



**CITY OF CALMAR**  
I O W A



*If you lived in Calmar, you'd be home now!*

## City Officials

### MAYOR

Corey Meyer 562-3254  
P.O. Box 101

### CITY COUNCIL

Larry Huinker 562-3963  
702 W. Clark St.

Dennis Kleve 562-3841  
P.O. Box 94

Linus Sabelka 562-3547  
P.O. Box 101

Isaac Phillips 562-4857  
P.O. Box 591

Dave Zweibahmer 562-3141  
P.O. Box 125

## CHRISTMAS IN CALMAR



**December 6, 2012  
4:00—7:00 P.M.**

**The Calmar Commercial Club  
has many activities scheduled  
for young and old alike.**

**There will be pictures with  
Santa, sleigh rides, live nativity,  
snacks, food and drink at  
various locations AND activities  
for the kids.**

**Check the back page of this  
Newsletter for a list of sched-  
uled activities and locations.**

**More activities may be added,  
watch the local station, City of  
Calmar web site, City of Calmar  
on Facebook and the local news-  
paper for more information.**

### Police

Joe Ward, Police Chief  
Lance Peters, Patrol Officer  
101 S. Washington St.  
563-562-3349 (non -emergency)  
911 (emergency)

### Public Works

Junior Boyer, Superintendent  
101 S. Washington ST.  
563-562-3349  
319-361-2506 (cell)

### Water/Wastewater

Matt Bullerman, Superintendent  
101 S. Washington St.  
563-562-3150  
319-361-2505 (cell)

### Public Library

Linda Crossland, Library Director  
101 S. Washington St.  
563-562-3010  
Open 12-6 Mon.—Fri.  
Saturday 10 A.M.—1:00 P.M.

### Calmar Swimming Pool

Annie Rude, Manager  
Hwy 24  
562-563-3148  
319-361-8532 (cell)



The City of Calmar,  
Mayor, City Council and  
City Employees wish you  
a HAPPY and SAFE  
HOLIDAY SEASON!!



**City of Calmar**  
**101 S. Washington St., P.O. Box 268**  
**Calmar, IA 52132**

**City Clerk: Michele Elsbernd**

**Phone: 563-562-3154 Fax: 563-562-3903 Cell: 319-361-2507**

**Email: calmarcc@calmaria.com Web site: www.calmaria.com**



Are You ready for..

*Winter*

We're into the heavy coats, boots, ice, snow and COLD season. Maybe we won't have any of that this season ... but if we do be **PREPARED!** If you usually park your car on the street, do you know where you are going to park when the Snow Ordinance goes into effect? If you can, remove vehicles from the street parking areas during a winter storm. The snow plow is much more effective when they can pass through the streets easily and straight along the side of the road.



The snow plow deposits the snow along side of the road. This means that you will have snow placed in the area of your driveway, mailbox and sidewalk. The City may make multiple passes to keep the street area clear. This may require you to clean these areas more than once for each storm. There is no way to avoid this snow placement.

Snowmobiles.....are to be operated on streets that have NOT been plowed, OR on such streets designated as the SNOWMOBILE route OR during an emergency when snow upon the roadway renders travel by conventional motor vehicles impractical. Do not ride over private property. This isn't your property, and you do not have a right to be there. Do not ride over sidewalks. Snowmobile trail maps are available at the Clerk's Office, Calmar Police Department, and Drilling All Season Sports.



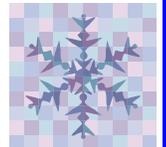
Winter is fast approaching and there are many issues to remember concerning snow. Be sure to drive and walk carefully. If you don't have to be out during a storm, please stay in and be safe.



It is the responsibility of the abutting owner to remove snow, ice and accumulations from sidewalks within twenty-four (24) hours accumulation. If the property owner does not remove snow, ice, and accumulation the City may do so at the owners' liability and assess the cost against the property owner. You will be notified and given one warning; either a door posting or a visit /call from the police department. If the accumulation or snow or ice isn't removed after this notification the City will take action to correct the problem at your expense. **Remember when you move snow, blow snow or shovel. It is unlawful for any person to throw or push snow or ice from private property onto any street or alley OR the property of your neighbor.**

## A SNOW EMERGENCY

is when snow fall accumulates to 3" or more. At this time vehicles shall park on the even side of the street until snow is removed, then move vehicles to the odd side of the street. Vehicles are to park in the North lot uptown until the south lot is cleared, then move the vehicles to the south lot. The fine for violations is \$ 25.00. **SNOW REMOVAL** is always a challenge. We strive to remove snow and ice safely and as quickly as possible. **PLEASE HELP BY FOLLOWING THE RULES.**



## Bill Payment Options: Take Your Pick



Paying the bills is a task none of us likes. At the City of Calmar, we try to make paying your utility bill easier. Check out the options below.

### 1) DIRECT PAY...THE EASY WAY!

This payment plan saves you time and money! It is an option that automatically withdraws your water payment from your checking or savings account around the 5th day of each month. You will receive a bill just like you do now but you avoid the hassle of writing checks and mailing bills! No more missed payments, late fees or searching for stamps.

