

Happy Halloween

October 2012



CITY OF VAN METER

# Van Meter News

## City News

### Water Quality Update

The Water Quality Study that was jointly commissioned by the Cities of Van Meter and DeSoto is currently underway. Staff, from both communities have been working with the selected engineering firms to collect water data from the last five years. The data being collected is comprehensive ranging from gallons pumped and the chemical composition of the water to financial information including billing and budgetary figures. Over the next couple of months we will analyze that information and will get a clearer picture about the viability of a cooperative water treatment

option. More research is needed however early indicators suggest a collaborative alternative is feasible particularly in the long-term.

### Police Chief Search

The application deadline for the vacant Police Chief position closed on September 28 at 5:00PM. The Mayor's hiring committee will be reviewing applications during the first week in October. Subsequently the Committee will hold interviews during the second and third weeks in October with the hopes of filling the position by early November. Please watch for further information in future editions of the Van Meter Newsletter.



**In consideration of children and adults with respiratory problems, citizens are urged to refrain from open burning during late afternoon and evening on Beggar's Night. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated!**

Exercise your right to vote!  
**Vote at the Van Meter United Methodist Church. Polls will be open on Tuesday, November 6th, from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.**



## Attention Van Meter Precinct Voters

**WHAT:** Satellite Voting Station for the November 6<sup>th</sup> General Election. (EARLY VOTING)

**LOCATION:** Van Meter United Methodist Church  
100 Hazel Street  
Van Meter

**WHEN:** October 18<sup>th</sup> from noon until 6 p.m.

**WHO:** All registered voters in the Van Meter Precinct.



***“Like” us on Facebook—City of Van Meter***

# Beggar's Night—Tuesday, October 30

# Happy Halloween

Beggar's Night  
Tuesday, October 30th  
6 pm to 8 pm  
Be Safe & Have Fun!



## Halloween Activity

Halloween at Johnson Park

Tuesday, October 30; 5 p.m.—6 p.m.

Enjoy free Hot Dogs & Hot Chocolate served prior to trick-or-treat.

All Ghosts and Goblins along with their parents/guardians are invited.



Sponsored by the Van Meter Parks & Recreation Board

## Trunk-or-Treat

# Trunk or Treat



Tuesday, October 30th  
United Methodist Church Parking Lot  
6 p.m.—8 p.m.

Decorate your trunk, put on a friendly costume, bring your candy and join us in the church parking lot. Bring the kids. Bring your friends. It is a friendly and safe environment. We have a blast! No admission fee. Donations accepted.

If you would like to participate by bringing your vehicle, **YOU MUST REGISTER** by contacting Stacy at 996-2572 or [speterson0403@gmail.com](mailto:speterson0403@gmail.com)

# American Legion Oratorical Contest

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American Legion Post #403 is sponsoring the local Post American Legion Oratorical Contest. Community high school age students, grades 9-12, are eligible to participate for Post scholarship awards. Post 403 Contest Registration deadline for 2012 is November 9. Application and written copy of Prepared Oration must be submitted at deadline date.

First Place:	\$500.00**
Second Place:	\$400.00
Third Place:	\$300.00
Fourth Place:	\$200.00
Fifth Place	\$100.00

\*\*The First Place winner or replacement (if first place winner unable to continue) will receive an additional \$200 if they participate in the County American Legion contest to be held between November 19, 2012 and December 2, 2012 and another \$300 if they proceed to participate in the District American Legion Contest to be held between December 3, 2012 and December 30, 2012.

The National High School Oratorical contest sponsored since 1938 by the American Legion is designed to instill a greater knowledge and appreciation of the Constitution of the United States in high school students. Other objectives include the development of leadership, the ability to think and speak clearly, and the preparation for acceptance of the duties, responsibilities, rights and privileges of American citizenship. Another purpose of the program is to assist students in paying the high cost of college education.

The Post (community level) competition is the beginning step to the final culmination in the National competition. The student advances from the Post level, county level, district level (there are 9 Legion districts in the state of Iowa), area level (comprised of 3 district level winners), department level (State competition comprised of 3 area level winners), and finally the national level in which the student competes against winners from other states at Indiana University – Purdue University in Indianapolis, Indiana.

## Scholarships Awarded beyond the Post Competition are:

County Scholarship Award: Post 403 was the only Post in the County; Post winner automatic County winner last yr.

District Scholarship Award: District Champions eliminated in the Area contests will receive a scholarship prize of \$200 with same restrictions as Department finals.

