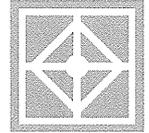




# CITY MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER



Volume XXII, Issue 1

January 6, 2012

## COMED TO BEGIN WORK ALONG DEAN STREET

The City has been notified by ComED of planned electrical system improvements starting in January. These improvements will extend along Dean Street from approximately 1/2 mile south of Lucas Road to Wagner Lane, north of US Route 14 and construction is expected to continue through July of 2012. The current construction schedule provided by ComEd includes:

January	Trim trees and shrubs
February	Temporarily relocate distribution lines to the west side of the poles
Feb./March	Drill and pour foundations for steel poles
March/April	Begin pole installation
April/June	Continue pole construction Install new transmission wire Remove old wire and top off old poles
May/June	Install new distribution wire and remove old wire
June/July	Restoration and landscaping activities

The improvements will include the installation of new distribution lines on poles ranging in height from 95' to 120' in an easement along the west side of Dean Street to improve capacity of the electrical system. Construction will require day-time closure of one lane of Dean Street during most of this period using flaggers and appropriate signage to maintain two-way traffic. No total street closures are anticipated, but motorists are urged to use care when driving through the construction zones, and to use an alternate route when possible to avoid delays.

Any questions regarding the planned construction should be directed to ComEd.

## JANUARY TRAFFIC INITIATIVE ANNOUNCED



The **Woodstock Police Department** will engage in a Special Enforcement Initiative targeting various railroad crossing

violations during the month of January. This enforcement effort is intended to educate motorists and pedestrians about the dangers of disobeying warning signals and going around lowered gates in an effort to "beat the train" and save a few minutes. All too often this seemingly minor violation has tragic consequences for those who attempt it. The ultimate goal of the initiative is to promote a positive change in motorist and pedestrian behavior by encouraging them to comply with traffic laws.

The primary violations the Department will focus on are: disobeying signals indicating the approach of a train; failure to stop and wait at lowered gates; and trespassing on railroad property.

Enforcement activities will be conducted at various times of the day and night throughout the city limits at a number of different railroad crossings. Officers assigned to this special enforcement initiative will adopt a zero tolerance policy regarding offenders in an effort to send a clear message to the public. Any questions regarding this initiative should be directed to **Sergeant Dennis Leard** at 815-338-2131 or at [dleard@woodstockil.gov](mailto:dleard@woodstockil.gov).

### IN THIS ISSUE...

**2 Library News**

**3 Opera House Presents Judy Collins**

## **WEIGHT WATCHERS AT THE REC CENTER**

Let Weight Watchers help you reach your New Year's Resolution goals! Two at-work sessions will be offered at the Recreation Center provided the minimum number of participants is met.

The meetings are scheduled to begin Tuesday, January 17 at 7:00PM and Wednesday, January 18 at 11:30AM. The fee is \$39.95/month.

To register, go to <https://wellness.weightwatchers.com/> and use the following information:  
Company ID: 51518  
Company Passcode: ww51518  
Company address: 820 Lake Ave, Woodstock

For more information, contact Becky at [bvidales@woodstockil.gov](mailto:bvidales@woodstockil.gov) or 815-338-4363.

## **LIBRARY NEWS**

### **Preschool Fair**

**Date:** 1/14/2012

**Start Time:** 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

The Woodstock community has a wide range of terrific preschool programs available. We invite you to come to the library to learn more about our area's preschools. Free and no registration is required to attend. Mark your calendar and drop by this "open house" event. Representatives of area schools will be available to share information about their programs and answer your questions.

