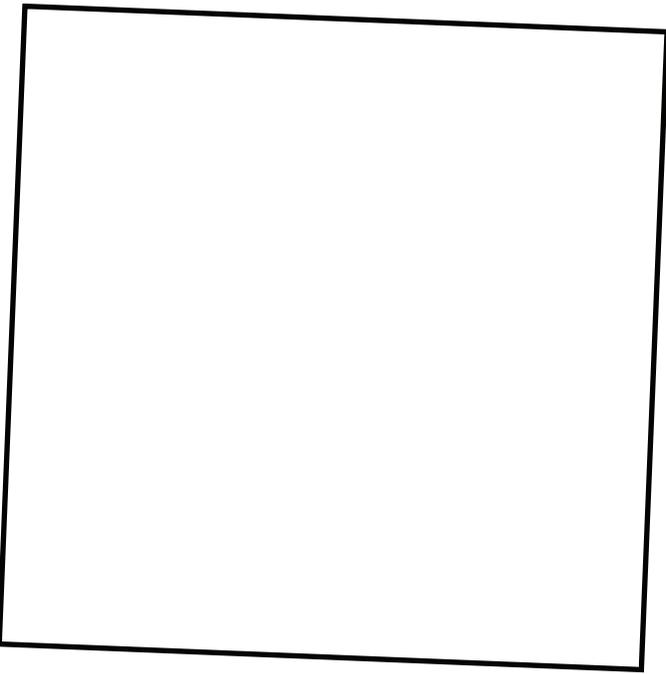


City of Taylors Falls  
 637 First Street  
 Taylors Falls MN 55084  
 651-465-5133  
 tfclerk@frontiernet.net  
 www.ci.taylors-falls.mn.us



**To Contact the City**  
**465-5133**  
 dial these extensions:

City Clerk 21  
 Deputy Clerk 22  
 Sheriff's Dept. 23  
 Zoning Adm. 24  
 Public Works 25  
 Fire Department 27  
 PRC 33 (message only)  
 EDC 34 (message only)  
 Mayor 35 (message only)

**City Representatives**

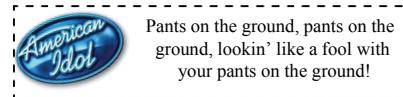
**City Council**  
 Mayor - Mike Buchite - '10  
 Council - Ross Rivard - '10  
 Council - Zara Kinnunen - '10  
 Council - Larry Julik-Heine - '12  
 Council - John Tangen - '12

**Library Board Members**  
 Member - Dr. Bill Young - '10  
 Member - Deb Julik-Heine - '10  
 Member - Leslie Johnson - '11  
 Member - Barb Anderson - '12  
 Member - Gerald Platzer - '12  
 Librarian - Diane Dedon

**Park & Rec Commission**  
 Chair - Tana Havumaki - '10  
 Member - Mary Murphy - '11  
 Member - Bill Davids - '12  
 Member - Diane Nelson - '12  
 Alternate - Julie Moore  
 Member - Larry Julik-Heine  
 Mike Buchite, Ex-officio

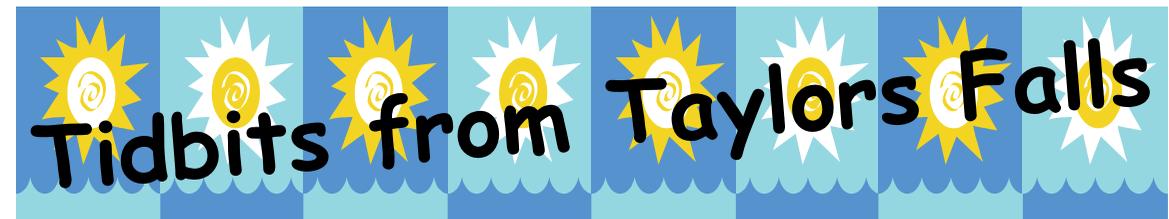
**Planning Commission**  
 Chair - Joe Stein - '12  
 Member - Diane Sander - '10  
 Member - Irv Stolp - '11  
 Member - Robyn Beck - '11  
 Alternate - Lee Caspersen  
 Member - Ross Rivard  
 Mike Buchite, Ex-officio

