

Words from Woodlawn

March 2010

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Woodlawn Fire Department Fish Fry!

Every Friday through April 2nd the Woodlawn Fire & EMS Department will be holding a fish fry at the Woodlawn Fire Station located at 10121 Springfield Pike.

The hours of the fish fry are 11 am until 4 pm.

Menu items include fish sandwiches, french fries, cole slaw, a variety of soft drinks, etc. Dinners are available for \$6.50, or all items can be purchased ala carte.



APRIL 17TH: RAPE SEMINAR

April is Rape Awareness Month and the Woodlawn Police Department working collaboratively with the Glendale Police Department will be hosting our annual Rape Awareness Seminar on April 17th. This event is free. and will be held at the Woodlawn Community Center, 9 am until 2 pm. Learn how NOT to be a Victim. For additional information, call the Woodlawn Police Departments Woodlawn Police at 513- 771-8480.

Cincinnati Cycle Club to teach Bicycle Courses in Woodlawn!

Sign up now to participate in the Cincinnati Cycle Club's:

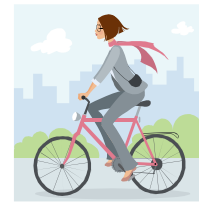
Traffic Skills 101 Courses to be held in Woodlawn!

The first 2 callers from
Woodlawn will receive a free
registration!

Please contact Glenn Talaska at
513-558-0519 or
Glenn.Talaska@UC.edu to enroll,
get on the waiting list or for more
info.

**Dates: March 13th from 2 to 6 pm
March 20th from 5 to 8 pm**

This is the basic course that every cyclist should take. Both novice and experienced cyclists will be more comfortable and at ease while cycling on the road, on trails and in traffic after this course. The course will range from 8-15 hours in length based on the experience of the participants. Expect that there will be 2 separate sessions separated by sufficient time so that you can practice the techniques you have been shown. The course is provided by League of American Bicyclists Certified Instructors (LCIs) who have been trained to provide the most up to date information in a manner that is clear and understandable to anyone who has been on a bike.



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The course will include computer demonstrations, videos slideshows and handouts. A text book and/or binder notebook will be provided. A certificate will be awarded upon successful completion. Completion of this course with a score 85% or better on both the verbal and demonstration examinations will qualify the participant for further training to become an LCI.

Traffic Skills 101 TUITION 2010

PRICES

CCC Member\$50
CCC Member Active Volunteer*.... \$45
CCC Member Active Ride
Leader*.....\$35
NON-CCC Member.....\$65

*Active status in these categories must be confirmed by Ride or Cluster Leader

Classes will be held at the Woodlawn Community Center, 10050 Woodlawn Blvd. which is at the corner of Grove Road and Woodlawn Blvd.

HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2009 TAX FILING YEAR

The Village of Woodlawn Tax Office staff will be happy to provide assistance with any questions regarding the filing of the annual Village of Woodlawn Income Tax Return. Please feel free to call or visit the Tax Office (appointments are recommended).

During tax season, the Tax Office hours are Monday through Thursday 7:00 a.m. until 6:30 p.m. and Fridays from 7:00 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. We will also be open Saturday April 3, & 10, 2010 from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

The location and mailing address of the Woodlawn Tax Office is:

10141 Woodlawn Blvd.
Woodlawn OH 45215-1324
(513) 771-4008

The Tax Administrator will be in the office Monday thru Friday during this time between 7:00 a.m. & 11:30 a.m. **If you need to talk to the Tax Administrator directly please call him on (513) 552-0017.**

Please remember that all residents 18 years of age or older are required to file a Woodlawn Income Tax form even if no tax is due. Failure to file a return on time carries a late filing fee of up to \$100.00.

Filing Due Date:

On or before April 15, 2010

Important thing to remember: A copy of page 1 of the **Federal Tax Return** is required along with W-2's and appropriate schedules are to be included or the return will be returned unprocessed and may be subject to the late filing fee. If you are having someone else prepare your return make sure they include all of the required forms.

Extensions: If you file for an extension with Internal Revenue Service to file your Federal return you need to file a copy with the Village of Woodlawn Tax Office by April 15, 2010 to get an extension with the Village or you will be subject to the late filing fee of up to \$100.00. Just because you have a Federal Extension does not get you out of the late filing fee.

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Help Stop Foreclosures in Woodlawn

Like all communities in Hamilton County and most across the country, Woodlawn is losing residents to foreclosure.



The numbers are not available yet for 2009, but in 2006 Woodlawn saw 15 homes foreclosed, in 2007 there were 17 foreclosures, and again in 2008 another 17 homes lost. In only three years, 49 neighbors are gone and vacant houses left behind.

