



Cottage Grove Reports

Community Center Design Concept Unveiled; 50-Meter Pool and Outdoor Aquatic Center Included

Friday Night Fish Fry is Back at River Oaks!

If you're looking to satisfy your "fish fix" on Friday Nights, the crew at River Oaks has you covered, starting on February 19. Friday Night Fish Fry events are open from **4:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** and feature hand beer-battered or seasoned baked cod. There are also shrimp, fettucine alfredo, 1/2 pound cheeseburger and chicken tender offerings for those not in the mood for fish! There will be a very limited amount of seating for in-person dining and **reservations are required**. The good news is on-line takeout is also available. To make dining reservations, or order takeout, just log-on and visit riveroaksmunigolf.com. Friday Night Fish Fry events run February 19 through April 2.



On January 9, the City Council moved forward with placing a Community Center Referendum Question on the November 2021 ballot. Included in the concept will be a 50-meter outdoor pool, which provides opportunities to partner with swim clubs and secure potential state funding for part of the project. Council Members weighed cost-benefit analysis data when deciding on the outdoor option, which is much less expensive to build and allows for a 75 to 100% cost recovery. Indoor aquatic centers typically only allow for cost recovery abilities in the 30 to 50% range. Annual operating losses for indoor centers are also more than double those found with outdoor facilities. The outdoor aquatic center model and concept is based, in part, on a facility recently constructed in the City of



New Hope (pictured left). The Cottage Grove proposal also includes water slides, a lazy river, zip lines and shallow water play features. The Community Center concept voters will decide upon would be located off Keats Avenue, across the street from the entrance of Cottage Grove Ravine Regional Park and would include the following amenities:

- Indoor Playground
- Community or Multi-Purpose Rooms
- Sports Dome with Walking Track
- Performance Space
- Early Childhood Family Education
- CGAA Office and Storage Space
- Outdoor Landscaped Areas
- Outdoor Aquatic Center with a 50-Meter Pool



The estimated project cost is \$39.2 million and City staff members are exploring potential partnerships and use agreements to minimize the cost to taxpayers. As those conversations come together, the City will provide more concrete data on potential taxpayer impact in the coming weeks. If the referendum passes, there will not be a tax impact for residents until 2023.

CGPD Welcomes Three New Officers



The Cottage Grove Police Department is proud to welcome three new officers. Pictured above, from left to right, are Officers Michael McClain, Mackenzie Foster and Matthew Bagan. Joining them in the photo are Public Safety Director Pete Koerner and City Administrator Jennifer Levitt. McClain joins the Department after serving as an officer in Eau Claire, Wisconsin and Officer Bagan previously worked with the St. Paul Park Police Department. This is the first law enforcement position for Officer Foster. The CGPD now has 44 sworn police officers serving the community.

Sign Up for CodeRED Emergency Notifications

Have you signed up to receive CodeRED notifications from Cottage Grove public safety teams? After signing up, residents will receive timely, accurate public safety information by phone, text or email, catered to your individual geographic area or neighborhood. For more information, and to register for the system, visit us online at cottagegrovemn.gov/codered.

Winter is Here; Some Friendly Reminders from our Public Works Crews Out Clearing Snow

Clear Snow Away from Hydrants: When firefighters respond to a house fire, time is of the essence. If you have a hydrant on your property, please remember to keep three feet of clear space around it, as required by MN Fire Code section 507.5.5. The members of the CGFD thank you as there are more than 1,700 fire hydrants located throughout the City of Cottage Grove.

Winter Parking Rules in Effect: No on-street parking is allowed between 2 a.m. and 6 a.m. throughout the snow season.

Even if it is not snowing between those hours, please move your vehicles off the street. On-street parking is allowed at all other times if the vehicle does not interfere with the removal of snow and ice.

Trash Can Reminder: Don't forget to place garbage and recycling containers at the end of your driveway and not on the street. This will allow plows to clear snow from curb to curb while making sure trash disposal teams can also reach your containers.

