

VILLAGE OF STRASBURG
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BRIEF HISTORY OF OUR VILLAGE, STRASBURG

From a deer lick along a creek, the Village of Strasburg sprang up. When the covered wagons rolled west with families on board, the occupants in 1825 soon noticed the abundance of game in the area. A house was built. Then in 1840, other families stopped in the area when they realized how fertile the soil was. Most of the settlers were of German origin. There were wagon trails crossing the country. People set up small gatherings as they traveled across these trails. Soon there were stores built. Small churches were built for places of worship and were also used for schools.

It is recorded that Charles Ostermeier put up the first store building. In 1874 when the North-South railroad was complete, Charles Ostermeier laid out forty acres of land surrounding his store for the site of the town. He named it Strasburg for his native home, Strasburg on the Rhine in Germany. Strasburg's population soon grew to 150 settlers. Important were: 1873 – first town meeting; 1878 – calaboose built; 1883 – roads graded; 1886 – six street lamps purchased and later coal-oil, wicks, and globes purchased; 1891 – public well drilled; 1891 – money appropriated to help build school house; 1900 – bricks laid for sidewalks; 1906 – a concrete sidewalk built; 1908 – shooting allowed on New Year's Eve only; 1909 – platform dances for \$25.00/day; 1912 – water trough built at the well; 1915 – Poll tax - \$1.50 per able bodied male; 1916 – Streets oiled; 1917 – band stand built; 1923 - \$68.75 paid for lights; 1927 – slot machines taken out (nuisance); 1930 – Population was 418; 1939 – George Gill was paid \$5.00 for plowing snow; 1970 – Population was 456 and 2010 population was 462. You can see the steady growth!!!!

As expenses for the Village increased and income stayed the same, it was obvious something had to be done. An article found on the Internet explained a process called MAPPING. This process takes an active approach to community members working together to improve all aspects of our village. After some residents volunteered their service and met four times, four hours each time, plans were put into action. The group decided that a strong name with meaning would be the first important step. After much discussion, the name Strasburg Community Action Network (SCAN) was born. It was setup to work with the Village Board and has really been an asset for our Village. SCAN sponsors fund raisers and contributes money to different activities. SCAN was responsible for setting up of the Strasburg Community Improvement Fund and the Strasburg Community Endowment Fund. Local citizens form the board which oversees these funds.

Another large undertaking was starting York Acres Subdivision. We need to keep our village growing and to increase our school's enrollment. We encourage our families and community members to participate in village activities as well as the many organizations which include: Lions Club, LEOs, American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, SCAN, Seasoned Citizens, Strasburg Baptist Church, Strasburg Methodist Church, Grace Lutheran Church, and St. Paul's Lutheran Church. WE EXTEND A BIG WELCOME TO ALL!

Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 8:00 AM – Noon, 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM