



Cottage Grove Reports

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Dennis and Thiede Elected to City Council

Steve Dennis was elected and Dave Thiede re-elected on Nov. 4 to serve four-year terms on the Cottage Grove City Council effective Jan. 5, 2015.

Cottage Grove had an overall voter turnout of 58.6 percent compared to 50.5 percent for Minnesota.

Cottage Grove Couple Donates \$5K to Public Safety



Conway and Katherine Olson, surrounded by members of Public Safety, hold the \$5K check they donated.

Long-time Cottage Grove residents Conway and Katherine Olson recently donated \$5,000 to the Public Safety Department to purchase Combat Application Tourniquets (CAT tourniquets) for every first responder in south Washington County.

Conway Olson recently learned about CAT tourniquets and how useful they have become in saving lives in the battlefield. They are a safe and effective way to control bleeding as they can be self-applied with one hand when carried by first responders who may be injured in the line of duty.

Cottage Grove first responders have been trained in the use and application of the tourniquet. The donation will allow the purchase of 150 CAT tourniquets for police officers and firefighters in the cities of Cottage Grove, St. Paul Park and Newport.

“Before accepting this donation I think it’s appropriate that these two long-term community members be recognized again for their decades of service and dedication,” said Craig Woolery, Cottage Grove public safety director.

This is not the first donation by the Olsons. In December of 2007, they donated \$25,000 for the purchase of CPR training mannequins for paramedic and emergency medical training. The training equipment is utilized on a regular basis during emergency medical services training.

The Olsons have lived in Cottage Grove since 1961. Conway Olson’s contributions to this community spans decades. He served two terms on the last Cottage Grove Town Board and was instrumental in working with elected State officials on a bill that was signed into law making Cottage Grove a city. Conway also served as a City Council member from 1965 to 1971 as well as 12 years on the Washington County Board of Hearings and Appeals.

The Olsons’ donation was accepted by the City Council at their Nov. 5 meeting.

“As Mayor, and I think I can speak for the entire council and everyone else, thank you,” said Mayor Bailey. “We really, really appreciate it.”

LeafLine Labs to Build Manufacturing Facility in Cottage Grove Business Park

On Dec. 1, the Minnesota Department of Health announced that LeafLine Labs and Minnesota Medical Solutions will be the two organizations in the state to manufacturer medical marijuana. The marijuana will be converted into pill, liquid or vapor form because the state’s new law bans smoking the plant. Only patients suffering from a handful of serious conditions will qualify.

LeafLine Labs plans to break ground in December for a new 42,000 square-foot, secure, manufacturing facility in Cottage Grove’s business park. It’s estimated that the facility will create up to 100 construction jobs through Ryan Companies. LeafLine Labs anticipates initially hiring up to 35 people to manage the facility.

Commission Openings

Get involved in your local government by volunteering to serve on an advisory commission. There are openings on multiple commissions. The time commitment is minimal, with most groups meeting once per month. Visit our website and search “*commissions*” to learn more about each commission and how to apply.



Coming Up

- Dec 14** **Santa Breakfast**, 8 a.m.–Noon
River Oaks Golf Course, 11099 Highway 61 S.
- Dec 19** **Photo Contest Entries Due**
Details on our website or call 651-458-2883
- Jan 10, 11** **Holiday Tree Disposal**
Jan 17, 18 9 a.m.–3 p.m., \$2 per tree, free with donation for Friends in Need Foodshelf, Compost Site, 9600 Glendenning Road
- Feb 6** **Friday Night Fish Fry**
4–8 p.m., Feb. 6 to Apr. 3
River Oaks Golf Course, 11099 Highway 61 S.
651-438-3627 for more info

For more city-wide events, check the calendar on the city's website.

Essay Contest for Sixth, Seventh and Eighth Graders

The Cottage Grove Human Rights/Human Services Commission invites sixth, seventh and eighth grade students to enter the League of Minnesota Human Rights Commission's Annual Essay Contest. The deadline to enter is Feb. 28. Students can win cash prizes: first prize is \$400, second price is \$300 and third prize is \$200.

The topic for the essay:

Jokes or comments are commonly made, both accidentally and intentionally, at the expense of certain groups of people. Provide at least two specific examples of how language results in the violation of our protection of human rights. Be sure to identify the message, who it is from, who it affects and how it affects them. Reference the US Constitution, the UN Declaration of HR or the US Bill of Rights in your answer.