**Heritage Preservation Commission**  
 Chair - Barbara Nelson - '10  
 Member - Julie Hildebrand - '10  
 Member - Joanne Frank - '11  
 Member - Bill Scott - '11  
 Member - Brian Pigott - '12  
 Member - Weston Herman - '12  
 Alternate - Dan Brown  
 Member - John Tangen  
 Mike Buchite, Ex-officio



**Economic Development Commission**  
 Chair - Ken Moore - '11  
 Member - Beth Bantarri - '10  
 Member - Jim Schoonmaker - '10  
 Member - Wade Vitalis - '12  
 Member - Gerald Platzer - '11  
 Member - Clarence Nelson - '12  
 Alternate - John Coffey  
 Member - Zara Kinnunen  
 Mike Buchite, Ex-officio

**City Staff**  
 Jo Everson, Clerk-Treasurer  
 Jayna Yeske, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer  
 Larry Phillips, ZA-Coordinator  
 Jack Kramer, Building Official  
 Mike Kriz, PW Superintendent  
 Bill Neska, PW Maintenance Worker  
 Kevin & Carol Schumann, Custodians  
 Al Rivard, Fire Chief  
 Joel Rivard, Assistant Chief  
 Shane Carroll, Sheriff's Corporal



January 2010

**2009 - A YEAR TO REMEMBER**

City of Taylors Falls  
 637 First Street  
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- © The City affirmed commitment to the establishment of the Swedish Immigrant Trail in Taylors Falls
- © The City accepted a donation of property from the estate of Dean Hoglund adjacent to the Riverwalk Trail
- © As a result of the re-organization of the Public Works Department, the City hired Public Works Superintendent Mike Kriz
- © John Larson was appointed as HPC Emeritus member
- © The homes of Brian & Bonnie Pigott, Joanne Frank and Robyn & Dan Beck were designated as local heritage preservation sites
- © Playground equipment was installed at the Pump House Playground on West Street
- © The TF & SCF Lion's Club Held the 3rd Annual Tug Across the St Croix River during Wannigan Days
- © The City participated in the 5th Annual National Night Out
- © Railings have been installed on the River Walk Trail/Timber Frame Bridge
- © Xcel Energy buried a concrete duct that runs from west of Chestnut Street to State Highway 95 for the underground power line. Boring under Hwy 95 has begun and undergrounding will continue to the river
- © The 2nd phase of the Community Center remodeling project has been completed
- © The City Council reduced the TF tax rate for the 8th consecutive year!
- © A new sign was installed at the Heritage Park & improvements to the Cherry Hill Park continue
- © Valley Christian School moved from WI to the Baptist Church on West Street
- © Wannigan Days Kiddie Parade has returned!
- © City Hall is now closed on Fridays until further notice
- © The City replaced 2300' of 12" watermain east of Well #3 along County Road 37
- © Multiple portions of streets were vacated in the Interstate State Park which include:

### MAYOR'S FORUM

With 2009 behind us, it is time to give thanks for everything we have accomplished. My thanks to our City Council, City Staff and all our volunteers who make the good things that happen in our City possible.



Our tax rate will decrease once again, due to our recent adjustments to the 2010 budget. As I said in my last forum – we will need to find new revenues and pay off our debts, if we are going to continue this trend. Remember “anyone can make cuts”, but it takes “creativity to bring in new revenue dollars” and we are working hard to do so.

The MNDot project is taking a new direction based on the expense of digging out the soils and making the ground shovel ready. We had to reject the bid for building the equipment storage and salt structures, but that doesn't mean that the project is impossible. We are looking at other options which could make the project happen as early as this Spring.

Have you seen our Memorial Community Center since completion of the new basement? It looks terrific and with our improvements we have seen an increase in rentals. Take a moment and stop by to see what a great structure we have.

I am always available for questions, concerns or comments. Don't hesitate in calling or stopping me on the street when you see me!

As always, I wish each of you Good Health and God's Blessings.

