



City of
**WOOD
RIVER**

PIPELINE

December, 1992

“Bright Lights on Christmas Nights”

4th Annual Event

Wood River residents! Show us your bright lights this holiday season. The Mayor and City Council will be looking for your CHRISTMAS SPIRIT.

A Christmas Spirit committee will be touring the City between December 13-19, looking for original, colorful, and creative Christmas expressions.

A special Christmas Spirit Award will be given to those with “special” outdoor decorations. Get in the Christmas Spirit, show us your “BRIGHT LIGHTS”.



Calls from Santa

The enclosed insert explains how you can have Santa write or call your children. Please fill it out and return it to the Recreation Department before December 10, 1992.

Breakfast with Santa



Once again, the Parks & Recreation Department will be sponsoring **Breakfast with Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus**, to be held Saturday, December 12, from 8-10:30 AM at the Roundhouse. Pictures with Santa and Mrs. Claus can also be taken for a small fee.



Christmas Programs at the Library

December 9 - 3:30 PM - Grades 1-8

Story: Paddy's Christmas - Film: Frosty the Snowman - Craft: Christmas Angels

December 19 - 10:30 AM - Ages 3-5

Story: The Christmas Box - Film: Santa's Toys - Craft: Santa Puppets
Plus visitors from the North Pole

All programs of the library are free of charge and open to the public.

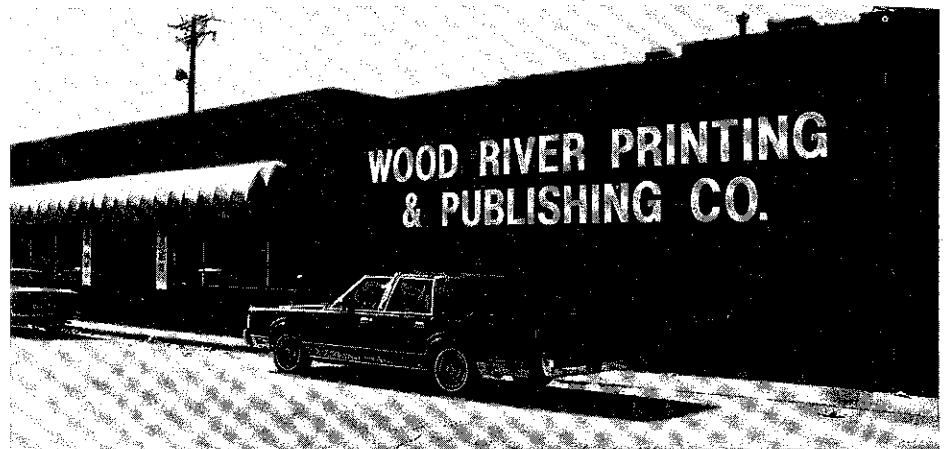
LIBRARY HOURS: Mon-Fri: 10AM-8PM - Saturday: 10 AM-5PM



Message from the City Manager *Barrett Jones, City Manager*

As this *Pipeline* goes to press, we are waiting on action in the State Legislature concerning our Tax Increment Financing (TIF) funding. Right now, we are cautiously optimistic that the State commitment to fund TIF will be upheld and that we can continue with our planned projects. Let's take inventory of what we have done so far. If you look carefully, gradual improvements are coming to downtown. Just two years ago, there was more vacant space than occupied space downtown. Now, store fronts are filling up. A number of vacant buildings have been sold and are already occupied or will be in the next few months. If we can continue downtown rehabilitation assistance, at least three of the largest property owners have extensive reconstruction plans. While we don't know if any of these will work out, right now I'm ready to bet on all three of them. Two or three years ago, any one of these projects would have been spectacular in downtown Wood River. For a long time, the only stories from downtown Wood River were about businesses shutting down, not about rebuilding and expanding.

The Facade Grant and Financial Assistance Programs were started in the summer of 1991, using T.I.F. revenue.



Since that time, 23 different properties have participated in the program. Under the Facade Program, the City pays up to \$20 per exterior foot for exterior improvements and beautification. The City has spent \$54, 284.48 as of the end of October, 1992. (It's this program that has encouraged all the beautiful new awnings!) Property owners have spent at least an additional \$40,000, so over \$100,000 has been spent on exterior repairs and appearance.

In the Financial Assistance Program, the City has paid almost \$39,000 for building rehabilitation. Since the City reimburses \$1.00 for every \$4.00 the property owner pays, this amounts to at least \$160,000

worth of work done in the downtown area. The two programs have stimulated a quarter million dollars in improvements

The successful marketing of the downtown merchants this year is building community pride for all of us. After the street, sidewalks, and street lighting improvements are completed next year, we look for a more vibrant downtown Wood River.

What is the reason for this interest in the downtown? With our industrial tax base declining, either business or residents will have to pick up the added burden. Building a competitive business district is essential to keep residential taxes controlled.

Wood River Family on TV Video Show

You may have had the opportunity to see Dusty Schneider of Wood River on "America's Funniest Home Videos" last Sunday.

Jim and Nancy Schneider's son, Dusty, won his family a trip to Hollywood and captured the first place prize of \$10,000 for his hilarious home video.

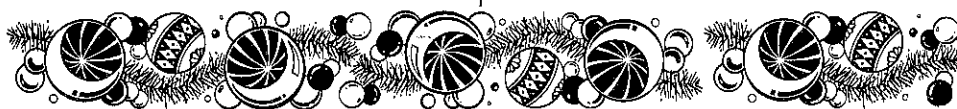
It all started when Dusty decided to play a practical joke on his younger cousins who were visiting. He set up a video camera on a furnace in the garage and planned to jump off a refrigerator in the garage to scare the younger children and capture their expressions on camera. However, his plan backfired as his pants hung up and pulled the refrigerator

forward, leaving Dusty suspended in the air and causing everything to come tumbling out of the refrigerator.

Dusty had the surprise of his life but it has certainly paid off.

Winning first place on last Sunday's show gives the Schneiders a chance for the big prize of \$100,000 plus another fabulous trip to California.

Jim and Nancy Schneider are both city employees and Dusty, 12, is a 7th grader at Roxana Junior High. Their story has provided lots of excitement at City Hall as we had to wait until the show aired before we knew whether or not they won. The Schneiders have certainly been the "talk of the town".



City Hall of Fame . . .



Otto Rice

Otto's dedication to the City and the programs he runs, makes him an excellent candidate for the City Hall of Fame. His congenial disposition and witty personality gain the friendship of everyone he meets.

Otto graduated from Southern Illinois University in 1983, earning degree's in Health and Physical Education.

He started working for the City of Wood River part-time on May 1, 1984, in Park Maintenance. Soon after that, he became involved with various childrens activities. He became a full time employee of the Recreation Department on May 12, 1986, and was promoted to the Sports and Activities Coordinator on December 12, 1987. Otto served as the President of the Southern Illinois Parks & Recreation Association in 1990.

It would be difficult to describe on paper everything that Otto's job encompasses. He is the coordinator of the "RECREATION" division of the Parks & Recreation Department. He does the planning of all sports activities, which involve both youth and adults. He plans the leagues, makes up the schedules, hires the umpires/referees, keeps statistics, and orders the trophies and recreation supplies. Whether it is baseball, softball, soccer, basketball, wrestling or gymnastics, he will be there to make sure it runs smooth. Otto thrives under pressure and always gets the job done.

Besides sports activities, Otto helps to plan many special events, with the intent to involve people of all ages. He provides leadership for the Jiveland Teen group, and plans dances at the Roundhouse for both Jr. High and High School students.

Having an employee that puts in endless hours and puts his job first, before himself, is an employee the city is proud to have.

Metro Police Benevolent Unit 72 Activities

Wednesday, December 16 - at 3 P.M., Santa Day will be held in Manley Auditorium at Wood River Township Hospital. Metro Police will assist Santa, who will arrive in horse and carriage. Children may get their picture taken with Santa for a small fee from 3-6:00 P.M.

Saturday, December 19 - Wood River Hospital Project H.E.A.R.T. and the Board of Directors will sponsor their annual "Home for Christmas" Dinner. This is a FREE turkey dinner to all senior citizens of Wood River Township. For a reservation, please call 254-3827, Ext. 345 between December 8-11. Metro Unit 72

will assist in this event.