Area Scholarship Award: Each Area winner who participates in the Department Oratorical Contest will receive \$100.00 from the Department of Iowa American Legion for expenses only. Each participant in Area will receive \$50 from Dept. of IA.

**Department (Iowa) Scholarship Award:** First Place: \$2000.00; Second Place: \$1500.00; Third Place: \$1000.00

**National Scholarship Award:** First Place: \$18,000.00; Second Place: \$16,000.00; Third Place: \$14,000.00

There are two sections to the contest at District level and higher. These sections are the Prepared Oration section and the Assigned Topic section. The subject to be used for the Prepared Oration must be on some phase of the Constitution of the United States which will give emphasis to the attendant duties and obligations of a citizen to our government. The Prepared Oration must be the original effort of each contestant and must not take less than eight (8) minutes or more than ten (10) minutes for delivery. The Assigned Topic section of the contest must not consume less than three (3) minutes or more than five (5) minutes for delivery. Last year, the Post elected to only require the student to have the Prepared Oration speech for the Post competition. Details on the Assigned Topic speech will be discussed with the Post winner once the Post Contest has been completed. The elimination of the Assigned Topic was initiated in the 2011 Post Contest to allow more student participation.

National contest information may be obtained by visiting American Legion website at [www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org) and click on Programs and Events link on left side of site. The Oratorical Contest information can be found under the following drop down link. State contest information and application may be obtained by visiting American Legion Department of Iowa website at [www.ialeion.org](http://www.ialeion.org) and click on Youth Programs link on the left and then click on link for Oratorical. For local Post community contest information contact Terry Vande Kamp at 996-9144, cell 515-720-7624 or email address at [terrwnd@aol.com](mailto:terrwnd@aol.com). School contacts are: Ms. Rabe, Mr. Lamoureux, or Angie Tipling.

## Fire Department

In recognition of fire prevention week the Van Meter Fire Department would like to offer the members of the community the opportunity to have a smoke detector.

If you do not have a smoke detector in your home or have one that is not functioning properly and cannot afford one, it would be the honor, duty and pleasure of the Van Meter Fire Department to provide you one free of charge.

Members will be available at the fire station on October 12 from 12-6pm and will make them available while supplies last. If you have any questions please contact us at the e-mail below or call City Hall

[vanmeterfireandrescue@gmail.com](mailto:vanmeterfireandrescue@gmail.com)

# Fight the FIU

Flu shots and flu mist available on Tuesday, October 2nd from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at Van Meter City Hall. Registration is not required. You need only come during the times listed. Cost for the vaccination/mist is \$25. Persons with **Medicare** benefits are welcome. This opportunity is brought to you by Dallas County Public Health. Call 996-2644 for more info.



## October 2nd 4 pm to 6 pm

## American Legion

COMMUNITY BONFIRE—

“Everyone Invited of All Ages”

Location: American Legion Building Site

Date: Saturday, October 13th

Time: Fire Lit at Noon



**BRING OWN FOOD, BEVERAGE, AND CHAIRS—GRILL WILL BE PROVIDED**

American Legion Post 403 Breakfast  
Van Meter School Lunchroom  
October 7, 2012 -- time 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
\*\*\*\*\*

Waukee Pizza Ranch Fundraiser  
Pizza Ranch 448 SE University Avenue, Waukee, IA  
October 22, 2012 -- time 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.  
"Post Vets wait tables and serve you with a smile"  
\*\*\*\*\*

American Legion Post 403 Breakfast  
Van Meter School Lunchroom  
November 4, 2012 -- time 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
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American Legion Post 403 Oratorical Contest  
Van Meter School (Old Gym)  
November 18, 2012 -- start 1:30 p.m. ; end 4:30

American Legion Post 403 Breakfast  
Van Meter School Lunchroom  
December 2, 2012 -- time 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

# Library—CHECK IT OUT @ THE VAN METER PUBLIC LIBRARY

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

**October in Iowa!** It doesn't get more beautiful!

October is Jake Anderson's birthday month. Sam & Jolena celebrate 28 years of wedded bliss I know you can all send Sam a sympathy card :)

Well just a few reminders:

**October 11th** at 6:30 pm at the library is the knitting/crocheting group.

**October 18th** at 7:00 pm is the next book club and we are reading "Brethren" by John Grisham. Feel free to come join us for lively discussion.

**October 27th** at the city hall/firehouse we will have an early slumber party. Bring your blanket, sleeping bag, etc. We start at 5 p.m. We will serve pizza, popcorn & drinks. Also cookies. I need to know how many pizzas to order so let Vickie or myself know how many in your family are coming. Also if anyone wants to make or buy cookies or donate toward pizza let me know. We will then have spooky stories in the library and time to play in the park. We will end around 8:30 pm. This is brought back by popular demand from children and adults. Thank you everyone for the great feedback.

