



# Cottage Grove Reports

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## Volunteer of the Year Nominations Being Accepted

The Cottage Grove Volunteer of the Year Award acknowledges the outstanding contributions and efforts of an individual or group that benefited the Cottage Grove community during the past year. They will have shown a passion for helping others and in doing so, enhanced the quality of life for those in the community. A nomination form can be downloaded from the City's website or picked up at City Hall. The deadline to submit is March 23.

## Seasonal Hiring Underway

Join our team! We are currently hiring several seasonal positions. Wages range from \$10 to \$14 per hour depending on the job and qualifications. Minimum requirements include a high school diploma, valid driver's license, and you must be at least 18 years of age. Visit the City's website for complete job descriptions and application packet.

## State of the City Focused on Future Growth

During his State of the City Address Mayor Bailey spoke on the successes of the past year and shared this year's goals for the City.

Work is being done to continue to attract new manufacturing and industrial businesses to the business park. Additional housing is coming to Cottage Grove, including single-family homes in the Eastbrooke, Hamlet Heights, Kingston Fields, Wildflower and Sunny Hill developments. The Legends of Cottage Grove apartments are accepting applicants, and the expansion of Presbyterian Homes of Norris Square will be the first skilled care facility in the City.

One of the larger projects that will take place in 2018 is the Ravine Parkway project, which will include work between County Road 19 and Jamaica Avenue. This large project is an important piece to the continued development of the Upper Ravine District.

Last year the results of the My Future Cottage Grove community engagement project were



Mayor Bailey gives the State of the City Address

revealed and this year members of the community have stepped forward to turn those recommendations into reality. Many volunteer citizen committees have been formed, including one to study a community center and one to look for ways to celebrate the diversity of this community. Anyone interested in volunteering can find more information on the City's website under the My Future Cottage Grove page.

View the entire State of the City Address at <https://youtu.be/-Xm51JYT2eM>

## Share Your Thoughts on Park Connections and Housing Options

One of the My Future Cottage Grove initiatives is to improve pedestrian safety and connections to our community parks. You can help by providing your input in an online interactive map related to this initiative. Let us know where you think there should be more city park connections on this online map: <https://rebrand.ly/CottageGrove>

Another initiative is to develop a housing plan that reflects what Cottage Grove is becoming. You can help by sharing your ideas about housing and opportunities in this online Housing Survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/5ZP86PZ>

The housing survey will close on March 23.

## Settlement Reached by 3M Company and State of Minnesota

The City of Cottage Grove has actively followed the State of Minnesota's lawsuit against 3M and is pleased that the State and 3M reached a settlement that will allow Cottage Grove to move forward with planning for a long term water treatment solution. The City's temporary water treatment will remain in place as we work with State and Regional partners to plan for the long term. It is expected that the planning process will take some time and the

City has always been willing to participate in a regional solution if one is cost effective and feasible for Cottage Grove residents. The City Council's first priority is to ensure that residents and businesses in Cottage Grove have a sustainable and safe supply of drinking water. The City expects to seek funding from the State for both design and construction for a system that meets the long term needs of Cottage Grove.



**Coming Up**

- Mar 15**    **Open House: Hinton/70th Street Roundabout**, 4:30–6 p.m., St. Luke Lutheran Church
- Mar 24**    **Egg Hunt**, 9 a.m., Indoor at the Ice Arena, details on back page.
- Mar 25**    **Cottage Grove Lions Easter Breakfast**, 8 am–Noon, VFW Red Barn
- Mar 31**    **Winter Parking Ban Ends**
- Apr 12**    **Tornado Drill Day**, 1:45 p.m. and 6:55 p.m.
- Apr 21**    **Chamber Business Expo**, 10 a.m.–2 p.m., Ice Arena
- Apr 28**    **Stone Soup-er Bowl**, 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m., Park Grove Bowling Alley, St. Paul Park.
- Apr 28**    **Arbor Day Celebration** 9 a.m., Hamlet Park, 8833 Hamlet Road South
- May 5**     **Spring Cleanup Day** 7 a.m.–3 p.m., Public Works Garage, 8635 W. Point Douglas Rd. More info in next month's newsletter
- May 19**    **Central Fire Station Grand Opening Celebration** Save the Date! More info in next month's newsletter

For more city-wide events, including council and commission meetings, visit the calendar on the City's website.

