

# FOCUS



Spring 2002

O N W O O D R I D G E

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

## 2001 Village of Woodridge Highlights

### Tax Rate Continues to Decrease

For the fifteenth consecutive year, the Village property tax rate has decreased. For the 2001 property tax bill, the typical Woodridge homeowner paid 4.5% less than the previous year and a similar savings is projected for 2002. The Village municipal tax rate is \$.3048, ranking Woodridge the 5th lowest municipality out of 35 DuPage County municipalities.

### Business Community Thrives

Last year Woodridge welcomed 36 new businesses to the community. Two new business parks approved by the Village Board in 2001, Maple Point and North Waterfall Glen, will add new jobs and expand the tax base while existing business parks such as Internationale Centre continue to grow.

The Village has also maintained a shopping center vacancy rate of 6.7%, which is below the regional average of 9%.

### Neighborhood Safety at All-time High

Over 96% of those responding to the Community Needs Survey reported feeling safe and secure in their neighborhood. This is the highest score ever achieved in this category.

### Youth Continues as a Priority

The Back-to-School Bash was more popular than ever with over 600 students attending. Wolverine Pack, an after school program for 7th and 8th grade students, continues to be successful. The Woodridge Community Wellness Council continues to focus on developing healthy assets in our community's students by promoting "Character Counts", a community based character education and reinforcement initiative.

### Woodridge - A Choice for High Quality Housing

Home ownership can be achieved in Woodridge at a wide range of prices, from \$70,000 for a condominium to \$600,000 for a single-family home. The housing variety expanded this year with luxury single family homes being offered at Thornberry Estates and Nadelhoffer Woods subdivisions.

### WCTV becomes an Award Winning Channel

Woodridge Community Television - Channel 6 was recognized with eleven finalists and two award-winning programs at The 2001 Cammy Awards for Chicago Metropolitan Access Stations.

*(Continued on page 2)*

## Annual Neighborhood Inspection Program



Every spring, the Building & Zoning Department of the Village of Woodridge implements the Annual Neighborhood Inspection Program. Specific areas needing property maintenance improvements are identified in the single family, multi-family and commercial districts in Woodridge.

Letters are sent to property owners listing repair or maintenance items that should be included in their spring maintenance schedules. Each letter includes the name of a contact person in the Building & Zoning Department who would be happy to answer any questions or concerns.

**"Working towards these goals will ultimately preserve property values..."**

On average, over 300 letters are mailed each year.

"Working towards these goals will ultimately preserve property values, which is a benefit to all property owners of Woodridge," stated Mayor Murphy.

The goal of the Annual Neighborhood Inspection Program is to encourage property owners to reinvest in the maturing neighborhoods and take pride in our community.

If you have any questions about this program, please contact the Building and Zoning Department at (630) 719-4750.

*April 22-27, 2002 is National Volunteer Week. The Village of Woodridge would like to thank everyone who donates their time and energy making Woodridge a great place to "Live, Work, and Play."*

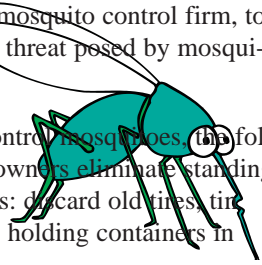
## Woodridge Reduces Risk of West Nile Virus

Since last year when health officials confirmed the presence of the West Nile Virus in the Chicagoland area, Woodridge officials have been taking the appropriate steps to reduce the risk of mosquito-borne illness to area residents. The Village has a proactive program for mosquito control and has worked with Clarke Mosquito Control Inc., America's leading mosquito control firm, to help reduce the nuisance and public health threat posed by mosquitoes.

In addition to Woodridge's initiatives to control mosquitoes, the following yard and home tips can help homeowners eliminate standing water and other mosquito breeding grounds: discard old tires, tin cans, buckets, drums, bottles or any water-holding containers in


and around the property; fill in or drain any low places (puddles, ruts) in yard; keep drains, ditches and culverts clean of weeds and trash so water will drain properly; cover trash containers to keep out rainwater; repair leaky pipes and outside faucets to prevent puddles of standing water from forming; empty plastic watering pools at least once a week and store them indoors when not in use; make sure your backyard pool is properly cared for while on vacation; fill in tree root holes and hollow stumps that hold water with sand or concrete; and change the water in bird baths and plant pots or drip trays at least once a week.

