



Where Pride and Prosperity Meet

Cottage Grove Reports

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New MnDOT Traffic Signs and Cameras Along Highway 61

MnDOT is currently installing a freeway management system on Highway 61 from Interstate 94 to Hastings. The project includes cameras, traffic sensors, fiber connections to existing traffic signals, and changeable message signs. The signs will display incident information and possible travel times. With the new system MnDOT will be able to provide traffic speed data and camera views on their traveler information website, www.511mn.org.



MnDOT signs along Highway 61

Mother Donates Stuffed Animals in Honor of Son

Stuffed animals can provide a small measure of comfort to a child who is injured or in a crisis. Kristie Winter recently donated hundreds of stuffed animals to Public Safety in honor of her son Travis Winter.

Travis died unexpectedly in 2012 at the age of 28, leaving behind a young daughter. When family and friends gathered earlier this summer to remember him on what would have been his 30th birthday, they each brought a stuffed animal to donate.

"We are very appreciative of Kristie's gift. One of the most difficult things for us is to see a scared child. A stuffed animal can sometimes make the situation a bit better for the child," said Police Capt. Pete Koerner.



From left: Fire Chief Rick Redenius, Kristie Winter and Public Safety Director Craig Woolery

Cottage Grove Officer Receives "Saved By the Ticket" Award



On June 20, 2014, Officer Nils Torning (second from the right) was presented an award for his actions on May 29th. The award was named the "Saved by the Ticket" (Submitted photo)

On May 29, Cottage Grove Police Officer Nils Torning was working a seat belt enforcement shift prior to the start of his normal shift, when a vehicle pulled up next to him. The front seat passenger was clearly not belted, and was cited for the infraction. The following evening, the same motorist who had been cited by Officer Torning was involved in a serious accident while driving on Highway 61. Because the motorist was wearing a seat belt at the time of the accident they walked out of the hospital only three days later. Considering the damage to the vehicle, if the driver had not been belted, there likely would have been life-threatening injuries.

Park High School to Celebrate 100th Anniversary



Park High School is celebrating its 100th anniversary. Events planned for Oct. 10 include a parade and tailgating before the homecoming game. Events planned for Oct. 11 include school tours, meet and greets, and a Park High School

"Through the Decades" program. For more information or to get involved, visit the event's Facebook page (search "Park High 100yr Anniversary Celebration") or contact Cherie Bien-Cofman at cbiencof@sowashco.k12.mn.us, or Phil Kuemmel at pkuemmel@sowashco.k12.mn.us



Fire Prevention Tips

FROM COTTAGE GROVE FIRE DEPARTMENT

In Minnesota, careless smoking results in more than 30 percent of all residential fire related deaths. Because of the inherit danger of fires occurring on decks or patios the Cottage Grove Fire Department discourages smoking on a deck or patio. But, if you do please remember:

- Dispose of smoking items appropriately, in a metal fire resistant container and clean it out often.
- Store the container away from the house/deck and combustibles.
- Do not dispose of butts or ashes directly into the trash at any time.
- Do not use a planter box for ashes or cigarette butts.
- Remember, although you may think the cigarette is out, it probably isn't.

Keep your home safe from garage fires by following a few easy tips:

- Store oil, gasoline, paints, propane and varnishes in a shed away from your home.
- Keep items that can burn on shelves away from appliances.
- Plug only one charging appliance into an outlet.
- Don't use an extension cord when charging an appliance.

Garage safety tips through construction to install:

- A 20-minute fire-rated door that is self-closing and self-latching from the garage into the house.
- A ceiling made with 5/8-inch Type X gypsum board (or equivalent) if you have living space above the garage.
- A wall with 1/2-inch gypsum board (or equivalent) if the wall attaches the garage to your home.
- An attic hatch cover if you have attic access from the garage.
- A heat detector—not a smoke alarm—in your garage. The heat detector will sound if temperature rises too high.

Learn more at www.usfa.fema.gov

Annual Stormwater Pond Maintenance Begins Mid-August

Stormwater ponds are designed to control the rate of stormwater runoff and to improve water quality. The ponds hold the runoff for a period of time allowing sediment and contaminants to settle to the bottom of the pond preventing them from entering our streams and water.

The City operates and maintains a large network of catch basins, pipes, and more than 100 wet and dry stormwater ponds that make up the storm sewer system. A wet pond has a clay liner which maintains the water level at a certain height, and is seen in residential and commercial areas. Dry ponds do not hold water and are located in unexpected areas such as many city parks. They have inlet and outlet pipes similar to a wet pond, but stormwater is

able to infiltrate into the ground so standing water is only visible during major storm events.

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency requires cities to maintain their stormwater ponds which includes removing material that has built up in the pond, installing new rip rap to prevent erosion around the inlet and outlet structures, and making any necessary repairs to the structures.