Monday, December 21 - Metro Police Unit 72 and Project H.E.A.R.T. will sponsor a Santa Story Hour at the Hospital at 7:00 PM. Children are invited to hear traditional Christmas stories told by Art Northway and have cookies and punch with Santa. Gifts will be given to all the children.

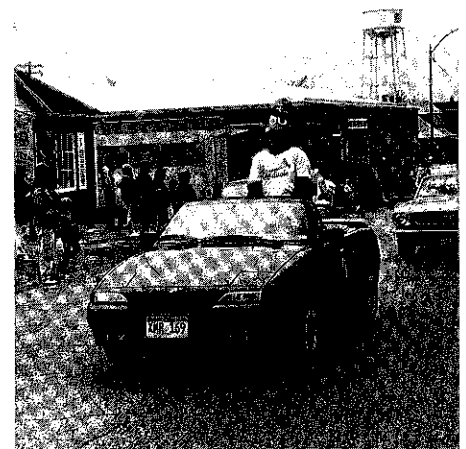
On October 3, 1992, the Metro Police Benevolent Group and the Wood River Fire Department held a fish fry at the Wood River Fire Station. More than \$900 was raised to support community activities.

Halloween Parade

Wood River's 11th annual Halloween Parade was the biggest and best ever. Over 70 units participated in this annual event, including four local school bands, area Harvest Queens, Miss Illinois American Teen, the Highland Pipers, Crazy Clowns, Rolling Nobles and some unusual floats added color to the procession.

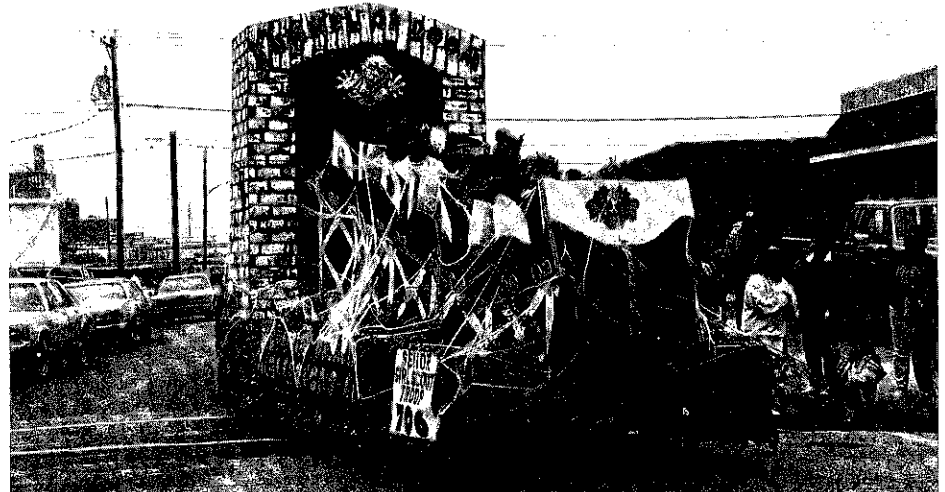
ED MARKS, this year's Grand Marshal, and his wife, Pat, enjoyed the long ride through Wood River to the reviewing stand downtown. During the awards ceremony, Ed was lauded for his long years of civic activity in support of Wood River.

FRED BIRD, a new addition to the Parade, was a big hit with the crowd - riding and sometimes walking the route. Downtown, he continued to entertain, joining in a square dance with the Wood River Hoedowners and cooking hot dogs



for the downtown merchant's association. At one point, Fred chirped that he was looking forward to next year's parade already.

Many thanks to Firefighter Dana Emerick, his committee, and the Firefighters Association for a job well done in coordinating the parade.





Monthly Roundhouse Activities Held on a Regular Basis:

The Parks & Recreation Department will be sponsoring the following events this winter. For more information, please call 251-3130 during regular hours, Mon-Fri. 8-12 and 1-5pm.

Aerobics

Morning aerobics are held on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9-10 a.m., instructed by Merrill Fromme. Fee is \$27 for a 5-week session. Register 15 minutes prior to class with Merrill.

Ladies evening step aerobics are offered on Monday and Wednesday evenings from 6-7 p.m., by Teresa Mize. Fee is \$20

per six-week session. Registration is held 15 minutes prior to class.