Officials in Woodridge are also asking residents to be on alert for dead birds, since this can sometimes provide information about mosquito borne disease. If you find any, please notify the DuPage County Health Department at 630-620-3350, x5312.




## 2001 Community Recognition Awards

The Village of Woodridge is proud to announce this year's recipients of our Community Recognition Program Awards.


 **Outstanding Citizens of the Year**  
Sue Knoebel (Volunteer, Woodridge School District)  
Don Wilson (Volunteer, WCTV Crew Member)


 **Outstanding Commissioner of the Year**  
Mary Anne Blair (Board of Police Commissioners)

 **Outstanding Employee of the Year**  
Lyn Lund (Math Teacher, Jefferson Jr. High School)  
Jan Sawitoski (Senior Coordinator, Park District)  
Darleen Horvath (Police Officer, Village of Woodridge)

 **Outstanding Business of the Year**  
Edward Jones & Company (Brian Hansen)

 **Outstanding Association**  
Woodridge Soccer Association

 **Special Recognition Awards**  
Anthony Meyer, President of Lisle-Woodridge Fire District, recognized by the Village of Woodridge for his many dedicated years to the Village.

 Ken Bevan, Water Plant Operator in the Public Works Department, was chosen as the Outstanding Employee of the Year in the Village's Employee Recognition Program.

## City Watch, On the Cutting Edge of Technology

City Watch is a new and innovative technology brought to you from the Village of Woodridge and purchased through a grant from the United States Department of Justice.

This new technology allows the Village to instantly reach residents with important information. Depending on the situation, a recorded message can be sent to the entire Village or to a targeted neighborhood. For example, if a child is missing, the Police Department may record a message giving a description of the child and where he/she was last seen. This message would then be

sent through the phone lines to targeted members of the community. The message is activated by a person picking up the phone or by an answering machine picking up a call. In the event the answering machine receives the call, the message will be recorded on the machine.

Currently, City Watch is set up for the primary purpose of getting important information out to the community in an efficient manner. In the future the Village may expand the scope of services provided by City Watch to include the capability of not only using the technology for a "reverse 911" system, but also an information line in which residents can dial a specific phone number to retrieve recorded messages.

The Village hopes that this new tool for communicating with Woodridge residents has a positive impact for all involved. If a missing child is found, a neighborhood is alerted to a water main break, or a hazardous materials spill is announced to affected residents, then City Watch has fulfilled its purpose.

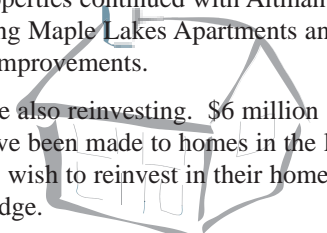
The Village, through City Watch, will call all numbers thanks to new legislation that was recently passed. This new system will take a few months to implement. In the interim, if your number is unpublished but you wish to be contacted through City Watch, please contact Carrie Noe at the Woodridge Police Department at (630) 719-4729 to add your name to the list.

*(Highlights...Continued from page 1)*

## Housing Reinvestment Remains Strong

Reinvestment in multi-family properties continued with Altman Development Company purchasing Maple Lakes Apartments and undergoing multi-million dollar improvements.

Single-family property owners are also reinvesting. \$6 million worth of major improvements have been made to homes in the last 3 years, confirming that residents wish to reinvest in their homes and stay in the Village of Woodridge.



## Bike Path Construction Continues

The Village and Park District continue to add bike paths with the assistance of grant funding. Construction began in March on the 83rd Street bridge over I-355. This work is part of a larger project to complete a link on Woodridge Drive between 75th Street and 83rd Street and on 83rd Street from Woodridge Drive to Woodward Avenue. The entire project will be completed in August.

# Public Works Reminds You...

## Yard Waste Collection Begins

Yard waste collection officially resumes again on April 1, 2002. Residents can dispose of yard waste at the curb on their normal refuse collection day. One sticker is required for every 33 gallon unlined container or Kraft paper bag. Stickers can be purchased at a variety of local vendors and at Village offices. Residents can also use environmentally friendly alternatives.