**Be an Election Judge!**

We are seeking eligible voters to work as an Election Judge at the Primary and General Elections on Aug. 14 and Nov. 6.

Election Judges are paid \$10 per hour for attending a mandatory two-hour training session and for time worked on Election Day. Election judges may also serve voluntarily without pay. For eligibility requirements, more information, and application, visit <http://bit.ly/ElecJud> or contact Cottage Grove City Clerk, Joe Fischbach at [jfischbach@cottage-grove.org](mailto:jfischbach@cottage-grove.org) or 651-458-2883.

**Park Grove Library Redevelopment Open Houses**

Washington County Library is looking for your feedback on a new Park Grove Library building project. Residents and patrons are invited to contribute their thoughts and opinions at a series of community meetings. All meetings will be held at the Park Grove Library, 7900 Hemingway Avenue S.

**March 20, 4–7 p.m.** A short presentation at 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. Talk with library staff and architects about your ideas.

**April 16, 6–8 p.m.** A short presentation at 6:15 p.m. After the presentation participate in an engagement activity to offer more of your vision for the new library.

**May 15, 6:30–8 p.m.** A short presentation at 6:45 p.m. Provide continued feedback and ideas as the early design information for the library is developed.

For more information: [www.washcolib.org/440/Building-Projects](http://www.washcolib.org/440/Building-Projects)



**Make Your Own Green Cleaning Products**

With the first day of spring right around the corner, many of us are starting our spring cleaning. Here are some easy-to-make natural and green cleaning products you can create on your own:

1. **All Purpose Cleaner (vinegar based):** 9 parts water, 1 part white vinegar. Mix the ingredients in a spray bottle and clean away.
2. **Tile Cleaner:** 1/2 cup of baking soda, liquid soap, (optional: 5 to 10 drops of lavender, rosemary or tea tree oil). Place baking soda in a bowl; slowly pour in liquid soap, stirring until it looks like frosting. Add oils (optional). Scoop onto a sponge, scrub and rinse.
3. **Oven Cleaner:** 2 cups hot water, 1 tablespoon natural dish liquid, 1 teaspoon borax. Mix ingredients in a spray bottle, spray on spill, let stand for 20 minutes, wipe off with clean cloth.

4. **Window Cleaner:** 1/4 cup white vinegar, 1/2 teaspoon natural liquid soap, 2 cups water. Mix ingredients in a spray bottle and shake to blend. To use the cleaner, spray onto glass, covering as much as you can, finish wiping in a few minutes time, scrub as needed and squeegee off.
5. **All-natural Air Freshener:** Several orange peels, 2 cinnamon sticks, several cloves, pot of water. Bring pot of water to boil with orange peels, cloves, cinnamon sticks. Reduce heat and allow to simmer for 15 to 30 minutes.

Keep in mind that as you begin your spring cleaning, the Washington County Environmental Center accepts many used household items Visit <https://www.co.washington.mn.us/> and follow the link to the Environmental Center drop off location, hours, and lists of acceptable items.

**February Artist of the Month: Margaret Underwood**



Margaret Underwood was named the Arts Commission February Artist of the Month. Underwood's first poem, *A Visit to the Moon*, was written when she was 10 years old and published in *Jack and Jill Magazine*.

Underwood always enjoyed creative writing in high school and college, using her passion to entertain her children on long car rides when they were young. Since winning the Arts

Commission's first Path to Poetry Contest in 2017 with her poem *Path to Contentment*, Underwood has written more poems. She also sings with the St. Luke Friendship Singers and the Red Hat Regal Singers, a group based at the Senior Center in Cottage Grove that entertains at assisted living and nursing facilities in the East. Recently, Underwood has also started to quilt, using her creative skills in several different ways.

More information on the Artist of the Month program, along with some of Underwood's poems, is available on the City's website.



