



Cottage Grove Reports

Four Citizens Receive Life-Saving Awards



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At the Feb. 15 City Council meeting, four citizens—Karin Mae Herder, Ed Cassidy, Patrick Zittel, and Steve Smalley—were presented a Citizen Life Saving Award for their actions at a Park High School sporting event. Smalley was not able to attend the meeting.

pulse and was not breathing so Herder, Cassidy, Zittel, and Smalley went to his aid performing CPR and using the AED. Lyle survived because of their prompt and selfless actions, and willingness to get involved.

On Oct. 23, 2016, Thomas Lyle was refereeing a Park High School sports event when he collapsed on the court. He had no

A Citizen Life-Saving Award is awarded to a member of the community for performing lifesaving acts without the presence of an unusual hazard or risk of personal injury.

Cottage Grove Accepting Volunteer of the Year Nominations

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 for picked up at City Hall. The deadline to submit is April 1.

March Artist of the Month: Billy Thao

Billy Thao was named Artist of the Month for March by the Arts Commission. Thao, a 19-year resident, began drawing at age seven, replicating cartoon character Bart Simpson from memory. The self-taught artist finds inspiration everywhere and works with a variety of mediums, but specializes in acrylic. In addition to art, he has begun a project temporarily called *We Are Hmong*, a collection of portraits of Hmong American individuals and their existential experiences within American society.

After graduating from UW-River Falls with a degree in sociology and a minor in philosophy, Thao joined AmeriCorps. During his first year serving AmeriCorps, he served as a Minnesota Reading Corps literacy tutor at Middleton Elementary in Woodbury working with K-3 students. He has spent his second year serving as a digital instructor at Hmong American Partnership working with immigrants and refugees.

More information on the Artist of the Month can be found at <http://bit.ly/2n3C2rE>



Coming Up

Mar 28 Job Today–Career Tomorrow
4-6 p.m., Park High School, career exploration event/fair for students seeking part- and full-time positions. More information: <http://bit.ly/2mL6Gp3>

Apr 8 Egg Hunt at the Ice Arena
\$6.50 per child. 8:45 a.m. check-in, 9 a.m. hunt begins, 8020 80th Street S. Limited to 250 children.



Apr 17 Ladies Only Golf Clinics begin
Learn more and sign up at www.riveroaksmunigolf.com

Apr 18 Adult Softball League Registration Deadline Leagues filled on a first-come basis, games played at Lamar Park. More information on the City's website.

Apr 22 Stone Soup-er Bowl
9 a.m.–4:30 p.m., Park Grove Bowl, 1020 Hastings Ave., St. Paul Park. More info: www.stonesoupthriftshop.org

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

Cottage Grove's Housing Market

In their 3rd annual Healthiest Housing Markets Study, SmartAsset ranked Cottage Grove as having the fifth healthiest housing market in Minnesota and 40th in the USA. The study measures market health by the average number of years residents spend in homes, home values, ease of sale, and the costs associated with ownership. For more information, read the study: <https://smartasset.com/mortgage/mortgage-calculator?year=2017#minnesota>

State Farm Insurance Ribbon Cutting



Chauncy Charlson's State Farm Insurance celebrated their opening in Almar Village with a ribbon cutting on Feb. 8. The office address is 7155 Jorgensen Lane S., Suite 100. For more information call 651-770-6266 or visit www.charlsonwbl.com

The Healing Place of Cottage Grove Relocates



A ribbon cutting was held March 1 to celebrate the new and expanded location of The Healing Place of Cottage Grove, which offers massage therapy services. New clients receive a \$10 discount on their first visit. The Healing Place is located at 8617 W. Point Douglas Road, Suite 140. For more information call 651-206-7141 or visit www.thehealingplacecg.com

Carbones Pizzeria Celebrates Expansion



Carbones Pizzeria has expanded their business with a new bar and restaurant on the other side of what was the existing restaurant, which will now be used for events and banquets. Carbones is located in Almar Village at 7155 Jorgensen Lane S. For more information call 651-459-6666 or visit www.carbonespizza.net/cottagegrove

Eagle Scout Brady Burbank Recognized by Council



Congratulations to Brady Burbank, Troop 72, who received a plaque at the Feb. 15 meeting in recognition of achieving the Eagle Scout rank.

