

City of Wood River, Illinois

**The City News
PIPELINE**

events
projects
dates, meetings
news

At Last!



-- Photo courtesy of Wood River Journal

Wood River residents look on, as Senator Sam Vadalabene, Governor Jim Thompson, and Mayor Lon Smith cut the ribbon officially opening the Phoebe Goldberg Overpass on March 27. **NO MORE WAITING FOR TRAINS!**

**Water & Sewer
Rates--One More Time**

Inflation affects the cost of City operations just as it does the individual homeowner. For several years the costs of chemicals, maintenance and labor have been rising 15-20% annually, which has had a similar impact on the operating costs of the City's water supply and sewer system.

In 1975, the cost for treating water was 47¢ per 1,000 gallons. Today, that cost is 90¢ per 1,000 gallons - an increase of 91%. In 1975, the cost of treating sewage was 35¢ per 1,000 gallons. Today, that cost is 70¢ per 1,000 gallons - an increase of 100%.

While these costs were skyrocketing up until December, 1980, the City had not raised sewer rates since 1968, and water rates hadn't increased since 1975. Therefore, the City has been selling water and sewage treatment to users at rates below actual costs.

Three events occurred in 1980 and 1981 which resulted in water and sewer rate increases in December, 1980 and again in July 1981:

Changing Conditions

1. The water and sewer reserve funds, which were paying the difference between actual costs and user fees, went "dry".
2. Due to other fiscal needs, it was no longer possible to subsidize the water and sewer operations with general tax dollars.
3. The closing of the Amoco refinery - the largest single source of water user fees.

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Rates Increase Again

continued from page 1

Residents pay their fair share

Once again, it is necessary for the City to raise water and sewer rates, which will take effect June 1, 1982.

Residential water rates will increase by 20%. Those residents using 5,000 gallons of water or less per quarter, will receive a minimum bill of \$8.28. Those residents using over 5,000 gallons of water per quarter, will be charged \$1.30 per 1,000 gallons over 5,000 gallons, plus the minimum bill of \$8.28.

Residential sewer rates will increase by a straight 10%. A minimum bill (5,000 gallons of sewage or less) will be \$5.50 and residents using between 5,000 and 60,000 gallons will be charged 72¢ per 1,000 gallons of sewage, plus the minimum bill.

Even with the new increases, Wood River ranks #6 in lowest cost for water and sewer rates, out of the 16 municipalities in Madison County.

Plans are presently in the works to begin billing residents on a monthly or bi-monthly basis. This will begin before the end of 1982, and should help residents budget their expenses more easily.

Please call the Water Office at 254-0131, with any questions or requests for additional information.

See related story "Cost Cutters: Water Plant Expenses Slashed" page 3

Get Fire-Wise



The Fire Department offers residents the opportunity to have a Fire Safety Survey conducted upon request in your home. Firemen will pinpoint potential fire hazards and advise you on how to correct them.

The key to fire prevention is to keep "burnables" away from heat. Burnables include: cleaning fluids, upholstery, draperies, bedding, and gasoline. Gasoline is highly flammable and should never be stored in the house.

The following list of DONT'S, will increase your chances of preventing fires in your home:

1. Don't store burnables near your furnace or water heater.
2. Don't allow furniture and draperies to get too close to heating ducts and radiators.
3. Don't smoke while using flammable liquids.
4. Don't let cooking greases and oils get too hot.
5. Don't overload electrical cords.
6. Don't let clothes dryer lint collect in dryer and vent pipe.

Following these few rules will assist you in preventing fires in your home.

And remember, Fire Department personnel are available to conduct Home Fire Safety Surveys for all Wood River residents. Don't hesitate! Call the Fire Department today at 254-4302. Also ask about having a smoke detector installed in your home. BECOME FIRE-WISE and FIRE-SAFE!!

Bicycle I.D.



Every year, over 130 bike thefts are reported in the City of Wood River. This represents a loss of \$15,000 to residents and their children. Only one-third of all reported stolen bikes are actually recovered and returned. The Wood River Police offer engraving and registration for all bike owners, so they can help you identify and recover stolen bicycles. Call the police at 254-8923 before coming to the Police Department, to make sure an officer will be available to assist you. Saturday mornings are best. Safe riding!

Cost Cutters:

Water Plant Expenses Slashed

As costs continue to rise in operating the Water Plant, several efforts are presently being made by the City to minimize costs to users.

