



# Van Meter News

December 2014

## City of Van Meter

### **Elected Officials:**

Mayor  
-Allan Adams



Council  
-Kim Sacker  
Mayor Pro Tem

-Bob Lacy



-Michael Peterson

-Owen Stump

-Beth Tweed



### **City Staff:**

Jake Anderson-515-996-2644  
City Administrator

Liz Thompson-515-996-2644  
Clerk



Dave Herman-515-240-9280  
Public Works

Chad Gillespie-515-371-9933  
Asst. Public Works

Bill Daggett-515-202-4154  
Police Chief

Jolena Welker-  
Library Director  
([jjwelker@vanmeteria.gov](mailto:jjwelker@vanmeteria.gov))-  
Library-515-996-2435



-Post Office-515-996-2458

-Non-Emergency- Dallas Co.  
Dispatch-515-993-4567

-Emergency-911



**THE VAN METER WINTER MARKET** is an amazing event where shoppers and vendors can share a love for food, art, craft and other miscellaneous items.

**FEATURING:** homemade crafters, bakers, jewelers, pottery, metal work, Scentsy, Lia Sophia, Young living, 31 Bags, Advocare, Tupperware and great gift ideas.



**Visit Santa at the Veterans Reception Center December 13th from 9a to Noon**



**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 13, 2014**

**9am to Noon**

**Be GOOD so that you stay off the naughty list!**





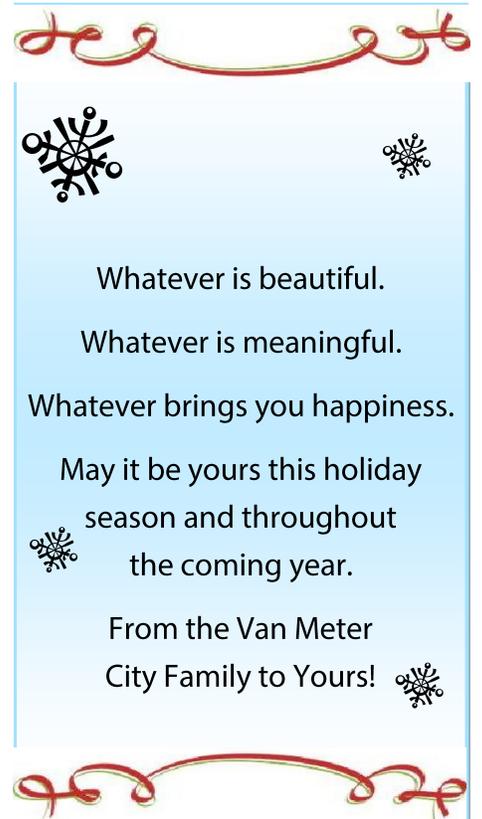
## Kids Shopping Day

**Saturday, December 13th, 9am-Noon**

Kid's Shopping Day is a long-standing tradition at the Van Meter UMC. Kids come in and shop for Christmas presents for their family members at garage sale prices. Parents stay hidden so they don't ruin the surprise. Volunteers are there to help the kids shop and wrap the presents. Proceeds are used for food baskets given to struggling community families.



**Donations are needed:** gently used or new items, wrapping paper, boxes, tape ribbons, and bows. Drop off at Van Meter Church. Contact Amy Lovig (515)745-5620 with questions.



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! 

**ANNUAL VAN METER  
FIRE & RESCUE**

# FIREHOUSE CHILI FEED

**Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup> - 11:30am to 1:30pm**

**At Veterans Reception Center**

**Warm up from the cold with**

**Chili \* corn bread \* dessert \* coffee \* hot chocolate**

**\$5 per person**

**Van Meter Fire & Rescue appreciates your support!**

Winter holidays are a time for families and friends to get together. But that also means a greater risk for fire. Following a few simple tips will ensure a happy and fire-safe holiday season.

**FACTS:**  
**! Two of every five** home decoration fires are started by candles.  
**! Nearly half** of holiday decoration fires happen because decorations are placed too close to a heat source.

**BEFORE HEADING OUT  
OR TO BED...**

**Blow out** lit candles when you leave the room or go to bed.  
**Turn off** all light strings and decorations before leaving home or going to bed.