## Brush Chipping Service

During the months of May through October, on the second Saturday of the month, between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m., residents can drop off brush near the corner of Woodridge Drive and 71st Street. The cost is \$2/car-load or \$4/truck, van or trailer. Proof of residency is required.

## Household Hazardous Waste Drop

Residents can take advantage of a household hazardous waste drop-off site. A permanent site is located in Naperville at Fire Station Four at 1971 Brookdale Road. This facility operates on Saturdays and Sundays from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Please call the DuPage County Solid Waste Department at (630) 682-7373 for more details or to request a brochure on the types of materials accepted.

## Overhead Sewer Program

This program is the best protection against sewer back-ups in your home. The program involves contracting with a plumber for the complete installation of the system. The Village and DuPage County will provide assistance to those residents who qualify and participate.

The Village will reimburse up to a maximum of \$1,000 upon completion of the program and the County will contribute up to \$1,500. Please call the Village for more information if you wish to participate in this worthwhile program.

## Parkway Tree Planting Program

Residents can call the Public Works Department any time to register for the Parkway Tree Planting Program. This popular program allows residents to gain a tree in their parkway at a reasonable cost. Residents can choose from a variety of species and the Village will plant and trim the tree. Plantings will take place in the spring and fall. Call (630) 719-4753 to sign up for this program.

## CULTURAL FEST

Woodridge's first Cultural Fest is set for September 6-8, 2002! This event is designed to bring together the many ethnic groups that are represented in Woodridge. The event will celebrate the ethnic and cultural diversity of Woodridge, with the purpose of creating a better understanding and appreciation between various members of the Woodridge community.

The Cultural Fest's initial plans encompass a family event within the Village where patrons wander through and enjoy various foods, crafts, music, and entertainment from different cultures. There will be live on-stage performances and demonstrations throughout the event as well as booths to sample the tastes of different countries and to purchase various ethnic products.

Your help is needed to organize this annual event! We are looking for volunteers to get involved now! Please contact us at (630) 515-8849 or [WoodridgeFest@aol.com](mailto:WoodridgeFest@aol.com)

## Information from the Village Clerk

**All Peddlers and Solicitors must register and be approved by the Village Clerk.** (Title 3, Chapter 5, Articles A and B) Peddlers and commercial solicitors may engage in door-to-door sales between 9:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M., Monday through Saturday. Charitable solicitation is allowed any day 9:00 A.M. – 9:00 P.M. Door-to-door sales are prohibited on Sunday or any State or National Holiday. All registered peddlers or solicitors will wear identification cards on outer clothing. If unregistered persons are in your neighborhood call the Police Department at 719-4740 immediately. This includes any ice-cream vendors in your area.

Residents may post a notice indicating whether or not solicitors/peddlers are invited. **Free No Solicitors/Peddlers Invited notices are available at the Village Hall in the Clerk's Office.** If you are interested, please stop by and pick one up during regular Village Hall business hours.

## National Youth Service Day

National Youth Service Day 2002 will be held on April 27. Past National Youth Service Day participants and new participants will be creating public service announcements to be played on WCTV Cable Channel 6. Each group of students will be developing public service announcements based on the six pillars of character, outlined in the Character Counts! program: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship. The Character Counts! program is a non-profit, non-partisan, non-sectarian coalition of schools, communities and non-profit organizations working to advance character education by teaching the six pillars of character. Both Woodridge School District 68 and the Village of Woodridge endorse the Character Counts! program.



In addition to youth creating the public service announcements, a youth cable crew will be filming the announcements. Join us on April 27 for National Youth Service Day to celebrate character and teach others about character. To learn more about this year's National Youth Service Day or to sign up to be a part of the public service announcements, contact Jill Samonte of the Woodridge Police Department at (630) 719-6105.

The Woodridge Special Events Committee is sponsoring its 34th Annual Spring Carnival. It will be held at the corner of Center and Woodridge Drives from Thursday, May 16 to Sunday, May 19. Come enjoy the start of the outdoor season at this first carnival of the year.