These steps are as follows:

1. Eliminate 1 Water Plant Operator -- annual savings \$20,500.
2. Delete 2 summer part-time positions -- annual savings \$4,000.
3. Begin the use of retired Water Plant Operators on a part-time basis to reduce overtime expenses -- annual savings \$3,500.

These expense reductions of \$28,000, and the new increases in user fees (see "Water & Sewer Rates: One More Time" page 1), will create a balanced budget for the first time in many years. This is an absolute necessity, since the Water Reserve Fund is essentially zero. With these expense cuts, the City will hold down the increasing costs it's residents must pay for water services.

Safety Up, Accidents Down

Traffic accidents cause thousands of deaths and serious injuries each year in the United States. Many of these incidents could be prevented, if drivers were more cautious, and if more police time was allocated to accident prevention.

Recognizing this need, the Wood River Police Department secured a \$100,000 accident prevention program grant from the Illinois Department of Transportation in 1980. This grant allowed the hiring of 3 additional officers to establish a City traffic safety unit, and to begin a well-designed accident prevention program.

The accident prevention program operates under the following assumptions:

1. Certain traffic violations cause the majority of traffic accidents;
2. Accidents are more likely to occur at certain locations than at others;
3. Accidents are more likely to occur at specific times, on specific days, than others.

After identifying areas of key traffic violations, locations, times of day and days of week, officers are posted at these times and locations. Officers then issue citations to drivers for traffic violations.

The City's traffic records show that the major contributing factors of accidents are: 1) failure to yield; and 2) driving while intoxicated. In addition, 26% of all City traffic accidents occur on Illinois Route 143.

First-year performance statistics for the Program are astonishing! During April 1980 - March 1981, the following occurred:

1. The number of citations issued increased by 155%.
2. The amount of traffic court fines increased by 123%.
3. And, most important of all, the volume of traffic accidents decreased by 34%.

That's right! A 34% traffic accident reduction figure in the first year of the Program! This 34% reduction figure has far exceeded the Illinois Department of Transportation's minimum Accident Reduction Program requirement of 11%. Therefore, the Wood River Police Department has received funding once again for the 1981-1982 year. Although the Program's second year is not yet completed, the City's expectations are similar to first year results.

So, if you think you've seen police officers issuing lots of traffic warnings and citations, you probably have. But the issuance of these warnings and citations have caused a dramatic reduction in City traffic accidents. And, a 34% reduction in traffic accidents means much less property damage, and far fewer injuries to our citizens.



The Wood River Police Department's Traffic Accident Prevention Program, helps ensure that residents won't end up here!

4 SUMMER

RECREATION PROGRAM

- YOUTH PROGRAMS -

JIVELAND - Teen Center will be open daily from 1 to 5 each afternoon, (M-F) beginning June 1, 1982. Electronic games, foosball, pool, ping pong and board games available. Concession stand in operation. Supervisor will be on duty each afternoon.

TENNIS LESSONS - for boys and girls 8 years and older. Classes held each Monday and Wednesday morning at 8AM and 9AM. Fee \$10 for 6 weeks. Classes begin June 7.

Register May 25, 26, 27, or 28, from 1 to 5 PM at the Roundhouse

OILER BASKETBALL CAMP - June 7 through June 12, 1982. Fee \$20

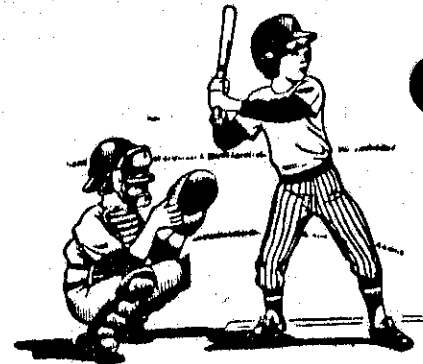
Those entering 5th, 6th, and 7th grades meet from 10:00 to 12:00 noon.
Those entering 8th, 9th, and 10th grades meet from 12:30 to 3:00.

Registration applications available at Wood River High School or Wood River Park & Recreation Office.

YOUTH BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL

Morning clinics for 7, 8, and 9 year olds.
June 7 through July 16, 1982.