For more information visit:
<http://bit.ly/1ZRiXo>

National Recognition for Excellence in Financial Reporting

For the 24th year in a row, the City of Cottage Grove has received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) for the City's comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR). The certificate is the highest form of recognition and demonstrates the commitment of the City and the finance staff to meet the highest principles of government budgeting.

The City's CAFR was judged by an impartial panel to meet the high standards of the program including demonstrating a constructive "spirit of full disclosure" to clearly communicate its financial story and motivate potential users and user groups in reading the CAFR.

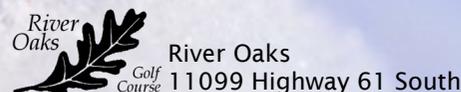
The GFOA is a nonprofit professional association serving approximately 17,500 government finance professionals throughout North America.

Happy Holidays
from River Oaks Golf Course
and Event Center Staff

Buy a gift certificate for the golfer in your life at www.riveroaksmunigolf.com or by calling 651-438-2121 ext. 3.

Did you know River Oaks caters? Call us when you want a catered party at your home. We offer a great menu selection or can customize your own menu. Call 651-438-3627 ext. 4, for details.

Secure 2015 golf tournament dates now! Call 651-438-2121 ext. 3.



Films in 5 Festival

Submissions are being accepted for the Arts Commission's first film festival. Amateur, student or professional filmmakers are invited to submit a short film in any genre including narrative, documentary, music videos or animation. DVD submissions, with \$5 fee, are due by Jan. 2. The top three films receive gift cards to local businesses. Submission guidelines can be found on the city's website. For more information send an email to FilmsIn5Festival@gmail.com.

The screening will be held Jan. 24 in the lecture hall at Park High School.



Winter Parking Restrictions

Winter parking restrictions are in effect until March 31. No on-street parking between 2 and 6 a.m. daily, whether there is snow on the ground or not. In addition, on-street parking is not allowed anytime it is snowing until the street has been cleared.



If you are a business owner with announcements or new offerings to share, please contact Danette Parr at 651-458-2824 or dparr@cottage-grove.org

Ribbon Cuttings Around Town



Mayor Bailey congratulates Richard Haliburton, executive director, after ribbon is cut.



Funeral Director Mike Shea cuts the ribbon with Strawberry Fest ambassadors.



Katie Yanisch, store manager, and Jamie Ott, retail account executive, prepare to cut the ribbon.

American Donor Services

www.americandonorservices.org

A ribbon cutting for American Donor Services was held on Nov. 5. American Donor Services, an independent, non-profit organization whose mission is to improve lives through the gift of donation, is located at 8700 E. Point Douglas Road, suite 108. Watch the video from SWCTC:

<http://bit.ly/1FkFrSB>

Kok Funeral Home and Cremation Services

www.kokfuneralhome.com

Kok celebrated the grand opening of the newly-remodeled funeral home with a ribbon cutting on Nov. 9. The expansion included a new chapel, larger lobby, private viewing areas, a children's room with crafts and books, as well as a second entrance and more parking spaces. Kok Funeral Homes is located at 7676 80th Street South. Watch the SWCTC video: <http://bit.ly/15h8HwR>

AT&T

www.att.com

The AT&T retail store opened for business on Oct. 22 and celebrated with a ribbon cutting on Nov. 17. The AT&T store is located at the former Hollywood Video site at 7180 E. Point Douglas Road, Suite 200. Store hours are 9 a.m.–8 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 11 a.m.–7 p.m. Sundays. Watch the SWCTC video:

<http://bit.ly/1y9jfZm>



Chipotle and Noodles Open December 15

Chipotle and Noodles are both scheduled to open for business on Monday, Dec. 15. The restaurants are located next to AT&T at 7180 E. Point Douglas Road.

Back-to-back ribbon cuttings will take place that day also:
Noodles, Dec. 15, 10:15 a.m.
Chipotle, Dec. 15, 10:45 a.m.



Burger King and Taco Bell

Burger King and Taco Bell have completed their interior and exterior remodels. The City thanks both of these businesses for reinvesting in the community.



COTTAGE GROVE **Ice Arena**

Looking to rent ice?
www.rinkfinder.com
 651-458-3400

**Winter Ice Skating Lessons**

Winter sessions run Dec. 1 to Feb. 12. Register anytime (cost will be prorated). Call 651-458-3400.

