

City of Polk City Newsletter

Volume 15, Issue 4

DECEMBER 2012/JANUARY 2013

City Hall :

112 3rd Street

PO Box 426

Monday—Friday

8:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

Phone: 984-6233

Fax: 984-6177

E-mail: snickles@polkcity.org

Web site: www.polkcity.org

(Clerk, building permits and inspections, water billing)

Police & Fire:

309 W. Van Dorn

For an emergency dial 911

For non-emergencies:

Police: 984-6565

Fire: 984-6304

County Dispatch: 286-3333

Library:

1500 W. Broadway

P.O. Box 259

Phone: 984-6119

Mon.-Thurs.: 10 a.m.—8 p.m.

Friday: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Saturday: 10 a.m.—4 pm.

E-mail: library@polkcitylibrary.org

[@polkcitylibrary.org](mailto:library@polkcitylibrary.org)

Web site:

www.polkcitylibrary.org

City Maintenance:

301 Northside Dr.

City Recycling Center:

409 E. Northside Dr.

Sunday—Saturday

7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

U.S. Post Office:

302 N. 3rd St.

984-6137

Dan Gubbins Named Polk City Fire Chief



The city council approved the appointment of Dan Gubbins to the position of Polk City Fire Chief during the November 12 meeting. He was sworn in by City Clerk Sharon Nickles.

“I am humbled to be chosen as the next leader of the Polk City Fire Department,” Gubbins said. “We have a great group of people that are dedicated to serving this community and I’m honored to be able to lead them and continue our long history of providing outstanding emergency services and community involvement.”

Gubbins joined the Polk City Fire Department in 2000, serving as a firefighter and paramedic. He served as a captain starting in 2002. He was appointed as deputy chief in 2005 and has served in that role since. Gubbins appointment to fire chief will be recognized during the Polk City Fire Department pinning ceremony at 10 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 19, 2013. The public is welcome and encouraged to attend.

Gubbins has lived in Polk City since 2000. He and his wife, Charlana have two daughters Annie (6) and Julia (4). He said he moved to Polk City because it was a small town and close to the lakes and trails.

Gubbins works for the Hy-Vee Corporation. In his spare times he lives to spend time with his family, golf and hunt.

Holiday & Council Meeting Closings

City Hall and the Polk City Community Library will be closing at noon on December 24. The Public Works Department will be working from 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on the 24th. City Hall and Public Works will be closed on Tuesday, December 25 and Tuesday, January 1. The Polk City Community Library will be closing at 4 p.m. on Monday, December 31 and closed on Tuesday, January 1, 2013.

There will be no City Council meeting on Monday, December 24.

Fire Department Welcomes New Officers

Polk City Fire Chief Dan Gubbins announced new officers and officer promotions during the fire department's November business meeting. The appointments are all effective immediately.

- Captains Peg Back, Rich Davis and Jeff Feller were all promoted to deputy chief. The management of emergency medical services, fire operations, and administration and training duties were divided between the three deputy chiefs.
- Lieutenant Adam Vanderleest was promoted to captain.
- Department member Christopher Weishaar was promoted to lieutenant.

The officer appointments, as well as new members in 2012, will be recognized, sworn in and pinned during the Polk City Fire Department pinning ceremony at 10 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 19, 2013. The public is welcome and encouraged to attend.



PCFD Reminds Residents to Keep Hydrants Clear This Winter

As we head into the winter weather season, the Polk City Fire Department would like to remind you to clear snow away from fire hydrants as you shovel and plow sidewalks and driveways.

When recovering from a major snowfall, it's easy to forget emergency responders not only need access to your front door, but to the equipment that will help save your home in the event of an emergency.

It is recommended that you clear a three-foot perimeter around fire hydrants that are covered with snow. It's also helpful to shovel an access path to the road, so fire fighters can easily thread a water hose to the hydrant from the street. In general, for every minute a home fire goes unsuppressed or undetected, it doubles in size. Every second counts. If a fire occurs in your home or in your neighborhood, help save precious time by shoveling snow to gain access to the fire hydrant.

Cold-weather Effects On Smoke Alarms

The Polk City Fire Department would like to remind residents that temperature extremes can reduce the life and performance of batteries in smoke alarms, causing them to activate when no smoke or fire is present.