### MEETING SCHEDULES

**Council Meetings** - 2nd & 4th Mondays  
(Jan. 11 & 25, Feb. 8 & 22, Mar. 8 & 22)

**Planning Commission** - 1st Mondays  
(Jan. 4, Feb. 1, Mar. 1)

**Economic Development Commission** - 3rd Thursdays  
(Jan. 21, Feb. 18, Mar. 18)

**Park & Recreation Commission** - 3rd Wednesdays  
(Jan. 20, Feb. 17, Mar. 17)

**Heritage Preservation Commission** - 2nd Tuesdays  
(Jan. 12, Feb. 9, Mar. 9)

**COMMISSION MEETINGS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DEPENDING UPON PRESSING ISSUES AT HAND. PLEASE CALL CITY HALL TO CONFIRM DATES & TIMES.**

Mayor Mike Buchite, 465-4152  
 Vice-Mayor Ross Rivard, 465-3035  
 Council Member John Tangen, 465-5705  
 Council Member Larry Julik-Heine, 465-3004  
 Council Member Zara Kinnunen, 465-6544

**City Hall Office Hours**  
 Monday - Thursday  
 7:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
 Clerk Hours  
 6:30 - 3:00  
 Deputy Clerk Hours (M-W)  
 7:30 - 4:00  
 Zoning Administrator-Coordinator Hours  
 7:00 - 5:30  
 Closed Fridays

### Interstate State Park Clean-Up!



It's been forty long years, but at last an old municipal dump in Interstate State Park is being cleaned up. The MN Youth Conservation Corp and the Chisago County Sentence-to Serve Program have pulled and hulled tangled masses of refrigerators, washers, dryers, ranges, tires, scrap metal, and glass shards from the steep hundred-foot deep ravine. It is estimated that 400 appliances (50,000 lbs. of scrap) were removed. This project was completed thanks to a partnership with Chisago County, City of Taylors Falls, and the Interstate State Park.

### Taylors Falls' Parks and Recreation Commission Update

The Pump House Playground was completed in November '09; the Heritage Park sign was dedicated in September '09; Cherry Hill Park is an ongoing project which will evolve as dollars are available. We are hoping that by summer of 2010 the structure will be completed along with the remaining plantings. We have also submitted grants for the funding of a concrete slab, picnic tables & benches.

We are in the planning stages of starting a summer recreation program for school-aged children in 2010. We would eventually like to see this program offered three 1/2 days per week for four or more weeks. Long range plans include recreation programs for adults.

**Taylors Falls' Residents Survey** - The members of your Taylors Falls' Parks and Recreation Commission are asking for input on programs and projects you would like to see in the City. Please take a few minutes to answer the following questions and return the form to the address below.

What types of recreation programs would you like for children?

What type of programs would you like for adults?

Are there projects you would like to see the PRC undertake?

Would you be willing to volunteer for a Second Annual Clean-Up Day in May?

Name, address, phone number:

Please return form to City Hall, or mail to: PRC, City of Taylors Falls, 637 First Street, TF, MN 55084

### UTILITY RATE INCREASE

In 2007 the City sent a letter explaining the proposed increases in the water and sewer base charge, which were implemented in 2008. In that letter we also explained that the "per gallon" rates would not increase for five years, even though there have not been any changes since 1998. However, the base rates would need to increase on an annual basis to keep up with inflation. The 2010 increases in your base rates will be: Water - from \$5.19 to \$5.35 \*\* Sewer - from \$14.15 to \$14.58

Your actual dollar increase will be 59¢, which is 1.05%. You will see these increases on your February month-end bill, which is for usage January 1st - February 28th.



### THE FIRST YEARS OF THE LIGHTING FESTIVAL

In 1985 the first Lighting Festival was a three-day event starting with the Friday 6 PM Santa parade and Grand lighting of the Village. This was before our new lamp posts, but we did have some wonderful over-the-street lights which the Fire Department put up. The first parade lasted about 10 minutes. Santaland was in the Livery Mall. Saturday events included a Snow Sculpture contest with snow brought in by Wild Mountain. The Wassail Party Craft Fair had 40 craft exhibitors in the Community Center and at the 1852 Town House School. There were candlelight Christmas tours of the 1855 Folsom House which was decorated using the Teddy bear theme. Jean Sampson brought most of the teddy bears from her collection. The teddy bear ornament, made by a few of the town's women, was the limited edition first town ornament. The day ended with a community bonfire and sing-along with prizes for outdoor lighting and snow sculptures awarded. Sunday of that first Lighting Festival had tours of the Folsom House, the stores and Santaland were open all afternoon, a Brass Ensemble played on Bench Street and at 3 PM the St. Paul Swedish Male Chorus presented a concert in Swedish and English at the Methodist Church.

