



# Cottage Grove Reports

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**Surprise!** On May 4, siblings Tomas and Gabriel began their day with a surprise ride to school in a fire truck. Their mother had won the ride at a recent Pine Hill Elementary PTA carnival. As the children exited the fire truck they received an even better surprise. Their father, Gabriel Timp, was there to greet them. Timp had returned home from a year-long Kuwait deployment 27 days early. Many witnessed the event, including reporters from KARE-11, FOX 9, WCCO, SWCTC, the Bulletin and the Pioneer Press. Story links are on the City's Facebook page.

## Volunteer of the Year: Rick Constable

Police Reserve Captain Rick Constable was named Cottage Grove's Volunteer of the Year at the annual volunteer recognition dinner held April 21.

Constable was selected for his ongoing leadership and positive influence upon the community. He joined the reserves in 2009, was promoted to sergeant in 2011 and captain in 2013. As a volunteer reserve, he donated more than 350 hours in 2014 alone.

"I have the privilege of working with seventeen of the most fantastic volunteers the City has. You've seen them out there in the light blue uniforms for all the events," Constable told the recognition event attendees who gave him a standing ovation as he walked up to receive his award. "It's not me. Guys, this is for you."

A **Special Recognition Award** was also presented to the Cottage Grove Lions Club for the numerous charitable activities they perform in the community.



*From left: Council member Dave Thiede, Reserve Laura Austgen, Reserve Sgt. Jeff Rossow, Council member Jen Peterson, Reserve Captain Rick Constable, Reserve Dan Ries, Mayor Myron Bailey, Reserve Steve Hotaling, and Council member Steve Dennis*



*Members of the Cottage Grove Lions Club accepting the special recognition award.*

## Open House for Departing 2015 Citizens Academy City Administrator

An open house for departing Cottage Grove City Administrator Ryan Schroeder will be held Wednesday, May 20, from 5 to 7 p.m. at City Hall, 12800 Ravine Parkway.

Schroeder has been at the helm of the City since September 1997 and is only the third City Administrator in the City's history.

The public is welcome to attend the open house.

Get an inside, in-depth look at the Cottage Grove Police department by enrolling in the fifth annual Citizens Academy. For eight weeks, participants will experience a variety of topics taught by police officers. The Citizens Academy will meet Wednesdays, July 8 to Aug. 26, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Applicants must be at least 21 years of age; live, work, or own a business in Cottage Grove; and pass a background investigation check. Applications are available online or at the front desk of the Police department. Completed applications are due by Friday, June 5. There is no cost to attend the academy.



**May 16 Standing Strong 5K**  
 Proceeds towards anti-bullying programs at the middle schools. More info: <http://on.fb.me/1FaOyp5>

**Jun 1 Minnesota Sings and Strawberry Fest Talent Show Entry Deadline**  
 Minnesota Sings is a new event being combined with the Strawberry Fest talent show. Minnesota Sings winner will represent Cottage Grove at statewide event in Sept. Details at [www.cottagegrovestrawberryfest.com](http://www.cottagegrovestrawberryfest.com)

**Jun 11 Farmers' Market Opens**  
 2:30 to 6:30 pm, Thursdays through October. Parking lot of United Church of Christ, 7009 Lamar Ave. S.

**Jun 12 Splash Pad Special Events**  
 Friday special events at the splash pad begin. 11 am to noon. No registration needed.

**Jun 18-21 Strawberry Fest**  
[www.cottagegrovestrawberryfest.com](http://www.cottagegrovestrawberryfest.com) for details of the weekend activities, including the 5K race, chalk walk, softball tournaments and parade. Carnival tickets available at City Hall, 8 am to 4:30 pm, 10 for \$20.

## Pine Hill Elementary School Receives Sustainable City Award for Tower Garden Project

Teacher Diane Bezdicek and Pine Hill Elementary School were recognized for the tower garden project that is being used to teach students about sustainable gardening and healthy eating. The project also fits into the STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) curriculum at school. Each classroom plants a variety of leafy green vegetables—such as lettuce, basil and kale—in the aeroponic growing system. Once harvested, the students celebrate with a salad party and the tower moves to another classroom.

The elementary school collaborated with the City and Washington County Public Health to bring this project to the students. The gardens were purchased with funding from a Statewide Health Improvement Program (SHIP) grant. KARE-11 featured the project in a “Cool in School” segment. Watch it here: <http://kare11.tv/1QiPwVH>.



