



# The Strawberry Vine

Volume 4, Issue 9

April 2011

## Letter from the Mayor

### *Things to See & Do:*

- Backbone State Park
- Wilder Museum
- The Big Strawberry
- [www.strawberrypoint.com](http://www.strawberrypoint.com)



May 3rd is a date to remember. That is the date for the DOT community meeting on the Elkader Street construction project, scheduled for the Summer of 2012. It will be from 5:00 to 7:00 in the Civic Center. The goal is to answer your questions and concerns about the 2012 reconstruction of Elkader Street and our upgrading of city infrastructure. If you live or own property on Elkader Street, you will have an opportunity to ask questions specific to your property.

In preparation for the 2012 construction of Elkader Street, this Summer will be used for tree removal and moving the electrical poles. At this time, there are 14 trees that will be removed. The state tells us which ones. The trees become the property of the tree removal company.

The Council has completed the first round of discussions for the Vision 2020 goals, except for the swimming pool goal, which is an on-going goal. This Summer we will have a community meeting for input. This pool project needs the involvement of our Strawberry Point citizens and the surrounding community to create a pool area we can look at with pride. At this time, the date of the first meeting has not been decided. Watch the Press-Journal, our city web site, our city Facebook page, and other media for updates and general information.

Our swim pool will open for the Memorial Day weekend on the Friday before Memorial Day. It will open for the Summer on the last day of school. Pool hours will be open swimming from 1:00 to 5:00 and from 7:00-8:30. The pool will be closed to the public from 5:00 to 6:00 for Swim Team practice and from 6:00 to

7:00 for lap swimming.

We will have a Summer recreation program this year. If it goes well, the council will discuss having a Summer program next year. Registration forms will be available in City Hall once we get a little closer to Summer. We have a volunteer director. If you would be willing to help out for one time or all Summer, please contact city hall.

We have some new tables and chairs at the Civic Center. If you are interested in renting the Civic Center for an event, get more information by clicking the link on the city web page, [www.strawberrypoint.com](http://www.strawberrypoint.com), or talk with city hall.

The new playground equipment should be here soon. We will schedule a volunteer day for people to help install the equipment in Inger Park. At this time, it looks like somewhere in the first couple weeks of April.

A speed trailer has been purchased, with the help of grant funds. It will show people how fast they are driving. It will record the different speeds of vehicles as well as provide a traffic count. It does NOT have a camera. It will help drivers know how fast they are driving and be a reminder about keeping within the speed limit.

Have a Happy Easter!!

Dale Fox

Mayor

[mayor@strawberrypoint.com](mailto:mayor@strawberrypoint.com)

Mayor &

City Council

*Dale Fox*

*Jackie Opperman*

*Jan Parkin*

*Jacci Meyers*

*Troy Stover*

*Rich Newman*

# City Hall News

Meeting dates for April: April 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>

Annual Spring Cleanup will be held Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup>

Leaf pickup will be held every Monday in the month of April, weather permitting. Please have leaves and grass clippings only curbside by 7:00 am

Have unused latex paint to dispose of? For small amounts of paint, remove lid from container, allow paint to air-dry thoroughly. Throw paint can in regular garbage. For larger amounts of paint, stir in equal amounts of clay-based cat litter to make the mixture thick. Then it is safe to dispose of in the regular garbage.

Updated Census Population is 1279 for Strawberry Point.

Anyone interested in finding better alternatives for teens instead of drinking and smoking? Join the Strawberry Point S.A.F.E. Coalition. Call City Hall if interested.

The staff at City Hall also welcomes any comments and suggestions. Please feel free to stop in or call us at 563-933-4482.

Deanna Dement

City Clerk/Administrator

## Fire Department

The Fire Department is still in the running for the AFG Grant for a new training trailer.

The Department has written a Federal grant to implement a Free Smoke Detector Program...more details to come as we hear from the Grant Review Committees.



## Library

No news

Beth Brase, Library Director

The Strawberry Point Development Fund hosted a Murder Mystery Dinner called "The Luck of the Irish" on Saturday, March 19, at the Franklin Hotel in Strawberry Point. Fifty seven people attended this three-course Irish dinner where guests had to guess who stole the King of the Leprechaun's gold and who killed the King's blacksmith. Clues were presented by 10 suspects in between meal courses. These suspects were the High King and Queen Laoghaire (Norm and Joan Rizer), Leprechauns Hendo and Maeve Barrett (Jon Banse and Tara Baumgartner), Leprechauns Rory and Aileen O'Hara (Dave Beck and Mary Stover), the Blacksmith Magee MacMahon (Eric Shilhanek), the Irish lass Tara Fitzgerald (Ellen Opperman), the shepherd and fiddler Malone MacSweeney (Aaron Opperman), and the milkmaid Bridget O'Conner (Amanda Whittle). Six witnesses were played by audience members who also presented clues during each of the three acts. Prizes were awarded to the person who guessed who stole the gold and murdered the goldsmith. Another prize was awarded to the person who dressed the best for the "green" occasion. The Development Fund would like to thank all of the actors and actresses for their time and creativity. They would also like to thank Allison McIntyre for being emcee, Jane Compton for her great help, and Marge Banse for her artwork. A special thanks goes to the Franklin Hotel for making this event a great success.

Amanda Whittle

Director of Economic Development and Tourism  
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## Ambulance

No news

Theresa Callahan & Duane Johnson—Service Directors

**CITY OF STRAWBERRY POINT**

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*Deanna Dement - City  
Clerk/Administrator*

*Elizabeth Jaster - Deputy City  
Clerk*

*Amanda Whittle—Economic  
Development Director*

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WE'RE ON THE WEB!  
WWW.STRAWBERRYPT.COM

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## April Birthdays



Jeff Robinson	Cory Davis
Elizabeth Van Hauen	Amy Otting
Aaron Opperman	Rich Newman
David Bockenstedt	Lori Robinson
Deanna Dement	Roland Evans
Dennis Allsup	Rosella Coleman
Steve Thomas	Everett Hansel
Frederick Scott	Bev MacTaggart
Marie VansCoy	Marcia Hanson
Ellen Meyer	Susan Rees
Jon Walz	
Deloris Morris	
Darryl Syverson	
Don Fredrick	
Dale Fox	
Duane Streicher	
Summer Zwanziger-Elsinger	
Martin Hanson	

## Police

### Got Drugs?

Strawberry Point Police Department and DEA National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day

On April 30<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. The Strawberry Point Police Department and DEA will hold another National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day; anyone can turn in their unused, unneeded or expired prescription medications. This service is free and anonymous. Tablets, capsules, and other solid dosage forms will be collected. Intravenous solutions, injectables, and syringes will not be accepted. We will also accept unused, unneeded or expired prescription medications from residents of long term care facilities.

#### Results of last September's Event

Last September on the first nationwide take back day, Americans turned in over 242,000 pounds-121 tons-of prescription drugs at nearly 4,100 sites operated by more than 3,000 state and local law enforcement partners.

#### Prescription Drug Safety Issues and Statistics

Unused or expired prescription medications are a public safety issue, leading to accidental poisoning, overdose, and abuse.

Pharmaceutical drugs, particularly controlled substances, taken without a prescription or a doctor's supervision can be just as dangerous as taking illicit drugs.

More Americans currently abuse prescription drugs than those using cocaine, hallucinogens, and heroin combined.

The majority (70 to 78% depending on the drug) of Americans 12 and older who abused prescription drugs got them from friends and family, including from their home medicine cabinets.