

# FOCUS

Fall 2007

## ON WOODRIDGE

*Our Mission: "To achieve a high quality of life by providing superior services in a fiscally responsible manner!"*

### Woodridge Named Among Top 100 Places to Live in U.S.



On Monday, July 16, 2007, Money Magazine released its annual list of the Top 100 Places to Live in the U.S.A., and Woodridge is recognized at #61.

Visit [www.money.cnn.com](http://www.money.cnn.com) to read about Woodridge and see who else made the list.

When determining who makes this annual list, Money Magazine looks at the following criteria: financial information, housing, education, quality of life, leisure, culture, weather, health and community diversity.

Mayor William F. Murphy stated, **“Woodridge has many community partners to thank for the fantastic honor of being recognized as one of the best places to live in the Nation.** These partners include the Park District, local school districts, fire services, the Woodridge Public Library, places of worship, and the Woodridge Area Chamber of Commerce. The quality and diversity of our residents, the extraordinary service organizations and the wonderful business community also contribute to Woodridge’s high quality of life.”

**Woodridge Named Among Top 100 Places to Live in U.S.**  
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Financial	Woodridge Stats	Best Places Avg.
Median Family Income (Per Year)	\$83,446	\$90,316
Family Purchasing Power (Annual, Cost-of-Living Adjusted)	\$87,195	\$82,867
Housing		
Median Home Price	\$281,362	\$359,352
Average Property Taxes (2005)	\$5,275	\$3,585
Education		
Colleges, Universities and Professional Schools (within 30 miles)	52	29
Junior Colleges and Technical Institutions (within 30 miles)	52	29
Quality of Life		
Personal Crime Incidents (Per 1,000)	0	13
Property Crime Incidents (Per 1,000)	6	206
Leisure and Culture		
Movie Theaters (within 15 miles)	35	30
Restaurants (within 15 miles)	4,852	2,899
Bars (within 15 miles)	535	287
Public Golf Courses (within 30 miles)	265	125
Libraries	103	71
Ski Resorts (within 100 miles)	13	17
Meet the Neighbors		
Median Age	34.0	36.8
Completed at least some college (% of residents)	72.8%	72.4%
Married	55.6%	60.8%
Divorced	8.8%	8.0%
Racial Diversity Index (higher numbers indicate greater diversity)	95.0	59.2
Amount Spent on Vacations (household avg. per year)	\$8,251	\$8,250

# Community Events

## 2007 Woodridge Cultural Fest

The 2007 Woodridge Cultural Fest is scheduled for **Friday, September 7, from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. and Saturday, September 8, from Noon to 10:00 p.m.** The festival is a celebration of ethnic diversity in Woodridge where residents have the opportunity to enjoy food, crafts, music and dance from around the world. This year's Cultural Fest will bring in many exciting entertainment acts from around the world including:

### Friday, September 7

- 5:30 p.m. to 6:00 DGS Latin Dance Club
- 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 Roots Rocks Society Reggae Band
- 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 The Whiskey Brothers Irish Band

### Saturday, September 9

- Noon to 1:00 Music from Around the World
- 1:00 to 1:30 Trinity Irish Dancers
- 1:30 to 2:00 Samahang Kapatid Pilipino Dancers
- 2:00 to 2:30 The Jesse White Tumbling Team
- 3:00 to 5:00 American Indian PowWow
- 5:00 to 6:00 The Desert Flames
- 6:00 to 7:00 Real Women Belly Dance
- 7:00 to 8:00 Salsa Dance Lessons
- 8:00 to 10:00 Banda Rika Salsa Band

Volunteers are still needed for the Woodridge Cultural Fest. **For additional information on Cultural Fest or to volunteer at this exciting event, call (630) 719-4901.** All volunteers will be entered into a drawing for bowling passes donated by the Woodridge Brunswick Zone.



