

Van Meter News

Happy Labor Day!

September 2014

VAN METER HOUSING BOOM!



Those of us who call Van Meter home know what a great place it is to live. There are perks to living in this community that others are beginning to discover. As a result we are experiencing an increase in the number of new construction building permits being issued.

We have issued seven so far in 2014 and are on pace to surpass the eight issued in 2013.

The valuation added in 2013 totaled \$1,955,402 and current valuation for 2014 is \$1,900,613.

Some noted reasons for moving to Van Meter is the proximity to Des Moines. Our convenient location makes for a short commute to the city while providing the enjoyment of the small town atmosphere.

Many of the lots that are available to purchase are larger than standard city size lots. They offer more land for families to best utilize to meet their home-life needs. A small slice of rural living with the ability to connect to city water and sewer services.

The friendliness of our residents is something that even long-time citizens comment on. Where else can you find neighbors sharing their bountiful crops on a table marked "free?" Or



a helping hand to remove a tree after a storm? Or providing meals to another family in need? It is hard to live in a community and not become invested in the well-being of one another. The citizenship of our community is proudly on display which makes us uniquely "Iowa Nice."

Also notable is the fact that Van Meter boasts a school district that is committed to providing the best possible education for each of its students through personalized learning. It is one of the most distinguished schools of its size in Iowa and likely the biggest draw to Van Meter.

We welcome all of our new residents "home!" We are glad you are here!

Elected Officials:

Mayor-Allan Adams

Council

-Kim Sacker,

Mayor Pro Tem

-Bob Lacy

-Mike Peterson

-Owen Stump

-Beth Tweed

City Staff:

Jake Anderson—

City Administrator

515-954-6094

Liz Thompson—Clerk

515-669-6396

Dave Herman—

Public Works

515-240-9280

Chad Gillespie—

Public Works

515-371-9933

Jolena Welker—

Library Director

jwtelker@vanmeteria.gov

-Library—515-996-2435

Police Chief Bill Daggett—

515-202-4154

-Non Emergency—

515-993-4567

-Post Office—515-996-2458

-Veterans Reception Center
515-996-9166

Call Me!

IOWA'S NEW SOCIAL HOST & CONSUMPTION LAW

The Iowa legislature passed a "social host" law effective July 1, 2014.

The law now says adults who allow minors under age 18 to drink alcohol on property they own or lease would be guilty of a simple misdemeanor punishable with a \$200 fine. Subsequent violations would be subject to \$500 fines.

The law means parents who allow their children to host parties in which alcohol is present could be cited. The bill does not apply, however, in situations in which adults allow 18, 19 and 20-year-olds access to alcohol. If the 18, 19, or 20 year-old allows underage persons to hold parties on property they are responsible for they can be charged as a social host.

The bill also prohibits the consumption of alcoholic beverages by minors. Under the law before July 1st, persons under 21 are barred from purchasing, attempting to purchase, possessing or controlling alcoholic drinks. After July 1st consumption was added and they cannot possess alcohol by consumption as well. If you are under legal age and have been consuming alcoholic beverages an officer can now charge you with minor in possession for simply having consumed the alcohol even if you are not intoxicated. You no longer have to have a container physically on your person. I.E. you enter a convenience store after having drank alcohol and the officer detects the odor on your person or stops your vehicle and you are passenger and the officer detects the odor of alcoholic beverage on your person he or she can cite you for minor in possession.



EMERGENCY ALERTS

To Register

- Go to www.nixle.com
- Click "Sign Up Now!"
- Create an account by choosing a User Name and Password
- Enter an e-mail address and cell phone number where you would like to receive messages
- Enter your address (or a nearby intersection)
- Click "Sign Me Up"



The Van Meter Department of Public Safety uses Nixle to keep the community informed. Sign up and know when weather alerts have been broadcast, the snow ordinance is in place or we need your help in solving a crime. Stay instantly informed of trusted, neighborhood-level public safety and community information. You choose the information you want, for the addresses you want, all delivered at no cost by text message, email and web. s

Agreement For Preauthorized Payments

To sign up for AUTOMATIC WITHDRAWAL, please complete the form below and mail or bring to City Hall along with a VOIDED CHECK from your financial institution.

I (we) hereby authorize the CITY OF VAN METER to initiate debit entries to my (our) checking account indicated below and the depository named below, hereinafter called DEPOSITORY, to debit the same to such account.

DEPOSITORY NAME _____

CITY _____ **STATE** _____ **ZIP** _____

TRANSIT ABA NO. _____ **ACCOUNT NO.** _____

(Transit ABA Number is the first 9 numbers from left on the bottom of your check)

This authority is to remain in full force and effect until the City of Van Meter and Depository have received written notification from me (either of us) of its termination in such time and in such manner as to afford the City of Van Meter and Depository a reasonable opportunity to act on it.

NAME(s) (print) _____

SIGNATURE _____

DATE _____

***** You will receive your water bill on or near the first of the month as usual. The amount due will be deducted from the above assigned account on the 15th of each month. *****

Sign up for ACH. How does ACH work? The City will automatically debit your checking or savings account on the 15th of the month. No more penalties! One less thing to remember.