Some things have changed over the years. The Royal Lady of the Village tradition started in 1989; the parade has gotten longer; more events have been added and the number of people attending has grown. It is become a family holiday tradition! From the first, a community-at-large committee of elves has done the planning. We invite you to help us next year. We thank everyone who attended and helped make this 25<sup>th</sup> festival one of the best.



**Site Manager, Folsom House, Taylors Falls, MN.** Responsible for seasonal public tours program, year-round security, upkeep and maintenance in exchange for free rent and utilities. Strong background in 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> century U.S. or MN-WI regional history, good speaking & tour leading skills required. For details, send summary of education & experience to: Sandra Berg, Taylors Falls Historical Society, PO Box 333, Taylors Falls, MN 55084.



### LIBRARY HOURS

Wednesdays  
2:00 pm to 5:00 pm  
+ 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm &  
Saturdays  
9:30 am to 12:30 pm



These cold, snowy days and evenings are a great time to read a good book. Come in to the Library to find something to read. New books are added to the collection on a regular basis. Ten different magazines are available for check out as well. Our computer has high-speed internet service. We may be small in size, but have a ton of great reading materials. Come in and visit in 2010. We look forward to seeing you!

\*\*\*\*\*

## The Winter Community

# POTLUCK

will be held on Saturday, February 6th at 6:00 p.m. in the basement of the First Baptist Church. All area residents are invited to attend. Please bring a dish to share and enjoy a bounty of good eats!

Sponsored by the Taylors Falls Crime Watch Group

\*\*\*\*\*

Included in the last newsletter was your annual dog/cat license renewal application. Please bring your "purple" form with you when applying for a license AND a copy of your current rabies vaccination information. Remember, anyone licensing their animal after April 1st will be pay double the normal fee. Vaccination information can be faxed to our office at 651-465-4603.

2010 ANIMAL LICENSES

### PARKING PERMITS

Please contact City Hall for renewals of your parking permits or send an e-mail to [tfdpclerk@frontiernet.net](mailto:tfdpclerk@frontiernet.net) with vehicle make, model, color, license plate # and state in which the vehicle is licensed in AND the business in which you are employed. There is no charge for the permit, but you must park in the designated lot on First Street (behind the Riverview gas station). Without a permit you risk a citation from the Chisago County Sheriff's Department. Permits are NOT issued to park in the Marmon Parkway (Bench Street Parking Lot) for more than the 3-hour limit. This rule applies to every business owner as well as their employees. Regardless of the time of year, this lot is designated for visitor or patron parking only.

# Winter Reminders

Is your sidewalk clear of snow and ice?

Residential and business sidewalks must be shoveled within 24 hours of a snowfall as required by City Ordinance, Section 503.

What does this mean?

When the snow stops falling... you will have 24 hours to shovel your sidewalk. If it is not shoveled, the Public Works Department will do it, at a minimum cost of \$150.00 plus \$75.00 per hour after that. If unpaid at the end of the year, the charge will be assessed to your property taxes.

### Snow Plowing Routes

City Priority Routes Include the hills on:

- \*Government Street   \*West Street   \*Walnut Street
- \*Basil Street   \*Grove Street



What does this mean?

These are streets with hills that connect major sections of the City and provide essential access for emergency fire, police and medical services. They will be plowed & maintained before other City streets.

Other Streets by Priority:

- \* 2nd Priority ~ Streets that provide access to schools & commercial businesses
- \* 3rd Priority ~ Residential streets
- \* 4th Priority ~ Alleys and City parking lots
- \* 5th Priority ~ Contract plowing, sanding and snow removal for entities other than the City

City Sidewalks are cleared only AFTER the priority streets have been plowed. The City of Taylors Falls does not guarantee bare pavement.

What are the parking restrictions in the winter?

There is no parking of motor vehicles, equipment or structures on any street or alley in the City between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. between November 1st and April 15th.

What does this mean?

This is required by City Ordinance Section 600.07. If you are in violation, you risk a costly tag & and/or a costly tow.

Mail Box Damage - The City will repair or replace a mail box only if it is directly hit by the snowplow.

What does this mean?

Heavy snow thrown by the snow plow may damage a mailbox, but the City will not be responsible for this damage.