**Location:** WPL Meeting Room in lower level

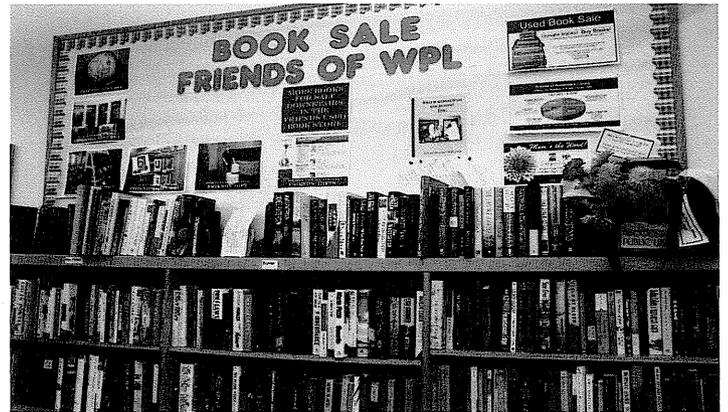
**Other Information:** No registration required. Children are welcome to attend with an adult. For information contact [Liz Delzell](mailto:Liz.Delzell@woodstockil.gov) at 815-338-0542

### **Wireless Internet Access**

Mobile computing has skyrocketed so when you are looking for places to go online, remember that the library has wireless internet access available on all floors. The main floor of the library has large

tables with easy access to electrical outlets in the adult non-fiction areas, the basement has informal café tables you can plug into at and the second floor of the library has nice, open, quiet spaces available.

**Booksale: Gently used DVD and Books**  
Repurpose your books and DVDs by giving them to the library. The library has bookstores on the main floor and in the basement which sell gently used materials that have been donated to the Friends. Giving to the booksale is a great way to help the library while getting rid of your gently used DVDs and books. Money from the bookstore goes to support library programs and services.



## **Quotation**

**"The reward of suffering is experience."**

**-Harry S. Truman**

## **MEETINGS NEXT WEEK:**

Monday, January 9 – Zoning Board of Appeals,  
7PM, Council Chambers

Thursday, January 12 – Adjudication, 9:30AM,  
Council Chambers

**THE WOODSTOCK OPERA HOUSE  
PRESENTS –  
GRAMMY AWARD WINNER JUDY COLLINS**

Judy Collins has thrilled audiences worldwide with her unique blend of interpretative folksongs and contemporary themes. She is well-known for her rendition of Joni Mitchell's "Both Sides Now" on her 1967 album, *Wildflowers* which has since been entered into the Grammy Hall of Fame, in addition to winning "Song of the Year" at the 1975 Grammy Awards with her version of "Send in the Clowns." Judy's latest CD, *Paradise*, is a collection of 10 songs that include duets of Judy with the legendary Stephen Stills and Joan Baez.

Collins is a relentlessly creative spirit; she is a modern day Renaissance woman who is also an accomplished painter, filmmaker, author, record label head, musical mentor, and advocate for mental health and suicide prevention. Don't miss this incredible performance on the **Opera House** stage on January 20, 2012. For tickets, call the box office at 815-338-5300 or go online to [www.woodstockoperahouse.com](http://www.woodstockoperahouse.com).

**MEETIN' & GREETIN': STOP BY TO SAY HI  
TO OUR NEW HR DIRECTOR!**

In case you've not yet had the pleasure, do take a moment to stop by the **HR Department** and say Hello to **Deb Schober**, the City's newest Director.

When the dust settles, **Deb** will be getting out and trying to connect with employees in their respective workplaces, but until then, please come by whenever you might be visiting City Hall and introduce yourselves!

**WELCOME DEB**

**JOIN THE CLUB: ONE MORE CHANCE FOR  
WELLNESS NEXT WEEK**

Join scores of fellow employees who came to City Hall and "got stuck" this week, by showing up for the final Wellness Day event next Tuesday, 1/10/12, from 8AM – 11AM, on the second floor of Woodstock City Hall.

Even if you haven't signed up, you can drop in after 10AM and still receive your assessment opportunity, along with a reduced rate for health insurance premiums throughout the year for 2012.

Assessments involving a fasting blood draw, blood pressure reading and brief lifestyle survey, may be scheduled online via information provided previously, or by calling Wellness Inc at 866-935-5462.

And don't forget to bring your signed Wellness Letter of Understanding directly to the **HR Department** following your assessment! This will ensure your reduced health insurance premiums go into effect successfully for 2012.