No-School Winter Break

DEC. 26, 29, 30 AND JAN. 2

Youth Open Hockey (\$5)
 9–10:15 a.m.

Public Skating (\$4)
 10:30 a.m.–noon

High School Open Hockey (\$5)
 12:15–1:30 p.m.

Skate with the Wolfpack

If your child's dream is to play Wolfpack hockey, get ready for a fun afternoon of skating with their favorite Wolfpack players from Park High School. Free. Sunday, Dec. 28 2–3:30 p.m.

Public Skating Sessions (\$4)

Skate rentals \$2. Skating aids (buckets) available for beginners.

Sunday: Noon–1:30 p.m.
 Monday to Friday: 10:30 a.m.–noon
 Wednesday: 6–7:30 p.m.

Figure Skater Practice (\$8–\$10)

For the dedicated figure skater, level Alpha and above. Practice figure skating skills, jumps and spins.

Tuesday, Thursday: 2:30–5:30 p.m.
 Wednesday, Friday: 6–7 p.m.
 Saturday: 6:15–7:45 a.m.
 Sunday: 8–9:45 p.m.

Adult Open Hockey or Broomball (\$5)

Join others, ages 18+, for a pick-up game on Monday (hockey) or Sunday (broomball) evenings. Broomball sticks available. Bring your own hockey equipment. Helmets required. Check the website or call 651-458-3400 for times.

Birthday Parties

The “coolest” birthday party venue in town is the Ice Arena. Kids can celebrate their special day and have a blast skating with their friends. A variety of packages are available. Check website or call 651-458-3400 for details.

Ice Arena Advertising. Display your message at the most heavily trafficked spectator facility in Cottage Grove. Call 651-458-3415 for more information.

**Recreation News**

For more information **651-458-3400**

Tot Spot

Let our Friday program complement your 3–4 year old's other weekly activities. Fun, theme-based games, songs, crafts, projects and story times. Dress participants for outdoor time (weather permitting) and messy crafts. Send lunch and beverage with each child. Drop-off program with Recreation staff on-site.

Ages: 3–5
 Date: Fridays, Jan. 9–30; Feb 6–27
 Time: 10 a.m.–1:30 p.m.
 Place: Pinetree Valley Park
 Cost: \$120

Ice Fishing

All supplies provided—or bring your own. In case of bad weather call 651-458-6060 to verify if event will be held. Free

Date: Jan. 10
 Time: 9–11 a.m.
 Place: Hidden Valley Pond
 7220 Hidden Valley Trail S.

Skate Night at Highlands

Enjoy skating and free hot cider at the seventh annual Skate Night. Park building (with restrooms) across the street will be open. There is also a sledding hill! Free.

Date: Jan. 30
 Time: 5–8 p.m.
 Place: Highlands Park
 70th Street and Idsen Ave.

3 on 3 Pond Hockey

Three divisions—Squirt/U10, Peewee/U12, and Bantam/U14—in this outdoor round-robin tournament. Four openings in each division. Teams consist of 3 to 5 boys or girls. The 15-minute games are played with no contact or goalies. Matching uniforms not required. Players must have a light and dark jersey and wear a helmet and skates at all times. Pre-register by Jan 14. Each team guaranteed three games. Prizes will be awarded to the champions of each division.

Date: Jan. 19
 Time: 9 a.m.–1 p.m.
 Place: Hamlet Park
 8833 Hamlet Road S.
 Cost: \$15 per team

Warming House Locations and Hours

Hamlet Park, 8885 Hamlet Ave. S.
 M/W: 5–8 p.m. | Sat: 12–8 p.m.

Hearthside Park, 8245 Hearthside Rd. S.
 T/Th: 5–8 p.m. | Sun: 12–8 p.m.

Highlands Park, 6975 Idsen Ave. S.
 M–F: 4–8 p.m. | Sat/Sun: 12–8 p.m.

Peter Thompson, 6327 Highlands Hills Blvd.
 M–F: 4–8 p.m. | Sat/Sun: 12–8 p.m.

Pine Tree Valley Park, 8431 Indian Blvd.
 M–F: 4–8 p.m. | Sat/Sun: 12–8 p.m.

Woodridge Park - 9000 90th St. S.
 M–F: 4–8 p.m. | Sat/Sun: 12–8 p.m.