



what's on **WOODSTOCK**

May/June 2026

Your Go-To Community Magazine

FINGER ELEVEN



Cowapolooza

S U M M E R F E S T I V A L



City of
Woodstock

TRANSIT ROUTE STUDY

Preview updated route concepts at a Public Information Centre.

SUMMER PREVIEW

Woodstock's summer events season starts with Victoria Day.

NATIONAL YOUTH WEEK

The City is hosting Youth events this May and June and beyond.



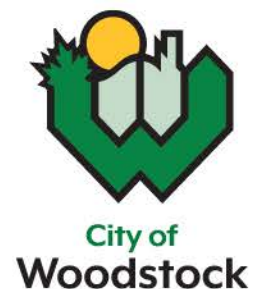
Buy **CLOSE** *By*

**When you
buy locally,
you keep
Woodstock
working
strong.**

Together we can make
good things happen
close to home.

**the
Chamber**
Connects and Advocates

In
collaboration
with





what's on **WOODSTOCK**

MAY/JUNE 2026

IN THIS ISSUE

4 WEBSITE RELAUNCHES

A modern, intuitive, and efficient way to connect with municipal services is now available through the City website.

6 SPECIAL SUMMER EVENTS

We're previewing the events you will want to add to your calendar. Southside Park is the host for Victoria Day Weekend, Canada Day and Cowapoolooza.

14 TRANSIT ROUTE STUDY

The second phase of the City's Transit Route Study begins with a public information centre at Southside Park.

31 CELEBRATE PRIDE MONTH

The Woodstock Art Gallery is hosting three events in partnership with Oxford County Pride. Events include a movie night, story time and sculpture evening.



Photo by Tracey Schutt



Photo by Andrew Norris

NEXT EDITION

The July/August 2026 edition of WoW will be delivered with Canada Post beginning on June 25.

CITY SCHEDULES AND SERVICES

- | | |
|--|---|
| 8 Youth Programs for ages 13-17 | 19 City Beautiful Awards Nomination |
| 10 Personal Fireworks Prohibition | 20 Recreation Woodstock Summer Camps |
| 10 Property Tax Reminder | 22 Woodstock Public Library |
| 10 Emergency Preparedness Week | 27 Thank a Crossing Guard |
| 12 Environment Advisory Committee | 28 Woodstock Museum NHS |
| 16 Student Transit Pass | 31 June is Recreation & Parks Month |
| 16 Watering Restrictions in Effect | 32 Woodstock Art Gallery |
| 16 Election 2026 - Get on the Voters List | 35 Fee Assistance in Recreation |

What's on Woodstock Magazine is published by the City's Marketing and Communications Department. A total of 24,000 copies are delivered to the residents and businesses of Woodstock.

Magazine produced by Flying Squirrel Design. E-mail: wow@flyingsquirreldesign.com. Mail/Courier: 9-1201 Nellis St., Woodstock, ON N4T 1N8

Editorial written by City of Woodstock staff. Ad deadline for July/August 2026 edition: May 27, 2026. Email wow@flyingsquirreldesign.com or visit www.cityofwoodstock.ca/wow to book your advertising today.

City of Woodstock Phone Directory Contacts

Art Gallery.....	519-539-6761
City Hall.....	519-539-1291
Civic Centre Arena.....	519-421-3484 x 4301
Goff Hall Rental.....	519-421-3484 x 4301
Library.....	519-539-4801
Market Centre Rental.....	519-537-8411
Museum.....	519-537-8411
Para-Transit Services.....	519-539-1291 x 2510
Parks & Recreation.....	519-539-1291 x 4101
Public Works.....	519-539-1291 x 3140 or x 3104
Small Business Centre.....	519-421-2129
Southside Aquatics.....	519-421-POOL (7665)
Southwood Arena.....	519-421-3484 x 4301
Transit Services.....	519-539-1291 x 3102

Event Listings

To have your events listed in the FREE Community Events Calendar in *What's on Woodstock*, please visit cityofwoodstock.ca/wowevents



City launches redesigned website with a fresh look and improved navigation

Residents, visitors, and community partners will now experience a more modern, intuitive, and efficient way to connect with municipal services as the city recently unveiled its newly redesigned website including microsites for the Museum, Art Gallery, and Economic Development.



This digital redesign and website migration project reflects the City's ongoing commitment to improving access to information, enhancing customer service, and ensuring its online presence remains reliable, secure, and cost effective.

Following the retirement of the previous content management system, the city reviewed its options and chose to move to the newest platform offered by its current web provider. This choice keeps services running smoothly, lowers costs, and gives the city access to better tools and updated technology.

"By using modern technology, we're making it easier than ever for our community to access services, stay informed, and connect with their local government. Our redesigned websites are built on a modern, user-focused platform that puts residents' needs at the centre of the experience," said the City's Manager of Communications and Marketing, Tatjana Milne.

Navigation has been reorganized to help people find information more quickly, and the interface has been simplified to reduce clutter and improve readability across all devices. Updated homepage elements, including refreshed iconography and visual banners, create a more engaging and accessible experience for all audiences.

The city looks forward to welcoming residents to the new digital platforms and continuing to build a more connected, informed, and engaged community.



Check out the COW Tales 'Way Back When' contest on page 19 and enter today!

A: 60 years.



Social Planning Council Oxford
www.spcoxford.ca

Financial Empowerment Workshop with Social Planning Council Oxford

The Social Planning Council of Oxford will lead participants through a free interactive, confidence building financial empowerment workshop designed to help people take control of their money with clarity and confidence. Participants will explore how to build a realistic budget that reflects their priorities, understand how credit works and how to strengthen it over time,

learn approaches for managing and reducing debt, and develop personalized savings plans that support both short term needs and long term goals. The workshop is geared toward individuals at any stage of their financial journey and emphasizes simple tools, supportive discussion, and actionable next steps that can be put into practice right away.

May 11 | 6:30–8 p.m.
May 25 | 6:30–8 p.m.

June 1 | 2:30–4 p.m.
June 8 | 6:30–8 p.m.

June 24 | 6:30–8 p.m.

at Journey Well Health & Wellness, 514 Princess St, Woodstock

May 20 | 6:30–8 p.m.

at Woodstock Public Library, 445 Hunter St, Woodstock

All workshops are free! Register via email to info@spcoxford.ca

Funded by:



Foundation
Fondation



2026 Oxford Tenant Support Social Planning Council Oxford workshops presented by Canadian Centre for Housing Rights

Know Your Rights: Human Rights in Housing

Everyone deserves housing that is free from discrimination. Our Human Rights in Housing training helps participants understand protections under the Ontario Human Rights Code and what to do if those rights are not upheld. Through everyday examples, we look at how discrimination can happen, when it often occurs, and how landlords are expected to respond. The session also covers disability accommodations, the right to live safely and comfortably in your home, and where to go for help with human rights concerns in housing.

May 6 | 7–8 p.m. Free – Virtual
Register via email to info@spcoxford.ca

Know Your Rights: Eviction Prevention

Understanding the eviction process in Ontario is a key part of protecting tenants' rights and preserving affordable housing. In this training, we walk through practical examples to show how the eviction process works and what challenges tenants may face. We focus on paperwork, timelines, voiding evictions, illegal lockouts, and where to go for help. This training helps participants build the knowledge and skills needed to respond effectively to eviction.

May 27 | 7–8 p.m. Free – Virtual
Register via email to info@spcoxford.ca

Funded by:



Know Your Rights: Rental Housing Basics

This training covers the most important things you need to know when renting in Ontario. It's a great starting point for anyone looking to better understand tenant's rights. Using real-world examples, we help participants recognize common challenges tenants face and share practical information on where to find help and support. Topics include rent increases, maintenance issues, guests, privacy, and other important concerns.

June 25 | 6:30–8 p.m. Free – In Person
at Woodstock Public Library
Register via email to info@spcoxford.ca

Get ready for a very special summer of events

Woodstock's summer events season kicks off in May, and this year will be extra special as we celebrate the City's 125th anniversary with new activities and exciting headliners.

Victoria Day Weekend: Rewind Edition

May 14–18
Southside Park

The annual midway and parade are returning Victoria Day weekend with a retro twist in honour of the City's milestone anniversary.



Photo by Tracey Schut

The World's Finest Shows Midway runs throughout the weekend with a variety of amusement rides, carnival games and food. This year, the midway is introducing a new ride credit system and reloadable card. You can find details at www.cityofwoodstock.ca/victoriaday.

The 78th Annual Victoria Day Parade will feature marching bands, floats from local organizations and businesses, vintage cars and entertainers.



Photo supplied

The parade departs from the Woodstock Fairground (875 Nellis St.) on Monday, May 18 at 10 a.m. and will make its way to Southside Park.