Gymnastics

Classes are held on Thursdays and Saturdays based on participants ability. New sessions start every five weeks. A preschool class will be offered this year provided there is enough interest.

Youth Wrestling

Tri-City wrestling practice will begin December 1 at the Roundhouse. You may register at the Roundhouse for a \$15 fee.

Jiveland Teen Board

All high school students are encouraged to meet at the Roundhouse on Thursday evenings at 6:15 to discuss dances and other activities they would be interested in.

Rules of the Road

A class, sponsored by the Secretary of State's Office, is scheduled for December 13 from 9-11 a.m. to take individuals through some basic rules of driving. It is geared towards senior citizens although

others may attend. A session is held on the second Tuesday of every other month.

Senior Adult Program 55+

Residents age 55 and over are invited to join the activities for an annual fee of \$10. Meetings are held at 10 AM on the second Thursday of each month.

Ship Shape

Ship Shape classes are designed to help with diet motivation. Classes are held on Mondays at 9:30 a.m. for weigh-in, and the meeting is from 10-11 a.m. Registration fee is \$5.00 plus \$3.00 each session.

Upcoming Activities

Annual Hidden Valley Ski Trip -Mark your calendar, this year's adult ski trip is planned for January 23.

Ice Skating - Providing the lake freezes, chaperoned ice skating will be offered to anyone wishing to bring their skates to Helmkamp Lake, located at the intersection of Route 3 and Route 143.

New Clubhouse Under Construction



A groundbreaking ceremony was held on October 27 for construction of a new clubhouse at Belk Park Golf Course. Construction is now well underway with the basement completed and footings dug for the remainder of the building. An April 1st completion date is anticipated.

Installation of a new irrigation system at the golf course is also in the preliminary stages. This new system should be ready for testing this Spring.

The City has made a major investment in these two projects which are very important to the future of Belk Park Golf Course.

Belk Park Golf Course Gets New Concession Stand



Thanks to a donation from Coca-Cola, Belk Park Golf Course now has a new comfort station and concession stand between the 4th and 14th holes on the course. The stand offers a full line of cool drinks, snacks, and hot dogs.

Coke representatives Jackie Shields and Mike Weaver, presented a check for \$10,000 to the City for this improvement at the golf course.

When playing Belk Park, be sure to visit our new structure for relief or some refreshments. The project was completed in September by Clem Strack Construction of Wood River.

A Tribute to Service

Congratulations to the following City employees who are recognized for their service anniversary during 1992.

20 Year Anniversary



Chuck Nunn
Chief of Police



Tim Palermo
Director of Public Services

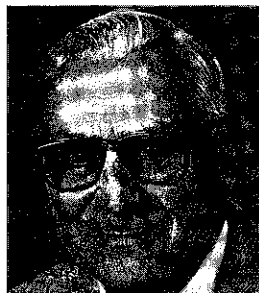


Jim Stewart
Police Officer

15 Year Anniversary



Gene Blasa
Supt. of Water/Wastewater



Bill Ruyle
Public Services Department



Terry Mason
Police Officer

ATTENTION

Basketball Enthusiasts!

The Metro Police Benevolent Unit 72
will take on
The Faculty of Roxana High School

WHEN: Friday, January 15, 1993
WHERE: Roxana High School Gym
TIME: 7:30 PM
COST: \$2.00 per person

Proceeds will go towards the Roxana
High School Athletic Fund.
Tickets may be purchased at the High
School or you may contact any
Benevolent member.

EPA'S Storm Drainage Requirements

The City has been required to comply with orders from the Illinois Pollution Control Board regarding storm drainage requirements. EPA requires all sewage must be treated. Where cities such as Wood River have combined sanitary and storm sewers, the Pollution Control Board can allow exceptions. Wood River treats approximately 1 million gallons of sewage per day, the normal flow without any rain water. When it rains the City can treat up to 4 million gallons of sewerage flow per day. Unfortunately, with a sizable rain, the amount of flow can shoot up to a rate of nearly 100 million gallons per day and the city has to allow part of the flow to bypass the treatment plant. Treatment plants for cities like St. Louis cannot treat that volume of flow. Fortunately, the pollution load of the larger volume of water is

minimal since it is just rain water and it can be discharged into the Mississippi River with virtually no adverse impact.