**WORK + PLAY = SUMMER SEASONAL  
APPS NOW AVAILABLE**



Once again, the City is offering limited opportunities for summer workers for **Woodstock WaterWorks Lifeguards and Cashiers, Playground Program, and Public Works.**

Minimum age for **Recreation** positions is 16, with the Counselor-in-Training (CIT) program for 13-15 yr. olds available as a program signup at the **Rec Department** later in the spring. Minimum age for **Public Works** seasonal positions is 18 due to equipment usage requirements.

Applications for these positions are available in the **HR Department**, or by emailing [humanresources@woodstockil.gov](mailto:humanresources@woodstockil.gov), and will be accepted through Friday, 1/20/12.

# Groundhog Day 20th Anniversary

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 29, 2012**

**Lions Pancake Breakfast 8:00 a.m.—10:00 a.m.**  
at the Woodstock Moose Lodge

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 31, 2012**

**Unveiling of Movie Memorabilia 7:00 p.m.** **FREE**  
Woodstock Public Library

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2012**



**Awakening of the Groundhog 6:00 p.m.** **FREE**  
Woodstock Opera House

**Groundhog Day Trivia 6:30 p.m.—8:30 p.m.** **FREE**  
Movie Extras Reunion  
Pirro's Restaurante

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2012**



**Groundhog Prognostication 7:00 a.m.** **FREE**  
Woodstock Square

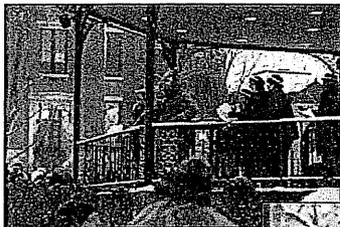
**Groundhog Day Breakfast 7:30 a.m.**  
Pirro's Restaurante

**Groundhog Day Movie 5:00 p.m.** **FREE**  
Woodstock Theater

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2012**

**Dinner / Dance 6:00 p.m.—11:00 p.m.**  
Woodstock Moose Lodge

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2012**



**Groundhog Movie 10:00 a.m.** **FREE**  
Woodstock Theater

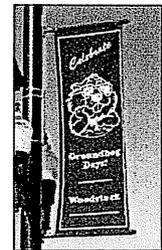
**Groundhog Tales 10:00 a.m.** **FREE**  
Home State Bank

**Chili Cook Off 12:00 p.m.**  
Woodstock Opera House

**Walking Tour 1:30 p.m.**  
Woodstock Opera House

**Groundhog Day Symposium 3:30 p.m.** **FREE**  
Stage Left Café

**District 200 Benefit (Fundraiser) 6:00 p.m.** **FREE**  
D'Anrea's Banquets



**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2012**



**Groundhog Movie 10:00 a.m.** **FREE**  
Woodstock Theater

**Walking Tour 12:00 p.m.** **FREE**  
Woodstock Opera House

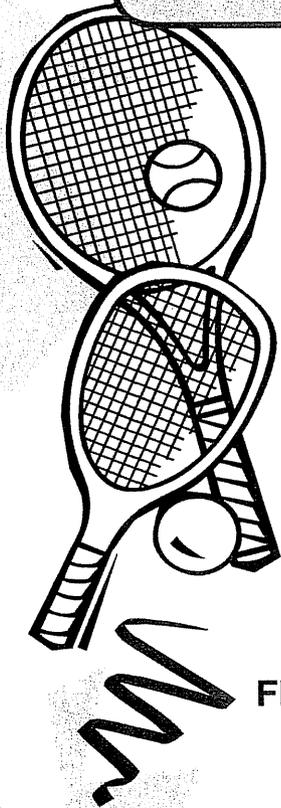
For more information go to:  
[www.WoodstockGroundhog.org](http://www.WoodstockGroundhog.org)  
815-334-2620



# MERCY HEALTH SYSTEM

**KICKOFF Night FRIDAY, JANUARY 6**  
**5:00-8:00 pm • FREE Event**

- Can your fitness skills stand the test of the inflatable obstacle course?
- Try out the pool.
- Light refreshments will be served.
- Mercy Health System FunFest.
- Learn about the Mileage Club at 6:00 pm