After the parade, head to the Victoria Day Rewind for a throwback afternoon of retro games, classic play and all ages fun! We're reviving some favourite community traditions including a band tattoo, showcasing choreographed marching band performances, classic picnic and team building games, and a car show in the South Gate Centre parking lot. There will also be a Teddy Bear Picnic hosted by Woodstock Rotary Club, Knight School interactive demonstrations, beach volleyball games, buskers and more. Look for the full schedule on our website!

Canada Day

Wednesday, July 1 | 2–10 p.m.
Southside Park

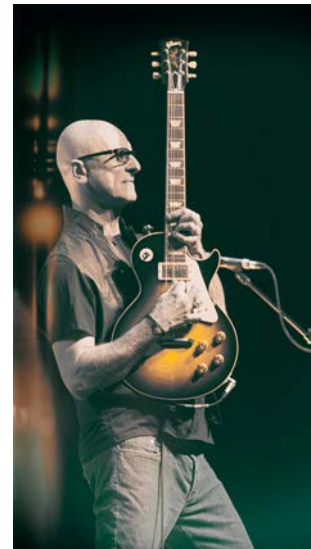


Photo by Al Petman

Southside Park will be filled with fun for all ages on Canada Day! This year's event will be our most memorable celebration to date to mark the official anniversary of Woodstock's incorporation as a city in 1901. Join us for live music, Canadian Kids Zone activities and local vendors. The evening will end with a performance from headliner Kim

Mitchell and a spectacular fireworks show!



Photo supplied

Visit www.cityofwoodstock.ca/canadaday for all the details.

Cowapolooza

Friday, Aug. 14 | 5:30–10 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 15 | 2–10 p.m.

Southside Park

Best-selling alternative rock band Finger Eleven will headline Woodstock's favourite summer festival, returning to Southside Park this August. Hailing from Burlington, Ontario, Finger Eleven has electrified audiences the world over with chart-topping hits including "Paralyzer" and "Together Right."

The free event kicks off on Friday evening with Cowapolooza Country, including performances from Taylor Moore Music, Rob Fitzgerald and the Bucking Broncos.

The fun continues with Cowapolooza Kids on Saturday from 2–8:30 p.m., featuring The SuperDogs Wild Wild Woof Show, Touch a Truck, a photobooth, activities and more.

Saturday will also feature live music on the main stage throughout the afternoon from Paper Tides, Chris Koster Music, Madison Galloway and Stuck

on Planet Earth. Finger Eleven will hit the stage for the show-stopping finale starting at 8:30 p.m.

The weekend will also include a beverage garden, local food and marketplace vendors, a Woodstock 125th anniversary merch tent and free event shuttle bus. You can find the full schedule and details at www.cowapolooza.ca.



Photo supplied

FINGER ELEVEN

THEATRE WOODSTOCK

The Addams Family

MAY 22 - 31, 2026

Music by Andrew Lloyd Webber & Lyrics by Tim Rice

Director: Dallas Neufeld
 Music Director: Sarah Baigent
 Choreographer: Maegen Hansen
 Producer: Alicia Sauvé and Karen Klein-Locke
 Stage Manager: Chloé McGregor

www.theatrewoodstock.com

FEATURING A LIVE ORCHESTRA!

104.7 **Heartfm** MAGLIN Site Furniture **execulink** TELECOM

The Addams Family is presented through special arrangement with and all authorized performance materials are supplied by Theatrical Rights Worldwide 1180 Avenue of the Americas, Suite 640, New York, NY 10036. www.theatricalrights.com

STAGES @TW

JUNE 12 - 14, 2026

MEREDITH WILLSON'S
THE MUSIC MAN KIDS & **ALICE @ WONDERLAND**

Director: Ben Shalley
 Music Director: Grace Wright
 Choreographer: Natalie Wiafe
 Stage Manager: Briar Tanton
 Producer: Nikki Sloane

Director: Katherine Martin
 Stage Manager: Sue Robinson
 Producer: Julie Buncher
 Cricket Scott

104.7 **Heartfm** MAGLIN Site Furniture **execulink** TELECOM

Music Man KIDS is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.MTIshows.com

YOUTH PROGRAMS

NATIONAL YOUTH WEEK MAY 1-7 | COWAN PARK SPORTSPLEX

We're celebrating National Youth Week with free activities for ages 13 to 17! Registration is encouraged but not required.

May 1

Friday Night Fun Night
6:30–8:30 p.m.

May 2

Youth Basketball & Volleyball
5–6:30 p.m.

May 3

Youth Pancakes & Pickleball
12–1:30 p.m.

May 4

Youth Gym Time
3:30–5:30 p.m.

May 5

Youth Game Night —
Boardgames and online trivia
3:30–5:30 p.m.

May 6

Youth Dodgeball
6–8 p.m.

May 7

Youth Flag Football
4:30–6 p.m.

FRIDAY NIGHT FUN NIGHTS MAY 1–JUNE 19 | 6:30–8:30 P.M. COWAN PARK SPORTSPLEX

This drop-in program for ages 13 to 17 offers a welcoming space to make new friends, learn new skills and discover new hobbies with a different theme or activity each week.

Free to attend! Find descriptions for each week and register in advance online

May 1

Movie & Popcorn —
featuring GOAT

May 8

Phone Charms & Keychains

May 15

Spa & Sports

May 22

Make Your Own Bubble Tea

May 29

Flag Football

June 5

Minute-to-Win-It:
Sports Edition

June 12

Table Tennis & Pizza

June 19

Sunset Sports Social



YOUTH SUMMER PROGRAMS

We have another fun-filled summer in store for youth ages 13 to 17! Enjoy weekly, affordable trips and activities Tuesday through Friday from July 6–Sept. 4. Here are just a few of the exciting locations we'll be visiting:

- Whisk & Roll Bakery
- Ripley's Aquarium
- Niagara Falls
- Canada's Wonderland
- Cheesy Cow
- Medieval Times
- Do Good Art Studio
- Blue Jays Game

Registration opens Friday, May 1 for Woodstock residents and Friday, May 8 for non-residents. Find the full schedule and program details online!

www.cityofwoodstock.ca/youth



PLEASE JOIN US

June 18, 2026 at 6:30 PM

at the Holiday Inn Express (Thames Room)
510 Norwich Ave, Woodstock

destinations travel and cruise centre  collette

Japan. Explore ancient and modern Japanese culture firsthand. Discover peaceful temples and technological marvels set against unimaginable natural beauty.

Would you like to learn more? Please join Lisa, Hektor (Collette) and the staff of Destinations Travel and Cruise Centre for this informative presentation. RSVP to Lisa Doney at lisa@destinationstravel.ca or 519-533-0502



Lawn Bowling

Try it! You will love it!

325 Finkle St – Corner of Parkinson Rd & Finkle St
Open House May 23, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.
May 24, 1–4 p.m.

Learn to Bowl – Starting May 26 for 3 weeks
Tuesday & Thursday nights – Cost \$50

Woodstock Lawn Bowling Club

Social Bowling Nights

Tuesday & Thursday, 7 p.m.

www.woodstocklawnbowling.ca

or 519-463-5447



Lawn Bowling

1. Social sport is as casual or competitive as you like
2. Sport for all ages (12–80 years)





Bylaw - 0802

**Reminder:
personal fireworks
are not permitted
in Woodstock.**

www.cityofwoodstock.ca/fireworks



ERNIE HARDEMAN
MPP - Oxford

ernie.hardeманco@pc.ola.org
519-537-5222 • 1-800-265-4046



**Property Tax
Reminder**

Due May 29



Learn more at www.cityofwoodstock.ca/payingtaxes
or call 519-539-1291

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS WEEK



Emergency Preparedness Week encourages people to take concrete actions to be better prepared to protect themselves and their families during emergencies.



KNOW YOUR RISKS

Common risks in SW Ontario are **weather related** (storms, flooding, heat/cold weather) and **power outages**. Think about what you would do and how each of those examples might affect you and your family.



HAVE A PLAN

Do you know all of the **safe exits** from your home and neighbourhood? Where will you meet up with family members or roommates? Do you have any **pets, special equipment** or **medications** you need to take with you?



MAKE A KIT

Your emergency kit should allow you to be **self-sufficient for 72 hours**. Don't forget things your family needs every day like medications and pet food or important documents.

May 3-9, 2026 | Learn more at www.getprepared.gc.ca

Since 1993

Soccer Day Camps



- ✓ July & August weeks
- ✓ Morning & Full Day sessions
- ✓ Ages 5 to 13
- ✓ Before & After Care available



**Early Deals,
Big Savings**



For more information:

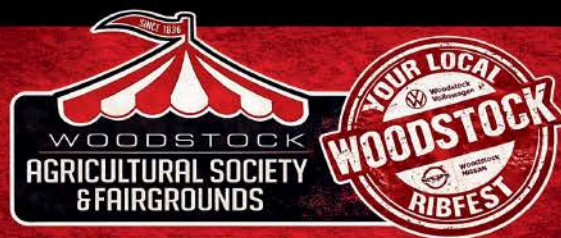
royalsoccer.com

800-427-0536

For location & registration details visit our website.