When the Wood River Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant was placed on line in 1985, a further requirement was stipulated; that a special screen must be constructed for any flows that do not go through the normal treatment plant. The utility of this bar screen was questioned but to no avail. Final design for this screen has been completed. Financing the \$250,000 project through the State Revolving Loan Fund will be arranged at the subsidized rate of 3.6%. It is an EPA requirement and we must comply. Construction is expected to start on the project in early spring 1993 and be completed in six months.

New City Employees . . .



Ray Weshinsky

Ray Weshinsky was hired in September as the new Greenskeeper at Belk Park Golf Course. His responsibilities include supervising and participating in construction and maintenance of golf course tees, greens, fairways, and roughs, as well as maintaining the park.

Ray was previously employed as Superintendent of the Golf Course in Marissa, Illinois. He earned his Degree in Business Administration and Physical Education from Eastern Illinois University.

Ray and his wife, Susan, will soon be living in their new home, here in Wood River. Ray enjoys golfing and deer hunting, while Susan keeps busy as a graduate student at St. Louis University. The City of Wood River welcomes Ray, and the experience he brings with him from Marissa, to the Golf Course staff.



Hughson Noble

The Wood River Police Department has hired Hugh Noble for the position of probationary patrolman. Hugh has been a resident of Wood River for 20 years.

He attended Lewis & Clark College, where he studied Law Enforcement before entering the Marine Corp. After his duty with the armed forces, he attended SIUE to study psychology.

Hugh was previously employed at Alton Memorial Hospital, where he worked for four years as a Paramedic. He is now attending the University of Illinois Police Training Institute, and soon will be returning to start training under our own officers.

When asked about any hobbies, Hugh mentioned that he was partial to classic Mustangs, and had owned one at one time. He enjoys just getting together with his friends, and has two pets, a puppy named "Buffy", and a cat named "Schwing".



Scott Harper

You will be seeing this new face at the Wood River Recreation Department.

Scott Harper has been hired to work with Otto Rice as a part-time program assistant. Scott was originally from this area. He has worked for the Parks & Recreation Department in Liberty, MO and earned his degree in Business Administration from William Jewel College.

New Zoning Code & Map

A new Zoning Code, prepared by the Wood River Planning Commission has been submitted to the City Council. The Plan Commission have worked many months updating the present code which has been in existence since 1969.

A public hearing on the new zoning code and map will be held in order to receive comments from citizens. Copies of the map will be on file for public inspection at the City Clerk's Office and the Wood River Public Library.

The public hearing is scheduled for 9 AM - NOON on Dec. 19 at the Wood River City Hall.

Christmas Spirit in Fire Department

Wood River Firemen have once again began work on their Christmas food basket program. Program Chairman Mark Burris said last year most of their food donations came from Project H.E.A.R.T. at Wood River Hospital. This year, the fire department is challenging other city departments to collect nonperishable food items for distribution to needy families.

Donations should be collected and delivered to the firehouse by December 16. Food basket deliveries will be made on Saturday, December 19. Any questions can be directed to Mark Burris at the firehouse.

Christmas is the time for giving and the Firemen are in the spirit. If the past is any indication, this project should be a rousing success.

Common Sense Tips for Holiday Safety

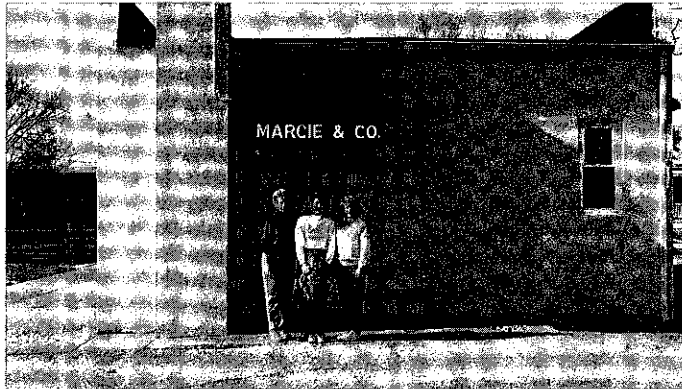
From the Fire Department

Christmas Season is a wonderful time of the year. The last thing we would like to think about or deal with is an emergency. The fire department is keenly aware of the always present potential for dangerous situations. They feel extra precautions need to be taken during the holidays and offer the following common sense tips.

