



The Strawberry Vine

Volume 2, Issue 5

December 2008

Letter from the Mayor

Things to See & Do:

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

We have celebrated giving thanks for the harvest and now we look forward to Christmas and a new year. I wish all citizens a happy holiday season.

In looking back over the past year, the community has accomplished a number of things. Here are a few, you will probably think of some I have missed.

In April, an organizational meeting was held for the Vision 2020 Plan. A community group has worked diligently on this plan. In this month of December and in January, committee members are making presentations to the lead groups. A community presentation is planned for mid-February.

The city council has dealt with upgrades to the infrastructure of the city and looked over city codes and procedures, evaluating where adjustments were/are needed. The priority is and must always be what is best for the community as a whole.

State auditors gave the city their stamp of approval, with only minor adjustments suggested; the city has increase the use of technology by such things as adding electronic payment option, electronic banking, adding to and revising the city web page and more; the Bus Barn was sold; TIF districts were updated; a capital im-

provement plan was established, to be evaluated annually; the Highway 3 and 13 project was finalized; a top quality used vehicle was purchased as a needed replacement of a police vehicle; new chassis were purchased for an ambulance and a fire truck; new businesses have joined our community.

Community improvements are the result of community members determining ways to improve our little corner of the world and then working together to make things happen. The Strawberry Point community did this in 2008. My hope is that it will continue for years to come.

Happy Holidays to You and Yours!!

Dale Fox
Strawberry Point Mayor

**Mayor &
City Council**

Dale Fox

Jackie Opperman

Jan Parkin

Norm Rizer

Troy Stover

Al Friederich



City Hall News

MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM CITY HALL!!

Make plans to attend “Lighting up the Holiday’s” events in Strawberry Point on Saturday, December 6th. Additional information can be found at www.strawberrypoint.com.

Holiday Lighting Registration: Register to receive a \$10.00 discount on the February 1st bill for hanging at least 200 Christmas lights. Registration forms are available at City Hall or at www.strawberrypoint.com



Reminder: No parking on City Streets between November 1 and March 30.

City Hall will be closed Dec 25 & 26 and Jan 1 & 2 for the Christmas and New Years Holidays.

Meeting dates for December: Dec 3rd and 17th.

The staff at City Hall welcomes any comments and suggestions. Please feel free to stop by City Hall at 111 Commercial Street or call us at

563-933-4482.

Fire Department

No News to Report.



Library

No news to report.



Beth Brase
563-933-4340

Police



Police Chief Bob Pope

POLICE ENCOURAGE YOU TO REFRAIN FROM DRUNK DRIVING THIS HOLIDAY SEASON!!!

The Strawberry Point Police Department wants to remind you that it doesn't take much to put you over the legal limit and into a heap of trouble this upcoming holiday season. In Iowa, the drunk driving law is referred to as O.W.I., which means operating while intoxicated. The law states that a person is legally intoxicated and cannot operate a motor vehicle if possessing a blood alcohol content above .08. Drunk drivers are the number one killer in Iowa during the holiday season and account for over 100 deaths and 1700 injuries each year. The weekly average of OWI arrests increased by 36% during the 2006 holiday season. Remember these tips when out this holiday season to keep everyone safe and help us reach our goal to reduce alcohol related traffic fatalities this year:

- *Use a designated driver or call a cab or friend to get you home safely.
- *After a night of drinking, don't think that you are a good enough driver to get everyone home safely.
- *Don't forget what's at stake if you are stopped by an Iowa State Trooper after having too much to drink. You will lose your license, pay a fine and most likely spend the night in jail.

Remember the Strawberry Point Police Department is always striving to make our roadways a safer place and this holiday season is no exception.

Stay safe, Don't Drink and Drive this holiday season!!!!

Ambulance

As the year draws to a close, I would like to thank everyone who has made a contribution to the Ambulance Service this past year.

Your gifts have largely made it possible for us to continue our vehicle replacement efforts. We continue to move forward and hope to have the new unit on the road sometime in 2009.

*Happy
Holidays!!*

As the winter weather begins to set in on us. Remember to slow down when driving. Take extra care when you are out and about in the cold weather.

Have a wonderful Holiday season and a healthy and happy New Year!!

Roland Evans
Ambulance Service Director

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*Deanna Dement—City Clerk/
Administrator*

Liz Jaster—Deputy City Clerk

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

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- *Bob Faust—Dec 17th
- *Nic Stelken—Dec 17th
- *Jay Thomas—Dec 18th
- *Dave Gould—Dec 18th
- *Norm Rizer—Dec 23rd



Other Area Information

*Womens Club “Coats for Christmas” project underway for the Christmas season

*Post Prom Baked Potato Bar—Dec 9th, High School Café, 4:30-7:30 pm

*Light Up the Holidays Chamber events and Santa pictures, Dec 6th

*Register for Santa Bucks at participating Chamber businesses beginning Dec 1st



Contact McKenzie Johnson 933-4417