## STUMBLIN' DOWN MEMORY LANE

by Jack Liljenberg

The beloved song, *Jingle Bells*, was first copyrighted by James Pierpont in 1857 as *One Horse Open Sleigh* and tells of having fun “Dashing through the snow, in a one horse open sleigh . . .” However, such a fun experience requires a cooperative horse. The following local news item tells of a one horse sleigh [a.k.a. cutter] incident that occurred on Monday, December 29, 1879. That incident involved an uncooperative horse and Daniel and Sara Fredeen whose family name was misspelled as “Fredin” in the news item.

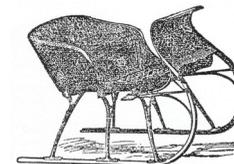
Friday, January 2, 1880 issue of the *Taylors Falls Journal*: “As Mr. Daniel Fredin and wife were returning home from town last Monday, their horse insisted on running the cutter business to suit himself, and considering Mr. Fredin an impediment to his progress summarily deposited him by the road side. Mrs. Fredin however, contested her right of occupancy, and on they went, pell-mell, tearing down a panel of Hon. L. K. Stannard's fence, demolishing a tree top or two, and finally detaching his horseship from the cutter, leaving Mrs. Fredin the sole occupant of the premises. – Fortunately the only damage sustained of any importance was by the cutter.”

It's not likely the Fredeens were “laughing all the way,” unless they were crooked. Anyway, the fence referred to was in front of the farm of the Lucas K. Stannard family. The Stannard farmhouse still stands at what is now 1073 First Street [about half-a-mile west-southwest of the Taylors Falls City Hall], and Mr. and Mrs. Fredeen lived on a farm about a mile westerly of the Stannard place.

Daniel Fredeen [1823 - 1889] was a farmer and butcher who was an 1850 Swedish immigrant from Hälsingland, and he was a Civil War veteran of Co. C of the 7<sup>th</sup> Minnesota Volunteer Infantry. His wife, Sara [1827 - 1920], was an 1853 Swedish immigrant from Västergötland. They were married on Christmas Day, 1853 and had six children: Andrew Edward [“Ed”], Johanna, Peter Franklin [“Frank”], Mathilda [infant], Amanda and Charlotte.

On Tuesday, April 10, 1860, Sara, her first four children and her parents, Andrew and Johanah Anderson, were among the twenty founding members of the *First Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Church* in Taylors Falls. [The Fredeens' infant daughter, Mathilda, was not born until December 26, 1860 but nevertheless was considered one of the founding members. She died on August 19, 1861.] Daniel did not join the congregation until 1872, and Daniel and Sara's eldest daughter, Johanna, married the Reverend Adolph F. Tornell who was the local Lutheran minister from 1874 to '77.

The Lutherans' first church was built in 1860, was later enlarged twice and until 1905 stood across the street from the site of the present Taylors Falls City Hall. The Lutherans' second and present church on the west side of Chestnut Street was built in 1903. An education wing was added in 1962 - '64. The congregation dropped “*Swedish*” from its name in 1939, and since the congregation will be 150 years old in April 2010 it will then be celebrating its sesquicentennial.



The accompanying image of a cutter appeared in an ad in the same newspaper issue that carried the item about the Fredeen cutter incident. The ad referred to the cutter as “*Abbott's Patent Portland Cutter*” then being offered by A. A. Abbott & Co. of Chicago, Illinois. The ad claimed the Abbott cutter was “*The Strongest Sleigh in existence.*” The ad also offered runner attachments for converting “*wheeled vehicles of every description*” for use on snow and ice. In light of the Fredeen incident, all cutters should have been equipped with seat belts.

## 2009 STEWARDSHIP AWARD



Bill Scott receiving Award from Mayor Buchite.

On January 11th Bill Scott was awarded the 2009 Stewardship Award by the City. An excerpt of his certificate reads: Taylors Falls is a quaint small town nestled on the banks of the St. Croix River, rich in its scenic beauty and historic charm. One cannot envision historic preservation in Taylors Falls without equating it with the efforts of "Bill Scott". Bill has been a member of the Heritage Preservation Commission since its inception in 2002, and was awarded a lifetime membership in the Taylors Falls Historical Society for his contributions to the historic Taylors Falls Public Library & the WHC Folsom House. He was former member of the St. Croix Valley Heritage Coalition & was instrumental in assisting the City in acquiring the Scenic Overlook. The City proclaimed March 2, 2000 as "Bill Scott Day" in recognition of his many accomplishments, an honor only few have been awarded. The City Council unanimously agreed that Bill earned the right to be selected & honored as the TF 2009 Stewardship Award recipient.

