



The Strawberry Vine

Volume 4, Issue 8

March 2011

Letter from the Mayor

Things to See & Do:

- Backbone State Park
- Wilder Museum
- The Big Strawberry
- www.strawberrypoint.com



Welcome to March! Spring weather will be here soon. Spring gets people started thinking about cleaning and the city council has this one covered. Strawberry Point's Spring Cleanup Day will be May 14. If you are like many people, now is the time to start looking around the house for things to put out. Details will be out a couple weeks before May 14.

The City Council has listened to three pool firms present why they should be selected to assist in planning and constructing a new swimming pool. In the next couple weeks, the Council will be selecting which company best fits Strawberry Point. One of the early steps in the process is to hold a community meeting. Once the meeting date has been set, it will be published in the paper, on the web page and distributed through other media.

The Strawberry Days input meeting has passed, but good ideas are still welcome, along with volunteers to help with preparation and with the activities on June 10 and 11. Has your group been thinking of what your float will look like in the parade? Remember the theme is "Everything Strawberry". If you have suggestions or can be a volunteer, call Amanda at 933-4417 or email her at econdev@strawberrypoint.com.

Speaking of volunteers, once our new playground items are here, many hands will be needed to get it set up and the areas ready for use. The new equipment will be placed in Inger Park. We are looking at a slide, a rock wall, a climber, a bumble bee, a balance beam, a log roll, and an in-ground bench. We may also be updating the swings.

Have you seen the 2010 Census data? Strawberry Point's population is now listed as 1,279 people. This is down 107 people from the 2000 Census. We are the third largest town in Clayton County behind Guttenberg at 1919 and Monona at 1549. Of all the Iowa cities listed, Strawberry Point's population puts us in the top 1/4. We rank 235th out of 1009 cities listed. The top 10 cities in Iowa include Cedar Rapids (#2), Waterloo (#5), and Dubuque (#9). Clayton County is down 2.9% to 18,129 people.

The S.A.F.E. (Substance Abuse Free Environment) group is getting things ready for spring and summer. In the plans are presentations for students and adults about texting while you drive (March 31), trying to do normal thinking while wearing "drunk" goggles (April 20), sponsoring alcohol free graduation parties, and at Strawberry Days a dance/pool even and a JEL event. Volunteers are always welcome or if you have questions about the group call Deanna at City Hall.

What special days does March bring us? American Red Cross Month, Music in Our Schools Month, Optimism Month, Daylight Savings Time (13th), Agriculture Day (20th), and Spring (20th) along with many others.

Think warm thoughts!!

Dale Fox

Mayor

mayor@strawberrypoint.com

Mayor &

City Council

Dale Fox

Jackie Opperman

Jan Parkin

Jacci Meyers

Troy Stover

Rich Newman

City Hall News

Meeting dates for March: 2nd and 16th.

Need help with your heating bill? Contact City Hall for more information.

Pool applications are available at City Hall and are being accepted until March 1st.

Snow Removal Reminder: It is the responsibility of all property owners to remove snow, ice and accumulations promptly from sidewalks. If a property owner does not remove snow, ice or accumulations within a reasonable time, the City may do so and bill the property owner.

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.

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

The library continues to have a book sale. There is something for everyone!!!

The library has changed software systems. You can now access our catalog online. Go to strawberypoint.lib.ia.us and click on the library catalog link.

Story time continues at 10:15 on Thursday mornings. Come join us!!

Beth Brase, Library Director

The Strawberry Point Development Fund will host a murder mystery dinner on Saturday, March 19, at 6:00 pm at the Franklin Hotel in Strawberry Point. The murder mystery dinner will be an Irish-themed three course dinner where guests will help solve the mystery of who killed the High King's goldsmith, who was found dead kissing the Blarney Stone. Guests will be given clues presented by 10 characters that are played by local individuals. Six random guests will be chosen that night to play a part in the murder mystery where they will also present clues. All guests are strongly encouraged to dress in green as there will be prizes for best costume. Tickets are \$30 and seating is limited. Contact Amanda at 563-933-4417 to make reservations.

The Development Fund is also in the process of working on a monthly newsletter that will be given to local businesses with information regarding loans, grants, tips, and other important information that businesses should know. The first issue will come out in April 2011.

Amanda Whittle

Director of Economic Development and Tourism

Strawberry Point Development Fund, Inc.

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Ambulance

Strawberry Point Ambulance Service placed into service in each of our 2 ambulances, Zoll E-Series monitors. These monitors allow personnel to monitor a patient's cardiac rhythm, blood pressure, and oxygen saturation. They have defibrillator capability and will allow EMTs to perform a 12 lead EKG in the field which can then be transmitted to the hospital, allowing ER personnel to begin treatment processes. Time is muscle in regards to treating patients with cardiac emergencies. We are fortunate to have been able to make this purchase.

We have several students currently riding along with the Ambulance crew completing field orientation. EMT class will be coming to a close later this month, we wish students well as they begin the process for State and National Certification.

Theresa Callahan & Duane Johnson—Service Directors

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*Deanna Dement - City
Clerk/Administrator*

*Elizabeth Jaster - Deputy City
Clerk*

*Amanda Whittle—Economic
Development Director*

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

March Birthdays



Brad Chambers	Jim Thein
Brad Hawkins	Mary Cronin
Marla Sollberger	Kevin Kitzman
Derick Sargent	Peggy Bridgewater
Ed Farrell	Dave Kuehl
Cindy Hilsabeck	Pat Bockenstedt
Roger Popham	Doug Schmidt
Shane Palas	Wade Brooks
Mary Freeland	Krista Falck
Billie Jo Farmer	Theresa Smock
Bob Pope	Lu Tweed
Ron Burington	Randy Swales
Frank Anthes	Penny Rummel
Al Fliehler	
Chris Palmersheim	
Ava Stone	
Donald Thomas	

Police

We will be participating in a Safety Traffic Enforcement Project March 17th—21st

These are the numbers Statewide for the November 2010 STEP wave. It was very successful with 328 OWIs, 1173 safety belt violations, 7485 speed violations and a total of 19306 traffic violations. We had 45 non-STEP grantees participate along with our 188 STEP agencies and one volunteer agency. Unfortunately, 12 lives were lost during the 7 days of the November wave.

Iowa had 389 fatalities during 2010 with over 35% or 104 of those killed not wearing safety belts. The percentage is probably higher because on 79 (almost 27%) of those fatalities belt use was listed as unknown. We must continue to remind violators that safety belt use is vital. Iowa is fast approaching its 25th year with a safety belt law. The data has consistently proven that safety belts save lives.

Coming in April: prescription drug drop off program. This program will allow anyone to drop off old prescriptions for disposal. Did you know that it is illegal to possess an old expired prescription? It is also dangerous to keep around especially if you have children or grandchildren.

Questions or concern please call me at 563-933-2210.

Chief Bob Pope

Happy 
St. Patricks Day