WOODSTOCK FAIR & RIBFEST

AUG 21-23



PROUDLY PARTNERING TOGETHER

MIDWAY • SHOWS • EXHIBITS • LIVE MUSIC

The Midway



is Back!

**PLUS GAMES - FOOD -
DEMO DERBY - TRACTOR
PULL - KIDS ZONE -
PETTING ZOO & MORE!**

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

www.woodstockfair.ca

PRINCESS



3 Day Sale Event with Princess Best Time Of The Year to Book a Princess Cruise

Thursday, June 4th | 6:30pm

Join us to explore the latest updates with Princess.
New itineraries, what to expect and how you can
get the best value on your next trip!
Exclusive 3 Day Sale runs June 11-13.*

(519) 537 8333

523 Norwich Ave
Woodstock, ON



<https://www.expediacruzises.ca/Woodstock>

World Migratory Bird Day is on Saturday, May 9, 2026

This year's theme is "Shared Spaces: Creating Bird Friendly Cities and Communities."

According to Nature Canada, 36 cities have now earned the Bird Friendly designation. Volunteer Bird Teams along with other residents work together to reduce human-related threats to birds and restore habitats to help birds thrive. Woodstock's team has been working hard to help our city acquire this designation which will recognize our community for taking meaningful action to protect local and migratory birds.

As a concerned resident, you can help by turning your concern for declining bird populations into action. Here are some things you can do:

- Create habitat and food sources for pollinators. This, in turn, provides an ecosystem that offers food such as insects, caterpillars, seeds, nectar and berries for birds as well as shelter for nesting and protection from predators and weather.
- Plant native plants:
 - **A few examples:** Blue Lobelia (*Lobelia siphilitica*), Hairy Beardtongue (*Penstemon hirsutus*), Wild Lupine (*Lupinus perennis*), Dense Blazing (*Star Liatris spicata*) and Serviceberry (*Amelanchier canadensis*) are certain to attract our pollinators and feathered friends. Check out tricitymastergardeners.ca for more great tips.
- Plant trees and shrubs, providing nesting habitat and wildlife corridors.
- Use organic pest-control measures such as a spray made of dish soap and water; encourage beneficial insects such as pollinators and natural predators.
- Practice companion planting, a method of growing different plants close together so they benefit one another. Patches of different plants rather than straight rows of the same plants will confuse insects that come to feast on a particular kind of plant.
- Use organic fertilizers such as compost.
- Reduce bird window collisions, a deadly threat that is easy to fix by making windows more visible to birds. (This can be done by applying decals).
- Keep cats indoors. Cats were made to hunt. A recent study out of the University of Guelph put the number of birds killed by outdoor cats between 19 and 197 million. Check out "Nature Canada, Tips for Making the Transition to Indoor Life."
- ***Did you know that the City of Woodstock has a bylaw that prohibits both cats and dogs from roaming anywhere other than the premises of their owner or the person responsible for their care?*** For further information, refer to www.cityofwoodstock.ca/bylaw

Check out Woodstock's resident Peregrine Falcons' winter roost on Dundas Street United Church. Look for their excrement, proof that they call the church home every winter. Come spring, they head back to their nesting area.



Photo by Richard Skevington

Peregrine falcon

Thank you to first time WEAC columnist Sharron Skevington from the Woodstock Field Naturalists' Club for this contribution.

WOODSTOCK



FLAG



FOOTBALL
FALL LEAGUE
SEPT 5 - NOV. 14

**FOR BOYS
& GIRLS
AGE 6-18**

**EARLY BIRD
REGISTRATION**

MAY 1ST TO JUNE 30

**\$200 INCLUDES
JERSEY**

**AT COWAN
SPORTSPLEX**

**NFL Flag Football
League is calling
your name!**

**Whether you're a
seasoned player or
just starting out,
we have divisions
for all skill levels.**

**SEASON STARTS
SEPT. 5
REGISTER TODAY!**

**FEMALES
IN FLAG**

WWW.WOODSTOCKWOLVERINES.CA



Shaping the Future of Transit: Phase Two of the City's Route Study Moves Forward

The City of Woodstock is continuing with the second phase of its Transit Route Study, a project designed to shape how residents move around the community for years to come. Building on months of technical analysis and early public feedback, this next stage focuses on refining route options, evaluating service improvements, and preparing to share updated concepts with the community.

The Transit Route Study will guide future planning and investment in the system, with a strong emphasis on improving route frequency, expanding service into new and growing neighbourhoods, and creating better connections across the city.

"As Woodstock continues to grow, the need for a more efficient, reliable, and accessible transit network has become increasingly clear. The study aims to meet that need by combining data driven analysis with meaningful community input," said Transit Supervisor, Jeffrey Springsted.

City staff and the project consultants have spent the past several months reviewing ridership patterns, population growth trends, and

operational considerations. Early findings have helped identify opportunities to streamline routes, reduce travel times, and improve overall service reliability. Phase Two will build on this foundation by testing potential route scenarios and evaluating how well they meet the needs of current and future riders.

A key milestone in this phase is the upcoming Public Information Centre being held in Southside Park on Fri., May 15 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. during the midway at the Victoria Day weekend celebrations. Residents will have the opportunity to review updated route concepts, ask questions, and share their feedback. This session will play an important role in shaping the final recommendations, ensuring the plan reflects the lived experiences of the people who rely on transit every day.

A final report and recommendations from the Transit Route Study are expected to be brought to Council for discussion at a later date.




For more information, visit www.cityofwoodstock.ca/transit

TRANSIT ROUTE STUDY PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE

At the Midway in Southside Park
Friday, May 15 from 4–7 p.m.

Have your say!

See the Proposed New Routes:

-  Preview updated route concepts
-  Ask questions to the study team
-  Share your feedback

Help shape the future of Woodstock Transit.





**Grand Prize
Sponsor**



**Show Bag
Sponsor**



Presentations By:



10:30



11:30



12:30



ROCKY MOUNTAINEER®

1:30

Meet our other wonderful travel suppliers including:

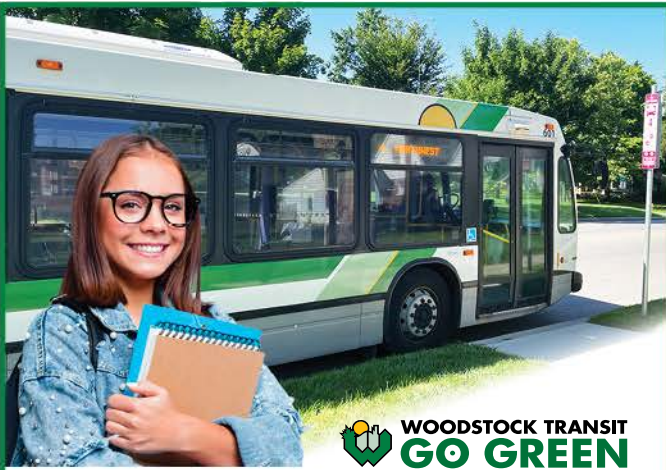


May 9, 2026

10am - 2pm

**Sally Creek Community Centre
330 Lakeview Drive
Woodstock, Ontario**





**WOODSTOCK TRANSIT
GO GREEN**

Students!

Pick up your summer SStride pass for just **\$27.50** and enjoy unlimited rides all summer!

SStride passes are valid for July and August only.

Visit www.woodstocktransit.ca for more information, route maps, schedules, fares and detour notices.



Watering Restrictions in Effect

To help protect our water supply, watering restrictions are in place from May 1 through September 30 each year.

Outside watering is allowed between 6–9 a.m. and 6–9 p.m. Even numbered addresses can water on even days, odd numbered addresses can water on odd days.



Residents invited to learn about running for office

Residents interested in learning more about the upcoming municipal election now have access to detailed information about the process of running for local office. Municipal roles play an important part in community governance, and individuals who wish to understand the requirements and responsibilities of elected positions can now explore the newly released Nomination Package.

The 2026 Municipal Election Nomination Package is now available – this comprehensive resource will guide anyone interested in running for office through every step of the nomination process. The package includes:

- Eligibility criteria
- Key dates and deadlines
- Campaign expectations, financial rules, and guidance based on what candidates have found helpful
- All the necessary forms needed to run for local office

The Nomination Package is now available at www.cityofwoodstock.ca/election offering everything prospective candidates need to understand the process and take the next step.



