

City of Canton "A Premier South Dakota Community"

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Manager's Minute By Amy Nelson

What's The Story with the Premier Pages?

In an effort to communicate with citizens and keep the community informed of projects and activities in the City of Canton, "Premier Pages" was developed. This newsletter will be drafted quarterly and will be inserted into the City water billing statements. We will also make this newsletter available online and at City Hall. One of my goals as City Manager is to increase communication between City Hall and our residents. "Premier Pages" provides one more vehicle to get information out. I encourage your feedback on our newsletter as well as hearing what stories you would like to see in future publications. Thank you! Amy Nelson, City Manager



Get On Board-Depot Construction Update

Project plans continue at the depot with plans to begin the next phase of reconstruction in the New Year. Van De Walle and Associates have provided the City of Canton with architectural services including development of plans, bids and specs. Work will be advertised and bid out in accordance with state and federal laws in December with plans to award a bid in January. This phase of construction will include exterior and soffit repair and completion of the main floor on the north side. If budget permits, work on the basement will also be included in the contract. In the meantime, the Depot Foundation is working to place a restored caboose east of the Depot. Next spring, the City will be partnering with Bidwell to pave the remainder of the parking lot at the depot.

Board and Committee Updates

The **Parks and Recreation Board** will be soliciting requests for proposals from planning firms to assist the City of Canton in developing a Recreation Plan. This will be a broad-based planning project identifying and prioritizing recreation needs in our community. **Planning and Zoning** will be working with the South Eastern Council of Governments to revise our zoning code into a more "user friendly" format. The goal is to make the building process as convenient as possible while still adhering to code requirements. The **Airport Board** will be working throughout 2010 on design plans for a future resurfacing project. The **Depot Foundation** will continue to promote the Depot project during this phase of construction. Residents are reminded that there will be a period of time that the Depot is not available for rentals due to construction. **Canton Economic Development Corporation** is considering improvements that can be completed with some of CEDC's remaining grant funds.

IN THIS ISSUE

What's the Story with the Premier Pages	1
Get On Board-Depot Update	1
Chamber Chat-Shop Canton!	1
Board and Committee Updates	1
Money Matters from the Finance Officer	2
Keeping the Peace from the Police Chief	2
Check Out from the Library	2
Water Works	2
Nuts and Bolts from the Public Works Dept.	2

Chamber Chat-Shop Canton!

The Chamber's **Holiday Weekend** is already upon us. We hope you have noticed the festive holiday spirit in the business community. Below is a calendar of events for the upcoming Holiday Weekend. We have tried to plan events for all ages and hope you will take the time to share in the festivities.

Saturday, December 5th

- 9:00 am Downtown Holiday Open House
- 10:00 am – 4:00 pm Christmas Craft Fair @ Optimist Building
- 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm Visit with Santa at Good Samaritan
- 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm Horse Drawn Hay Rides at Good Samaritan
(Free will offering for Toys for Tots)

Sunday, December 6th

- 12:00 pm Downtown Holiday Open House
- 1:00 – 4:00 pm Kennedy Mansion Tours
(\$5/person-Proceeds benefit Love INC.)
- 2:00 – 4:00 pm Polar Express Movie at the Depot

Monday, December 7th

- 9:00 am Downtown Holiday Open House
- 4:30-7:30pm St Dominic's Soup & Pie Supper @ Optimist Building
- 7:00 pm Chamber Christmas Parade

IT'S IN OUR HANDS!

*The U.S. Census Bureau is issuing a call to action
for every resident of our nation.*

"BE COUNTED IN 2010!"

Census Day is April 1, 2010.

Go to www.2010.census.gov for more info.



Keeping the Peace

From the Police Chief

By Al Warnock

The Police Department is starting up a new program this Holiday Season with the idea of providing toys to some of the children of our community. We are **collecting toys and monetary donations** to purchase toys and ideas of families that would benefit from a donation of these toys. We plan to disburse the toys after **December 18, 2009**. We have repaired our speed board sign and the community should be seeing it a bit more often on various streets in town. The speed board sign does not take photographs, but does let the oncoming traffic have a visualization of their speed based on a radar reading. As this message is going out, we can expect to have received, or will shortly receive typical winter weather. We ask all drivers to be aware of the slick conditions on our roads and slow down appropriately, permit others the right of way, and buckle up. State Law requires any person under the age of 18 years to be **buckled up at all times** in a motor vehicle. The driver is responsible for all persons in the vehicle and may be ticketed if children or youth are not properly restrained. Children under the age of five years and under 40 pounds are required to use an **approved child-safety seat**.



Check it Out

From the Library

By Edith Nelson

The Canton Public library will be offering a class on **HOW TO NAVIGATE THE WEB**. Learn how to navigate the web at your library. There will be two classes. The first is **January 11, 2010** from 6:30-7:30. The second (same class) is **January 21, 2010** from 6:30-7:30. These classes are for people with little internet or computer experience. Canton High School art students will have some of their **sculpture work on display** at the library beginning the middle of November and running through the end of December. Stop in and see the creative genius of our fair city.

Traffic Rerouted at City Hall for a New Payment Drop Off Box

From the City Hall Staff

In our efforts to improve security of your personal information and payments as well as your safety in our parking lot, we have relocated the drop box to the east side of City Hall. We have changed the parking and flow of traffic to accommodate the new location. The traffic flow will be one way with the south driveway on Dakota Street as the only entry to the parking lot. Vehicles will exit onto Third Street (north of building). The drop slot is on the east side of the building. Please follow the arrows on the pavement. Please use caution as everyone learns the new traffic flow.



Money Matters

From the Finance Officer

By Kyle Cwach

By the time you read this, the lagoon project will be in full swing. Financing for this roughly **3.1 million dollar project** came from several sources. The City has, over the past years, accumulated \$700,000 for a revamp of the sewer system. Rate increases, as well as good management were responsible for the accumulation of these funds. The City also had applied for a State grant, combined with a dose of Federal Economic stimulus money, netted the City with a loan principle forgiveness of \$840,500. The remaining amount of approximately 1.6 million dollars comes from a low interest South Dakota Department of Energy and Natural Resources' loan. **The new lagoons** will be aerated and treated in a different manner, thus increasing operating costs of the system. The only down side to the project is the rate increases. We apologize for any financial strain this may cause you, but it is necessary to pay for the project.



Water Works

From the Water/Wastewater Department

By Ryan Vandemore

What Is The Reason For the Lagoon Project?

As you are aware, the City of Canton is upgrading its lagoon system. While everyone is aware of the rate increase, not everyone is certain of the reason for this project. While our current lagoon system is safe and well maintained, the system is overloaded. Department of Environment and Natural Resources regulations require that the lagoon system operates at certain levels. Violation of these regulations can result in fines and could have ramifications on public health. Looking ahead, any future growth and development in Canton will require additional storage. We are striving to provide services to meet the needs of your family and future quality of life.

Nuts and Bolts

From the Public Works Department

By Bill Thorson



With winter upon us, residents are reminded not to shovel or blow snow from sidewalks and driveways into the public streets. To avoid ticketing and towing, remember to keep vehicles off the streets if 2 or more inches of snowfall has occurred or is forecasted. Vehicles must also be off the streets if a snow emergency is declared. The Rubble Site has gone to winter hours as of **November 1, 2009**. The Rubble Site will be open **Tuesdays and Saturdays** from 8am to 5pm until the time change in the spring.