



Van Meter News

Have a safe and peaceful
Labor Day weekend!

September 2012

WATER QUALITY UPDATE

At their regular business meetings in August, the City Councils of Van Meter and De Soto approved a 28E agreement providing procedures by which the two cities will cooperate in a water treatment study.

In addition, they hired the engineering firm of Veenstra and Kimm to conduct the study. The study will identify and examine alternative methods for improving the quality of the water that is delivered to your tap.

The City of Van Meter has identified water quality as an area needing improvement both for the residents and for economic development prospects. By improving our water we can improve the health and well-being of our citizens and be better able to attract new businesses and new residents to town.

Please watch for more information as it becomes available.



Elected Officials:

Mayor-Allan Adams

Council

*-Becca Wiederholt,
Mayor Pro Tem*

-Richard Booge

-Adam Coyle

-Bob Lacy

-Kim Sacker

City Staff:

*Jake Anderson-
City Administrator
515-954-6094*

*Liz Thompson-
Deputy Clerk
515-669-6396*

*Dave Herman-
Public Works
515-240-9280*

*Chad Gillespie -
Public Works
515-371-9933*

*Jolena Welker-
Library Director
(vanmeterpl@mchsi.com)*



-Library-996-2435

-Post Office-996-2458

*-Non-Emergency-
993-4567*

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Police Chief Chuck Mash resigned his position with the City of Van Meter effective August 26th. I would like to take this opportunity to thank him for the good work he did for the community.

To the Citizens of Van Meter, please know that the Dallas County Sheriff's office is providing coverage throughout the week and will also have a dedicated Reserve Officer for the home football games. If you have an issue you can reach them at 993-4567 and as always, if you have an emergency, please dial 911.

I will be working closely with the City Administrator to clearly define the hiring process, which will be started soon. I am currently reviewing a list of individuals to serve on the Hiring Committee. If you have questions about the process, please contact Jake Anderson, City Administrator at City Hall.

Sincerely,

Mayor Allan Adam

RACCOON RIVER DAYS 2013

**That's right! Raccoon River Days—2013!
Planning is underway and the RR Days
Committee wants your suggestions for next
years theme.**

**Nothing is too silly, too crazy or too FUN!
Send your ideas to their email at
raccoonriverdays@gmail.com**

ADULT REC VOLLEYBALL!

Get off the couch and do something fun! I suggest recreational adult volleyball. Can you dig it? A group of oldies, but goodies getting together to bump, set, spike. Wednesday nights at the high school from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Take your Geritol and JUST DO IT! You never know, you might just see me (Liz) there! I happen to be a self designated USA champion sand volleyball player from the 2012 Cozumel, Mexico cerveza league. Those Canucks didn't stand a chance. Too bad Canada—next year send your "A" team! :)

VAN METER FARMERS MARKET

Farmers Market Continues -

Every Saturday thru October 6th
8:30-11:30am.

**On September 8th there will be a Antique/Flea
Market/ Garage Sale day at the market.**

Please email or call Becky Kinney at
wkinney996@aol.com, or 210-2880 to
register for this event.

**On September 15th submit a picture of your
pet for our cutest pet contest.
Judging will take place at 10am.**

**Thank you for your continued support of your
local crafters, bakers and growers.**

SPECIAL ELECTION

Patrons of the Van Meter School District will have the opportunity to vote for or against adopting a public measure. The public measure reads: "Shall the Board of Directors of the Van Meter Community School District in the Counties of Dallas and Madison, State of Iowa, be authorized to contract indebtedness and issue General Obligation Bonds in an amount not to exceed \$7,865,000 to provide funds to renovate, repair, remodel, improve, furnish and equip the existing building; to construct, build, furnish and equip an addition to the existing building including related remodeling, to improve the existing site, to relocate, reconstruct, furnish and equip the Industrial Arts building including an addition to the building; and to construct, build, furnish and equip an Eastern Athletic Complex and site, as required for the remodeling, construction and improvement of the existing site?"

If you need information about the proposed measure you may contact Mr. Deron Durflinger, Superintendent of Schools at 996-9960.

All voting for Van Meter residents takes place at the Van Meter United Methodist Church located at 100 Hazel Street. Polls are open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Informational Meetings will be held on the following dates:

September 4 at 5:45 p.m. in the lunchroom
September 6 at 3:45 p.m. in the lunchroom
September 7 at 6:00 p.m. in the lunchroom
September 10 at 6:00 p.m. at the Fine Arts Booster meeting

Help Wanted

Untied Methodist Kids Care Program Seeks Part-Time Worker—An adult with experience with children ages 5-11. A degree is a plus, but not required. 15-28 hours per week with additional optional hours during school vacations and summer break. Most of the work is hands-on with the kids before and/or after school. For the right person, additional work doing planning and other administrative work. Exact work times are flexible.