League play for 10 - 15 yr old girls and for 10-17 yr old boys. Games scheduled Mondays and Thursdays beginning June 3
Fields: Sixth St. Park, Hartford, and Van Preter



ADULT SOFTBALL LEAGUES

Men's Classic Slow Pitch - 42 teams

Men's Church League - 10 teams
Women's Church League - 10 teams
Co-Ed League - 8 teams
Women's League - 6 teams

EVENINGS PLAYED

Mon-Wed-Thurs at West End,
Mon-Tues-Wed at East End
Wed-Fri at JC Field, Tues-Fri at Lions Field
Tues-Fri at West End
Thurs-Fri at East End
Tuesdays at Jaycee Field
Wednesdays at Lions Field

- ADULT PROGRAMS -

<u>ACTIVITY</u>	<u>DAY & TIME</u>	<u>FEE</u>	<u>REGISTER</u>
Tennis Lessons	M-W 10AM & 7PM	\$15/6 wks	May 25, 26, 27 and 28, from 1-5PM at the Roundhouse Rec Center
Aerobic Dance Class	M-Th 8AM & 7PM	\$15/8 wks	
Ladies Exercise	W-F 8AM	\$15/8 wks	
Slim Talk	Mon - 10AM		Any Monday Morning

Central Park Under the Stars

Every summer, the Central Park bandstand comes alive with music for all of Wood River to enjoy. This summer will be the best yet!

Wood River's Municipal Band has scheduled 10 performances throughout the summer, featuring a variety of guest vocalists. In addition, several other musical concerts will be offered. Each concert will last for approximately one hour. In case of rain the event will be cancelled, and an attempt will be made to reschedule the concert.

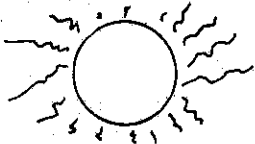
These 14 musical events will begin at 8:00 PM (with the exception of the June 26th event, which will begin at 7:00 PM), in Central Park, by the Roundhouse Recreation Center.

Wednesday, June 16 - W.R. Municipal Band
 Wednesday, June 23 - W.R. Municipal Band
 Saturday, June 26 - Palmerband
 Wednesday, June 30 - W.R. Municipal Band
 Wednesday, July 7 - W.R. Municipal Band
 Tuesday, July 13 - George Bagent, Jr. & the W.R. Barkershop Chorus

Wednesday, July 14 - W.R. Municipal Band
 Monday, July 19 - Dixieland All Stars
 Wednesday, July 21 - W.R. Municipal Band
 Tuesday, July 27 - Gene Kratschmer & The Agony 7 Minus 1

Wednesday, July 28 - W.R. Municipal Band
 Wednesday, Aug. 4 - W.R. Municipal Band
 Wednesday, Aug. 11 - W.R. Municipal Band
 Wednesday, Aug. 18 - W.R. Municipal Band

Call Parks & Recreation at 254-5521 if you have any questions.



Beat the Heat

Summertime is here, and for Wood River residents the pool at Central Park means "cool relief" from the summer's heat.

The Wood River pool was built by Standard Oil in 1928, and presented to the City of Wood River as a gift. It is one of the largest pools still in use in the mid-west area, and has a maximum capacity of 3,000 persons. However, the pool is never filled to it's capacity, with the average daily attendance for 1981 being 558, and the highest daily attendance totaling 1,312. Attendance last summer totaled 40,979 persons during 74 days of operation.

The pool will open on May 29th, 1982 and continue to operate every day until August 22nd, weather permitting. Pool hours are from 1:00 to 5:00 PM and 6:00 to 9:00 PM daily. Daily prices are \$1.00 for children and \$2.00 for adults.

Season pass prices are:

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------|
| 1. Resident children | \$17.00 |
| 2. Non-resident children | \$21.00 |
| 3. Resident adult | \$27.00 |
| 4. Non-resident | \$35.00 |

Season passes will be on sale at the Roundhouse Recreation Center from 1:00 to 5:00 PM, May 24th-28th.

In addition, the Department of Parks and Recreation offers a variety of swim instruction programs, including the "learn-to-swim" program for children. Children must be at least 6 years old, and fees are: 1) \$7.50 for residents, and 2) \$10.00 for non-residents.

Contact the Roundhouse Recreation Center at 254-5521 for more information on pool scheduling and swim programs.



Have a Heart

The Wood River Fire Department will be holding public education classes on Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR). Dates for the CPR classes have not yet been determined, but will be set in order to accommodate those persons interested in attending the sessions.

There will be a \$5.00 fee per person for the course. This fee will pay for materials and processing charges required by the Heart Association. The dates and times for the CPR classes will depend on the time schedules and preferences of those persons wishing to take the course. Classes are held in the City Council Chambers, and meet for one 4-hour session.