## Congratulations to the 2017 Capture Cottage Grove Photo Contest Winners

The winners of the annual photo contest were announced at the Feb. 7 City Council meeting.

- Nature: Timothy Dardine
- Celebrations and Events: Bill Pohlmann
- Parks and Trails (tie): Bill Pohlmann and Peter Potyondy
- People: Nathan Klok
- Streetscapes: Kevin Gallagher
- Youth: Jixiong Han

The photographers were presented with a certificate and \$50 for each winning photograph. Photos will be used in print and electronic media to showcase the city. This year 60 entries were received reflecting the amazing talent in this community. Thank you to everyone who entered the contest!

To see all the photo entries, visit the City's Flickr page at: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/cottagegrovemn/albums>.



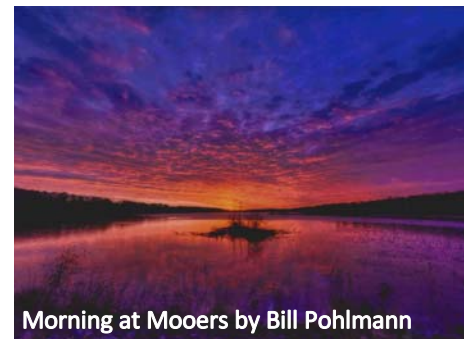
The Perfect November Morning  
by Timothy Dardine



Fire and Rain by Bill Pohlmann



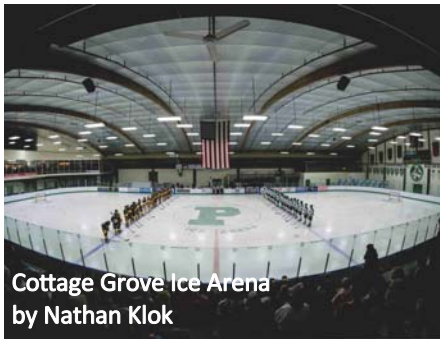
Puppy Fluffy by Jixiong Han



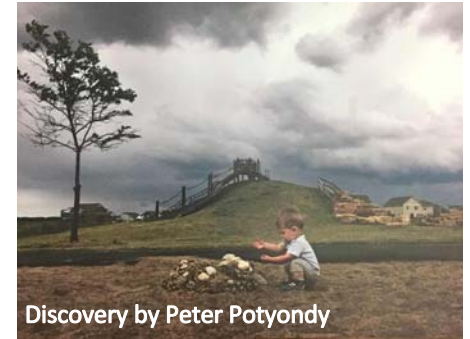
Morning at Mooers by Bill Pohlmann



Beautiful Sunrise in Cottage Grove  
by Kevin Gallagher



Cottage Grove Ice Arena  
by Nathan Klok



Discovery by Peter Potyondy

## RIVER OAKS

Golf Course and Event Center

11099 South Highway 61  
Phone: 651-438-2121  
[www.riveroaksmunigolf.com](http://www.riveroaksmunigolf.com)



### Golf Leagues

River Oaks is now accepting applications for all in house leagues: Tuesday and Wednesday senior men's, Thursday morning ladies, and weekend men's club. You don't need a foursome to join, we can fit you in with a group. Leagues are a great way to meet new people and get out and join the game. There is no limit to the number of members in a league, so tell your friends to join you!

### Eagles Bar and Grill Weekly Specials

Every Friday and Saturday, 3-9 p.m. Friday Fish Fry and Saturday Prime Rib specials along with full menu.

### Upcoming Events

- Mar. 17:** Family Friendly St. Paddy's Event
- Mar. 24:** Paint 'n Sip Party
- Mar. 24 – Apr. 8:** Golf Kick Off Specials
- Apr 6:** Wine, Women & Wellness presented by Oasis Chiropractic
- Apr. 7:** Tim Sigler in concert!
- Apr. 21:** Prom Dinner and Pictures

Visit <http://bit.ly/RiverOaksEvents> for more information and more events.