- Use the 9-1-1 service for all emergency calls.
- Check all smoke detectors for fresh batteries.
- Choose a live tree that is not too dry and water it daily.
- Use only tree lights that carry U.L. label.
- Make sure the tree stand has a wide base and is sturdy.
- All fireplaces should have a clean flue and protected inside by a safe screen.
- Overloaded electrical sockets are extremely dangerous.
- Inspect extension cords for cracks or shorts.
- Make sure extension cords are heavy enough to carry the load.
- Extension receptable bars with circuit breakers are your best bet.
- Be careful when decorating with Poinsettia and Holly, they are poisonous when ingested.
- Make sure all steps and walkways leading to your home are safe for walking.



Introducing New and Remodeled Businesses in Wood River...



Marcie & Co. Family Hair Care, located just behind Lin's Barber Shop at 501 Whitelaw, opened up for business on September 10.

Operators are Marcie McCune and Donna Flannery, licensed cosmetologists with 23 years of combined experience. Kathleen Meyers serves as their assistant and receptionist.

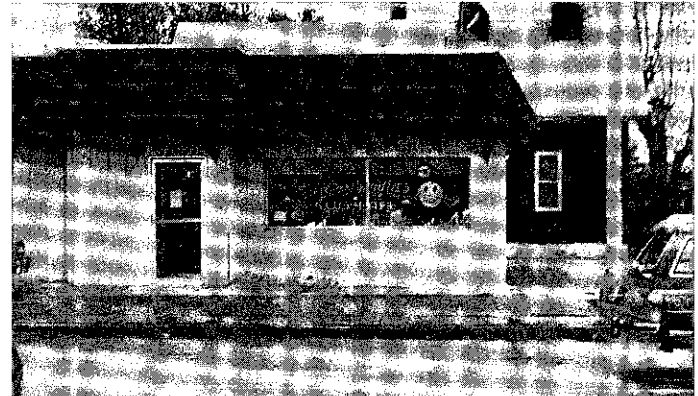
The shop is open Tuesday thru Saturday. For an appointment, call 251-HAIR (4247).



A new Accounting and Tax business started by Larry Payne and Garrett Willison, has recently moved to 995 Edwardsville Road, in Wood River. CPA PLANNERS is gearing up for the next Income Tax season, and are open year round for any other business. For more information call 258-1000. They will take appointments as well as walk-ins. Welcome to the City of Wood River.



The \$1.98 STORE is a new trend in shopping for value, as well as variety. They are now located in the Wal-Mart Shopping Complex. It really is just like the signs say, "Nothing more than \$1.98". You will be surprised at the many items that are available in Toys, Giftware, Household, Hardware, Trim-A-Tree, Baby Goods and Health & Beauty. This would be a great place to stock up on Christmas "stocking stuffers". The City is happy to welcome this new store to Wood River.



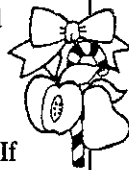
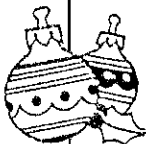
PERSONALITY PLUS CAFE is a new eating place conveniently located at the corner of Madison and Sixth Street, owned and operated by Mike Marko and Cindi Boone. This building has been vacant for 14 years and was completely renovated for their opening on Tuesday, November 17th. They will offer daily breakfast and lunch specials to tempt your taste buds. If you are hungry for some "Home Cooking", this is the place to go. HOURS: Monday thru Saturday, 4:30 AM to 3:00 PM.

From the Wood River Police Department Holiday Reminders

1. Park your vehicle at well-lit locations, lock it, and pocket the keys.
2. Place all packages in the trunk of your vehicle.
3. Carry your purse under your arm.
4. Retain or destroy all credit card carbons.
5. Do not allow young children to be on their own. If they become lost from you, instruct them to contact a store employee.
6. When you leave, make sure your home appears occupied. Leave lighting, radio or T.V. on, and be sure to lock all doors.