GET ON THE VOTERS LIST

**Be Election Ready –
get the information you need today!**

cityofwoodstock.ca/election

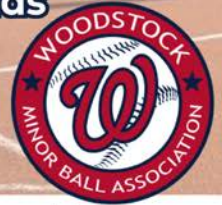


Community Generosity Brings Scoreboards to Woodstock Ball Diamonds

Installation begins this spring at Southside Park

By Nathan Webster

President, Woodstock Minor Ball Association (WMBA)
nathanwebster@woodstockminorbaseball.com



This spring, visitors to Southside Park may notice activity around the baseball diamonds as crews begin installing new digital scoreboards. This exciting development reflects the power of community support for youth sport in Woodstock. As someone who grew up playing baseball in Woodstock, seeing our community come together to invest in the next generation of players is incredibly meaningful to me. Moments like this show what can happen when people care deeply about youth sport and the opportunities it creates for young people.

The project, which will see three new scoreboards installed at Southside Park, was expedited through the generosity of Woodstock locals David & Barb Beatty, who were inspired after attending the 13U National Baseball Championship the past two years to watch their god-daughter's sons play. Seeing firsthand the energy surrounding the tournament, with our local players competing and families cheering, they recognized the positive impact youth baseball continues to have in our community and chose to help strengthen the facilities that support it. The new scoreboards are more than an upgrade, they are a symbol of what can be achieved when volunteers, community partners, local government, and generous community members work together to build something lasting.

Two of the new scoreboards will be installed at the Southside East and Southside West diamonds, which serve as the home of the annual 13U National Championship. Although the championship inspired this investment, the benefits of the new scoreboards will be felt throughout the entire baseball community. These diamonds host a wide range of WMBA baseball and fastball activity each year, including games for the Woodstock Wranglers rep teams, Nationals Girls Fastball, and our House League year-end tournament. We also host regional and provincial tournaments throughout the summer on these fields. For local players, these fields represent the opportunity to compete on some of the finest baseball diamonds in Canada.

A third scoreboard will be installed at Tip O'Neill Sportsfield, Woodstock's full-size diamond used by our older age groups, including WMBA players from age 14 up to our newly formed 22U team. Installation will begin this spring, with the project expected to be completed during the 2026 season. This improvement is the capstone to one of the best fields in Ontario, which supports the continued growth of baseball in Woodstock for older players, including adults. This summer, the field will welcome a Blue Jays Academy Clinic and the "Road to Okotoks" weekend qualifier tournament that gives teams the opportunity to compete for the Morneau Cup in Alberta in July.

Whenever improvements are made at a particular facility, it is natural for people to ask about the many other diamonds across the city where young athletes also play. Those questions reflect the strong sense of pride our community has in youth sports. Southside Park serves as Woodstock's premier baseball venue

and the natural home for major tournaments and showcase events. Investments there have helped ensure our city can continue hosting events that bring visitors, economic activity, and national recognition to Woodstock. The generosity that made this project possible also gives our association the ability to accelerate improvements at other local diamonds, ensuring that investments in baseball benefit players across the entire program. Projects like this are possible because of the strong partnership between the Woodstock Minor Ball Association and the City of Woodstock, which continues to be an incredible partner in supporting youth sport and helping deliver improvements to community facilities.

By 2031, Woodstock will have hosted the 13U National Championship for nine consecutive years — an accomplishment made possible through the dedication of volunteers, the support of local sponsors, and the strong partnership between the Woodstock Minor Ball Association and the City of Woodstock. The Championship itself takes place over just six days each summer, but its impact on Woodstock is considerable. Each year the event brings teams and families from across Canada to our city, generating meaningful economic activity for local businesses and bringing hundreds of visiting athletes and families to Woodstock, while showcasing Woodstock as a welcoming destination for youth sport. Most importantly, it creates moments of pride for our community as young athletes from across the country compete alongside ours on our local fields. Our vision is long-term, with the intent to broadcast Woodstock to a national audience, supported by partners who want to be part of the exciting journey.

When people in Woodstock step forward to support youth sport, those contributions create a legacy that benefits young athletes and the entire community for generations. When the scoreboards light up the diamonds for the first time this season, thousands of young athletes will experience the results of that community spirit firsthand. I encourage everyone to use that as a reminder that baseball in Woodstock has always been about far more than the game itself.



Check out the COW Tales 'Way Back When' contest on page 19 and enter today!

A: Dominion Day.

C.O.W. TALES

CoW Tales is a regular feature in *What's on Woodstock* designed to celebrate the City of Woodstock's rich history. Thanks to the contributions of the Woodstock Museum NHS and the Heritage Advisory Committee, CoW Tales shares stories that help us understand and connect with our past as our community continues to grow and evolve. In celebration of the City's upcoming 125th anniversary, this issue features some of the ways Woodstonians have celebrated important events in our history.



Victoria Day Parade

Woodstock has had a parade to celebrate the birthday of Queen Victoria since the 1890s. May 24 was first declared a holiday in Canada in 1845. It was later recognized officially as Victoria Day following the queen's death in 1901. In 1952, the holiday was amended to fall on the Monday before May 25. The current iteration of the parade will mark its 78th year on Monday, May 18. Photo: Victoria Day parade on Dundas Street, May 24, 1893.



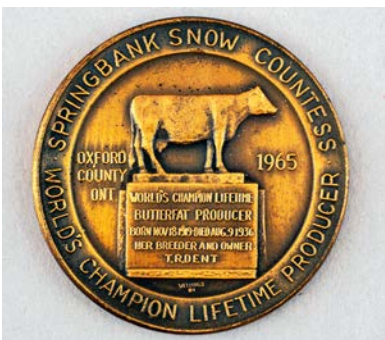
Jubilee Day

Jubilee Day was held on June 22, 1897, to mark Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee. As part of the festivities, a public luncheon was held at the courthouse in Woodstock for pioneers of Oxford County over the age of 75. Some notable names featured in this photo, taken on the courthouse steps, include George R. Pattullo, Rev. William Alexander MacKay and Robert Bickle. Photo: Oxford Pioneers at Courthouse on Jubilee Day, June 22, 1897.



Games and Races

The Woodstock Amateur Athletic Association held sporting events as part of the city's Victoria Day and Dominion Day celebrations in the late 19th and early 20th century. The WAAA was organized in 1883. Their sports field was located in the northwest corner of the city on Tecumseh Street. The WAAA civic holiday events included bicycle, running, walking and steeplechase races. Photo: WAAA Park men's walking race line-up, May 1909.



Commemorative Coins

Commemorative items are often used to mark important anniversaries, events, people and places. The Woodstock Coin Club was formed in 1957 and has minted many commemorative coins over the years, including this coin featuring the Springbank Snow Countess. The club will be creating special commemorative coins this year for the City's 125th anniversary. Photo: Springbank Snow Countess Commemorative Coin, 1965.

C.O.W. TALES

Way Back When Contest

THE WINNER of the April 'Way Back When' Contest question is **Marissa McClung**. Marissa correctly answered that there have been three female mayors (Bernadette Smith, Wendy Calder, Margaret Munnoch). She wins a \$50 gift card from Boston Pizza Woodstock, and she will qualify for a \$100 Boston Pizza Woodstock gift card to be drawn from all the monthly winners in December.

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSOR!



BOSTON PIZZA WOODSTOCK
 431 Norwich Ave
 519-536-7800
www.bostonpizza.com

THINK YOU KNOW YOUR WOODSTOCK HISTORY?

Enter the Way Back When contest for a chance to win! Answer the last question below in bold. If your answer is correct, your name will be entered into the draw. The winner's name will appear in the next edition of *What's on Woodstock*. Contest questions have been selected from the book, *Quizzical History*, published by the Oxford Historical Society and Woodstock Museum NHS.

- Q.** What was Canada Day called before it was renamed in 1982? (See pg. 17)
- Q.** How many years are marked by a Diamond Jubilee? (See pg. 4)
- Q.** What material is used for commemorative tokens as an alternative to metal coins? (See pg. 4)
- Q.** What is the name of the lacrosse organization that helped to found the Woodstock Amateur Athletic Association?

Send your answer along with your name and phone number to wow@cityofwoodstock.ca by Friday, June 12, 2026. You can also drop your answer in the contest box at City Hall.



CITY BEAUTIFUL

AWARDS

Do you know a property that helps make Woodstock beautiful?

Nominate them for a City Beautiful award!
 Deadline to nominate is July 12.

Please submit a current photo of the property with the nomination form. You can nominate your own property or someone else's.

Properties must be:

- within the City of Woodstock
- visible from the street



Nomination Details

Occupant Name or Business Name:

Occupant or Business Phone Number:

Street Name and Number:

Nomination Category (select 1)

- Residential
- New Landscape Residential (within last year)
- Commercial
- Industrial
- Institutional (school, church, bank, hospital etc.)