### Class of 2018!

#### Let us Host your Graduation Party

Host your graduation party at River Oaks and save time, energy, and stress. We'll do the planning, and you have fun! Reserve your date today!

#### Pick Up Party Platters

Are you hosting your own graduation party? Let us help with the food! River Oaks has Pick Up Party Platters to make feeding large groups of people easier. Available options include meat and cheese for sandwiches, vegetables, and fruits. Reserve your platter today!

Visit [www.riveroaksmunigolf.com](http://www.riveroaksmunigolf.com) or call 651-438-2121

# PARKS AND RECREATION

For more information call 651-458-3400

## EGG HUNT

Bring your family and hunt for eggs inside on the turf at the Ice Arena's West Rink. Admission includes 10 eggs (redeemable for a prize), pictures with the Bunny (bring your own camera), a craft station, and cookies and juice. Anyone collecting eggs, playing games, or crafting will need an admission ticket. Registration is limited to 250 kids; admission may not be available the day of if the event is sold out.

Date: March 24  
 Time: 9 a.m. (check in begins at 8:45 a.m.)  
 Location: Ice Arena, 8020 80th Street S.  
 Cost: \$7

## SPRING BREAK

Be sure to bring your own beverages, snacks, and lunch each day (except Friday) as well as an extra set of dry clothes and outdoor play gear.

- Monday: Movie Theater, bring money for snacks if you wish (\$34)
- Tuesday: Ping Pong Competition (\$21)
- Wednesday: Wooddale Fun Zone, skate/play/arcade (\$34)
- Thursday: Pajamas, Popcorn, and a Movie (\$21)
- Friday: Pizza and Pop for Lunch (\$24)

Date: March 26 to 30  
 Time: 7:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.  
 Location: Peter Thompson Park  
 Cost: Per day prices listed above or \$113 for the whole week

## TINY TRACK AND FIELD

Learn the importance of staying active, taking turns, socializing with others, following directions and having fun! After stretching and warming up, participants will try the long jump, hurdles, throwing balls, high jump, and finish with an Olympics. All of the equipment will be provided. Parents are required to stay and participate.

Date: April 10, 12, 17, 19, and 24  
 Time: 1:30–2:45 p.m.  
 Location: Ice Arena, 8020 80th Street S.  
 Cost: \$25



## KID FEST IS BACK!

On Saturday, April 7, Kid Fest will be held at the Cottage Grove Ice Arena–West Rink, which is covered with turf. Vendors will be setup on the upper level of the arena with information to share with the community. On the turf, kids can run, play, and sample the activities.

Date: April 7  
 Time: 9 a.m.–Noon  
 Location: Ice Arena, 8020 80th Street S.  
 Cost: FREE

Confirmed vendors include (at the time of printing): Cottage Grove Recreation and Ice Arena, River Oaks Golf Course, Pine Harbor Christian Academy, Kids Kare Center, Girls Scouts River Valley, Carpenter Nature Center, Kinder Care Learning Center, Stone Soup Thrift Shop, CGAA Soccer, Tutor Time, Park Grove Library, Osborne Books, Seasons Family Chiropractic, and Community Education.

## SEASONAL PARKS AND RECREATION JOBS

Applications are due April 23 with interviews May 4. Wage is \$10 to \$12 per hour, depending on qualifications. Applications on the City's website.

**Office Assistant** This position will work with the Ice Arena and Recreation division performing basic office duties including data entry, answering phones, scheduling facilities and providing customer service. General clerical and/or office experience, computer experience, and great customer service are preferred. Minimum age to apply is 17.

Hours:  
 June: M to F, 7:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.  
 July to August: M to TH, 12:30–4:30 p.m.; Fridays 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

**Playground Leaders** These positions will be responsible for programming, planning and supervising activities for youth ages 5–13 years old. Activities include arts and crafts, games, and special events. Experience in a recreation leadership position is preferred. Applicants should have broad knowledge of games, sports and crafts skills. Must be able to work well with children and should possess great leadership skills. Minimum age to apply is 18. Training will be held May 30 and 31.

Hours: Up to 40 hours per week; position hours vary, details available on the City's website.