Send letter and resume to:

Kids Care
Van Meter United Methodist Church
PO BOX 149
Van Meter, IA 50261

Or email: beth.keyt@vmumc.com

GARBAGE REMINDERS

PLEASE FOLLOW CART PLACEMENT PROCEDURES

Cart Placement Guidelines

When participating in automated collection programs there are a few cart placement guidelines to follow. Your help is appreciated in making it easier for carts to be collected.

1. Your cart should be within 18 inches off the curb with the cart facing the street.
2. To avoid damage to public and private property, place the cart at least six feet away from mailboxes, lamp posts and other permanent structures.
3. Place your cart on as level of a surface as possible but away from low-hanging tree branches.
4. Yardwaste bags, bulk items, extra garbage bags need to be placed at least three feet away from containers.
5. Place trash container and recycle container at least three feet apart.
6. To keep the city clean from any debris please make sure that the lids are closed prior to the dumping of either the recycle or trash containers.

Other Important Things to Know:

1. Trash and recycle collection starts at 7am so please have all collection containers, extra bags, bulk items and yard waste out at the curb prior to 7am.
2. Unacceptable items include: Hazardous materials, hot ashes or coal, concrete, tires, car batteries, toxic or highly flammable materials such as oil, gas or paint
3. Position carts so that pedestrians can still use the sidewalks

Correct Cart Placement

Putting your garbage and recycling carts in the right location assures that your carts will be picked up in a timely, safe and clean manner. Failure to do so may mean your carts will not be collected at the appropriate time.



Incorrect

Cart is too close to permanent structure (mailbox)

Correct

Cart is at least three feet from permanent structure (mailbox) and is within 18 inches of the curb



Incorrect

Cart is blocked by vehicle and is too close to mailbox and trash bin

Correct

Recycling cart is at least three feet from garbage cart

CHECK IT OUT!

PH: 515-996-2435
Email: vanmeterpl@mchsi.com

VAN METER PUBLIC LIBRARY— BY JOLENA WELKER

SEPTEMBER – my FAVORITE month

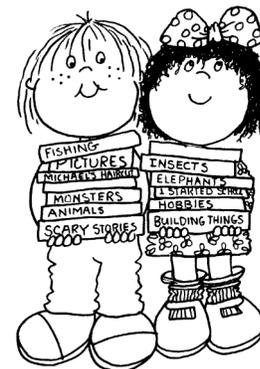
The beginning of fall! LIBRARY CARD month, so if you don't have one be sure to stop in and get one! Shirley Couvillion's and Jocyie Marie Welker's birthday month!!

I promised to let you know the winners of the Summer Reading Program. But first I challenged the kids & teens together to read 500 books this summer. They read 2,861!!! Vickie and I are still having our hair dyed. We just were not able to do it the day of the party.

The winners for teens were: Collins Hicks—iPad, Jennifer Banks—iPad, Abby Hart— \$25 gift card to 1/2 Price Books store and Summer reading t-shirt, and Alissa Coyle – books and a movie.

The winners for kids were: Lucas Dorr— \$50 cash, Molly Comer— \$50 cash, Annalise Dorr— \$25 gift card for 1/2 Price Books store and a summer reading t-shirt, and Daphne Corneilson – books & movie

We also served hot dogs, chips, & lemonade. We would like to thank the following businesses and individuals for making the second I-Pad possible: John Seefeld, Van Meter Vet Clinic, Dahls, Michele Beschen (B. Organic), Brian Gordon (Shelter Insurance, Rhodes Trucking, Bob's Auto Parts, Pat & Lisa (ladies from the Post office). **WHAT AN AWESOME SUMMER!** Also Thank you to the parents, grandparents, relatives, babysitters, daycares, nannies, and others who made it possible for the kids to come almost weekly to the library. These kids will never forget what you have done for them. Neither will I.



We have book club the third Thursday of each month at the library at 7pm. This month we will be discussing “One for the Money” by Janet Evanovich. Vickie Benson will be leading the discussion.

Adults: We will be having a winter reading contest for you! Ages 19 and older! “Between the Covers.” Right now it is looking like we will be doing this in January and February.

I have had people show interest in having the following meet at the library: Young Moms (you are only as young as you feel); home schooling families, Senior citizens for card games and cribbage (here you are only as old as you feel); and last but not least, learning to knit and crochet (here you are as talented as you feel). Let me know if any of these appeal to you. If there is enough interest (3-5 people) I will arrange a time for you to meet at the library.