## Woodridge Named Among Top 100 Places to Live in U.S. Continued from page one



Mayor Murphy went on to state, "The Village Board works hard to lead this wonderful community to success and the recognition from Money Magazine solidifies that we are moving in the right direction. We have always viewed Woodridge as one of the best places to live. It is wonderful that an impartial third party would reaffirm what we have known all along."

Woodridge was one of only four (4) Illinois communities to receive this prestigious recognition including its neighbor, Lisle, Illinois. All members of the Woodridge community should be proud of what they have accomplished and their role in Woodridge's recognition as one of the Top 100 Places to Live in the U.S.A.

If you would like to see more Woodridge facts, visit [www.vil.woodridge.il.us](http://www.vil.woodridge.il.us) and click the 100 Best Places to Live Logo.



Photo courtesy of the Seven Bridges Golf Club

## Photography Exhibit Debuts at Diversity Forum

Residents will not want to miss this year's Diversity Forum event scheduled for **Wednesday, November 14, at 6:00 p.m. at the Woodridge Park District Community Center!**

Attendees will be moved by featured speaker, Bernie Kleina, the Executive Director of the Hope Fair Housing Center of DuPage. Mr. Kleina will provide a presentation of his work with the Chicago Freedom Movement of the 1960's. It was during that time period that Mr. Kleina documented the efforts of the Movement through his photography. Mr. Kleina's rarely seen full-color photographic exhibit will feature Dr. Martin Luther King, freedom rallies and other relevant Chicago images that depicted the struggle for open opportunities for all people. The exhibit is on tour throughout the United States and will make its debut in Woodridge at the Diversity Forum event before moving on to a smaller exhibit at Village Hall. Mr. Kleina's exhibit on photography encourage us not only to look back at where we have been, but also reflect on the challenges we face and the direction we take as a community and a Nation. The Diversity Forum will include round table discussions on diversity immediately following the presentation. **To reserve your seat at the Forum, call 719-4705.**



Photo courtesy of Bernie Kleina

## Town Meeting: Residents Set Community Priorities

**Woodridge residents have long been known for active and constructive involvement in setting community priorities.** This year's Town Meeting will be no different. Residents are invited to attend Town Meeting to help determine the community's priorities for the next year. **Town Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 4, at 6:00 p.m.**

Our Village Board will use the results to help shape the priority goals for the coming year. These priority goals will then drive the budget for the Village organization.

**Town Meeting is just one part of our goal setting process known as Strategic Management.**

Residents contribute to our community vision through their participation in Neighborhood Dialogues, our annual Community Needs Survey, and periodic on-line surveys.

**Neighborhood Dialogue is an opportunity for residents to learn about some of the services provided by the Village and Park District.** The real purpose of the event, though, is to invite residents to ask their elected officials and staff questions about public services or their neighborhood and to share their sugges-

tions and ideas to improve the community. Meetings come to each neighborhood, defined around grade school attendance boundaries, once every 2-3 years. The next Neighborhood Dialogue is scheduled for October 23, at 7:00 p.m. This Neighborhood Dialogue will be held at Goodrich School for residents in the Goodrich School area.

**The Community Needs survey is mailed to 1,200 randomly selected addresses every July.** Participants evaluate all aspects of Village service and provide comments about issues of personal concern. On average, 30-45% of residents who receive the surveys respond. The survey results are shared at Town Meeting so that participants can consider them as they discuss priorities. The Village Board and staff also review them in detail and consider them in the goal setting and budget process.