# Friday Family Fun Nights



*Drop in on Friday nights and spend time together as a family beginning January 6*

**January 6-March 30**

**Friday nights from 5:00-8:00 pm**

**FREE to Recreation Center members and their families**

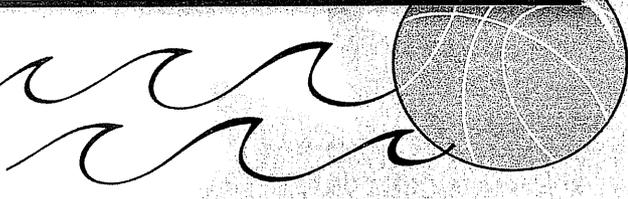
**\$10 for Non-Member Families**

**Basketball • Walleyball • Soccer**

**Racquetball • Open Swim**



**Earn Mileage Club Charms**  
**(see page 24 for details)**



# People Need FORUM

**Saturday**  
**January 28, 2012**  
**8:30 a.m. —12:30 p.m.**

Registration & Continental Breakfast: 8:00 a.m.

## What will you find At the forum?

### Information about:

- Housing & Preventing Homelessness
- Health Care Services for the Underinsured
- Medication Assistance
- Understanding Debtors' Rights
- Bullying & Technology Safety
- Behavioral / Medical Health Issues
- State & Federal Benefits
- Veterans' Concerns
- Suicide Awareness
- Adult Children with Special Needs
- Emergency Assistance
- Senior Wellness
- Family Violence Awareness
- Latino Issues
- Job Search and Career Training Assistance

## Where is the forum?

**McHenry County College**  
8900 Rt. US Hwy 14  
Crystal Lake, IL

Who do I contact for information?

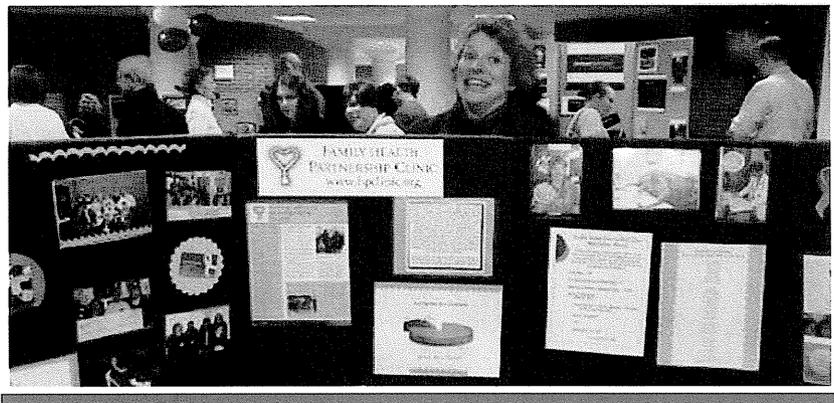
**Bev Thomas**  
815-479-7792

[bthomas@mchenry.edu](mailto:bthomas@mchenry.edu)

## Who Should Attend?

- ◆ Human Service Agencies
- ◆ Faith-Based Organizations
- ◆ Civic Group Members
- ◆ County, Township, Municipal elected officials & employees
- ◆ Individuals interested in resources to help people in need

*CEU's will  
be available!*



Register online at

[www.mchenry.edu/peopleinneed](http://www.mchenry.edu/peopleinneed)

Presenting Sponsor



Sponsors

Ace Coffee Bar

Centegra Health System

Crystal Lake Rotary Dawnbreakers

Family CARE Wellness Network

First Midwest Bank

Friends of McHenry County College Foundation

Kohl's

McHenry County College

Northwest Herald



You are cordially invited to join Chief Robert Lowen at the Woodstock Police Department for coffee, conversation, and an informative program.

Woodstock Police Department Officer Jeremy Mortimer will discuss his duties and experiences working as the School Resource Officer for both WHS and WNHS.

# Coffee with the Chief



January 9, 2012  
7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.  
Woodstock Police Department  
656 Lake Avenue

For further information, please call  
Tamara Reed at 815-338-6787.