Nomination forms may be delivered to:

Parks Department (located in Southside Park)
 192 Old Wellington St. S. Woodstock, ON N4S 3J3
 Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. (closed for lunch from 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.)

Submit online at www.cityofwoodstock.ca/citybeautiful

COMMUNITY EVENTS

May

- 2 **“Coronation”** presented by **Oxford Collegium Singers**, Knox Presbyterian Church, 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$30/advance or \$40 at door (cash only). Music composed by Handel, Mozart, Williams, Rutter, and Parry. Visit oxfordcollegium.ca
- 3 **Mother’s Day Brunch & Boutique**, South Gate Centre, 9 a.m.–1 p.m. \$25. Celebrate MOM with a delicious Brunch and shopping at “Nana’s Boutique.” Visit southgatectr.com/events or email sgc@southgatectr.ca
- 3 **Spring Clean Up**, 403 Dundas St, 11 a.m.–12:30 p.m. Free. Make a positive impact on our community by cleaning up our trails, downtown and neighbourhoods! Website: fillup4.wixsite.com/springcleanup, email: fillup@jarrefillery.ca
- 7 **K2K Productions presents ‘Freaky Friday’**, Hope Church, 64 Blandford St, Innerkip, May 7, 8, 9 at 7 p.m., May 9 at 2 p.m. Tickets \$25 ea. Bring the whole family! Tickets: k2kproductions.ca/boxoffice or call 519-290-9525.
- 8 **30 Years of the Oxford Winds Concert**, Knox Presbyterian Church, 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$10/advance or \$15 at the door. Children 12 and under free. Visit www.oxfordwinds.ca
- 20 **Fun League: Woodstock Dragon Boat Club**, Roth Park Clubhouse, 6–7 p.m. Cost \$75. Are you 12+, want to learn how to paddle? Sign up for 6 weeks of practice, coaching & mock races on Wednesdays. We supply all equipment. Visit woodstockdragonboat.ca/dragon-boat-fun-league or email woodstockdbc.funleague@gmail.com

- 22–31 **The Addams Family – A New Musical Comedy** presented by **STAGES/Theatre Woodstock**, Market Centre Theatre, May 22/23/28/29 at 7 p.m., May 24/30/31 at 2 p.m. Tickets \$32, Thrifty Thursday \$20. Visit theatrewoodstock.com or phone 519-537-2582.
- 25 **Oxford Historical Society Meeting**, Chartwell Oxford Gardens, 423 Devonshire Ave, 6:30 p.m. Free, donations welcome. A celebration of Oxford County’s Past with speaker Liz Dommasch. Visit oxfordhistoricalsociety.ca

June

- 4–6 **K2K Productions present The Lion King Jr.**, Jubilee Church, 707 Downie St, Stratford. June 4/5/6 at 7 p.m., June 6 at 2 p.m. Tickets \$25. Journey with your family and friends to the Pride Lands. Visit k2kproductions.ca/boxoffice
- 12–14 **STAGES/Theatre Woodstock present ‘The Music Man Kids’ & ‘Alice@Wonderland.’** Market Centre Theatre, Jun 12/13 at 7 p.m., June 13/14 at 2 p.m. Tickets \$15. Visit theatrewoodstock.com or phone 519-537-2582.
- 28 **Oxford County Coin Show 2026**, Woodstock Fairgrounds, 9 a.m.–3 p.m. Admission: \$4. Buy, Sell, Trade & Evaluate. Kid’s Table, Food Booth. Visit woodstockcoinclub.ca or contact John Tryhub, john@woodstockgoldnsilver.ca
- 29 **Royal City Soccer Summer Day Camps**, Southside Park, Price varies \$175–\$299. Canada’s #1 soccer day camp. Celebrating 33 years of skill-building and fun for ages 5–13. Visit royalsoccer.com or email info@royalsoccer.com

SUMMER CAMPS

The City of Woodstock offers enriching camp programs for kids aged 4–12

It’s not too late to register!

www.recreationwoodstock.ca

Recreation Camps



	Age	Featured Activity*	June 29–July 3	July 6–10	July 13–17	July 20–24	July 27–31	Aug 3–7	Aug 10–14	Aug 17–21	Aug 24–28	Aug 31–Sept 4	Fee
Cowan Park Sportsplex 7:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.													
Cowan Kinder Camp	4 to 5		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	\$220
Cowan Tykes	6 to 7		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	\$212
Cowan Juniors	8 to 9		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	\$212
Cowan Seniors	10 to 12		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	\$212
SPECIALTY/ THEMED CAMPS													
Ultimate Sports Camp – Juniors	6 to 8		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	\$212
Ultimate Sports Camp – Seniors	9 to 12		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	\$212
Pack & Go	8 to 12			✓		✓		✓		✓			\$405
Little Picasso Art & Swim Camp	6 to 9				✓		✓				✓		\$212
Stemotics/Robotics – Minecraft Coding	6 to 9				✓					✓			\$405
Stemotics/Robotics – Lego WeDo	6 to 9			✓					✓				\$405
DIY Camp	6 to 9			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		\$212
Summer Sport & Cycling Camp – Pro	8 to 12					✓			✓			✓	\$212
Southside Park – Outdoors 7:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.													
SPECIALTY/ THEMED CAMPS													
Trail Tots – Nature & Hiking Camp – NEW!	4 to 7				✓		✓						\$220
Explore the Outdoors – Nature & Hiking Camp	8 to 12			✓						✓			\$212
Summer Sport & Bronze Star Camp	9 to 12			✓						✓			\$405
Summer Sport & Learn to Swim Camp	6 to 9				✓		✓						\$353
Reeves Complex 7:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.													
Reeves Kinder Camp	4 to 5		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	\$220
Reeves Tykes	6 to 7		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	\$212
Reeves Juniors	8 to 9		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	\$212
Reeves Seniors	10 to 12		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	\$212
SPECIALTY/ THEMED CAMPS													
Leader in Training Camp	13 to 15					✓			✓				\$254. ²⁵
DIY Camp – NEW!	6 to 9			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		\$212
Summer Sport & Cycling Camp – Beginner – NEW!	7 to 9				✓			✓			✓		\$212
Pack & Go	8 to 12			✓		✓		✓		✓			\$405
Pre-Season Conditioning Hockey Camp JR	7 to 9										✓	✓	\$405
Pre-Season Conditioning Hockey Camp SR	10 to 12										✓	✓	\$405
Summer Sport & Skating Camp JR	4 to 7									✓	✓	✓	\$405
Summer Sport & Skating Camp SR	8 to 12									✓	✓	✓	\$405
Cowan Fields 7:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.													
Fields Kinder Camp	4 to 5		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	\$220
Fields Tykes	6 to 7		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	\$212
SPECIALTY/ THEMED CAMPS													
Ultimate Sports Camp – Juniors	8 to 9		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	\$212
Ultimate Sports Camp – Seniors	10 to 12		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	\$212
Racquets & Paddles – NEW!	8 to 12					✓			✓				\$353
Summer Sport & Learn to Swim Camp	6 to 9				✓		✓						\$353
Activate – Bounce & Climb Camp	8 to 12			✓						✓			\$353
Pack & Go	8 to 12			✓		✓		✓		✓		✓	\$405

* Swimming Off-site Trips Specialized Instructor



PUBLIC LIBRARY

Monday to Thursday 10 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Friday & Saturday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday 1 - 5 p.m.
Closed May 18, 22 & July 1
445 Hunter St., Woodstock ON
www.mywpl.ca

Storytimes!

Each program includes age-appropriate stories, rhymes, songs, and activities designed by library professionals to help children develop literacy skills and a love of reading. Dedicated time for play and to meet other families is provided at the end of the program. Children should be accompanied by a caregiver. **No registration required.**

Program	Description	Dates/Times
Tales & Tunes (Family)	An interactive storytime that will cultivate a love of books with stories, songs, rhymes, and other activities. Dedicated time for play and to meet other families is provided.	Wednesdays May 6–Jun 24, 10:30–11:30 a.m. <i>(No session: May 20)</i>
Toddler Tales (12–36 months)	An active program for toddlers and their caregivers with stories, rhymes, songs, and other activities.	Thursdays May 6 & 14, 10:30–11:30 a.m.
Books & Bounces (Birth–18 months)	Babies and caregivers will hear stories, and learn songs, rhymes, and bounces that will help foster a love of reading.	Thursdays May 7–Jun 25, 12–1 p.m. <i>(No session: May 21)</i>
Outdoor Storytime (Family)	Join us on the library lawn for songs, stories and more! In the case of inclement weather, this program will be moved inside.	Fridays May 29–Jun 26, 10:30–11:30 a.m.



1000 Books Before Kindergarten
To participate: visit www.mywpl.ca

Pride Family Storytime Wednesday, June 3 – 6–7 p.m.