If your alarm is beeping, but you do not smell smoke: Go to each room where detectors are located (the suspect detector may have caused all of the home's detectors to go off). Look for one that is flashing red where the test button is located (all others will still have a solid green light). Start with bedrooms and living areas with vaulted ceilings, which will typically have a smoke detector three feet down from the peak. Vaulted ceilings will cause detectors to become much colder than room temperature due to the minimal separation between the roof and ceiling, which can draw the battery life down ten times faster than normal.

To deactivate the detector once it has been set off: Twist and remove the detector from the ceiling or wall and unplug the 110 volt power supply; it will then only be powered by the battery. This should deactivate and silence all the other detectors in the home. Remove the battery and replace it with a fresh 9-volt battery, which should silence the detector. If the detector is only powered by a battery, use the same process of installing a new battery.

If the smoke alarm is beeping and you smell smoke: Leave the home immediately and call 911.

The Polk City Fire Department is available to assist residents if they are having problems with their smoke alarms. Call 515-984-6304.

Library Board Vacancy

There will be an opening on the Polk City Library Board effective January 1, 2013. Some of the board's duties are in-charge of the library building, hiring of personnel, rules and regulations and expenditures of the library. More duties and information about the board may be found on the city web site www.polkcity.org, under Municipal Code, Chapter 21.

Your resume may be sent to City Hall.

We would like to thank Judy Nyberg for her service on the library board.



Happenings at the Library

Story Times

Come listen to some wonderful tales! All ages are welcome to Story Times at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

Movie Night!

Bring pillows, blankets and snacks and join us in December and January for movie night!

Prancer is the movie we will be showing on Thursday, December 27 at 6:15 p.m. The movie last 103 minutes and is rated G.

On Thursday, January 31, *Santa Paws 2: The Santa Pups* will be shown from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Crafty Café

Wednesdays, December 12 and January 23 are early outs, so stop by at 2:30 p.m. and let's get crafty. At December's crafty café we will be making a holiday craft.

Tween Club

Tween Club will meet Monday, December 10. Come and make a fun ribbons and washers bracelet – sure to be a perfect gift for someone on your list or for yourself! We will again on Monday, January 13. Tween Club meets from 3:45 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. All 5th and 6th graders are welcome to come for a snack, a craft and more.

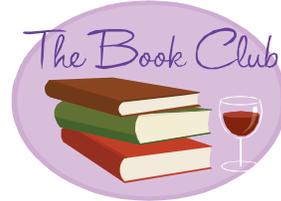
New Cake Pans

We have new cake pans! Check out Stand up Santa and Stand up Garfield.

COMING IN FEBRUARY!

Discussion Of Basics Of Having A Will

Learn to safeguard your family with the security of a will on Monday, February 4 at 7:00 p.m. Join local attorney Thomas Tully for an evening discussion on the basics of having a will; from the importance of safeguarding your wishes, to ways to minimize confusion and arguments among heirs. Tully will conduct an open, interactive talk about a variety of situations and pitfalls. Tully will take general questions during the program and he will also be available for more private questions after the program.



Book Clubs

There will be no Monday Book Club on December 17. Join us on January 21 as we discuss Laura Moriarty's *The Chaperone*. Book club begins at 7:00 p.m.

Truman Capote's *A Christmas Memory* will be discussed on Wednesday, December 5. On January 2, the book for discussion will be Eowyn Ivey's *Snow Child*. Book club begins at 7:00 p.m.

Drinks and snacks are provided for both Monday and Wednesday Book Clubs and new members are always welcome.

Drinks and snacks are provided for both Monday and Wednesday Book Clubs and new members are always welcome.

Coffee Wednesdays



Join us around the fireplace on Wednesdays for a hot cup of coffee or tea from 10:00 a.m. to noon.



Sit N Stitch On Thursday

Join the fun around the fireplace on Thursday evenings from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Open to all knitters, crotchetiers', quilters, embroiderers' no mater what you stitch.

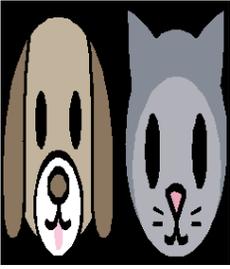
Adults "CURLY" Up With A Great Book!

During the month of January, adults will receive a Curly Girl sticky note pad or Curly Girl refrigerator pad (while supplies last) for every 2 or more adult fiction/non fiction books checked out.