If you are interested in learning the basic procedures and techniques of CPR and wish to register for CPR classes, please contact the Wood River Fire Department at 259-0984. And remember, knowledge of CPR can save a life.

Story-Time

The Wood River Public Library will present a four week summer program for children, beginning June 16th through July 7th. Movies will be shown and stories will be read by a librarian, on Wednesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. Each session will last about an hour.

The summer session is open to all children. Pre-schoolers and kindergartners should be accompanied by an adult or older child.

The Wood River Public Library's hours are: M-F 10:00 AM - 8:00 PM
Sat. 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Children's programming is offered year-round. Please call Ms. Wanda Ringering at 254-4832, for more information concerning children's library programs.



Wood River children enjoy "story-hour", at the Wood River Public Library.

Services for Seniors: Leave the Driving to Us

Do you often find it difficult to get to the doctor, take your Social Security check to the bank, or do your grocery shopping? If so, let the Wood River Senior Citizen mini-bus get you there.

The mini-bus service is available through the Wood River Township Social Services Office, and is funded with federal revenue sharing dollars. The mini-bus began in January 1976, and has been operating successfully for the past six years. Over 560 people are currently being served by the mini-bus!

A priority system has been developed for use of the mini-bus as follows:

First: Doctor or hospital appointment.

Second: Taking Social Security checks to the bank.

Third: Grocery shopping (Thursday mornings are set aside for this purpose).

Fourth: Lunch at the Keasler Recreation Building nutrition site, on 3rd

The mini-bus operates from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM, Monday through Friday. Because of the large number of people using the service, the dispatcher asks that people call her at least one day in advance to make a reservation.

The mini-bus is available to both senior citizens and handicapped/disabled persons who cannot drive. Unfortunately, the mini-bus is unable to accommodate persons in wheelchairs. (Persons who are 60 years of age and older, and in wheelchairs are eligible for the Handicapped Bus Service at 465-3303.)

If you are a senior citizen or handicapped person (without a wheelchair) and cannot drive, please call Ms. Ola Kelley at 254-1744. Happy Riding!

Shelter Yourself at Belk

Have you had trouble in the past finding a suitable place for a family picnic, or weekend barbeque? Well, things will be different this summer, because Belk Park will have more shelter space.

The Wood River Lions' Club has donated a large 20' X 80' metal pre-fabricated picnic shelter to Belk Park. The total project cost paid by the Lions' Club is \$8,000. And the shelter should be ready for use by June 1st.

Reservation procedures and fees for use of both Belk Park picnic shelters are as follows:

- 1) Applications for shelter reservation and use must be made with the Wood River City Clerk's office in City Hall.
- 2) Applicants must be at least 21 years of age, and the person signing the contract must be present at the park during the activity.
- 3) A \$50 bond is required as a guarantee against destruction, litter or damage, only for those groups using alcoholic beverages at the shelter.
- 4) Residents reserving a shelter will be charged a \$15 fee.
- 5) Non-residents reserving a shelter will be charged a \$25 fee.

So remember, reserve early and get a location for that special picnic or event at Belk Park. Call the City Clerk's office at 254-0123 for more information and application/reservation

Junk it Here

Spring cleaning always seems to generate many large items that we wish to discard. Usually they're too big to put out with the trash, and we are often confronted with the problem of, exactly where to dispose of them.

For City residents only, the City provides a 40-yard dumpster for large item disposal. This dumpster is located in the City garage area, at 14th Street and Madison Avenue.

There are several rules concerning use of the dumpster. If these rules are followed, refuse disposal will be both easy and efficient for Wood River residents.

1. Only City residents may use the dumpster. Identification proving City residency is necessary prior to disposal at the site.
2. Items which can be disposed of include: old furniture, kitchen appliances, water heaters, mattresses, bed springs, bicycles and lawnmowers.
3. Items which cannot be disposed of include: building materials, closed containers, barrels, buckets or cans with lids, brush, tree trimmings and paint containers.

The dumpster is available for use between 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday. Frequently, the one person assigned to the City garage must perform work duties which require him to be away from the site. Therefore, persons wishing to dispose of large items, are advised to first call the City garage at 254-5822. And remember bring identification and only allowable items -- so you can return home empty-handed.

Did you know that.....

