 2013, Loyola University Health Systems will join the Aetna Chicago network.

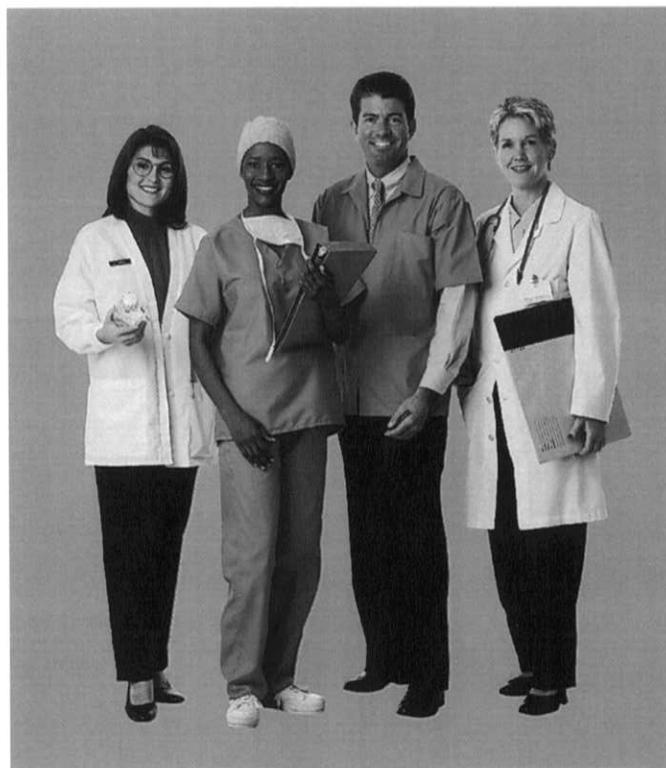
Mike Olles, our Allied Benefits representative, has confirmed that Loyola's facilities and physicians will be in the Aetna Signature PPO network, the network utilized by the City of Woodstock.

Loyola University Health systems bring approximately 500 primary care and specialist physicians to the Chicago network. Members will also have access to Loyola's nationally ranked cardiology and heart surgery specialists.

As in the past, employees are encouraged to set up their individual web accounts through the www.alliedbenefit.com site and use the DocFind feature to search for in-network physicians and practices. Inquiries may also be made to the individual physician offices to determine if they participate in the Aetna Signature PPO network. The **HR Department** is also available to assist in identifying in-network practitioners.

MEETINGS NEXT WEEK...

- Tuesday, February 19- Economic Development Commission, 8AM, Council Chambers
- Tuesday, February 19 – Opera House Advisory Commission, 4:30PM, Opera House
- Tuesday, February 19 – City Council, 7PM, Council Chambers
- Wednesday, February 20 – Transportation Commission, 7PM, Council Chambers



BE READY – TORNADO SEASON IS COMING!



A properly built, high wind safe room can yield extra protection for you, your family, and your property from the intense wind storms and tornadoes which frequent the midwest. A safe room can be created when planning a remodeling or renovation

project and can add to the value of your home's value. City building inspectors urge homeowners to "give an ordinary room an extraordinary purpose" by building or retrofitting interior space in their home to safe-room standards.

Tornado safe rooms are designed to withstand winds of up to 250 miles per hour, and offer lifesaving refuge for families in the path of high-wind events like tornadoes. Your closet, bathroom, laundry, or even an outdoor room like a garden shed or pool house can be enhanced to serve as a safe room. A safe room designed to meet standards set forth by the National Storm Shelter Association, the International Code Council, and FEMA and will stand up to the most intense tornadoes and storms. Contact Woodstock's building inspection staff to find out how you can be safer and have improved protection from nature's wrath!

quote

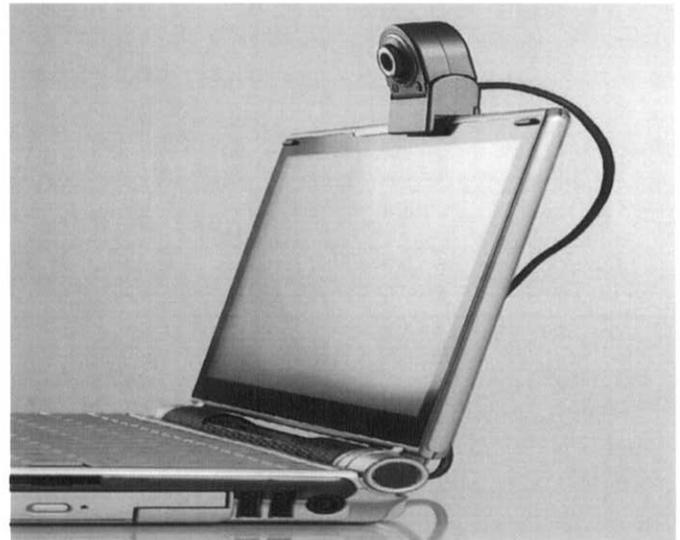
"Sometimes your only available transportation is a leap of faith".