Acoustic Guitar Lessons

Have you ever wanted to learn how to play the acoustic guitar? Four weeks of Beginner Group lessons will begin Wednesday, January 9. There is a \$10 per person class fee payable at the class. You must be 17 or older and have your own guitar. **Pre-registration is required.**

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!



2013 Pet License Due

It is that time of year for all pet owners to purchase their annual license for their dog or cat. The fee is \$8.00 per animal. Every owner of a dog or cat six months or older shall procure a license for such dog or cat from the City Clerk's office on or before the first day of January.

Owners must show proof of rabies vaccination before a license is issued. A pet license must be obtained by March 31, 2013. After that date the fee is \$15.00 per pet.

City Hall is open from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday for purchasing your pet's license. If you can not make office hours, drop off or send a copy of your pet's rabies vaccination certificate along with the appropriate fee plus an additional \$1.00. Your license will then be sent to you by mail.

Mile Long Bridge Repair Delayed Until 2014

The proposed bridge repair on Iowa Highway 415 over Saylorville Reservoir has been delayed until 2014. A traffic signal will be placed at the intersection at NW 26th Street and Highway 415 in Ankeny, in 2013. Tony Gustafson with the Department of Transportation (DOT) said the traffic signal needed to be in place before the repair of the bridge because this intersection will be part of the detour route.

Recycling Your Christmas Tree

City residents may take their Christmas tree to the maintenance shop between 7:00 a.m.—7:00 p.m., Sunday through Saturday for recycling. Trees may be added to the brush pile at the recycling center.



Arts Council Holds Class At Care Center

The Polk City Arts Council sponsored a water-color class at the Polk City Nursing & Rehabilitation Center on Nov 8. Julie Luedtke, an active Arts Council volunteer, lead this fun class for several residents. Each resident was able to complete a greeting card to keep or send and those who participated had a great time.

Snow & Ice

With winter weather approaching, the city would like to remind you that it is the responsibility of the property owner to remove all natural accumulation of **snow and ice** from the sidewalks within a reasonable amount of time after accumulation. **Do not blow or shovel your snow into the street.** In the event that the snow or ice remains on sidewalks and is not removed for more than 24 hours after the end of the snowfall or ice storm, the city may remove it and assess the property owner.



Winter Parking

A snow ordinance is in effect from November 1 to April 1 of each year. Therefore, no person shall park, abandon or leave unattended any vehicle on any public street during a snowfall which has accumulated one inch or more of snow or for a period after the termination of such snowfall if parking such vehicle impedes snow removal operations.



High Winds Could Close

Mile Long Bridge

A reminder that the Mile Long Bridge gates will close when winds reach between 40 and 50 mph. A wind monitor located on the bridge will notify the Department of Transportation (DOT) of the wind's speed. A press release will be sent out to notify the public of the closing. The DOT will work with the county and Polk City on the closing of the bridge



FYI: From Metro Hazardous Waste

Motor Oil & Antifreeze containers



You can now drop off full or empty plastic motor oil and antifreeze containers for shredding or recycling at the Metro Hazardous Waste Drop-off. These twist-off top plastics are not recyclable in the curbside program. This is free of charge to residents and businesses may call 515-967-5512 for pricing.

Cooking Oil



You can also recycle your cooking oil at the Metro Hazardous Waste Drop-off. Canola, peanut and vegetable oil are accepted (no grease please) and are reused to support the biodiesel industry. MWA has partnered with Mid-Iowa Renewables, which recycles cooking oil from local businesses. Through this partnership, residents can do the same at no cost.

Metro Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Location

The Metro Hazardous Waste Drop-off is located at 1105 Prairie Drive SW in Bondurant, just a half-mile north of I-80 at the Adventureland exit. Drop-Off hours are from 1 to 5 p.m., Tuesday through Friday, and 8 a.m. to Noon the first and third Saturdays of every month. Businesses must schedule appointments to drop off waste materials. Residents can schedule an appointment between 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Call 515-967-5512.

Plan To Recycle Post-Holiday

If you purchased a new electronic gadget as a gift (or for yourself), you may need to find a home for the old one. Electronics, computers and the related accessories are full of hazardous and valuable materials, so use one of the many safe, smart options to recycle and ensure those materials are reused or disposed of properly. Go on line to www.WhereItShouldGo.com or call 244-0021 to learn about local and online options of recycling your electronic gadget.