The reasons for foreclosure are as varied as our individual circumstances, but there are several main causes. Many people were sold mortgages that are unfair and impossible to sustain. Rates adjust upward until well beyond the family's ability to pay. Young families buying their first home got taken; as well as seniors who refinanced to pay for repairs or other expenses. Another primary cause of foreclosure today is unemployment. A homeowner loses income and soon is struggling to keep up with mortgage payments.

Homeowners are embarrassed when they face financial hardship and often won't talk about the problem. Some even move out in the middle of the night because they don't want to face the neighbors. But it is possible to prevent many of these foreclosures if people seek the help of a nonprofit foreclosure counselor. These experts help homeowners work with their lenders to obtain loan modifications or forbearance agreements to allow them to get back on track and keep their homes. Mortgages are very complex and even educated homeowners have a difficult time understanding the terms and knowing what to ask the

lender. Expert help can make the difference.

But beware of foreclosure prevention scams that take advantage of homeowners already in trouble. You should not pay anyone upfront for foreclosure help. There are several nonprofit agencies in our area that provide free foreclosure prevention services. One of these is Housing Opportunities Made Equal. **If you know someone who is in trouble with their mortgage, please have them call Bill Hanks at HOME, 513-721-4663. There is no charge for the service.**

Woodlawn Residents Recycled 63 Tons in 2009!



Congratulations Woodlawn residents! In 2009, you recycled 63 tons of metal, glass, plastic, and paper. Residents saved resources, conserved energy, and reduced pollution by recycling.

The recycling efforts in Woodlawn:

- Conserved enough energy to power every home in Woodlawn for 4 days.
- Reduced more greenhouse gas pollution than if every household in Woodlawn did not drive a car for 11 days.
- Saved 433 trees from being harvested.

Recycling reduces pollution so the air we breathe is cleaner, conserves natural resources so we will have them to use in the future, and decreases the energy needed to make new products. Recycling also boosts our local economy by

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creating 169,000 jobs and \$6 billion in annual wages just in the State of Ohio.

On average, each household in Woodlawn recycled 103 pounds in 2009. That's 7.24% of all the waste you generate. If you would like to see even more material recycled in 2010, check out the list below to make sure you include all these materials in your recycling bin. Don't have a bin? Woodlawn makes it easy! Call 242-4600 to request your bin today!

Good Work, Woodlawn, your recycling efforts made a big difference!

Recyclable Materials

- Plastic bottles and jugs (remove lids)
- Glass bottles and jars (remove lids)
- Empty aerosol cans (remove lids and tips)
- Aluminum and steel cans
- Paperboard (cereal boxes, etc.)
- Junk mail and envelopes
- Magazines, catalogs, and phone books
- Newspapers
- Cardboard
- Office Paper
- Brown grocery bags
- Clean pizza boxes



Have a question about recycling? Call Hamilton County's Recycling Hotline at 946-7766 or visit: www.hamiltoncountyrecycles.org.

WE THRIVE Committee

Dedicated citizens are continuing to work hard to make our community a healthier place to be! So many efforts are coming together under the *We Thrive* initiative, including Woodlawn's efforts



to complete its hike/bike trail, establish community gardens, redevelop Brownfield sites; replace it par course, construct an outdoor basketball court, etc. You can get involved!!! We need your help to make these positive changes! Call the Woodlawn Community Center to learn more and to find out how you can help.

Community Garden Update

The snow is gone (at least for now) and it's time to think about gardening! Community gardening plots are now available for renting. The garden is conveniently located on Grove Road just across from the Woodlawn Community Center. Plots that measure 4 feet by 4 feet are available for a season rental fee of \$20. Once a gardener has fulfilled their responsibility and cleaned out their plot for the winter season, a refund of \$10 would be made. If interested, stop by the Woodlawn Community Center to reserve your plot. Payment will be necessary at the time of reservation.



Workshop for Starting Seeds

Join your gardening neighbors on Saturday, March 13th at 1 pm at the Woodlawn Community Center to learn how to start your plants from seeds. Bring cardboard egg cartons, paper cups and seed packets to the session. No green thumb necessary.

Current Need for Volunteer:

A volunteer is needed to chair the physical fitness subcommittee of the We Thrive initiative! For more details, call Cyndi Chandler at #771-7713.

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April 30th is Arbor Day 2010

This year, Arbor Day promises to be very special for the Village of Woodlawn!