Norris Square needed benches for a new fire pit they installed. Burbank came up with a design and built the benches with his troop.

City's Business Retention and Expansion Program Underway

The City's Business Retention and Expansion (BR&E) Program is an effort by the City to gain input and feedback from businesses in the community by hearing what is working for them as well as what challenges they face. A survey and in-person interview allow them to speak confidentially about their business and the business climate here. It is followed by strategic planning and implementation by the City in educational, technical assistance and local policy resources that address these issues.

The BR&E program is well underway with more than 25 businesses agreeing to participate. The goal is to receive feedback from 50 by the end of March. The interviews take about an hour to conduct and are an excellent way for Cottage Grove businesses to provide feedback on what the City can do to improve our business community. If you are a business owner or manager and are willing to participate please contact Matt Wolf at 651-458-2833 or mwolf@cottage-grove.org.

Arbor Day Event

APRIL 29 | 9 TO 11 A.M. | HIGHLANDS PARK

Join us for our annual Arbor Day event! This year we'll be at Highlands Park installing a tree plantation. To help minimize the number of geese that make their way on the grass on the west side of the park we'll be planting 135 plants around the pond. Bring your shovels, work gloves and mud boots for a morning of planting to enhance the park. Meet at 9 am for instructions (and tools if you need them).

BUCKTHORN REMOVAL

Each Arbor Day, Cottage Grove encourages residents to remove Buckthorn from their properties to help promote a healthier urban forest. Please call Adam Moshier at 651-458-2844 by 3 p.m. on April 28 to schedule a curbside pickup. We'll pick up on May 1 and 2.

Rain Barrels and Compost Bins for Sale

The Washington Conservation District, the City of Hugo and the Recycle Association of Minnesota are co-hosting a rain barrel and compost bin sale this spring. Anyone is allowed to order for pick-up. Rain barrels are a great way to collect rainwater to use to water flower gardens and lawns without having to rely on irrigation from groundwater resources. Compost bins will produce rich compost to help your flower beds thrive. Order online and then pick up your pre-ordered rain barrel or compost bin at the Hugo Public Works Building on Friday, April 28. (There are other metro area locations as well if this date doesn't work.)

For more information call 651-641-4589 or order online at www.recycleminnesota.org.

Save The Date! May 6 is Spring Cleanup Day

The annual Spring Cleanup Day is May 6, from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Cottage Grove Public Works Garage, 8635 W. Point Douglas Road. Watch for more information in the April Cottage Grove Reports newsletter.

River Oaks Golf Course Opening Soon

River Oaks staff are watching the weather closely and will open the course as soon as possible. Watch for an announcement on the website—www.riveroaksmunigolf.com—and Facebook page.

River Oaks Golf Course and Event Center is located at 11099 South Highway 61.



Friday Night Fish Fry at River Oaks

FRIDAYS | FEB. 24–APRIL 14 | 4 TO 8 P.M.

Fish Fry | \$15.99 (kids \$9.99)

All you can eat Baked or Beer Battered Fish, choice of Potato (Cheesy, Baked, or Fries), Soup or Garden Salad and Dessert.

Shrimp Scampi | \$15.99

Shrimp Scampi (8 pcs), choice of Potato (Cheesy, Baked, or Fries), Soup or Garden Salad and Dessert.

Kids Chicken Tenders and Fries Basket | \$5.99

No reservations accepted. Please note that The Eagles Bar and Grill is not open Fridays while the Fish Fry is underway.



Be sure and check out the new Happy Hour specials at **THE EAGLES BAR AND GRILL!** From 4 to 6 p.m. enjoy \$1 off alcoholic beverages, \$5 or \$7 apps, or a \$10 app sampler platter. The Eagles Bar and Grill is open 4 to 10 p.m. Wednesday to Sunday.