Mayor Bailey Delivers "State of the City" Address Detailing the City's 2021 Goals and Initiatives



On February 3rd, Mayor Myron Bailey delivered his annual "State of the City" address in the City Council Chamber. After sharing details on how residents and community members stepped up to take care of each other in a 2020 dominated by COVID-19 concerns, the Mayor took Facebook viewers, elected officials and City Department Directors through plans for 2021. Bailey shared several goals including:

- Diversifying the City's housing stock ensuring Cottage Grove meets "life cycle" housing demand
- Improving and expanding the City's world-class park system
- Beginning the construction of water treatment facilities as part of the City and State's long-term plan, serving Cottage Grove for decades to come
- Designing new intersection changes to improve the traffic flow around the businesses at Jamaica Avenue and East Point Douglas Road
- Plans to attract new retailers, restaurants, and service providers to the City
- Extending sanitary sewer service near 100th Street and Ideal Avenue to attract another large employer to the Business Park
- Continuing work in the City, and with neighboring communities, on diversity and inclusion

Congratulations to the 2020 Annual Photo Contest Winners

Each year, the City runs a “Photo Contest” to feature the talents of Cottage Grove’s local photographers. This year’s winners will receive \$75 and framed certificate of achievements during the February 17 City Council Meeting. The photos were judged by City employees who were asked to choose their favorites among the 51 submissions that were received. If you submitted a photo, and it wasn’t one of our five winners, keep your eyes on the City’s website and publications. All the photos sent to us are considered for use in Cottage Grove’s marketing materials and online, at cottagegrovemn.gov.



“Surprise Snowfall” - City Parks Category
Scott Carson



“Wishing” - People Category
Julie Rowan



“Frosty Farm” - Nature Category
Nathan Klok



“Reflections at Hardwood Park”
Youth Category
Sydney Holm



“Jumping Jumpers” - Events Category
Julie Rowan

Application Process Now Open for Seasonal Employment with the City

The City of Cottage Grove is now accepting applications for seasonal positions:

- Six-month, full-time positions in parks, utilities and streets maintenance
- Three-month, full-time positions in parks, utilities and streets maintenance
- Three month internships in landscape and forestry (part of the parks maintenance team)

Wages range from \$12 to \$15 per hour. Applicants must be 18 years of age and have a valid driver’s license and high school diploma. For detailed information, and to apply, visit cottagegrovemn.gov.



City Hall

12800 Ravine Parkway South

Cottage Grove, MN 55016

(651) 458-2800

cottagetrovemn.gov

Mayor Myron Bailey and Council Members Steve Dennis, La Rae Mills, Justin Olsen and Dave Thiede

Cottage Grove Parks & Recreation and Ice Arena

(651) 458-3400

Pre-registration is required for skate sessions. Register at cottagetrovemn.gov

Stick & Puck (\$10)

Sessions are great for stick handling and shooting skills. Skaters 18 and younger must wear a helmet; 10 and under must have a parent present.

Feb. 16 from 4:30 pm to 5:30 pm

Feb. 23 from 3:30 pm to 4:30 pm

Open Skate (\$5)

Sessions are great for exercising, practice skating and having fun. Rental skates are available for \$4.

Feb. 14 from noon to 1:30 pm

Feb. 21 from noon to 1:30 pm

Feb. 28 from noon to 1:30 pm

Cosmic Skate (\$5)

Bring your friends and family for an “out of this world” time on the ice. We’ll turn off the lights, fire up the party lights and crank the music!

Feb. 17 from 6:00 pm to 7:15 pm

Feb. 24 from 6:00 pm to 7:15 pm

Spring Break 2021 *more details and registration at cottagetrovemn.gov

Monday, March 8

Stick & Puck “Favorite Jersey” **9 to 10am**

Cosmic Skate “Disney Theme” **11 to Noon**

Explore Grey Cloud Dunes* **2 to 3 pm**

*Meet at the Dunes for hiking

Tuesday, March 9

Stick & Puck “College Jersey” **9 to 10am**

Cosmic Skate “Luau Theme” **11 to Noon**

Sled and S’mores* **2 to 3 pm**

*Fun Event at Woodridge Park

Wednesday, March 10

Stick & Puck “H.S. Jersey” **9 to 10am**

Cosmic Skate **11 to Noon**

Snow Bowling* **2 to 3 pm**

*Highlands Park Basketball Court Bowling

Thursday, March 11

Stick & Puck “NHL Jersey” **9 to 10am**

Cosmic Skate “Neon Theme” **11 to Noon**

Outdoor Bingo* **2 to 3 pm**

*Bingo for prizes at Hamlet Park



Spring “Learn-to-Skate” lessons begin in Mid-March. Find more details online and in next month’s CG Reports newsletter!



River Oaks Golf Course & Event Center

11099 South Highway 61 (651) 438-2121



Get Ready for Golf: Find all the details you’ll need regarding 2021 memberships, leagues, lessons and junior clinics by visiting our website. We’ve got something for all ages and abilities. See you out on the course in the spring!