1. In 1981, the average Wood River resident paid only \$140 in user fees annually, for the following services:

Water fees	\$66.00
Sewer fees	\$46.00
Refuse fees	\$28.00

2. Building permits are required for construction or installation of backyard swimming pools. Permits can be obtained from City Hall for a flat fee of \$15.00. Call 254-0123 for information regarding pool construction regulations.
3. In 1981, the City's Public Works Department resurfaced over 100,000 square yards or 2½ miles of City streets, and 23,400 square yards or 3 miles of alleys.
4. The Wood River City Council met 62 times in public, executive, and informal work sessions, in calendar year 1981.
5. There are 58 Wood River residents/volunteers presently serving on 9 different citizen boards and commissions.



While You're Away....

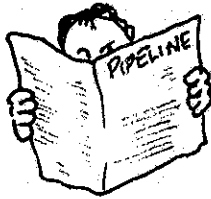
Planning for that summer vacation? Here's a reminder that your Police Department offers all City residents a free "vacation check" service. The police will check your home several times daily while you're away. This service helps to keep your home secure and undisturbed during your absence.

A police officer will visit with you at your home (or on the telephone) before you leave town, and ask you about:

1. Any lights you have set on timers.
2. House keys left with relatives or neighbors.
3. Your day of departure, and expected day of return.
4. Route of travel, and where you may be contacted while you're away.

During your vacation, police will personally check your home several times daily, hoping to deter burglars from the area.

Don't hesitate. Call the Police Department at 254-8923, and request the "vacation check" service. Burglary prevention is a smart idea!



A Word About the Pipeline

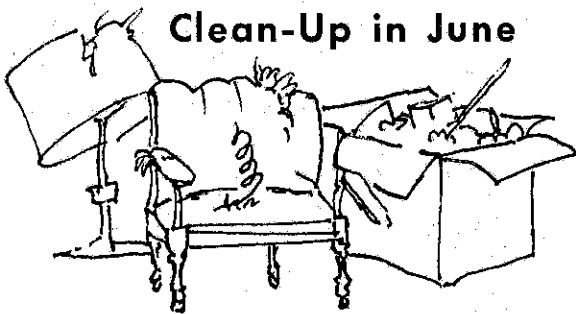
Welcome to the third issue of *The City News Pipeline!* *The Pipeline* is a quarterly information newsletter which is distributed to all City residents' homes. Its purpose is to tell citizens of available City services and how to best utilize what your tax dollars provide.

City officials encourage input from City residents, in hopes of improving programs and policies which can best serve the community. If you have any questions or comments about *The Pipeline*, please call me at City Hall at 254-0123. We are interested in hearing from you. We hope you will find *The Pipeline* both informative and enjoyable.

Gary Webster, City Manager
on behalf of

WOOD RIVER CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Lon Smith
Councilwoman Dorothy Council
Councilwoman Anna Culp
Councilman Michael McClintock
Councilman Robert Stocker



Clean-Up in June

Wood River's Annual Spring Clean-up will be held this year from June 7th-June 17th. This is your chance to throw out any items which normally can't be put out with the regular trash pick-up.

A truck will be in your area to pick up trash, junk, household items, etc., on the dates shown below. Place all items for pick-up near the location of your regular refuse pick-up area the day before pick-up date.

Take advantage of this City service and "clean-up".

HERE'S THE SCHEDULE:

MONDAY - JUNE 7

North of Edwardsville Rd., west of North Ninth St.

TUESDAY - JUNE 8

East of Central Ave. (Route 111) and Berry Lane (including north of Edwardsville Rd.)

WEDNESDAY - JUNE 9

Between Sixth St. and Central Ave., south of Madison Ave.

THURSDAY - JUNE 10

Between Sixth St. and Central Ave., north of Madison Ave., south of Edwardsville Rd.

FRIDAY, JUNE 11

South of Jennings Ave., north of Madison Ave., between Wood River Ave. and Sixth St.

MONDAY - JUNE 14

Jennings Ave. to Edwardsville Rd., between Second and Sixth Streets.

TUESDAY - JUNE 15

Jennings Ave. to Edwardsville Rd., between Second St. and Wood River Ave.

WEDNESDAY - JUNE 16

North of Eckhard Ave., west of Wood River Ave.

THURSDAY - JUNE 17

Eckhard Ave. and south, west of Wood River Ave. (including all area west of the railroad tracks).

NOTE: Tree limbs and brush will be picked up only if they are cut in 3 ft. lengths and tied in bundles. Children swing sets, glides, etc. will be picked up if they are dismantled. **BUILDING MATERIALS SUCH AS ROCKS, BRICKS, BLOCKS, ETC., WILL NOT BE PICKED UP.**

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