Visit The Eagles Bar and Grill at the Cottage Grove Area Chamber of Commerce Spring Business Showcase! Visit with staff, try a sample of our food, look at our menu, and get a coupon to use at the restaurant.

PARKS AND RECREATION

For more information call 651-458-3400

Cottage Grove Recreation and Ice Arena Present:

MARCH 25 | 9 TO NOON
ICE ARENA - WEST TURF
8020 80TH STREET S



On Saturday, March 25, KID FEST will be held at the Cottage Grove Ice Arena–West Rink, which is covered with turf instead of ice creating a new opportunity for kids to learn and play. 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. There will also be concessions, an inflatable relay obstacle course and music. We invite families to come to the event, learn about the opportunities, try them out, and register!

The confirmed vendors include: Cottage Grove Recreation and Ice Arena, Cottage Grove Figure Skaters Booster Club, Cottage Grove Boys Lacrosse, CGAA Baseball, CGAA Basketball, CGAA Football, CGAA Hockey, CGAA Soccer, CGAA Softball, Girl Scouts, Health Partners, Healthy Kids Running, Oasis Chiropractic, River Oaks Golf Course – Chili Dippers, Son Shine Pre-School, Stone Soup, Washington County Library, YMCA Camp Pepin, Youth Service Bureau

The list is current at the time this publication went to print. Check the city's website for current list.

SUPERVISED PLAYGROUNDS

7:30AM–4:30PM | MONDAY-FRIDAY | HAMLET AND PETER THOMPSON PARK | AGES 5–13 | ALL SUMMER

Supervised Playgrounds is a fun and safe place for your child to be cared for during the summer. Each day will consist of arts and crafts, water activities, large and small group games, free play, special events, sports, and new friendships!

Each park will have three adult staff, multiple teen volunteers, and up to 35 youth each day. Youth must be signed in and out by an adult each day they are registered. Youth may sign themselves out if staff is notified in advance by an adult.

We want everyone will have a great summer, however, if there are continuing discipline problems you will be notified immediately. Please contact us to discuss any defining characteristics of your child so that we may serve them better. This program may not be suitable for youth which thrive from a routine schedule.

Should weather prevent us from holding activities as scheduled, a modified version will take place. Programs will not be canceled due to weather. If severe weather is in the area, the building/restrooms will serve as our shelter.

Youth should dress appropriately for weather

conditions and activities being held that day (crafts, water, running, jumping, and playing at the playground); this includes wearing athletic shoes. Youth should bring a swimsuit and towel on Wednesdays.

Youth must bring their own lunch, snacks, beverages and utensils. If your child does not come with a lunch, we will attempt to contact you to bring one; otherwise we will provide one and a \$5 lunch fee will be applied to your account. We also strongly encourage each child to bring their own water bottle each day.

Playground Leaders have received several hours of training including basic first aid, emergency procedures, insight on planning events for youth, and have passed a Criminal History Background Check. Please communicate with us on a daily basis to be sure of who is picking up and dropping off your children and also so that you are aware of how the program is working for your children.

A 2017 Registration Form (available on the city's website) must be completed for each participant. The registrar must agree to weekly payments for the fees due each week or full payment due at the

time of registration. Weekly payments will be charged to the credit card on Mondays. Registration and payment will not be accepted at the park; all payments/changes must be made through the office. All registration changes must be done by noon on the preceding Thursday; no refunds given after noon.

There is a charge for participants picked up late. A \$10 fee will be assessed to your credit card per each 15 minutes, or portion of, past 4:30 p.m.

Registrations are on a first come first served basis, with a limit of 35 participants per site, per day. This program may qualify as a dependent care expense if it is used as daycare. Our tax id number is 41-6008286.

Dates: June 12 to Sept. 1
(closed July 3 and 4)

Cost/Week: \$84

Cost/Day: \$21