This year, maintenance will take place on the dry pond at Hemmingway Park and two wet ponds in the Highland Hills addition located west of Peter Thompson Park. This project will begin the middle of August and will be completed by mid-September.

Help Keep Your Neighborhood Clean

Taking care of your property helps make our community and neighborhoods a better place to live, work and play. Here are a few reminders to ensure your property remains compliant with city codes.

- Make sure grass and weeds are no taller than eight inches.
- Recreational vehicles—including trailers, RVs, boats—need to be parked on an

improved surface (driveway or approved parking pad).

- No more than four vehicles may be stored on a single lot outside of a garage or shed at one time.
- Store trash containers out of public view. Search “code enforcement” on our website for more information.

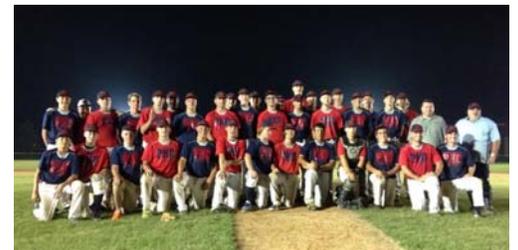
School Bus Safety Tips for Motorists

With summer drawing to a close, children will soon be heading back to school. Motorists are reminded to be alert and use extra caution in school zones and neighborhoods. Remember:

- It is illegal to pass a school bus that is stopped to load or unload children.
- A yellow flashing light is used to signal the bus is preparing to stop; a red flashing light and extended stop arm signals children are getting on or off.
- Traffic in both directions must stop.
- Never pass a school bus on the right.
- Remember that pedestrians have the right-of-way at intersections.
- Do not block crosswalks when stopped at a red light or waiting to make a turn.

Learn more at www.nhtsa.gov/School-Buses

A New World Record Set in Cottage Grove



Congratulations to PHD Baseball who set a world record for the longest baseball game—right here in Cottage Grove. They were playing to not only set a new world record, but to raise funds for the ALS Association. The 56 players, ranging in age from 16 to 18, played at the Park High School baseball field for 63 continuous hours breaking the old record of 62 hours, 32 minutes and 59 seconds. The game began Aug. 1 and officially ended Aug. 3 at 10:51 p.m. with 293 innings.

Business News

Business owners: do you have announcements or new offerings to share? Contact Danette Parr at 651-458-2824 or dparr@cottage-grove.org

Whole Health Center Now Open

Whole Health Center celebrated their opening with a ribbon cutting on July 14. They provide health and wellness care including chiropractic, massage therapy, therapeutic rehabilitation exercise, aromatherapy, weight management and nutrition. Hours are 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Monday and Wednesday, 3 to 7 p.m. Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Friday, and 8:30 to 11 a.m. Saturday. Located at 8800 East Point Douglas Road, in the strip mall next to Menards.



Cottage Grove Couple Bring Jams, Jellies to Farmers Market

Kim and Jonathon Heilmann of Market Chef Pantry are fixtures at the Cottage Grove Farmers Market with their line of gourmet sauces, jams and jellies. However, selling homemade goodies was not something they envisioned moving from New York to Cottage Grove in 2011.



After discovering their new home had an apple tree that produced an abundant harvest, Kim began experimenting in her kitchen. Six months later a new business, Market Chef Pantry, made an appearance at the market. Customers quickly became loyal fans of both the food and friendly demeanor offered by the couple.

They source fresh and organic ingredients for their products using what they grow in their backyard garden or buying from local farmers. They also give back to the community by volunteering and donating their products to fundraisers.

COTTAGE GROVE FARMERS MARKET

In 2013 Kim became the market manager for the farmers market, a volunteer position. The market's mission of providing wholesome, locally produced food fit well with the vision for their own company.



New this year, many of the market vendors accept WIC vouchers. The market is located at Cottage Grove United Church of Christ, 7800 Lamar Avenue S. and is open Thursdays, from 2:30 to 6:30 p.m., through mid-October. Learn more about the farmers market at www.cgucfm.com. Learn more about Market Chef Pantry at <http://facebook.com/marketchefmn>.

River Oaks Golf Course
www.riveroaksmunigolf.com

BEST PLACES TO PLAY
Golf Digest
 ★★★★★
 2013-2014

Summer is off and running at River Oaks Golf Course. The course is a top rated public facility by Golf Digest Best Places to Play located in *your* back yard. Come out and play 9 or 18 holes or hit some range balls.