**We have many new children's and young adult titles in the library.**

New Scooby Doo, Strawberry Shortcake and Autumn books.

A new series for Young Adults with the first book "City of Bones" by Cassandra Clare and

I recommend "Bonechiller" by Graham McNamee. It was excellent.

New DVD's - "Tangled," "Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs," "The Lorax," and "Body Guard," "Hatfield's and McCoy's" - this is the actual biography & "Vietnam"

**New Titles for adults** - "Age of Miracles," "Gone Girl," "I, Michael Bennett" by James Patterson,

Dick Van Dyke (biography), James Garner (biography), and "Dick Clark" (biography).

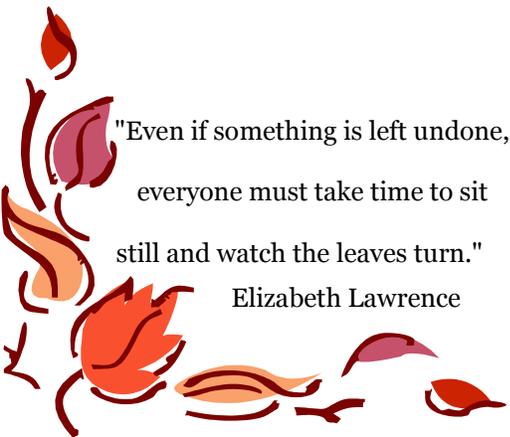
**There are many more! Please stop in and check out books, magazines and DVDs.**



"Just before the death of  
flowers,  
And before they are bur-  
ied in the snow/  
There comes a festival  
season when  
nature is all aglow."  
Author Unknown

*We have "National Geographic" and "Family Circle" magazine subscriptions donated by patrons of the library.*

**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**



"Even if something is left undone,  
everyone must take time to sit  
still and watch the leaves turn."  
Elizabeth Lawrence



**"October's Party"**   
**"October gave a party;**   
**The leaves by hundreds came  
- The Chestnuts, Oaks and  
Maples, And leaves of every  
name. The sunshine spread a  
carpet, and everything was  
grand. Miss Weather did the  
dancing, Professor Wind the  
band."**  
**George Cooper**

## CITY OF VAN METER

PO Box 160  
505 Grant Street  
Van Meter, IA 50261  
Ph: 515-996-2644  
Fax: 515-996-2207  
email: vanmeter@city.net

### Elected Officials:

*Mayor*

-Allan Adams

*Mayor Pro Tem,*

-Becca Wiederholt,  
*Council*

-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*

*Jolena Welker-*

*Library Director*

**-Library-996-2435**

**-Post Office-996-2458**

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

**-Emergency-911**

**-Dave Herman—240-9280**

[www.cityofvanmeter.com](http://www.cityofvanmeter.com)

## Tricks or Treats?

**Hydrant Flushing**—Public Works Employees Dave Herman and Chad Gillespie will be flushing hydrants in October. He does this on a regular basis to rid the lines of sediment build up. This will be done in the middle of the night so that any discoloration of the water should be cleared up by morning. If you do ever experience discolored water, run your cold water faucets for a few minutes and it should clear up.

**Irrigation Meters**—Sooner than later it is going to get cold. Unfortunately. If you own an outside irrigation meter we would like to remind you to bring it indoors before the first freeze. Leaving it in freezing temperatures can cause it to become damaged and not work properly.

**Happy Halloween**

**Burning yard waste**—The City permits the burning of yard waste within city limits. Please do not burn on city sidewalks or on city streets. Use caution and care when burning.

**Building permits**—Before beginning a project, check with City Hall for a building permit.

**Waste Connections Inc.**

**515-265-7374**

**2012 Recycling Schedule**

**October 8 and 22**

**November 5 and 19**

**December 3, 17 and 31**

VAN METER  
**FARMERS  
MARKET**

There are a lot of people to thank for the Farmers Market season

Lisa and Johnny Boyd  
Cathy and Jack Dodson  
Ann Coffee  
Dan Hicks  
Elaine Sutherland  
Portia Haynes  
Gayle O'Brian  
Jolena and Vicki  
Becky Kinney  
Michele Beschen

**October 6th-**

**Final Market of**

**The Season!**

Thanks to everyone who participated this year and made the market a huge success.

All of the vendors and All the community members who came to help support the Farmers Market.