Due to the success of the on-line survey approach, residents will continue to have opportunities to participate. Watch Woodridge's weekly electronic newsletter and Woodridge Weekly page in the Reporter newspaper for announcements of new on-line surveys. **Visit the Village website at [www.vil.woodridge.il.us](http://www.vil.woodridge.il.us) to subscribe to E-News.**

## Woodridge Public Works Department . . . Keeping You Informed

### Amnesty Day

**There will be no special dates or times to remember for Amnesty Day as pick-up will be on your regular collection day during the week of October 1, 2007.**

This service will pick up bulk items such as furniture, carpeting, bulky toys, bicycles and just plain junk, normal preparation guidelines still apply. Amnesty Day will require that three stickers be displayed in order for all of the items to be picked up. All three stickers may be displayed on your regular garbage can, or any of the other items. As in the past, building materials such as plywood, drywall, decking and railroad ties, tires and yard waste are not included in this program. All yard waste will require one sticker per item for disposal. **If you have any question regarding Amnesty Day, please call 719-4753.**

### FREE Leaf Collection

**The Village and Waste Management will be offering four weeks of free bagged leaf collection during the month of November.** This program will be available to all single family residences within the Village's incorporated limits. An unlimited number of leaves placed in Kraft paper bags or biodegradable paper bags, may be placed at the curb for collection without stickers. The bags may be a maximum of thirty (30) gallons in capacity and weigh up to sixty (60) pounds. The bags may only contain leaves. Sod, brush, grass clippings, and other landscape waste can not be commingled

under this leaf program and will not be picked up.

**The free leaf pick-up program will begin Monday, November 5, 2007 and run through Friday, November 30, 2007.** The pick-up will take place on your normal collection days during this time period.

It is very important that residents do not rake leaves from their private property or parkway onto the street. Leaves that are raked into the street will not be collected and the homeowner will then be subject to a fine for violation of a Village Ordinance, which prohibits depositing debris onto the street surface. Please remove the leaves from the street as soon as possible as not to block drainage or present a hazardous condition for vehicles. Your cooperation is appreciated. The Public Works Department will sweep leaves that fall onto the street naturally.

### Yardwaste Program

**The Village's solid waste program provides for the collection of yardwaste materials through December 15.** Residents should put their yardwaste in either a 33-gallon Kraft paper bag or an unlined 33-gallon rigid container. Brush should be packaged in bundles no more than four feet in length, two feet in diameter, or more than sixty pounds. A sticker must be attached to each bag, can or bundle.

Village of Woodridge  
5 Plaza Drive  
Woodridge, IL 60517

PRESORTED  
STANDARD MAIL  
US POSTAGE PAID  
DOWNERS GROVE, IL  
PERMIT NO. 66

Mayor: William F. Murphy

Village Clerk: Eileene Nystrom

Board of Trustees:

Anne Banks	Joseph Kagann
Pamela Beavers	Edward McManus
John Curran	David Pittinger

Village Administrator:

John Perry  
Village Hall (630) 852-7000  
E-mail- [jperry@vil.woodridge.il.us](mailto:jperry@vil.woodridge.il.us)

Village Hall Hours

Monday-Friday- 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Postal Residential Customer Local  
Woodridge, IL 60517

## Community Recognition Program Nominations

Do you know someone or some organization that has provided positive contributions to the community? If so, the Village of Woodridge wants to hear from you! You or your group may nominate an individual to be identified by the Village in the Annual Community Recognition Program. The program recognizes individuals in the following categories:

1.) Citizen Recognition

2.) Employee Recognition

3.) Business or Association Recognition

4.) Youth Recognition (under 21)

Nominations are reviewed by the Woodridge Intergovernmental Council who then recommends candidates to the Village Board for consideration. A plaque of recognition will be awarded to the winner of each category. Please contact Leslie Davies at (630) 719-4706, if you have any questions.

Please fill out the form below and forward to Mayor William F. Murphy at 5 Plaza Drive, Woodridge, IL 60517.

**Nomination deadline is 4:30 p.m., Thursday, October 4, 2007.**

### Nomination Form – Village of Woodridge Community Recognition Program

\_\_\_\_\_ Village Citizen      \_\_\_\_\_ Employee      \_\_\_\_\_ Business or Association      \_\_\_\_\_ Youth (under 21)

Nominee Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominated By: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Briefly describe the nominee's community involvement, contributions and accomplishments:

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