If you plan to be out of town for the holidays, contact the Police Department at 251-3113, and we will make arrangements to check your home while you're away.

BUCKLE UP AND DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE



NOTICE Parking on Snow Routes

Parking on snow routes has been one of our biggest problems in snow removal. Crews must plow next to the curb to take care of our traffic needs. If you don't move your vehicle the City cannot plow the streets in an acceptable manner.

The City will enforce the snow route ordinance by ticketing and towing vehicles parked on the snow routes. If a snow begins during the night, cars will not be ticketed until the next morning. If cars are not moved in one day, vehicles will be towed, at owners expense, so streets can be cleared.

We ask everyone's cooperation.

Council Corner

Citizens today have more responsibility concerning solid waste than ever before in the history of our country. All the regulations for clean air, pure water, reducing waste, and recycling are established by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and the Illinois Pollution Control Board. State governments pass statutes for cities and villages to follow in this respect, and these are mandated, without financial assistance, grants, or aid. The financial burden falls squarely on the consumer's shoulders through fees or taxes. Dealing with solid waste is one of the major problems of our time.

Like many other cities, Wood River has instituted programs to meet the demands of State Statutes. Composting materials, for example, are not allowed to be accepted at landfills and may not be picked up with the regular garbage pickup. A composting operation (leaves, grass clippings, etc.) may be established in your back yard. Composting materials may be disposed at the dumpster at the 14th Street Recycling Area at no cost.

When you purchase a new set of tires for the family car, a charge of \$1.00 per tire may be assessed to dispose of the old tires. When buying a new stove, refrigerator or washer, it could cost to dispose of the old one. Auto repair shops require the old battery as trade-in on a new battery. If you change oil in your vehicle, take the used oil to a local gas station for collection.

Wood River will be working with some solid waste haulers on a total plan of solid waste pick up, recycling, and composting as part of the budget process for fiscal year 1993-94. The city of Swansea has had an excellent plan in operation for about a year that seems very successful.

If you have a source reduction tip call Tim Palermo at 251-3122.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Mayor Leroy Emerick

Library News

If you have an interest in old maps or books, stop by the Library to see our copy of: *Atlas of Macoupin Co. and the State of Illinois*, by Warner & Beers, 1875. In 1989, a committee of the Illinois Cooperative Collection Development Project received funds to carry out the preservation of a limited number of county landownership atlases and plat books from Illinois counties published between 1865 and 1930. Atlases across the state were examined as the committee searched for those most worthy of treatment on the basis of their condition, location, age, and

rarity. Wood River Public Library was fortunate enough to have an atlas chosen for preservation.

The 1875 atlas was recently returned to us from the Preservation Section of the Morris Library at SIU-C. The covers and old glue from the spine were removed. The sewing threads were cut and the leaves individually separated from each other. The pages were deacidified and encapsulated in mylar. A new cover was specially constructed and the title was stamped in gold on the front cover and spine. Stop by and take a look.

Library's "Friendly Computerized Catalog

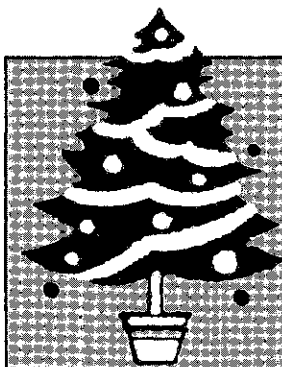


Library patrons are being won over by Marion, the Public Access Computer (PAC). Marion (as in "the Librarian" of MUSIC MAN fame) is the nickname for the PAC, the computerized database which has replaced the "old-fashioned" card catalog at the Library.

While many patrons miss the old card catalog, they are finding PAC an "easy to

use" alternative that offers a lot more information. Even those claiming to be "computer illiterate" use PAC with ease in just minutes. All that is required is the ability to push a button and read. Marion will do the rest. She is one smart cookie who has all the answers.

Stop by and see for yourself.



Christmas Tree Recycling

If you're wondering how to dispose of your Christmas tree when the holidays are over, you'll be glad to know that trees will be accepted at the 14th Street Recycling Center at no charge. The center is open Friday, Saturday, and Monday from 8 - 4, and on Sunday from noon to 4, including Dec. 26 and 27.