Margaret Shepard

PC DOCKING STATIONS ADDED TO PUBLIC WORKS VEHICLES

The **Department of Public Works' Fleet Division** is in the process of mounting PC docking stations into vehicles used by **Sewer & Water Maintenance Division employees**. These docking stations provide a secure location for laptop style computers so employees can have remote access to GIS mapping, information concerning Woodstock's lift stations, information regarding excavation and restoration activity, instruction on water booster stations, and instructions on how to hook-up standby generators.

With the addition of these docking stations, City crews will be able to work more efficiently in the event of a system failure because they won't have to return to the Public Works facility to gather information about the utility system. These docking stations were originally purchased by the **Police Department** for installation in squad cars but have been replaced with new models required for newer style lap top computers.



RECRUITMENT NEWS

The following positions remain posted and available for application as outlined:

Youth Services Librarian

The City of Woodstock seeks a passionate, positive, flexible and enthusiastic MLS grad for Youth Services Librarian at the Woodstock Public Library. FT position provides programming, collection development and reference services to children and young adults. Min. qual.: MLS, excellent oral and written communications, computer and Internet skills, experience working with both children and young adults. Bilingual Spanish preferable. Starting salary: \$41,710/yr. with excellent benefits package. **Send resume including salary history, and letter of interest outlining qualifications,** to: humanresources@woodstockil.gov, or mail to City of Woodstock HR Department, 121 W. Calhoun St., Woodstock, IL 60098, no later than Friday, 2/22/13. Formal applications will be sent to the most qualified candidates and must be returned by the specified deadline date in order to receive consideration.

Seasonal Recreation and **Public Works** summer positions remain posted and available for application, including: **Certified Lifeguards** and **WSI Swim Instructors, Pool Cashiers** and **Playground Program Counselors**. Minimum age requirement is 16 for all seasonal Recreation positions.

Also, **Public Works** general **Seasonal Maintenance Workers**, \$8.25 per hour. Minimum requirements are age 18, with a valid Illinois driver's license and good driving record.

Applications for 2013 summer positions will be accepted through Thursday, February 28th. To request an application please do so at: humanresources@woodstockil.gov, or call or visit Woodstock City Hall HR Department, 815-338-1172.

HEALTH & SAFETY MESSAGE: KITCHEN CLEAN FOR BETTER HEALTH

There's no better breeding ground for germs and bacteria than a neglected or unclean kitchen, and we all know the types of unsavory illnesses that can result. The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics encourages awareness of the daily potential for creating "bad science experiments" and makes these suggestions for a cleaner kitchen and a healthier family:

- Swap dirty dish towels every few days for clean ones.
- Use hot, soapy water to clean any spills in the microwave as soon as they occur.
- After each use, carefully wash cutting boards with soap and hot water or run through the dishwasher, along with sponges and can openers.
- Once weekly, toss any expired foods and clean your refrigerator.
- Never thaw foods on the counter, only in the refrigerator.
- Rotate foods in your freezer, putting the oldest foods in the front.
- Discard any cans or jars that have bulges or leaks.



DANCE CLASSES BEGIN AND PLANS ARE UNDERWAY FOR RECITAL

The **Recreation Department's** *Little Dancers I & II, Ballet I, Beginner Poms, Hip/Hop and Kidz Pop* programs began their winter/spring session with thirteen classes; many of them filled to the maximum number of participants with three additional classes added to accommodate class demand.

Little Dancers teaches students, ages 3-5 years, basic ballet and jazz steps while having fun expressing themselves through creative movement.

The Ballet class is a beginner ballet that teaches participants ballet terms and positions while improving the child's balance, movement and flexibility.

Hip/Hop and Kidz Pop classes use today's most popular music to teach the current dance moves.

Beginner Poms is a great starter class for girls interested in trying out for Poms in Middle School.

These popular ten-week classes are led by instructors Laura Powell, Eden Powell, Jamie Pierce, Bridget Saladin and Robin Sobel.

To enhance these growing programs, **Recreation Coordinator Renee Torrez** and the dance instructors are planning a Spring recital for all dance participants on Thursday, May 2; the recital is open to the public and details regarding the event will follow.