## DUMPING YOUR DRUGS? DON'T FLUSH THEM AWAY!

Your toilet bowl may be the time-honored venue for dumping expired or unused drugs, but your local waterways could suffer for it. In the last year, EPA press officer Suzanne Ackerman says the agency has made some "ground-breaking" advances and is testing methods that may be effective in removing pharmaceuticals from the water. The going is slow, she concedes, but "it's happening."

Meanwhile, what should you do with your unused drugs? There are no government guidelines, so pharmaceutical experts recommend:

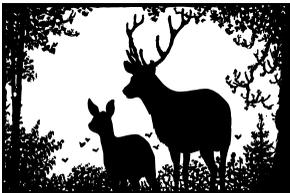
1. Find out if your local pharmacies take back medications. Some have occasional days designated for such drop-offs.
2. Check to see whether your area has a community household hazardous waste collection program.
3. Take your drugs to the Chisago County Sheriff's Department - they have a box just for drugs.

### If you must turn to your garbage can, take these precautions:

1. Keep the medication in its original container. Scratch out your name for security purposes.
2. Add a small amount of water to pills, or an absorbent material like flour to liquid medications to discourage their use.
3. Put the containers in a paper bag or a yogurt container to conceal them, then toss as close to your trash pickup time as possible.



## HELP FOR FIRE VICTIMS...



DO NOT FEED THE DEER ~  
IT'S THE LAW!

Many of you may or may not know that Orval & Edna Curry suffered a tragic loss when their house on Chestnut Street incurred significant fire damage due to a chimney fire on Tuesday, January 19th.

The Taylors Falls Lions Club has been helping the Curry's in the clean-up efforts. If you are interested in helping the Curry's or the Lions Club, please contact Acting President Wayne Breeden at 465- 5283.

We are thankful that no one was hurt and that the Fire Department was able to save their two cats. We wish them the best in these difficult times.

## ...Winter reminders (continued)

### Other Winter Tidbits

- \* Don't deposit snow from your driveway onto the street, alley or sidewalk.
- \* Don't plow snow across a street or alley to be stored in the right-of-way; a windrow of snow can be dangerous.
- \* Don't place garbage cans in the street for pickup; they belong in the driveway.
- \* Please prevent children from building snow forts within 10 feet of the street edge since the wing of the plow truck extends into the boulevard.
- \* Keep children and their toys away from the street when plows are operating.
- \* Objects thrown by the snowplow become missiles which can injure severely.
- \* Maintain a safe driving distance behind snow removal equipment. Equipment operators appreciate any courtesy you extend them during snow removal & sanding operations.
- \* Advise out-of-town visitors of our snow removal policies (please contact City Hall for a copy).

Questions or comments regarding snow removal should be directed to the Public Works Department at 465-5133 ext 25.

### Other Public Works Reminders...

- \* Please remember that there is no riding of snowmobiles allowed on City sidewalks or lawns. Snowmobiles are **allowed very limited use** unless it is to the gas station or to gain access to a trail.
- \* City Ordinance prohibits the feeding of deer. It is often tempting to want to enjoy watching as they feed, but deer cause significant damage in TF. Attracting more by feeding will only intensify the problem.
- \* Please remember that building snow forts near the right-of-way can be very dangerous when the snow plows are on the roads. Please be sure to allow adequate space.

The City is ***not*** responsible for damages to property in the right-of-way.

## MARLYS BREEDEN 2009 ROYAL LADY OF THE VILLAGE

We congratulate Marlys Breeden in being chosen as Royal Lady of the Village. The certificate states that she was recognized for her work with our Hmong neighbors in teaching English as a second language and preparing them to take the United State Citizenship tests; For the role she and her husband Wayne took on as prime movers in developing Taylors Falls downtown as we know it today with the building of the Chisago House Restaurant and renovation of the Livery Mall giving employment to many people in our area; In being Taylors Falls Historical Society secretary for many years, guiding at the 1855 Folsom House; For working with her husband on Taylors Falls Lions projects and as organist at Taylors Falls First Baptist Church. As part of Marlys' official duties, she was honored at the Santa parade and will also ride in the Wannigan Day Parade. We are very appreciative of what both Marlys and Wayne have done in making our community what it is today.

