



VAN METER NEWS

CITY OF VAN METER

December
2012

~Visit Santa at City Hall on Saturday, December 15th from 9 a.m. to noon

City Hall Holiday Open House

Mayor Adams, Council and city staff invite you to visit City Hall on Friday, December 14th for our Holiday Open House.

We are celebrating the joys of the holiday season and taking the opportunity to welcome Bill Daggett who started October 29th as the new chief of police.

The City of Van Meter recently concluded an intensive and wide-ranging search for a new Police Chief. The position was offered to and has been filled by William (Bill) Daggett of Waukee. Bill returns to Van Meter (having been an original member of the Bulldog football team in 1980) with more than 26 years in law enforcement experience, most recently having served 14 years with the Waukee Police Department.



While in Waukee Bill pioneered the School Resource Officer Program, implemented TRIAD, Crime Stoppers, and served as a D.A.R.E. instructor. He received the Medal of Valor from the City of Waukee for entering an exploded home on fire to save an elderly disabled female. Bill also served as Vice President on the Waukee Community School Board of Education from 2003 to 2006.

Bill holds a Bachelor of Science degree from the College of the Ozarks in Point Lookout, Missouri where he majored in Administration of Justice. Additionally, Bill holds a Master of Public Administration degree from Drake University in Des Moines with an emphasis in executive leadership.

Bill and his wife Jodi are planning to build a home in Crestview Estates. They have five children, Brittany 25, Dylan 19, Alexis 18, Ryann 7, and Lucas 5. When you see Chief Daggett please take the opportunity to welcome him to the community.

City Information:

E-mail: lthompson@vanmeteria.gov

www.cityofvanmeter.com

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—Deputy Clerk

Dave Herman—Public Works

Chad Gillespie— Public Works

Bill Daggett—Police Chief

Jolena Welker—
Library Director
(vanmeterpl@mchsi.com)



-City Hall-996-2644

-Library-996-2435

Non-Emergency-993-4567

Emergency-911

“LIKE” us on Facebook—City of Van Meter



Santa Claus is Coming To Town!



Mark your calendars and make your list, Santa Claus is coming to town! The Van Meter Fire and Rescue Department is hosting Santa's visit to City Hall on Saturday, December 15 from 9-noon. There will be "goodie" bags for all the boys and girls who come to visit. Refreshments and cookies will be served! So forget about looking for parking spots and who needs the lines at the mall - Support the VM Fire and Rescue Department. They look forward to seeing you there!

Try to be good... Santa is watching!
He's making a list and checking it twice!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY JESUS



Van Meter Baptist Church

Happy Birthday, Jesus!

December 16th and 23rd; 10:30am

Free t-shirt for those attending

Are you tired of pushing your way through crowded malls? Are the kids a little selfish with their wish lists? Is all of the busy-ness of Christmas making it feel like a drag? Start the Christmas season off right by giving one hour to yourself, your family, your traditions - to God! Get refreshed and refocused on what truly matters at Christmas.



VM United Methodist Church Holiday Events

Kids Shopping Day

Saturday, December 8th, 9:00 AM-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 by Dec. 2nd. Contact Geri Richards (996-2438) or Stacy Peterson (229-7579) with questions.



The Christmas Guest



Sunday, December 9, 9:00 AM During worship (Booneville) Conrad the shoemaker and his assistants have cleaned up and are ready for the Lord to visit them as He said He would. Join us for this poignant adaptation of Edwin Markham's poem, "How the Great Guest Came."

Sunday, December 9, 10:45 AM During worship

(Van Meter) The children discover what is essential in the celebration of Christmas.

Soups and Songs—Following Children's Christmas Program at (Van Meter) Freewill donation, proceeds help eradicate Malaria worldwide.

Annual Christmas Cantata

Sunday, December 16th during the 10:45 Worship Service the 20 voice Chancel Choir of the Van Meter United Methodist Church will present their annual Christmas Cantata. Favorite carols, beautiful new songs and narration combine in a celebration of Christmas. Please come and join us for this inspiring presentation.



Christmas Eve Services

Friday, December 24:

Van Meter United Methodist Church

4 PM & 7 PM

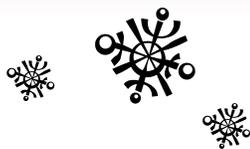
Booneville United Methodist Church 9 PM



Merry Christmas and

Happy New Year—

We wish you and yours all the best!



City Hall—Donation Site

The Dallas County Sheriff's Benevolent Association is preparing for their Christmas season projects. This will be their 17th year for the Benevolent Food Basket and "Shop with a Cop" programs. With your help they hope to reach those who might benefit the most from these programs. Their "Shop with a Cop" program takes children to local area stores and allows them to pick out Christmas gifts for themselves and their family members, which the association pays for and wraps. Their food basket program delivers boxes filled with a ham or turkey, canned food, bread, milk, eggs, potatoes, gift certificates donated by local restaurants and businesses, laundry detergent, toothpaste, sweets for the children, new toys and various other foods and sundries. The Sheriff's Benevolent Association assists 50 to 75 families in Dallas County who need a helping hand during the holiday season, especially the children. One hundred percent of the donations stay here in Dallas County. If you would like to help, monetary donations can be sent to:

Dallas County Sheriff's Benevolent Association

Po Box 187

Adel, Iowa 50003-0187



Donations, such as non-perishable items or toys, can be dropped off at V.M. City Hall located at 505 Grant Street until December 14th. The Benevolent Association does this with the help of various other charities and local and community donations. They can't do it without you. With your help lets make this a Merry Christmas for those in need.

Those of us at City Hall would like to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas filled with joy and love!



3RD ANNUAL VAN METER

FIRE & RESCUE

Firehouse Chili Feed

Saturday, December 15th - 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

At the Van Meter Fire House

Warm up from the cold with

Chili * corn bread * dessert * coffee * hot chocolate

\$5.00 per person





CHECK IT OUT!



Phone: 996-2435
Email: vanmeterpl@mchsi.com

December—Jolena has been the Director of the library for a whole year. I tip my hat to Shirley who did this for 35 years. So many people have been encouraging, thoughtful, kind and cheering the library on. **THANK YOU!** I even thank those of you who have to be a little tough on me at times. You know who you are and the constructive ideas you give me and honesty really helps.

I want to mention my Dad, Myron B. Akers who was born in December. He **LOVED** Christmas. He passed away in June 2001 but it seems like each year I notice a few more ways I am like him. Dad was like a big kid at Christmas. He always had to hand out our Christmas presents to the family. We had to wait and watch as each present was opened (6 kids) and that was hard to do. I remember the look in his eyes as he watched each one of us and the expression of joy on his face. It was really important to him that you liked your presents. My Dad was not afraid to cry and did not like to let anyone down. He was giving and proud! I love you Dad! (if you Google my dad's name a poem will come up that my sister Melody wrote when he passed away, it shows what kind of love was in our family!)



Ok... Don't forget to come in and get information for the adult reading contest that will take place in January and February. There will be rewards, prizes and fun. You must be 19 or older. Call the library at 996-2435 if you need us to bring books and information to you because you are homebound. This is a service we offer to our community all year long.

We have many Christmas books for all ages. We have several new titles. We have books and magazines on Christmas decorating, crafts, gifts, baking, games, songs, etc. So be sure to stop in for a great read!



Vickie's movie recommendations for the month: "**Gothika**" – a physiological thriller that we keep you guessing; "**Smallville**" Season 8 – we have Seasons 1-8 in the library. This was a show on CW and it is about Superman and Clark Kent! "**Snow White & the Huntsman**," and "**Big Miracle**" (based on a true story).

I would like to recommend "**Brave**," "**Chitty, Chitty, Bang, Bang**," "**Mr. Popper's Penguins**," "**We Bought a Zoo**," and "**Scrooge**."

Jolena and Vickie

**THE STAFF AND LIBRARY BOARD of the
Van Meter Public Library
wish you a wonderful Holiday Season!**



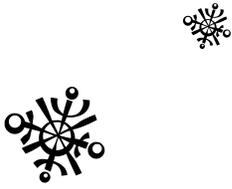
Jolena Welker
Vickie Benson
John Seefeld
Dan Koster
Rachel Backstrom
Lisa Boyd
Amanda Durlinger



Library Hours

Monday—9a to 5p
Tuesday—4p to 8p
Wednesday—9a to 5p
Thursday—9a to 5p
Friday—9a to 5p
Saturday—9a to Noon





VAN METER FARMERS MARKET

growers • gardeners • bakers • crafters • events



Save The Date!



Van Meter Farmers Market Holiday Bazaar

When: December 8, 2012

Where: Van Meter School Cafeteria

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.



- ★ Gifts
- ★ Baked goods
- ★ Crafts
- ★ Jewelry
- ★ Van Meter merchandise
- ★ Unique items
- ★ And more ...



Want to be a vendor?

Contact Holly Adams by December 1, 2012

515.996.2702 or

vmfarmersmarket@gmail.com

\$5 per table vendor fee



This is a great time to purchase homemade Christmas items!



CITY OF VAN METER



505 Grant Street

P.O. Box 160

Van Meter, IA 50261

Phone: 515-996-2644

Fax: 515-996-2207

or info@cityofvanmeter.com

Boys Scout Project

BOY SCOUT TROOP 120, Van Meter, Iowa is once again collecting decorative lighting (cords are actually what we are seeking) that you would like to discard. This is a great way to de---clutter your space and/or give you an opportunity to get new!!!

The collection site will be located at 120 East Street (Sacker's). There will be a barrel placed to the North of the garage. Thank you for all the support Van Meter provides to our



Visit us on the Web!
www.cityofvanmeter.com
It is like Christmas every day!



2012 AUDIT

Cities with a population between 700 and 2,000 are required by law to have an audit every four years. Once complete, the audit must be filed with the state auditor.

According to Wikipedia, the most general definition of an audit is an evaluation of a person, organization, system, process, project or product. Audits are performed to ascertain the validity and reliability of information, and also provide an assessment of a system's internal control.

The City contracts with the State to perform our audit.

In the report you will find City's receipts totaled \$1,423,958 for the year ended June 30, 2012. The receipts included \$332,575 in property tax, \$170,746 from tax increment financing, \$375,142 from charges for service, \$172,656 from operating grants, contributions and restricted interest, \$102,472 from local option sales tax, \$5,367 from unrestricted interest on investments and \$265,000 from general obligation bond proceeds.

Disbursements for the year totaled \$1,312,614, and included \$201,483 for culture and recreations, \$177,146 for public works and \$124,829 for public safety. Also disbursements for business type activities totaled \$472,166.

A copy is available at City Hall and on the state auditor's website at <http://auditor.iowa.gov/reports/reports.htm>.

If you have any questions, please contact City Hall.

Recycling Schedule for December 2012

WASTE CONNECTIONS INC.

515-265-7374

Monday, December 3

Monday, December 17

Monday, December 31

**Merry Christmas
from City Hall!**