Drop in and join us for an interactive staff-led storytime full of love and joy with songs, stories, and more! There will be colourful family-friendly crafts and activities following the storytime. **No registration required.**

Library on the Go!

Woodstock Art Gallery 60th Anniversary Saturday, May 30 – 12–4 p.m. @ Museum Square

The Woodstock Art Gallery is celebrating their 60th Anniversary with a big party! Enjoy live music and entertainment, shop products from local businesses and artists, and stop by the Art Gallery for tours of their new exhibits. **No registration required.**

Saturday, May 30 10am-2pm
Woodstock Public Library
445 Hunter St. Woodstock

SPRING BOOK SALE

TD
Summer
Reading
Club

TD Summer Reading Club

Get Your Summer Read On! (Family)
Saturday, June 20 – 10 a.m.–4 p.m.

Join us for our official launch event for the TD Summer Reading Club. Drop by the library between 10–4 p.m. to sign-up for the Summer Reading Club and have some FUN! We will have a variety of activities and entertainment for the whole family. Registration opens June 6 at 10 a.m.

10:30 a.m.–12 p.m. – Build Your Own Pirate Ship: Cardboard Construction (6–12 years | Meeting Room) Registration required.

2:30–3:30 p.m. – Wings over the Rainforest (Family | 2nd Floor) Registration required.

TD Summer Reading Club (3–12 years)
June 20–August 28, during Library open hours

Join the TD Summer Reading Club this summer through stories, activities, and more! When you register for the club, you'll receive a Reading Club Kit that includes a notebook to help track your reading. Great activities and prizes to win all summer long!



Registration for July programs opens June 22.
Visit our website for details:
www.mywpl.ca



Children & Families

FanFest 2026 (All Ages)

Saturday, May 2 – 10:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Join us for a fun filled celebration of all things fandom! We're marking Free Comic Book Day in style, and you're invited to drop in and pick up a free comic book, generously provided by L.A. Mood Comics & Games in London. While supplies last. Try your hand at button making, or challenge a friend to a match on their giant floor mat chess board—it's big, bold, and a ton of fun.

May the Fourth: Drop-In Star Wars Activities (Family)

Monday, May 4 – All Day

May the Fourth be with you! Come visit us and celebrate the Star Wars universe in the Children's Department. Use our photo booth. Test your skills by attempting the scavenger hunt.

Paws for Stories (6–12 years)

Saturday, May 9 – 11 a.m.–12 p.m.

Help your child grow their confidence and love of reading by sharing a book with a gentle, furry listener. Each child will have 15 minutes of one on one reading time with a therapy dog and their handler. Offered in partnership with St. John Ambulance. Registration opens Apr. 25 at 10 a.m.

Homeschool Meetup (Family)

Mondays, May 11 & June 8 – 1–3 p.m.

Stop by the library and meet other Homeschooling families for an afternoon of fun! Bring your own board games, or play one of ours. Test out a robot or two. We will also provide the snacks! Connect with old friends, and make new ones! No registration required.

Two Row Learning (6–12 years)

Mondays, May 11 & June 8 – 5:30–7:30 p.m.

Immerse yourself in Indigenous culture at the Two Row Learning sessions! Join us for an engaging exploration of Indigenous knowledge and teachings, presented by the Two Row Initiative, and sponsored by R&B Creative Creations, Line-X Woodstock, and Transitions Equine Assisted Learning. No registration required.

Messy Art (18 months–5 years)

Thursday, May 21 – 10:30–11:30 a.m.

Some messy fun for curious children as they learn and explore through process art. Chaos is expected. Please bring a smock or an old t-shirt or something that can get dirty, as aprons/smocks will not be provided. Registration opens May 7th at 10 a.m.

WOODSTOCK PUBLIC LIBRARY

RETRO VIDEO GAMING NIGHT!

Feeling nostalgic? Come to the Woodstock Public Library for an evening of retro gaming, featuring classic consoles and games from the past. No registration required, all ages welcome, just drop by!

Thursday, May 07, 6:00pm–8:00pm
Tuesday, June 02, 6:00pm–8:00pm

(519) 539-4801 | Woodstock Public Library, 445 Hunter Street, Woodstock

OGC
OPERANDI
GAMING
COMMUNITY

Youth & Young Adults

Teen Pizza Pop-up (12+ years)
Monday, May 4 and June 1 – 11 a.m.–12 p.m.

Drop in to enjoy pizza and games! Learn about library resources and upcoming programs for teens. Two slices per person and must be eaten in the meeting room.

Teen Brain Break (12–18 years)
Thursdays, May 7, 14, 21, 28 – 3–4 p.m.

Need a break from homework, stress, or scrolling?

Drop in anytime during the hour to hang out and recharge. Play board games, make a craft, colour, or grab a snack. Come solo or bring friends – everyone is welcome! No registration required.

Teen Maker May (12–18 years)
Saturday, May 16 – 2:30–4 p.m.

Drop-in for an afternoon of mini maker projects, including keychains, origami bookmarks, DIY buttons, and a Perler bead creation! For teens ages 12–18 years. No registration required.

Spreading Joy: Teen Pride Art (12–18 years)
Tuesday, June 9 – 6:30–8 p.m.

To celebrate Pride month, teens are welcome to stop by and help us decorate the sidewalks around the library with messages of joy, positivity, and acceptance! If we have time, we'll also come back inside to create art that spreads our messages of love and friendship. Snacks and drinks provided! No registration required.

Adults & Families

Chit Chat Circle
Tuesdays in May and June – 1:30–3 p.m.

Socialize in a safe space hosted by the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA). We will discuss a variety of wellness topics. Refreshments provided. No registration required.

**Basic Tenant Rights with
Social Planning Council Oxford**
Thursday, June 25 – 6:30–8 p.m.

These sessions are to inform renters of their rights and responsibilities under the *Residential Tenancies Act*, and to learn how to make maintenance requests. Registration opens June 2 at 10 a.m.

Knitting and Crochet Drop-In
Saturdays, May 9 & 23 and June 6 & 20 – 3:30–4:30 p.m.

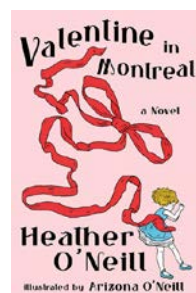
Come out for a cozy hour of knitting and crochet! Bring your current project or check out our collection of crochet and knitting books for patterns.

Staff Development Day
**The library will be closed on Friday, May 22
for staff development.**

WPL Book Club
Tuesdays, May 12 & June 9 – 2–3 p.m.
Thursdays, May 14 & June 11 – 7–8 p.m.

Begin each month with a good read! Join us for our afternoon or evening session for a lively discussion on the title selected. Open to all. No registration required.

May Title
Valentine in Montreal
Heather O'Neill



June Title
The Paper Birds
Jeanette Lynes



Queer Conversations (16+ years)
Tuesday, May 19 & June 16 – 6:30–8 p.m.

Join us and the Oxford County Community Health Centre for a gathering of 2SLGBTQIA+ community and conversation. No registration required.

Adults & Families

Pub Trivia Night

Wednesday, May 20 – 7–8:30 p.m.

Join us at Upper Thames Brewing Company where you and your teammates can test your smarts against other beer enthusiasts. Upper Thames Brewing Co. will sell the drinks and WPL will provide the questions! **No registration required.**



The Friends of the Woodstock Public Library present

Author Visit with Heather Marshall

Wednesday, June 10, 2026
6:30 PM – 8:00 PM
Chartwell Oxford Gardens
423 Devonshire Avenue, Woodstock

Registration required

LIBERTY STREET
HEATHER MARSHALL
#1 BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF *LOOKING FOR JANE*

Thriving at Every Age: Mental Wellness for Seniors

Wednesday, May 13 – 2:30–4 p.m.

Registered Nurse Pallavi Mukhija will lead participants through a workshop on why mental health matters as we age. Registration opens Apr. 29 at 10 a.m.

“Northern Star” Film Screening with Director Nick Versteeg and Author R. Peter Broughton

Saturday, May 30 – 1–2:30 p.m.

Join us for a film screening of the documentary “Northern Star: Life of Canadian Astronomer J.S. Plaskett” (95 minutes). Directed by Nick Versteeg. Registration opens May 2 at 10 a.m.

Celtic Shift Concert (All Ages)

Tuesday, June 16 – 6:30–8 p.m.

Join us at the Woodstock Public Library for a concert featuring Celtic Shift! Celtic Shift reimagines Irish and Scottish traditional tunes by infusing it with modern jazz, rock, and pop styles. This trio features David Nuttall on the penny whistle, Amy Barten on the fiddle, and Stephen Holowitz on the keyboard. **Registration opens June 1st at 10 a.m.**

“When Tobacco was King” with Author Paul Allen

Thursday, June 18 – 6:30–8 p.m.