To sign up for DIRECT PAY, stop at the clerk's office or call to have an authorization form mailed or emailed to you.

### 2) PAY at CITY HALL

Payments may also be made at City Hall. Please bring your billing statement along if possible. We accept cash, checks or money orders.

### 3) NIGHT DEPOSIT for Night Owls

Another option is to drop your payment in our drop box located outside City Hall. You can drop payment off anytime day or night.

## Winneshiek Energy District

Green Iowa AmeriCorps is back in action!

The Winneshiek Energy District in partnership with Green Iowa AmeriCorps are here and ready to help all homeowners and tenants in Winneshiek County improve home comfort and save money by lowering energy use.

"Those who wish to save some money and make their homes more comfortable this holiday season should know that Green Iowa AmeriCorps is back and ready to help," says David Paquette, Energy Conservationist at the Winneshiek Energy District.

Green Iowa AmeriCorps (GIA) members are well trained and prepared to provide many services for Winneshiek County. Ranging from their "Direct Install" program, a residential energy efficiency service, to facilitating energy education programs as well as leading community outreach projects.

"The Direct Install program focuses on the very simple low-cost solutions to reducing home energy consumption and improving home comfort," say Paquette. "It's the low hanging fruit with big returns that we're after."

Hosted by Winneshiek Energy District, our local GIA branch has helped 264 homeowners and tenants throughout Winneshiek County saving an average of \$150 each year -- directly reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 325 metric tons annually.

"We are excited to have a new team to help us make Winneshiek County more energy efficient," says Joel Zook, Energy Conservationist and Home Energy Planner at the Winneshiek Energy District. "This team is well trained to help people make small changes that result in big cost savings and more home comfort."

For those who have missed out on GIA's weatherization services, now is your chance to sign up and participate in the Direct Install program. This program facilitates low-cost energy efficiency upgrades to all Winneshiek County residents, including homeowners and tenants.

Call 563-382-4207 ext. 3#, email [contact@energydistrict.org](mailto:contact@energydistrict.org), or visit the "Programs" page on [energydistrict.org](http://energydistrict.org) for more information about the different programs available to help you save on your bills and increase your home's comfort for those chilly nights.



The Calmar 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.

## Safety Tips for Heating Your Home

Safety is crucial in a heating emergency. The following is a list of general guidelines related to alternative heating resources.

- Children should not have access to portable heaters, electric or fuel powered
- Do not burn anything larger than candles inside your home without providing good ventilation such as opening windows, doors and fireplace flues
- All heaters that run on fuel (natural gas, kerosene, butane, oil) should be vented. The only exception to this rule is electric heaters.
- Do not use the kitchen oven or stove top to heat your home. This can be a fire hazard as well as a source of toxic fumes
- "Space" heaters need their space. Keep anything combustible at least three feet away.
- If you are using supplemental portable electric heaters, never use an extension cord. Plug them directly into the electrical outlet.



Did you enjoy the flower baskets and flower barrels that graced our town this season. A lot of time, effort, manpower and money went into planting, watering and caring for these pots and barrels? Would like to see them positioned in various locations around town and beautifying our streetscapes again next year? Put us on your Christmas List....it is costly to purchase plants and fertilizer and to put fuel in the tractor to run the water wagon. All donations are graciously accepted!

### RECIPE Corner

#### Nutty Egg Nog Cranberry Bread

##### Bread

2 cups baking mix (such as Bisquick)

3/4 cup sugar

1/2 t. nutmeg

3/4 c. eggnog

1/4 cup melted butter, plus extra for pans

1 tsp. vanilla, 1 tsp. rum extract

3 eggs

1 cup walnuts, coarsely broken or chopped or use your favorite nut

1 cup cranberries (fresh or frozen, thawed, halved or coarsely chopped or 1 cup dried cranberries may be substituted.



##### Glaze

1/2 cup powdered sugar and 1 tbsp. eggnog

Preheat oven to 350 degrees and butter 3 miniature loaf pans. Stir baking mix, sugar and nutmeg in bowl, whisk together egg nog, butter, extracts and eggs in bowl. Add to dry ingredients and stir until flour is almost incorporated. Add nuts and cranberries and stir but do not over mix. Spoon into pans and bake 40 minutes or until toothpick comes out clean. Cool completely and remove from pans and drizzle with egg nog

### COLD WEATHER REMINDERS

Replace the batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. Test them by pushing the test button. (Temperature extremes can reduce the life and performance of batteries in smoke alarms, causing them to activate when no smoke or fire is present.)

Clean your chimneys and replace your furnace filters.

Now is the time to trim your trees (over the sidewalk and street) while the tree is dormant

Sure, the majority of birds head south for the winter, but that doesn't



mean its time to stop buying birdseed. According to the Audubon Society, more than a hundred bird species supplement their natural diets with food offered at feeders, and in winter, when food is scarce, human assistance is especially important.





