



Van Meter News

City of Van Meter December 2013

Visit Santa at City Hall on Saturday, December 14th from 9 a.m. to Noon

City Election—Changes for New Year

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

Liz Thompson-
Clerk

Dave Herman-240-9280
Public Works

Chad Gillespie-371-9933
Asst. Public Works

Bill Daggett-202-4154
Police Chief

Jolena Welker-
Library Director
(jwelker@vanmeteria.gov)



-Library-996-2435

-Post Office-996-2458

-Non-Emergency– Dallas
County Dispatch-993-4567

-Emergency-911 

Effective January 2014, the city will experience change in leadership. Current Council Members, Becca Wiederholt, Richard Booge, and Adam Coyle, chose not to run for re-election. Six candidates vied for the three open seats.

Van Meter voters elected Owen Stump, Beth Tweed, and Mike Peterson who will each serve 4 year terms on the council. 

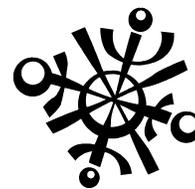
As we say goodbye to Wiederholt, Booge, and Coyle we look back on the past four years and acknowledge the great deal of time and effort that they put in to make Van Meter a better place. Please thank them the next time you meet!

Stump, Tweed and Peterson officially assume their positions effective January 1st.

Thanks to all that voted. Every vote counts! If you

are not registered, take action now! You can get voter information at the Dallas County Auditors office 993-4751 or visit the Secretary of States website to download forms.

www.sos.state.ia.us/



**Congratulations Mike,
Beth and Owen!
Many thanks
Richard, Adam and
Becca!**



SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN!

The Van Meter Fire Department is hosting SANTA CLAUS!

He will be at the Veterans Reception Center

Saturday, December 14, 2013

9 a.m. to Noon

Be GOOD so that you stay off the naughty list!



Letters to Santa

For the young Van Meter Citizens (and the young at heart), the United States Post Office has a special address for letters to Santa. You may send your letters to Santa Claus c/o Main Post Office, 1165 2nd Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50318-9998.

If “snail mail” is not your thing... Leave letters to Santa in the mail slot at City Hall and we will personally make sure that Santa receives your correspondence.

Fun website—visit Santa at www.emailsanta.com. There are activities for the kids to try as well as a “countdown to Christmas.”



**Merry Christmas kids
and “grown up” kids!**



Whatever is beautiful.

Whatever is meaningful.

Whatever brings you happiness.

May it be yours this holiday season and throughout the coming year.

From the Van Meter
City Family to Yours!



Enrolling beginning December 16

**Serving ALL children ages 3-5,
including those with special needs.**

www.vanmeterperk.org for more info

515-996-2030



Jake’s idea of helping with the newsletter while I was on Vacation! Good Job Jake! NOT...

There are vacancies on the City Council’s advisory boards. These voluntary organizations are important avenues for citizen participation in the political process. Membership is by appointment and the member’s contributions are invaluable to the future of our community. If you are interested in giving back to your community or need more information contact us at City Hall. Applications for appointment are on the City’s website under the Documents tab.

Those positions available include:

Park Board – 3 Vacancies; Board of Adjustment – 1 Vacancy; Library Board – 1 Vacancies.



VMPD to Post Signs



The Van Meter Police Department through the **Safe Routes to Schools Program** will be putting out 25 “**PLEASE DRIVE SLOWLY WE LOVE OUR CHILDREN**” signs and 10 “**SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL**” signs.

Please help us keep our children safe.

We ♥ OUR Children

ANNUAL VAN METER FIRE & RESCUE

FIREHOUSE CHILI FEED

Saturday, December 14th - 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

At Veterans Reception Center

Warm up from the cold with

Chili * corn bread * dessert * coffee * hot chocolate

\$5.00 per person

Van Meter Fire & Rescue appreciates your support!





**Van Meter
Winter Market**



Enjoy Christmas Shopping and
Join us for Lunch

Saturday, December 14, 2013

10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Veteran Reception Center

(910 Main Street)

Homemade and hand crafted items, jewelry, baked goods, local honey, 31 Bags, Norwex, homemade pies, noodles, goat milk products, and much more!

**The Van Meter Fire Department
Annual Chili Feed Fundraiser**

11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.



Email: Jwelker@vanmeteria.gov or mboren@vanmeteria.gov

Phone (515) 996-2435

CHECK IT OUT!

Christmas, snow, hot cocoa, snow, sledding, snow, more outside time (in the snow)...

Before I start I have to mention something really cool my baby sister asked me to help her with. It is an awesome idea. Melody has 5 kids and she reads with the three youngest still before bed. Melody and I are collecting 25 children's books. She will wrap each one and from the end of November till Christmas they will open one a night. She will then read it with them or Dad will. The books do not have to be new and I love this idea! What a great way to share reading, family, warmth and comfort through December!