Hear a presentation on the definitive history of the tobacco industry from a son of a pioneering tobacco farmer. Learn about Paul’s father, Ed Allen, who was born in North Carolina and later helped to establish the tobacco industry in Southern Ontario by growing one of the first crops in Houghton Township. Later, Ed Allen became the longest serving president of the Canadian Leaf Tobacco Company.

Copies of the book “When Tobacco was King” will be available for purchase. **Registration opens June 4th at 10 a.m.**

Cyber Assist

Tuesdays, 10:30–11:30 a.m.

Wednesdays, 5:30–6:30 p.m.

Fridays, 2:30–3:30 p.m.

Book one-on-one assistance with our technology specialist. Sessions are 30 minutes in length. Book online or call 519-539-4801, extension 3006.

Genealogy Assist

Book a one-on-one session with a genealogy specialist librarian. Learn how to use the library’s digital microfilm readers and e-Resources including Ancestry Library Edition and Paper of Record. Each session is 50 minutes in length. **Registration required. Check our website or call 519-539-4801, extension 3006 for available dates and times.**



Thank a Crossing Guard!

Help us celebrate School Crossing Guard Appreciation Week from June 1 – 5, 2026!

Visit www.cityofwoodstock.ca/crossingguards for a printable thank you card to give to a crossing guard or to submit a message through our online form.

School Crossing Guard Appreciation Week recognizes the important role crossing guards play in promoting safe and active travel to school.

Join our Team!

We're hiring On-Call Crossing Guards!

Visit www.cityofwoodstock.ca/applynow to view current job opportunities and apply.



K2K PRODUCTIONS 2026 SEASON

...where students discover who they are, where they fit, and their purpose.

BOX OFFICE TICKETS | VISTO CAMP REGISTRATION

k2kproductions.ca | 519.290.9525 | vistocamp.ca

ADAMS BUILDING SUPPLY & THE HALLMARK SHOPPE, WOODSTOCK

CORNER STORE CANDY CO & THE WILD HOG COUNTRY MARKET, STRATFORD

SCAN FOR TICKETS,
SHOW DETAILS &
VISTO CAMP





Upcoming Programs



Summer Hours:
Open Mondays from May 25 to August 31

Civic Surprise: Family Drop-In

Tuesday, May 12 | 3:30-5 p.m.

Great for people of all ages who want to learn about our city's government and services. We'll tour the historic Council Chambers at the Woodstock Museum and have hands-on activities for kids. A great after-school activity for students and their caregivers.

Children must be accompanied by an adult.
FREE

Foodways: Parkinson Family Recipes

Tuesday, May 19 | 2-4 p.m.

Join us for a new program about historic cookbooks and learning how food making from the past was done. Inspired by the current exhibit on Woodstock's first female Mayor, Bernadette (Parkinson-McHardy) Smith, we'll explore her mother's recipes submitted to the 1917 Woodstock Cookbook. Recreating a recipe as a group, we'll taste the results and see if we would have enjoyed foods made by the Parkinson family of Woodstock.

Ages: 16+

\$25 (Members \$20)



Lunch & Learn: Spring Series

Select Tuesdays | 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Join us for a unique topic at the Woodstock Museum followed by a light lunch. Register in advance to reserve your spot. **Ages 16+**

- **May 26:** Oscar Wilde's Visit to Woodstock with Dr. Jason Pankratz
- **June 23:** Ode to Drive-in Movies with WPL's Chris Harrington

\$25 (Members \$20)

Tea-rific Tea Party

Thursday, May 21 | 2-4 p.m.

Enjoy afternoon tea tasting with Crafty Corner Tea Room and treats to celebrate Museum Month! Dress in your favourite historic outfit. **Ages: 16+**
\$25

Retro Games PA Day

Friday, May 29 | 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Play the games of the past in this fun and retro day. Learn to use a rotary phone, play games of chance and skill, make your own game and enjoy creative play! **Ages: 5-12**

\$55 (Members \$49.50)

Historic Walking Tours

Tuesday, June 2 | 3-4:30 p.m. & 6:30-8 p.m.

As the centre of political and social life in Oxford County, Woodstock features stately homes, historic churches, beautiful tree-lined streets, and a vibrant community. Explore the city's past with a guided walking tour! Register in advance for the time you prefer. **\$5 (Members FREE)**

City Celebrates: Family Drop-In

Thursday, June 25 | 3:30-5 p.m.

Are you excited about the City's 125th anniversary celebrations? Learn more about our city, tour the Woodstock Museum exhibits and enjoy hands-on activities for kids. A great after-school activity for students and their caregivers.

Children must be accompanied by an adult.
FREE

Bubble Science PA Day

Friday, June 26 | 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Make the best bubble as we experiment with the science of soap! Try different bubble experiments, make cool crafts and play fun games. Will your bubble wand blow a unique shape? Find out! Register early. **Ages: 5-12**

\$55 (Members \$49.50)

Summer Camps

Join in all the fun this summer with learning, history, games, excursions, special guests and unique theme. Make some friends and try something new! Register now or sign up for the waitlist to be notified if a spot becomes available in a full camp.

Full day camps run on weekdays from 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Extended care is not available.

Unicorn Camp

July 6–10 | 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Our unicorn utopia has everything you need to fulfill your magical fantasies. Get glittered, make unicorn crafts and play fun, magical games this week! **Ages: 4–7.**

5-Day Camp: \$200 (Members \$180)

Dino Camp

July 13–17 | 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

If you dig dinosaurs, this week of fun at the Museum is for you. Bones and fossils can tell you what types of dinosaurs lived long ago, what they ate and how they got around. Get pre-historic with fun games and Dino crafts! **Ages: 4–7**

5-Day Camp: \$200 (Members \$180)

Culture Camp: Museum

July 20–24 | 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

This specialty camp explores our local culture with fun, hands-on activities, a deep dive into Museum-land with amazing field trips to the Woodstock Art Gallery, parks, artists, dancers, heritage activities and so much more. Pick up and drop off at Woodstock Museum. **Ages: 6–12**

Specialty Camp: \$300 (Members \$250)

Spectacular Science Jr.

July 27–31 | 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Crank up the chemistry, blare the biology and fill up with physics! Try super fun experiments, play outdoor games, make science themed crafts and learn coding from our friends at Codelets. Great for curious minds. **Ages: 5–8**

5-Day Camp: \$200 (Members \$180)

Make & Bake Youth Camp

Aug. 4–7 | 1–4:30 p.m.

For the foodie, we have a fun afternoon program that explores baking and cool historic “icebox” treats. We’ll use local food and ingredients to craft our own bread, make frozen or chilled sides to cool us down and learn about food traditions. **Ages: 10–14**

Specialty Camp: \$180 (Members \$160)



Swiftly Summer

Aug. 10–14 | 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Don’t have a “Cruel Summer”, “Shake it Off” with us as we embark on a whirlwind adventure filled with Taylor-themed crafts, activities, and tons of music and dance. Make a friendship bracelet and see why Taylor is such a huge star! **Ages: 7–12**

5-Day Camp: \$200 (Members \$180)

Dogs We Love

Aug. 17–21 | 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

If your favourite dog is Bluey or you are a Scooby fan, this fictional “dogs we love” week is for you! Play pooch games, make adorable fluffy crafts and find bones hidden around in this howling good camp. **Ages: 4–6**

5 Day Camp: \$200 (Members \$180)



Check out the COW Tales ‘Way Back When’ contest on page 19 and enter today!
A: Wood.



**WOODSTOCK MUSEUM
NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE**

February 16th to June 20th

**Bernadette Smith: Eve of Change
Breaking the Old Boys Club**

An exhibit on life of the first elected female mayor of a city in Canada

May is Museum Month Movie Night

NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM



WEDNESDAY, MAY 6 | 6:30 – 8:30 P.M.
MARKET CENTRE THEATRE, 22 REEVE ST
TICKETS: \$5/PERSON

Hosted by the Woodstock Museum Advisory Committee



Celebrate Pride Month

June is Pride Month! The Oxford County Pride Committee organizes community events in Woodstock, including local flag raisings on Monday, June 1 and Pride Family Day on Saturday, June 13 from 11 a.m.–5 p.m. in Museum Square.

The Woodstock Art Gallery is also hosting three events in partnership with Oxford County Pride.



Movie Night: *But I'm a Cheerleader*

Wednesday, June 17 | 6–8 p.m.
Market Centre Theatre,
22 Reeve St.

Come out to watch the 1999 cult comedy *But I'm a Cheerleader*, starring Natasha Lyonne as a high school cheerleader whose parents

send her to a residential in-patient conversion therapy camp. Paid concession by Reel Treats Popcorn and Treats will be available during the movie. **Tickets:** \$10

Big Cityyy Story Adventures: A Day at the Circus

Saturday, June 27 | 1–2 p.m.
Woodstock Art Gallery, 449 Dundas St.