- \* Be careful with holiday decorations. Choose items that are flame resistant or flame retardant.
- \* Keep lit candles away from decorations and other things that can burn.
- \* Keep decorations away from windows and doors.



Want to email Santa? Visit [www.Santaclaus.net](http://www.Santaclaus.net) for holiday fun! Fun for the young Van Meter citizens (and the young at heart). Find out if you are on the nice or naughty list!? Count down to Christmas. Games and activities. **FUN! FUN! FUN!**

**Santaclaus.net**

X U R S C T X B O J I W W I Y  
 S O W X H O Q T O C N F F I Q  
 L W K T I Y M T Q O A S F D Q  
 R F F B M S E Q A I U C Y Z B  
 V E K Y N S R S R H S O H L K  
 K Y I V E X L I U L G Q Q C C  
 T H C N Y U E E L U G I S K I  
 M D C E D S K E D X H E E Z N  
 J O L L Y E B U G C V E O L T  
 F U O J D H E H P L O D U R S  
 Z E U C G T D R E N K O W X Q  
 W F I I G Q J Z G E H W C M D  
 D X E L O Y P J H I W K X Z Y  
 N L N O R T H P O L E O S L Z  
 S T Y R V U D M Q A W K U Z A

- |            |              |
|------------|--------------|
| Chimney    | Rudolph      |
| Elves      | Sled         |
| Fairies    | Sleigh       |
| Jolly      | Sleigh Bells |
| North Pole | St. Nick     |
| Reindeer   | Toys         |



## Scout Writes for City Newsletter— By Chris Coffie

I sat down with Liz Thompson from City Hall. She helped me earn my Communication pin for Cub Scouts. I learned about her job and part of her job is writing the newsletter for the city. She asks people questions about local events and activities to help her write the articles. She also gets information by email and by talking with local business. It takes about a week to get the newsletter ready. After the newsletters are ready Mrs. Thompson weighs them before she sends them out to make sure she put the right amount of postage on them.





Email: [Jwelker@vanmeteria.gov](mailto:Jwelker@vanmeteria.gov)



Phone (515) 996-2435

# CHECK IT OUT!

## December: snow, celebrating Christmas, caroling, cold, deer

The Van Meter Public Library will be starting it's reading contest for Adults in January. You must be 18 or older to participate in the contest. This year we will have a few great prizes, but I want to reward you along your way! It will be similar to a bingo sheet , but you get to pick the categories. As soon as you finish a row you get a small reward. It may be a new book, hot cocoa, a crochet snuggie etc. Then the grand prizes will be to those who not only read the most books, but from the most genres. So if you read 20 romances and someone else reads 20 and 10 are mystery and 10 are romance that puts them in the lead. Variety is the spice of life. So stop in and pick up the contest sheet and we will start January 5th and end January 30th. Have a great time reading. I will have the sheets ready to pick up the first of January 2015.

The library has many books and magazines with great ideas for the New Year. Whether you are throwing a party, learning a new hobby or trying to read more, stop in and check out what your library offers.

### We also offer great DVDs. A few new ones are:

"Blended"



"Edge of Tomorrow"

"Mr. Sherman and Peabody"

"Transformers: Age of Extinction"

"How to Train Your Dragon 2"

"Robocop"

...and many more.



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



I want to wish our community Merry Christmas! Thank you for supporting your city and the Van Meter Public Library!

Thank you and Merry Christmas to Jake, Liz, Dave, Chad and Police Chief Daggett! The city has a great team and I look forward to 2015 and serving our community.

Jolena Welker

Director

515-996-2435



CITY OF VAN METER

505 Grant Street  
PO Box 160  
Van Meter, IA 50261  
ph: 515-996-2644  
fax: 515-996-2207

## Snow, Snow, Snow!



**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!**

**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](http://www.vanmeteria.gov) under the section titled Ordinances.**



"Like" us on  
Facebook

Visit us on the web -  
[www.vanmeteria.gov](http://www.vanmeteria.gov)

## Recycling Schedule for December 2014

**WASTE CONNECTIONS INC.**

**515-265-7374**

Monday, December 1

Monday, December 15

Monday, December 29