If you find time for a good read in December here are a few new adult titles:

- "The Dark Witch" by Nora Roberts,
- "Sycamore Row" by John Grisham,
- "Bombshell" by Catherine Coulter,
- "Thankful in Death" by J. D. Robb,
- "Dust" by Patricia Cornwell, and several others.



In DVDs our new movies are:

- Monsters University
- Pacific Rim
- Wolverine
- Red & Red 2
- Oblivion
- The End of the World, and more.

We do have lots of Christmas and Holiday movies so be sure to check out your library!

In January and February 2014 we will have **FUN WINTER READING** for adults. You have to be 18 or older to do this. For each book you read in January and February you will put your name on a slip of paper and put it into a jar. Five names will be drawn at the end of February for great gift baskets from local businesses. The more you read the better chance you have to win. The sixth person drawn will get to eat lunch with the librarians (Michelle and Jolena). We are very excited about this and the winner gets to choose the place to eat out (in Iowa). Jolena will pick up the tab. I know Sam thinks, "Where does she get these crazy yet wonderful ideas!" Right! I use my imagination. :)

Also any businesses that would like to create an awesome gift basket please contact Jolena at 996-2435. There are only 5 places so let me know as soon as you can. This is a great way for you to promote your business and for the citizens of Van Meter to see what you have to offer.

Please let Jolena or Michelle know if you would like to donate snacks or a time reading with the kids over break. The kids also enjoy card and board games. You will make their Christmas break even better.

One more little contest: Please mail in your answers: not by phone or e-mail, but snail mail.

The first one to answer these questions right will get a little prize from the Director!

Can you name the song for each of these Christmas lines? Hint: you would sing these in church or while caroling!

- 1) "Let Every Heart, Prepare Him Room"
- 2) "Sleep in Heavenly Peace"
- 3) "The World in Solemn Stillness Lay to Hear the Angels Sing"
- 4) "The Hopes and Fears of all the years are met in Thee tonight"

"Be sure to **mail** your answers to The Van Meter Public Library, P.O. Box 94, Van Meter, Iowa 50261!!!!!!!!!!!!!!"

Merry Christmas!

HOHOHO! Jolena Welker, Director and Michelle Boren, Assistant

CITY OF VAN METER

505 Grant Street
PO Box 160
Van Meter, IA 50261

City offices will be closed
December 24 and 25 to celebrate
the Christmas Holiday.
Offices will also be closed on
December 31 and January 1 to
celebrate the New Year!
We wish you and yours a
very Merry Christmas
and all the best in 2014!

"Like" us on
Facebook
Visit us on the web -
www.vanmeteria.gov

Recycling Schedule for December 2013

WASTE CONNECTIONS INC.

515-265-7374

Monday, December 2

Monday, December 16

Monday, December 30

Snow, Snow, Snow!

SNOW REMOVAL. No person shall park or allow a vehicle to remain parked on a public street in the City from the time it begins to snow until such time as the streets have been cleared of accumulated snow from curb to curb (or from all of the traveled portion of the roadway for those streets which do not have curbs) or 48 hours, whichever time is shorter. Vehicles shall be removed immediately once it begins to snow. The Director of Public Works and Utilities is also empowered to end the prohibition on parking prior to the expiration of the 48-hour period if the Director determines that the streets have been cleared. The Director of Public Works and Utilities shall notify the Police Chief when the parking prohibition has ended.

DUMPING OF SNOW. It is unlawful for any person to throw, push, place, or cause to be thrown, pushed or placed, any ice or snow from private property, sidewalks, or driveways onto the traveled way of a street or alley so as to obstruct gutters, or impeded the passage of vehicles upon the street or alley or to create a hazardous condition therein; except where, in the cleaning of large commercial drives in the business district it is absolutely necessary to move the snow onto the street or alley temporarily, such accumulation shall be removed promptly by the property owner or agent. Arrangements for the prompt removal of such accumulations shall be made prior to moving the snow.

REMOVAL OF SNOW, ICE AND ACCUMULATIONS. It is the responsibility of the abutting property owners to remove snow, ice and accumulations promptly from sidewalks. If a property owner does not remove snow, ice or accumulations within 48-hours after such accumulations, the City may do so and assess the costs against the property owner for collection in the same manner as a property tax.

MUNICIPAL INFRACTIONS. A violation of this Code of Ordinances or any ordinance or code herein adopted by reference or the omission or failure to perform any act or duty required by the same, with the exception of those provisions specifically provided under State law as a felony, an aggravated misdemeanor, or a serious misdemeanor, or a simple misdemeanor under Chapters 687 through 747 of the Code of Iowa, is a municipal infraction punishable by civil penalty as provided herein.

Please visit our website for the complete Code of Ordinances for the city of Van Meter. They can be found at www.vanmeteria.gov under the section titled Ordinances.