CHECK IT OUT!

PH: 515-996-2435
Email: jwelker@vanmeteria.gov or
mboren@vanmeteria.gov

VAN METER PUBLIC LIBRARY

SEPTEMBER – fall, football, school, and
THE VAN METER VISITOR FESTIVAL!

The Van Meter Visitor Festival

September 27th from 3:00pm-10:30pm.

Activities take place at the library and park with old time games, contests, an afternoon and evening walking tour, and all three authors will be here for a question and answer time.

Be sure to watch for the visitor and many other fun sightings!

VAN METER VISITOR



FESTIVAL 2014
VAN METER . DALLAS COUNTY . IOWA . USA

Two contests you will want to enter:

During the festival one of the contests will be "Finish the Visitor" story. Pick up your copy of the story at the library and write an ending! Please return these to Jolena or Michelle by September 20th. The three age categories are: Elementary, 6th through 12th grade and adult.

The winners and prizes will be announced at the festival. You do not have to be present to win. If you have questions please call the library.

Our second contest is build or create the monster or Visitor. You may use any medium such as paper mache, clay, play-doh, sticks, mud etc. The three age groups are the same as the above. Please bring your entry to the library anytime that day from 9am to 1pm. These will be judged and winners announced at the festival.

The library will be selling "Visitor" t-shirts that day and there will be booths or tables sets up for drinks, popcorn, paranormal information, Randy Meier's visitor items and other authors and their books.

All events are free and open to all ages.

The Fire Department is hosting a fundraiser dinner that is sure to be monster sized.

The authors will be speaking at 7pm. The evening walking tour begins at 9pm.

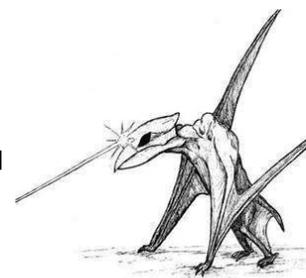
Fat Randi's will be serving up a "Visitor" drink that will quench your thirst.

Bring the whole family and enjoy!

Many thanks to the people that have been on the committee and worked very hard. Rachel Backstrom, Portia Haynes, Dianne Edwards, Amanda Durlfing, Layne Buerkley, Alyssa Belcourt and Michelle Boren. Special thanks to the authors, Chad Lewis, Noah Voss and Kevin Nelson.

We will have programs available in the library that day as you won't want to miss a thing!

Jolena Welker
Library Director
515-996-2435



HAZARDOUS HOUSEHOLD CLEAN UP

household hazardous waste
DROP-OFF

These items **AREN'T**
your **REGULAR TRASH**

September 27
9am—11am



PROTECT yourself, your family & your environment by getting rid of it the **SAFE & SMART** way.

ACCEPTED
Aerosol cleaners, paints
Ammonia-based cleaners
Antifreeze
Batteries (only rechargeable)
Fertilizers
Fluorescent Light Bulbs (CFLs)
Gasoline, Kerosene
Oil, lead-based paint
Stains, Varnishes
Metal polishes, rust removers
Thermometers (mercury)
Thermostats (mercury)
Pesticides
Petroleum adhesives
Used oil filters
Sharps or needles (must be contained) Must be contained in detergent bottles or sharps containers (not milk jugs or pop bottles). Lids must also be taped.

NOT ACCEPTED
Ammunition
Asbestos
Electronics
Explosives
Fire extinguishers
Latex paint
Medications
Propane tanks, cylinders
Radioactive materials



EVENT DETAILS

This event is free and only for residents. Waste from schools & businesses, including farms will NOT be accepted without prior approval.

The City of Van Meter has partnered with The South Central Iowa Landfill Agency and Metro Waste Authority to bring its residents the opportunity to properly dispose of household hazardous wastes – be sure to join us!

Any questions? Call 1-888-603-CREW

CITY OF VAN METER

505 Grant Street
PO Box 160
Van Meter, IA 50261
Phone: 515-996-2644
Fax: 515-996-2207
Email: info@vanmeteria.gov

VAN METER FARMERS MARKET

FARMERS MARKET Continues

Every **THURSDAY** thru October 4th

5pm—7pm

LOCATION: Veterans Reception Center

Thank YOU! for your continued support of your local
crafters, bakers and growers.

"All labor that uplifts humanity
has dignity and importance and
should be undertaken with
painstaking excellence."

— Martin Luther King Jr.
— MLK.org

Youth Group

Picnic on the Lawn

with Inner Rain

September 6, 2014

5pm to 7pm

at the VM Methodist Church



**Food, fun and live music provided for the whole
family. Bring blankets and lawn chairs.**

Free will donation.

Waste Connections Inc.

515-265-7374

Recycling Schedule

September 8 and 22

October 6 and 20

November 3 and 17

December 1, 15 and 29

GARBAGE COLLECTION

Will be one day late due to the Labor Day holiday
Tuesday, September 2nd.

City offices will be closed on

Monday, September 1st—

Please leave any messages or payments in the mail slot
next to the front door.

COUNTRY KIDS CLUB is now enrolling!

There are openings for infant through preschool.

Call CKC at 515-996-9141.