Since our last From the Mayor's Desk our community has seen many ups and a few downs. Our unwanted moment in the spotlight has garnered a blemish in our fabric of the community that with an aggressive stance of community spirit and resolve we will overcome it. Our concern for the safety and welfare of residents has been paramount and will be into the future. Our small communities in Northeast Iowa have been rocked lately by unexplained acts that we aren't use to in rural Iowa; it's hard for anyone to comprehend these actions but with our vary nature of being good people my hope is we sponge these evil actions away with the good deeds of our neighbors.

Our city was featured at a statewide Visioning meeting in Ames. Calmar was lauded for our community support of the visioning process and our story boards were prominently displayed within the gathering rooms at the conference. Our distinctive downtown layout garnered many questions; which lead to feedback that was informative and enlightened us to different points of view that were taken in by the Calmar Visioning Board members present that day. We are currently looking at several design proposals for new entry welcoming signs for the city of Calmar and are in the hopes participating in several granting opportunities this coming fall and winter. We'll be working with partners like Upper Explorerland to help guide us through the maze of paperwork and with support of all we can finally put forth a great effort to give our downtown a facelift. Also, we are looking deeply into revamping the movement of our kids and students thru the thoroughfares of town; it makes me cringe some mornings at the traffic and the flow of students to school.

As a representative of the city I am so delighted to hear that the Calmar Commercial Club will be sponsoring the Christmas in Calmar again on December 6<sup>th</sup> from 4-7 pm. Calmarites and our neighbors will be able to be immersed in all things of holiday cheer and be bedazzled in sights and smells of a nostalgic Christmas. What a great kick start to the holiday season that will bring delight to children of all ages. People have taken notice of what we are trying to accomplish with our community and we will continue to set roots and build a strong vibrant community that is getting ready to bloom!

Also, we have just celebrated another Veterans Day as this reaches your home, I want to give acknowledgment and utmost respect to our veterans and all those that are currently serving and those that have served to ensure we have all the freedoms and charmed life we are allowed to live because of their sacrifices. You are great Americans and we as a community salute you and say thank you for your deeds.

Congratulation to all our student athletes, performing arts students and dairy judging team on their latest success and by representing our communities with pride and confidence!

Finally, check us out on the World Wide Web @ <http://www.calmaria.com> were the city does now feature all its upcoming events via a slide presentation no matter your connection to cable or satellite and on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/cityofcalmar>

#### FUNNY SIGNS

On a plumbers truck: "We repair what your husband fixed."

On the grounds of a private school: "No trespassing without permission."

At a car dealership: "The best way to get back on your feet is to miss a car payment."

Outside a muffler shop: "No appointment necessary. We can hear you coming."

On a ski lift in Taos, New Mexico: "No jumping from the lift, survivors will be prosecuted."

At a zoo in Budapest: "Please do not feed the animals. If you have any suitable food, give it to the guard on duty."

## CAR WINTER SURVIVAL KIT

Each year, hundreds of people find themselves stranded on the roadside. Winter weather can kill an unprepared person who is exposed to the elements within minutes. Whether you wind up needing it or not, a winter survival kit for your car is a good idea. It is simple to create and could save your life in the event of a vehicle breakdown or crash during the winter months.

Putting your kit together is easy and here's how! Take an empty container, like a three pound coffee can with a plastic cover, and pack the container with the following items: Candle stubs and matches, small sharp knife, red bandanna or cloth (to hang outside your vehicle as a sign of distress), large plastic garbage bag for insulation, snacks (high energy food like a chocolate bar or energy bar), plastic whistle (to alert people to where you are), plastic flashlight and spare batteries, first aid kit, bottled water.

City of Calmar

P.O. Box 268

Calmar, IA 52132

CHRISTMAS IN CALMAR (December 6, 2012 from 4:00 – 7:00 P.M.)

activities.....locations

Pictures with Mr. & Mrs. Claus @ Wiltgen Building

Carriage Rides by Jim Dotzenrod and Chili @ Heying Lumber

Live Nativity @ Winco Farm Supply

Gift Wrapping @ Bullwacker Logistics

Grinch @ Flaskerud Floor Covering

Chocolate Dipped Candy Canes @ The Train Station

Holiday Dancers @ Gunderson Clinic

Cookie Decorating by the Calmar Public Library @ The Depot

Elf Workshop @ South Winn Insurance

Food Tasting @ Annie's Garden & Greens

Tractor Ornaments @ Economy Ag

Children's Books & string cheese @ The Calmar Courier

Christmas Tea, hot chocolate, assorted cookies & cheesecakes @ Nana's House Bed & Breakfast (also giving tours of the B & B)

Carmel Popcorn @ Security State Bank

Goodies around town—Calmar Fire Department with their lighted unites near the town square passing out goodies in gear

Snacks @ Whiskey Grove

Presents under the tree & lighting of the star @ the Depot 7:00 P.M.

Hot Beverages served throughout town

Follow the Luminaries!