Festivities will include:



The 2nd Annual Arbor Day Picture Contest

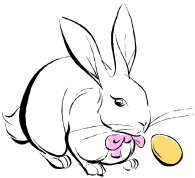
To participate, obtain the picture through the Village's web site:

www.BeautifulWoodlawn.US

or at the Woodlawn Community Center. Decorate the picture with the materials of your choice – crayons, glitter, cotton balls, whatever! **Submit your masterpiece by April 7th** to the Woodlawn Community Center in person or by mail to: Arbor Day Picture Contest, c/o 10050 Woodlawn Blvd., 45215. All submissions will be on display at the Community Center during the month of April for public viewing *and voting* for the favorites. Winners in a variety of categories will be announced at the Arbor Day Tree Planting Ceremony.

Tree seedlings will be distributed to the students at Woodlawn Elementary School. Plant them with care and watch them grow!

We will have the **Annual Tree Planting Ceremony** at 1 pm on April 30th at Woodlawn Park located at Woodlawn Blvd. and Mayview Forest Drive.



Easter EGGstravaganza!!!!

Hunt for eggs and party with the Easter Bunny

on Saturday April 3rd 2pm-4pm

Fun and games for ages toddler through 13 years of age.

The Easter Egg Hunt will be outside in front of the Community Center.

(inclement weather will bring activities inside)

Bring your baskets to collect your eggs
Easter candy and refreshments will be provided.

This is a **FREE** event for **Members and Residents**.

Non-Members and Non-Residents cost is \$5.00

For more information call Cyndi Chandler, Assistant Recreation Director at (513) 771-7713 or e-mail csimmons@beautifulwoodlawn.us

Teen Spring Break at the Woodlawn Community Center



Friday, March 26th 4pm-7pm
Free for Members

\$4.00 for Non-Members

Come and enjoy an evening with a *movie, wii games, line dancing, volleyball, basketball 3v3, uno and many more games and FUN.*

There will be refreshments.

For more info, contact the Community Center at (513) 771-7713

Woodlawn Boys Scouts

The boy scouts meet every 1st and 3rd Monday of the month, 6:00 pm at the Woodlawn



Community Center. New members are always welcome! Volunteers, too!

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A Note From The Mayor...

As I toured the Village during the holiday season, I was convinced our Village is one of God's best kept secrets. The Holiday decorations were beautiful this year - both inside Village buildings and outside and along the Springfield Pike corridor. I was reminded of the "Spirit of the Squirrel" discussed in the motivational book written by Ken Blanchard: "*Gung Ho!*" The heroine of the book discovered that squirrels work very hard and perform worthwhile work. The book explains that people want to make a difference, they want to know they perform important work that fulfills an overall important goal - which in our case is improving the quality of life in Woodlawn. Much of the work done in this Village exemplifies the "Squirrel's Spirit". Woodlawn has a unique group of employees, many of whom have been with us long-term. Each one of them is different, but they all have one thing alike: the "Spirit of the Squirrels." Please join the Council and I in letting them know how much they are appreciated. If you see a Village employee, give them a wave or a smile. They will be glad you did and I believe you will feel good about it, as well.

I ask that you please keep the leaders of the Village in your prayers as we focus and do what is necessary to keep the Village of Woodlawn moving forward in these difficult economic times. *Mayor Johnnie Lee Rabb*

Did you know...???????????

it is illegal to allow your dogs to bark or howl for more than 15 minutes? Woodlawn Code of Ordinances Section 618.07 states that "no person shall own, harbor or keep in custody a dog which disturbs the peace by barking, yelping, howling or making other loud noises to

the annoyance and/or discomfort of any person..."

This is a problem at various locations around the Village, particularly in the Warren, Chatsworth, Marion and Grandview areas. Failure to comply with this Code section is a minor misdemeanor.

Employment Opportunity

School Crossing Guard needed. If interested please call Police Chief Walt Obermeyer at #771-8480 for more information.

Just a reminder:

Municipal Building Hours:

Monday thru Friday 8:30 am till 4:30 pm

Woodlawn Community Center Hours:

Monday thru Thurs 8 am until 8 pm

Friday 8 am until 5 pm

Saturday: 9 am until 1 pm

Closed on Sundays, except by prior arrangement.

Facilities are available for rental. Call #771-7713 between the hours of 8 am and 4 pm for details.

Important Dates - See article for details.

March 12	Fish Fry
March 13	Cycling Class, Part 1
March 13	Seed Starting Class
March 19	Fish Fry
March 20	Cycling Class, Part 2
March 26	Fish Fry
March 26	Teen Spring Break Fun
April 2	Fish Fry
April 3	Easter EGGstravaganza
April 3	Special Tax Office hours
April 10	Special Tax Office hours
April 15	Tax Filing Deadline
April 30	Arbor Day