



# The Strawberry Vine

Volume 5, Issue 7

February 2012

## Letter from the Mayor

### Things to See & Do:

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



Hope your 2012 is off to a good start. We have snow now, so it is officially Winter.

A reminder to snowmobilers. It is not legal to operate a snowmobile in town except going to or from a gas station or a place to eat. It is never legal to drive over grass areas like people's lawns or our parks. Please enjoy your snowmobiles while respecting the rights of others.

City Council is almost finished with budget planning for this year. We will then be taking a look at our Capital Improvement Plan for the next 5 to 10 years out. This helps us plan for large future expenses.

As a group, the council participated in MLA training for municipal leaders. Topics were budgeting, economic development, and planning & zoning. It was the first time over this information for some of the council and a refresher for others.

Elkader Street construction will start this Summer. The DOT has now told us the work will start this Summer and probably take a bit of the Summer of 2013 to finish the project. This is caused by the fact that the road will not be closed to traffic, which is a great advantage to our town and much of Clayton

County. DOT is basing this on normal Iowa weather and construction history. If we have really good construction weather this year, we might get lucky.

It is almost 4 months away, but our Spring Clean Up Day is set for May 12. That is the weekend after the City Wide Garage Sales. It is not too early to start thinking of items for a garage sale. If you have some items but not enough for a sale of your own, maybe go together with a neighbor or two.

With this time of year being a little slower for many people, it is a good time to think about what you might volunteer to do once warmer weather comes to Strawberry Point. Maybe assisting with tree planting, something at the Lutheran Home, working with Strawberry Days, or working for another worthy cause around town. If you are ready to volunteer but don't know where assistance is needed, you can email me ([mayor@strawberrypoint.com](mailto:mayor@strawberrypoint.com)) or let city hall know and we will see what we can do.

Don't forget your Valentine(s) on the 14th.

Dale Fox, Mayor

### Mayor & Council

<i>Dale Fox</i>	<i>2013</i>
<i>Mike Tucker</i>	<i>2015</i>
<i>McKenzie Johnson</i>	<i>2015</i>
<i>Jackie Opperman</i>	<i>2015</i>
<i>Rich Newman</i>	<i>2013</i>
<i>Jacci Meyers</i>	<i>2013</i>

# City Hall News

Meeting dates for February: February 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>

**Reminders:** Remove snow and ice from sidewalks within a reasonable amount of time following a storm. No parking on City streets between 2:00 AM and 6:00 AM November 1<sup>st</sup> through April 1<sup>st</sup>. No parking on City streets during a Snow Emergency to allow the snow to be totally removed.

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

Your support of our department is greatly appreciated!



## Library

The first knitting / crocheting group met at the library with five ladies. It was discovered that one of the patterns needed to pick up stitches. We laughed and struggled but did seem to figure this out (somewhat.) The pattern is huggable hedgehogs which is very cute. Some uncertainty was met, but did not seem to hinder any spirits. If you are an experienced knitter or can crochet we could use some expertise. If interested in joining us we would love to have you. The group has decided to meet every Wednesday at 11:00. Next week we will pick out a name for our group. Hope to see you there!

A special thank you to all, who have donated items for the Neighbor to Neighbor Friend to Friend group. We have received soap, shampoo, hand cream, dishcloths etc.

During the winter weather, just a reminder that our book drop is to the east side of the building.

The Book sale has started. Come and browse through a large selection of books, puzzles, and magazines. Each item is priced at .50 cents. The coffee corner is supplied with warm drinks. Sit down, relax awhile.

Patty Lincoln, Library Director

# Economic Development and Tourism

Strawberry Point Development to host “The Case of the Missing Matchmaker” Murder Mystery Dinner

The Strawberry Point Development Fund will host a murder mystery dinner on Saturday, February, 18, 2012: 6:00 P.M. at the Franklin Hotel in Strawberry Point. The murder mystery dinner will be a romance-themed three course dinner where guests will help solve the mystery of what happened to Darlene Hickle. Darlene is a matchmaker that rarely listened to what anyone told her. Darlene’s success at miss-matching people reached its greatest height when her computer database crashed. She started randomly matching couples based on a printout she had of their names and addresses. It has been discovered that she has mysteriously disappeared. Guests will be given clues presented by 10 characters that are played by local individuals. All guests are strongly encouraged to dress in *Valentine Red* as there will be prizes for best costume. Tickets are \$30.00 and seating is limited. Contact Carrie at 563-933-4417 to make reservations.

Come join us on February 18, 2012 6:00pm at the Franklin Hotel in Strawberry Point to help solve the mystery of what happened to the matchmaker, Darlene Hickle. We have found 10 suspects to question and you are welcome to come listen to these 10 people prove their innocence. Make your reservations today to get more clues before February 18th. See you then!

Carrie Weaver  
Director of Economic Development and Tourism  
Chamber of Commerce Secretary  
Strawberry Point Development Fund, Inc.  
105 West Mission Street  
(563)-933-4417  
[econdev@strawberrypoint.com](mailto:econdev@strawberrypoint.com)



## Ambulance

February is National Heart Month.

This is the perfect time of year to get to your healthcare provider for an annual screening to check not only your heart but your general health.

If you or your organization is in need of CPR certification, Strawberry Point Ambulance Service is able to provide that. You can contact Theresa or Duane for further information.

There is still a need to support our military troops serving overseas, these soldiers appreciate everything that is done for them, from cards and letters to care packages. A small gesture can make a lasting impact.

Thank you,

Theresa Callahan, Service Director

**CITY OF STRAWBERRY POINT**

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*Carrie Weaver—Economic  
Development Director*

*Deanna Dement—City  
Administrator*

*Elizabeth Jaster—Deputy City  
Clerk*

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

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## February Birthdays



Lonnie Kelchen	Merlin Goedken
Mercedes Schloss	Arvin Elsbury
Arnold Kray	Jeremy Burgin
Codie Miller	
Evelyn Schuhmacher	
Gordon Vanter	
Chris Schlee	
Linda Jessen	
Andy Westhoff	
Kevin Scott	
Rita Jones	
Bill Burgin	
Duane Johnson	
Alpha Evans	
Alvin Scott	
Andy Beyer	
Cora Nita Beeh	
Candace Burgin	



## Police

### Increased Burglaries

Don't forget to lock your home and vehicles. We have seen a large increase in burglaries in our area. Unlocked vehicles and buildings are easy targets for those doing the burglaries. If you have any questions on your home security please call us and set up an appointment. We will be glad to make recommendations on how to make your property safer.

### Also

Please remember to keep your sidewalk cleared of snow and ice. It should be done as soon as possible after a snow fall.

Have a Safe Year,

Chief Bob Pope

563-933-2210