A final request, (I do go on and on) we have an author, journalist, Chad Lewis, from Wisconsin is working on a story, column, and a book who needs information on the “Monster of Van Meter” of 1903. If you have any history information on this or Van Meter he would be very interested in it. He and his crew will be setting a date for Van Meter kids and adults where they will tell about what they do when they are researching or investigating hauntings, monsters and other unexplained happenings. Watch for the next newsletter. We will also have in our library soon one of his “Travel Guides Through Iowa and Its Haunted Places”.

New in the library—many, many books—“Unseen “ by Heather Graham; “Come Home” by Lisa Scottoline; “Unnatural” by Stuart Woods; book series by Terry Brooks and Greg R. R. Martin. New movies: “The Hunger Games”; “The Lost Boys”; “The Goonies”; “The Green Hornet”; and “Iron Man.” Be sure to stop in and check us out!

My friend, Sarah Parker, stopped back in town and brought me “Starbucks Pike Place” beans. It is awesome. Just a nice smooth medium blend. Drop by and join us for a cuppa. Coffee is always on!

Ok I always have sayings or quotes for different months. But this month I am just going to quote my mother! “If you don't have anything nice to say, don't say anything at all!” (I believe this is also in the movie “Bambi”); “Before you complain about someone else make sure to clean up your own back yard!”; “Monkey see, Monkey Do!”; “What Goes Around, Comes Around!”; and my favorite “They Tease you Jolena because they like you!” (Well mom that is in a movie now called “He's Just Not That Into you”! Thanks MOM

WE NEED YOU!

The Fire Department is in need of individuals looking to make a difference in our community.

Please consider what you can do to help.

There is a special need for EMS.

If you are interested or have questions please call 515-996-9253 (to leave a message) or email vanmeterfireandrescue@gmail.com

American Legion Breakfast Calendar 2012-2013

Breakfast is served in the Van Meter School lunchroom

7:30 A.M. TO 12:30 P.M.

September 9	January 6
October 7	February 3
November 4— Daylight Savings Time	March 3
December 2	April 7
	May 5

The Van Meter Fire and Rescue Department thanks you for supporting them and their August Golf Outing!

Thank You once again to their sponsors: Shottenkirk, Waukee Chevy; Maffin Outdoor Power & Auto; Hydro Klean; Van Meter, Integrated Sales Inc. Van Meter Veterinary Clinic, Bulldog Electric, Rhodes Trucking Inc.

Thank YOU!



THANK YOU!
AMERICAN LEGION POST 403
WOULD LIKE TO THANK
EVERYONE WHO SUPPORTED
THEIR BUILDING FUNDRAISING
EFFORTS BY ATTENDING THE
STEAK FRY IN AUGUST!



Individuals in the photo from left to right: Joey Herman, Post Volunteer; Mindy Bryngelson, Clapsaddle-Garber; Johnny Boyd, Oris PLC; Marsha Whiteaker, Post Commander; Van Meter Mayor Allan Adams.

CITY OF VAN METER

505 Grant Street
PO Box 160
Van Meter, IA 50261

Phone: 515-996-2644

Fax: 515-996-2207

Email: info@cityofvanmeter.com

GARBAGE COLLECTION

Will be one day late due to the Labor Day Observance— Tuesday, September 4th. City offices will be closed on Monday, September 3rd— please leave any messages or payments in the mail slot next to the front door.



Some much needed rain did not stop us from hosting Metro Waste Authority's Clean Up Crew. The City of Van Meter partnered with The South Central Iowa Landfill Agency and Metro Waste Authority to provide this opportunity for residents to properly dispose of household hazardous wastes!

It was a great turnout despite the rain. Thank you for helping us to protect you, your family and your environment by getting rid of it the SAFE and SMART way!



Recycle



Call2Recycle® is a program of the Rechargeable Battery Recycling Corporation (RBRC) promoting environmental sustainability by providing free battery and cell phone recycling in North America. RBRC is a 501(c)4 nonprofit public service organization. We invite you to join their efforts to advance green business practices and environmental sustainability. City Hall is a drop off site for your used rechargeable batteries.

**WASTE CONNECTIONS INC.
515-265-7374**

2012 RECYCLING SCHEDULE
SEPTEMBER 10 AND 24
OCTOBER 8 AND 22
NOVEMBER 5 AND 19
DECEMBER 3, 17 AND 31

Proper Disposal—

Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFL)'s should be disposed of properly. Do not throw CFL's away in your household garbage.



City Hall has partnered with Metro Waste Authority to provide a better disposal option. City Hall is a disposal site for the CFL's.

Office hours are 8 am to 4 pm, Monday through Friday. Bring us your CFL's. Please do not bring in broken CFL's.

For more info on how to dispose of household hazardous waste visit Metro Waste Authority online at www.mwatoday.com.