For more safe and smart waste disposal and recycling ideas can be found by visiting the above web site or call 244-0021.

Groundbreaking For New Hotel

The Polk City Development Corporation (PCDC), in conjunction with Knapp Properties, held a Groundbreaking ceremony for the Boulder's Inn & Suites Hotel in Polk City on October 23rd. The site of the motel is located on property adjacent to the Tournament Club of Iowa and overlooks the 17th tee box and fairway. A reception followed at the Tournament Club of Iowa. Boulders Inn & Suites has properties located in Denison, Lake View, Atlantic and Milford (Okoboji) Iowa. The Polk City property will be a 44 room facility.



City of Polk City Directory

Mayor:

Gary Heuertz 984-6950

E-mail: gheuertz@polkcity.org

City Council Members:

Ron Anderson 984-6365

E-mail: randerson@polkcity.org

Dave Dvorak 984-6502

E-mail: ddvorak@polkcity.org

Dan Lane 984-6931

E-mail: dlane@polkcity.org

Rob Mordini 984-9256

E-mail: rmordini@polkcity.org

Jeff Walters 577-8082

E-mail: jwalters@polkcity.org

City Council meets the 2nd and 4th Monday's of each month, 6:30 p.m. at City Hall. Additional meetings are scheduled as necessary.

City Hall:

City Admin.: Gary Mahannah

City Clerk: Sharon Nickles

Deputy Clerk: Charlotte Loter

Finance Officer: Colin Adams

Summer Rec Director

Tami Leonard McCoy

Citizen Liaison Ken Thornton

E-mail: kothornton@msn.com or

Phone—984-6678

Public Works:

Director: Mike Schulte

Supervisor: Randy Franzen

Staff: Dennis Godfrey

Willie Ostrander

Rick Riley

GIS Specialist Jake Schreier

City Newsletter:

Editor: Rosemary Hutton Taylor

984-6653

Photographer: Rich Taylor



Police:

Chief: Mark Bowersox

Sergeant: Dustin Bjornson

Senior Patrol Officer: Ron Lamfers

Officer: Matthew Untrauer

Officer: Matt Aicher

Officer: Tanner Rickertsen

Reserve Officer: Mark Schwalenberg

Fire & Rescue:

Interim Chief: Dan Gubbins

Planning and Zoning:

*Marvin Blau 984-6602

Krista Bowersox 984-6991

Dennis Dietz 984-6343

Ron Hankins 984-6822

Robert Sarchet 321-4755

Doug Sires 984-9091

Deanna Triplett 984-6676

Planning & Zoning meets the 3rd Monday of the month, 6:00 p.m. at City Hall.

Tree Board:

*Ken Morse 984-6735

Pat Hoppenworth 984-6829

Phil Jensen 685-3813

Bill Sharp 984-6948

Historic Preservation

Commission:

Sandra Thornton 984-6678

Roxana Currie 984-6928

Deanna Deason 984-6563

Collette Heuertz 984-6950

Marlene Youde 984-6967

Arts Council:

*Mary Kaye Madden 984-6597

Kay Gettler 822-2354

Collette Heuertz 984-6350

Bob Miller 984-6207

Barb Pothast 707-4148

Community Library:

Director: Kim Kellogg

Asst. Director/ Adult Librarian:

Pam Witt

Children's Librarian

Leslie Anstedt

Librarian: Lisa Fullerton

Library Board:

*Maureen Mc Guire 984-6636

Kathy DeBruyn 984-6156

Christine Gregory 984-6037

Mike Miller 984-6557

Judy Nyberg 707-1132

Library Board meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month, 7:00 p.m. at the library.

Park Commission:

*Brian Emerson 984-9217

Denise Franck 984-6200

Bob Fourez 984-6601

David Hiatt 984-6757

Sam Hill 984-7814

Park Commission meets the 1st Monday of the month, 6:00 p.m. at City Hall.

Board of Adjustment:

Mike Bakken 984-6724

Dixie Bequeaith 984-6224

John Calhoun 210-8442

Anthony Capaldo 984-6281

Bill Currie 984-6928

Deanna Deason 984-6563

Ken Morse 984-6735

Board of Adjustment meets as needed.

* Chair of Board or Commission



All agendas and minutes can be found on the city web site: www.polkcity.org