From left: Council member Steve Dehnis, Council member Dave Thiede, Mayor Myron Bailey, Diane Bezdicek, Pine Hill Principal Jolaine Mast, Superintendent Keith Jacobus and Environmental Commission member Brandon Smith.



Pine Hill Elementary School students demonstrate how they measure and document their plant's growth.



### Night to Unite Informational Picnic THURSDAY, MAY 21 | 6 TO 8 P.M.

Learn about Night to Unite, get information on hosting a party, or register your neighborhood party early. The picnic is hosted by Public Safety at Kingston Park, Indian Blvd. and 75th Street. Pizza and beverages served while supplies last. For more information contact Community Affairs Officer Gail Griffith at 651-458-6040 or [ggriffith@cottage-grove.org](mailto:ggriffith@cottage-grove.org)



### Sunnyhill Park Ribbon Cutting

Residents joined elected officials and City staff at a ribbon cutting that marked the official opening of the five-acre Sunnyhill Park. Everyone also helped plant trees in the park to celebrate Arbor Day. The park, located at 6201 Ideal Avenue in the Pinecliff neighborhood, includes the City's first pickleball court. View photos of the event on the City's Facebook page: <http://on.fb.me/1ldA7od>

**Sod Damage** If your boulevard grass was damaged by a snowplow this past winter, maintenance workers will repair the damage with black dirt and grass seed as soon as possible in the spring, typically in May.

To report damage caused by a snowplow, call Public Works at 651-458-2808. This phone number is answered 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

## Memorial DAY CEREMONY

**May 25, 1 pm**  
 Veterans Memorial located outside the front entrance of City Hall, 12800 Ravine Parkway  
 Everyone is welcome  
 Limited seating; please bring a chair or blanket

# Business News

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



Photo courtesy of Renewal by AndersonC

## Renewal by Andersen Announces Expansion

Andersen Corporation announced the Renewal by Andersen factory expansion the same day the company opened their new manufacturing facility in Bayport. The company will invest more than \$45 million in the Cottage Grove and North Branch expansions. The almost 125,000-square-foot expansion is expected to bring almost 200 new jobs to Cottage Grove. The company plans to break ground in June with the construction taking about one year. Renewal by Andersen's announcement came just weeks after Werner Electric announced their expansion plans. Both companies are located in the Cottage Grove Business Park.



## Werner Electric Supply Groundbreaking

A groundbreaking ceremony was held April 29 to mark the start of the company's 60,000-square-foot expansion. Werner Electric officials were joined by Lt. Governor Tina Smith and local leaders to break ground on the \$4 million business expansion. To assist the company with their expansion, DEED approved a \$325,000 grant from the Job Creation Fund. In working with the City of Cottage Grove, DEED and GREATER MSP, Werner Electric put together a strategic development plan to support local and state initiatives to help drive further economic success.



Photo courtesy SWCTC

## American Logistics Services to Expand

American Logistics Services is another company located in Cottage Grove's business park. They recently announced a 96,000-square-foot expansion to their facility. The expansion is expected to add an additional 70 jobs within three years. Construction will begin this summer.



## American Donor Services

American Donor Services recently held an open house at their offices. This non-profit organization works to improve lives through tissue donations. The "Donate Life" flag outside the front entrance is raised in honor of the donor and donor's family when staff is out on a case. They are located at 8700 East Point Douglas Road.

**River Oaks Golf Course**

## Golf season is going strong at River Oaks Golf Course!

**Junior golf lessons for youth ages 7-14, \$75 per session. Choose either session 1, June 8-12 or session 2, June 15-19. Times are 8:30-9:30 a.m. for ages 10-14 and 9:45-10:45 a.m. for ages 7-9. Register online or call 651-438-2121 ext. 3**

**Adult group golf lessons from 5:45-6:45 p.m. Choose Mondays, June 1-22 or Thursdays, June 4-25. \$75 per session. Register online or call 651-438-2121 ext. 3**

**Twilight golf daily after 3 p.m. \$20.50 walk or ride for \$30.50 per person.**

**Seniors (62+) 18 holes, \$23 walk or ride for \$35 weekdays before 3 p.m.**

**River Oak's driving range is open daily and is one of the best in the state with all turf, great targets, and plenty of space.**

**Golf reservations accepted seven days a week online [www.riveroaksmunigolf.com](http://www.riveroaksmunigolf.com) or call 651-438-2121 ext. 3.**

# Recreation News

For more information 651-458-3400

## kids mud run

Kids will climb, jump, slide, and run their way through obstacles around the park and end with a crawl through the mud pit. The course is

about 3/4 of a mile. Participants have the option to run the course up to two times. This is not a timed event; the goal is to finish the race. All participants receive a commemorative t-shirt and Gatorade.