Take advantage of some of our great golf deals:

- **Players Special** Tee-off weekdays between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. and play 18 holes including cart, range balls, hot dog and soda for only \$41.95. (Coupon available online.)
- **Weekend Foursome** Tee-off Friday, Saturday or Sunday after 12:30 p.m. for 18 holes with cart for \$37 per person. (Foursomes only with online coupon.)
- **Twilight Golf** Daily after 3 p.m. 18 holes for \$19 or ride for \$28.50.
- **Senior Golf** Age 62 and older. Tee-off weekdays before 3 p.m. and enjoy 18 holes for \$21.50 or ride for \$32.25

River Oaks | 11099 South Highway 61 | 651-438-2121

MUSIC by the GREEN
FREE SUMMER MUSIC SERIES at RIVER OAKS

From 6 to 8 p.m. every Wednesday in August, enjoy the free summer concert series, outside at River Oaks Golf Course. Burgers and beverages available for sale. The series kicked off Aug. 6 with singer-songwriter Tim Cheesebrow who will also perform his folk music on Aug. 20. On Aug. 13 and 27, Dave Snyder Acoustic Sounds performs a mix of rock, country and Americana music. Call 651-438-2121 ext. 4.

Tim Cheesebrow
 August 6 & 20

Dave Snyder
 August 13 & 27

Parks & Recreation News

FOR MORE INFO CALL 651-458-3400

Summer Slam

Kids will enjoy one more week of fun-filled adventures at Woodridge Park before the summer ends. Play on the playground, shoot a game of basketball, or play a game of kickball. Bring a lunch and snacks.

Date: Aug. 25–29
Time: 7:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
Place: Woodridge Park
Cost: \$80 per week or \$20 per day

Home Alone

If your child is going to be home alone before or after school, sign them up for this class. Topics include:

- Answering the door and phone
- Appropriate computer and television use
- Calling 911 and basic first aid
- Emergency phone numbers
- Going straight home after school
- How to contact an adult
- Peer pressure from friends
- Snacks kids can make
- Time for questions

Ages: 8–12
Date: Aug. 28
Time: 5:30–7:30 p.m.
Place: Ice Arena Meeting Room
Cost: \$25

Fall Ball Fest

Gather your team one more time and compete at Lamar Fields on Saturday, Sept. 13. Play in a one-day bocce ball or men's softball tournament with cash prizes for 1st and 2nd place teams. Players must be ages 18 or older. Register by Sept. 5.

SOFTBALL - \$175 PER TEAM

Pool play format; 16 teams with three game guarantee if tournament fills; MSF rules apply; three HR with 1-up rule; games begin at 9 a.m.

BOCCE BALL - \$25 PER TEAM

Teams of two; 16 teams with three game guarantee if tournament fills; games begin at 10 a.m.

Fall Tot Spot

Our Friday Tot Spot is not your typical program. Your child might use a magnifying glass to explore beneath rocks, play a game of tag on the playground, or draw a masterpiece with frozen paint. The weekly games, songs, crafts, story time, and projects are all theme based. Time will be spent outside (if weather permits) and creating messy crafts or experiments; please dress accordingly. Bring a lunch and beverage each day. This is a drop-off program with qualified Recreation Department staff coordinating on-site.

Ages: 3–5
Dates: Sept 26; Oct 3, 10, 24, 31;
Nov 14, 21; Dec 5, 12, & 19
Time: 10 a.m.–1:30 p.m.
Place: Pine Tree Valley Park
Cost: \$150 for 10 classes



Market your business at the Ice Arena, the most heavily trafficked spectator facility in town. Call 651-458-3415 for details.

Looking to rent ice?

Call 651-458-3400

Fall Skating Lessons

Fall sessions run Sept. 22 to Nov. 22. Register online or call 651-458-3400.

Public Skating Sessions (\$4)

Spend quality family time while practicing your skating skills. Skate rentals are \$2. Skating aids (buckets) available for beginners. Check the website or call for times.

Adult Open Hockey (\$5)

For ages 18+ on Mondays. Bring your own equipment; helmet required. Check the website or call for times.

COTTAGE GROVE Ice Arena 651-458-3400

Figure Skater Practice (\$8–\$10)

For the dedicated figure skater, level Alpha and above. Practice figure skating skills, jumps and spins. Please check the website or call for times.

Arena Dry Floor Event Rental

Rent dry floor space at the Ice Arena through August. The West Rink space can be rented for a variety of events. Call 651-458-3415 to learn more.

Birthday Parties

The “coolest” birthday party venue in town is the Ice Arena. Different packages are available. Visit the website or call for more details.

River Valley Adult Hockey League

The seven game season (plus playoff) begins Nov. 9. Games are played on Sunday nights. No checking or slap shots. All games will be officiated. Players must be ages 17 and older. Rosters/waivers due by the second game. Full payment due at time of registration. Register by Oct. 31.

Cost: \$945.00 per team
Place: Cottage Grove Ice Arena
8020 80th Street S