Step right up for a day of stories, laughter, and circus fun! Join Big Cityyy Story Adventures for an exciting in-person experience filled with magic and surprises. Bring your littles to experience the thrill of immersive storytelling! Children must be accompanied by a grown-up. **Cost:** Free



Sip & Sculpt: Pride Pottery

Saturday, June 27 | 5–7 p.m.
Woodstock Art Gallery,
449 Dundas St.

Guided by artist instructor HollyJo, participants will sculpt and paint while enjoying a relaxing beverage, charcuterie and good company — no experience needed. **Cost:** \$95. Ages 19+

Visit oxfordpride.ca and woodstockartgallery.ca for event details, registration and more ways to celebrate this month.



Recreation
Woodstock

June is RECREATION & PARKS MONTH



Visit www.recreationwoodstock.ca for free activities happening across the City!

Upcoming Programs

Youth & Adults

Adult Open Studio

Wednesday, May 6–June 24
1–3 p.m.

This new open studio is a relaxed, creative, and supportive space for adults of all experience levels. Work independently and create at your own pace or collaborate, share ideas, and try something new with guidance and feedback from arts professional Megan Milton. Each week includes guided demonstrations across a variety of media. No experience needed!

Age: 18+

Cost: \$20/day

Children

After School Program

Wednesday, May 6 & 13
4–5:30 p.m.

Join us after school for guided gallery tours, art lessons and self-guided activities, with time and space for interactive creativity and social engagement.

Ages: 6–12

Cost: \$8/day

Start with Art

Wednesday, May 6
11–11:45 a.m.

Discover a variety of artistic fundamentals, techniques and materials for preschool-aged children and their caregivers.

Ages: 5 and under

Cost: \$8/day

Creative PA Days

Friday, May 29
8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Enjoy a full day of art-making lessons, guided and self-guided activities, and outdoor play!

Ages: 5–12

Cost: \$75 (Members \$60)



Summer Camps

Graffiti Art Camp

July 6–10
8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Unleash your inner graffiti artist, design your own tag, and express yourself! This camp will reveal the fascinating world of graffiti, urban art, and murals. Discover numerous graffiti techniques, non-traditional tools, and specialty equipment with guidance from art education professionals and special guest artist, Chris Seaton. Examine the history, legal responsibilities, and health and safety requirements of urban art. Young artists will collaboratively design and paint a professional graffiti mural.

Ages: 6–12

Cost: \$350 (Members \$300)

Mini Makers

July 13–17 & Aug. 17–21
9:30 a.m.–12 p.m.

Discover your inner Mini Maker! Professional art educators will introduce young artists to a variety of artistic fundamentals, techniques, tools, and materials through mindful artistic practices and collaborative art projects during these half-day art classes. Learn about colour theory, the elements of art, observational skills, art appreciation, and other foundational art concepts through age-appropriate, hands-on, formal art lessons and guided gallery tours. Young artists will also enjoy plenty of self-guided play, outdoor exploration, and social interaction with their peers.

Ages: 4–6

Cost: \$225 (Members \$200)

Culture Camp: WAG

July 20–24

8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Discover the rich culture of our community! This camp offers a dynamic week of immersive experiences for young artists, combining engaging art lessons with exciting field trips. Find inspiration from local artists during guided gallery tours, explore a variety of artistic techniques and mediums, and foster teamwork while creating collaborative projects. Field trips to the Woodstock Museum NHS and local parks, trails, and businesses allow participants to develop cultural awareness and an appreciation for our local history and identity.

Ages: 6–12

Cost: \$250 (Members \$200)

Fantasy Art Camp

Aug. 4–7

8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Awaken your imagination and step into a world of legends and lore! Young artists will be transported to enchanted realms where legendary creatures and epic tales come to life. Explore the rich history, cultural significance, and symbolism of global myths. Discover various artistic techniques and mediums, engage in collaborative projects, design unique mythical creatures, and create fantastical worlds with guidance from art education professionals and special guest artist, Lindsay Liboiron.

Ages: 6–12

Cost: \$285 (Members \$250)

Nature Art Camp

Aug. 10–14

8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Uncover the beauty of nature through art! Explore a variety of ecosystems at our local parks and trails, learn about climate change, examine the importance of conservation practices with the City of Woodstock's Parks and Forestry experts, and appreciate the deeply interconnected relationship between art and nature. Gather nature items and experiment with found objects and non-traditional media, create collaborative outdoor art, and explore current exhibitions with art education professionals.

Ages: 6–12

Cost: \$350 (Members \$300)

Upcoming Events

Public Art Unveiling: *BIRD SET FREE*

Saturday, May 30 | 11:00–11:30 a.m.

Florence Carlyle Park, 174 Vansittart Ave.

Experience the unveiling of Bruce Flowers Sculpture Garden's newest installation: *BIRD SET FREE* by artists Duane and Urszula Kumala-Thomas.

60th Anniversary Party

Saturday, May 30 | 12–4 p.m.

Museum Square, 472 Dundas St.

Join us as we celebrate our 60th Anniversary with a big party! With fun for the whole family, enjoy live music and entertainment, shop products from local businesses and artists, and stop by the Gallery for tours of our new exhibits and Permanent Collection anniversary show.

Film Screening: *BIRD*

Thursday, June 25 | 6–7 p.m.

Market Centre Theatre, 22 Reeve St.

Join artists Duane and Urszula-Kumala Thomas at Market Centre Theatre for a screening of their short film that documents the two-year process of creating Woodstock's newest public artwork, *BIRD SET FREE*. The video screening will be followed by a facilitated discussion with the artists. Free to attend! Register online at woodstockartgallery.ca/events



Celebrate Pride Month with the WAG

We're hosting three exciting events this June in partnership with Oxford County Pride! Learn more on pg. 31.

Current Exhibitions



Great Small Things: 60 Years of Collecting

On view until Jan. 9, 2027
Curator: Danielle Hoevenaars

Louise Scott (American/Canadian, 1936–2007), *La Vista II*, c. 1966, oil on fibreboard, Gift of Ontario Centennial Art Exhibition by Province of Ontario, Woodstock Art Gallery Permanent Collection, Photo credit: Robert McNair



Arctic Abundance: How Environment Shapes Creativity

On view until June 20, 2026
Curator: Braeden Gruber

Oshaweetok B., *Walrus*, Soapstone, Courtesy of Ross and Fran McElroy. Photo Credit: Braeden Gruber



Florence's Woodstock

On view until Aug. 29, 2026
Curator: Danielle Hoevenaars

Florence Carlyle (Canadian, 1964-1923), *The Garden at Englewood*, c. 1907, oil on canvas, Purchased with the support of the Ontario Ministry of Culture and Communications and Art Gallery Trust Fund, Woodstock Art Gallery Permanent Collection, Photo Credit: John Tamblyn



Tautuppaa | Long Looking: Tim Pitsiulak

On view until June 20, 2026
Curator: Taqralik Partridge
Organized and circulated by the
Art Gallery of Guelph with the support of
the Department of Canadian Heritage

Tim Pitsiulak, ᐱᓄᓄᓄᓄ *Lumaajuq*, 2015, coloured pencil on paper, 55.9 x 76.2 cm. Private collection. Photo credit: Martin Schwalbe



FAIR

ACCESS

FEE ASSISTANCE IN RECREATION



The **FAIR program** helps Woodstock residents get out, get active and be healthy by providing **financial support for recreation, leisure and transit services.**

Eligible individuals and families can receive:



Credit towards City-run recreation and culture programs



50% discount on monthly passes with Woodstock Transit

Learn more and apply today at

www.cityofwoodstock.ca/fair



Questions?

Contact:

Cowan Park Sportsplex
895 Ridgewood Dr.
519-539-1291 ext. 2740



\$80/DAY ALL-INCLUSIVE SUPPORTIVE CARE

We also
offer
Assisted
Living



Meals & Daily Living

- 3 Meals daily
- Snacks 24/7
- Laundry & housekeeping

Care & Safety

- Medication administration
- Emergency call system
- 24-hour wellness support
- Assistance with bathing

Lifestyle & Comfort

- Programs & activities
- Exercise & wellness
- Furnished respite suites
- Hair salon & gardens

CONTACT US **TODAY!**



PARK PLACE
— RETIREMENT —

126 Graham St, Woodstock ON N4S 6J9

519.539.0219

www.parkplaceretirement.ca



OXFORD MANOR
— RETIREMENT —

276 Oxford St, Ingersoll, ON N5C 2W1

519.485.0350

www.oxfordmanorretirement.ca



TILLSONBURG
— RETIREMENT —

183 Rolph St, Tillsonburg, ON N4G 3Y9

519.688.0347

www.tillsonburgretirement.ca