Groups of ten start every five minutes. Pre-register to guarantee a spot. Registrations taken at the park the day of the race only if space is available.

### Archery Camp

Archery Camp is a concentrated course covering the basics, suitable for those who have never shot a bow or those who have some experience. Camp covers determining eye dominance, archery safety rules, warm-up exercises, archery tackle sized to archer, proper shooting techniques, grouping, and consistency. All safety gear and equipment provided. Archers should wear tennis shoes

Date: May 30  
Place: Woodridge Park  
9000 90th Street S.  
Cost: \$25  
8:45 a.m. Check-in begins  
9-10 a.m. Start times: 6-9 year olds  
10-11 a.m. Start times: 10-12 year olds

Register online at  
[www.cottage-grove.org/recreation](http://www.cottage-grove.org/recreation) or call  
651-458-3400.

This Kids Mud Run will benefit the inclusive/accessible playground being built at Woodridge Park in 2016.

that may get muddy, snug clothing around the chest and arms, and no jewelry.

Date: June 8-13  
Time: 6-7:30 p.m.  
Place: Pine Tree Pond  
8748 80th Street S.  
Cost: \$75  
Ages: 8-13

## COTTAGE GROVE Ice Arena

### Girls Hockey Clinic

Back by popular demand is the summer hockey clinic for girls! Coach Dick Tinucci will instruct participants on edgework, tryout drills, shooting, and puck handling. This is a serious clinic designed to encourage participants to skate outside their comfort zone. Participants must come prepared to do a lot of skating. Register early as space is limited to 30 skaters.

Date: Aug. 3, 5, 10, 12, 17, 19, 24, 26  
Time: 2:30-4 p.m.  
Place: Cottage Grove Ice Arena  
Cost: \$130  
Ages: 8-13

### Adult Open Hockey (\$5)

Join others, ages 18+, for a pick-up game of hockey on Monday evenings. Bring your own hockey equipment. Helmets required. For times, check the monthly event calendar on our website or call ahead as some sessions may cancel due to special events.

### Open Turf

There are opportunities for everyone to exercise or practice your sport of choice on the indoor turf at the Ice Arena. Sign-in and pay in the office.

Walk or Run: \$3  
Lacrosse: \$5  
Baseball or Softball: \$5  
Soccer: \$5

Check the monthly event calendar on our website for times.

### Turf and Dry Floor Rentals

The Cottage Grove Ice Arena has indoor turf rental opportunities May through September. The space can be rented for a variety of events including birthday parties, baseball, softball, soccer, Lacrosse, home shows, circuses, weddings, private events, dog shows, corporate events, and more. To find out availability and prices, please contact Jordan Hirman at 651-458-3415.

### Movies in the Dark @ Highlands Park

Don't miss a great opportunity to enjoy a movie shown outside on a 20-foot screen. Bring your own snacks, lawn chairs and blankets for a night under the stars! Movies begin at dusk. In case of inclement weather a decision will be made by 5 p.m. and the movie will be shown at 7 p.m. at the Ice Arena on the turf in the west rink. For location status, call the weather hotline at 651-458-6060. Arrive early to enjoy the splash pad before the movie begins.

June 12 *Hook*  
August 7 *Big Hero 6*

### Strawberry Fest 5K Race and Walk



Don't miss the 9th Annual Strawberry Fest Race and Walk at Kingston Park. The race will be chip timed. Race times will be posted on-site immediately following the race and posted on our website (by age category) the following Monday. Walkers will not be timed.

Medals awarded to the first place male and female in the following age categories: 18 and younger, 19-25, 26-40, 41-55, 56 and older.

All participants receive a Strawberry Fest Race shirt, water, and snacks upon completion.

Date: June 20  
Park: Kingston Park  
Race: \$20 on or before June 17  
\$25 after June 17  
Walk: \$15 on or before June 17  
\$20 after June 17  
Time: 7 a.m. registration check-in begins  
8 a.m. race begins  
Walk begins immediately after race.  
Route: Kingston Park to Trailway Corridor to Pine Tree Valley Trail to 80th Street to Jenner Avenue to Kingston Park Trail.