May 16- 6 PM-10 PM	Unlimited Rides*
May 17- 6 PM-11 PM	NO Unlimited Rides Offered
May 18- 1 PM-11 PM	Unlimited Rides from 1PM-5PM*
May 19- 1 PM-7 PM	Unlimited Rides from 1PM-5PM*

\* **The Unlimited Ride Offer-** Pay one price of \$15.00 per person and ride all attractions as often as you wish during the hours specified. Bring in this Focus article (no copies) and receive a \$1.00 discount on the Unlimited Ride Offer, good for one person, on one day.



# Village of Woodridge

5 Plaza Drive ♦ Woodridge, Illinois 60517

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Mayor- William F. Murphy  
Village Clerk- Eileene Nystrom

Board of Trustees:  
Raymond Byrne     James Hundman  
Gina Cunningham     Robert Murphy  
Mary Ann Frank     Chet Szerlag

Village Administrator- John Perry  
Village Hall (630) 852-7000  
E-mail- jperry@vil.woodridge.il.us  
Village Hall Hours  
Monday-Friday- 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

[www.vil.woodridge.il.us](http://www.vil.woodridge.il.us)  
Published by the Village of Woodridge



**Postal Patron Local  
Woodridge, IL 60517**

*Don't forget to visit the Village of Woodridge website at [www.vil.woodridge.il.us](http://www.vil.woodridge.il.us) and sign up for e-news*

# APRIL

1	Plan Commission Mtg.	Werch Board Rm.	7:30 PM
2	Rotary Meeting	Village Greens	7:00 AM
7	Day Light Savings Time	Turn Your Clocks Ahead!	
8	Lions Meeting	Suparossa	7:00 PM
9	Board Meeting	School Dist. 66	7:00 PM
9	Rotary Meeting	Village Greens	7:00 AM
9	Kiwanis Meeting	Papa's Pizza	Noon
13	Park District Clean-up	Woodridge Parks	1-3 PM
15	Plan Commission Mtg.	Werch Board Rm.	7:30 PM
16	Rotary Meeting	Village Greens	7:00 AM
16	Kiwanis Meeting	Papa's Pizza	Noon
18	No School	Dist. 68	All Day
18	Jaycee's Meeting	Corner Club House	7:00 PM
19	No School	Dist. 68	All Day
20	Road Rally	Park District	964-2100
22	State of the Village	Signature Room	11:30 AM
22	Dist. 68 Board Mtg.	Jefferson School	7:30 PM
23	Dis. 66 Board Mtg.	Prairie View	7:00 PM
23	Rotary Meeting	Village Greens	7:00 AM
25	BOPC Meeting	PD Conference Rm.	6:30 PM
25	Village Board Meeting	Werch Board Rm.	7:30 PM
30	Rotary Meeting	Village Greens	7:00 AM

# MAY

2	Chamber Luncheon	TBA	Noon
6	Plan Commission Mtg.	Werch Board Rm.	7:30 PM
7	Dist. 66 Board Mtg.	Prairie View	7:00 PM
7	Rotary Meeting	Village Greens	7:00 AM
9	Village Board Mtg.	Werch Board Rm.	7:30 PM
12	Mother's Day	Everywhere	All Day
13	Lion's Meeting	Suparossa	7:00 PM
14	Rotary Meeting	Village Greens	7:00 AM
14	Kiwanis Meeting	Papa's Pizza	Noon
16	Jaycees Meeting	Corner Club House	7:00 PM
17	VFW Poppy Days	Woodridge	
18	VFW Poppy Days	Woodridge	
20	Plan Commission Mtg.	Werch Board Rm.	7:30 PM
20	Dist. 68 Board Mtg.	Jefferson School	7:30 PM
21	Dist. 66 Board Mtg.	Prairie View	7:00 PM
23	BOPC Meeting	PD Conference Rm.	6:30 PM
23	Village Board Mtg.	Werch Board Rm.	7:30 PM
25	Cypress Cove Opens	Woodridge Park District	
27	Memorial Day	Village Offices Closed	
27	VFW Memorial Day	Parade	
28	Rotary Meeting	Village Greens	7:00 AM
28	Kiwanis Meeting	Papa's Pizza	Noon

**For information on any of the above programs please call (630) 926-3947**