

## Plan Commission reviews request for comprehensive plan amendment request

*Amendment request for Preserve at Prairie Dunes neighborhood to reach Council August 21*

**Staff Report**

Holding an official public hearing to review and take feedback on plans for a new neighborhood Monday July 22, the Cottage Grove Planning Commission sent a request for comprehensive plan amendment relating to a new 162-lot neighborhood plat by Pulte Homes on to the Council for their review.

Pending approval of a comprehensive plan amendment, the neighborhood to be called Preserve at Prai-

rie Dunes would be rezoned R-4, up from its current designation as AG-2. The site is currently guided in the city's comprehensive plan as a mixture of low and medium density residential along with industrial use.

Previously approved as a preliminary plat under Summergate in 2022, the parcel with new developer and shaped like a right triangle will have two distinct lot sizes for housing, with said lots ranging from 45-foot lots on the north end to 65-foot lots on the south, a Planned Use

Development (PUD) allowing for overall flexibility. The lots are described as being similar to both Settler's Bluff and Graymont Village, nearby neighborhoods now in process or already developed. Maximum structure height would be 35 feet and maximum impervious surface would be 50 percent.

As to a more precise location, Preserve on Prairie Dunes abuts Grey Cloud Dunes SNA on its west and longest side, is bordered on the north by NorthPoint, on part of its eastern edge by

Graymont Village, and is within the CA -SR Separated From River portion of the Mississippi River Critical Corridor Area on its southernmost end, a stormwater pond being proposed at this point.

Currently composed of agricultural fields with vegetative windbreaks in the form of trees, the site of Preserve at Prairie Dunes as proposed has already been the subject of a previous preliminary plat by Summergate Development, though Summergate later walked away from the approved neighborhood plat.

Also bearing on the present Pulte plat is the realignment of Hadley Avenue, connected via a parcel west of NorthPoint platted by Norhart Architecture, the alignment eventually bringing Hadley Avenue into Preserve at Prairie Dunes on the east side to join with 105th Avenue South. Preserve at Prairie Dunes would also be subject to the city's tree mitigation ordinance, with trees in the north to be removed, while those distinguishing the site from Grey Cloud Dunes SNA would be mostly maintained.

Tree mitigation can be done by replacement trees or cash in lieu of fee, with the exact method to be described in the final agreement, it was made known. Preserve at Prairie Dunes is currently proposed to use boulevard trees, shrubs, and lot trees in its landscaping and ponding to meet the city's mitigation requirements.

With summary of the proposal from city staff, a brief summary was given by Hailey Daley, working with



Planning Commission Chair Evan Frazier explains the public hearing process at Monday's planning commission meeting. Image courtesy City of Cottage Grove.



Associate City Planner Connor Jakes laid out the site details to the city planning commission. Image courtesy City of Cottage Grove.

Pulte Homes as a manager of land planning and entitlement. Also in attendance at planning commission was Dean Lauder, Pulte director of land planning and entitlement.

"As staff said I just want to give a brief overview of some of the homes we're building, stuff like that," Daley said.

Starting in 1950 and selling to all different types of people, Daley described Pulte Homes as being a nationwide homebuilder with a consumer driven focus.

"What that really means is that we're really survey focused," she said.

Selling homes in the Twin Cities under the brand names Pulte and Del Webb, the homes in Preserve at Prairie Dunes would be a Pulte neighborhood, it was made known.

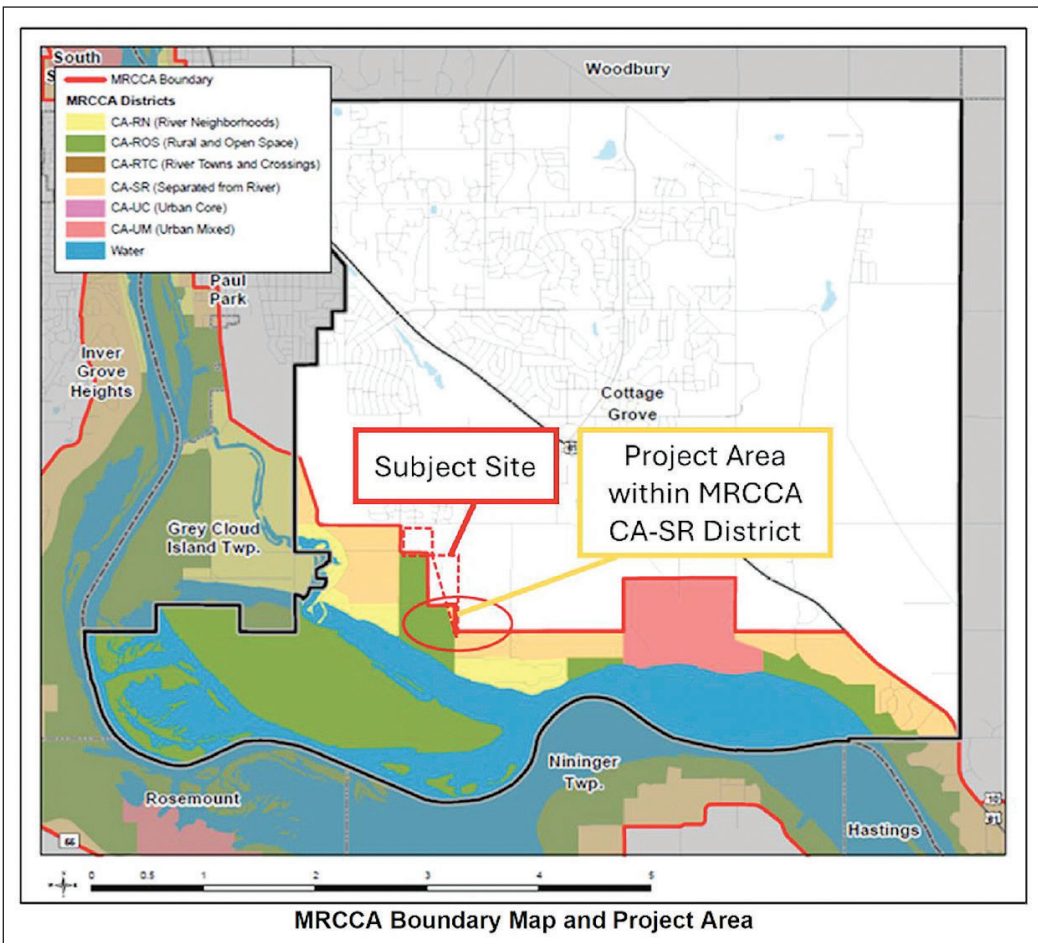
"This proposed neighborhood would be a Pulte Homes neighborhood," Daley said.



Cottage Grove resident Bonnie Matter asked questions of the planning commissioners and city staff with regard to the proposed Preserve at Prairie Dunes plat at Monday nights' planning commission meeting. Image courtesy City of Cottage Grove.

With details of each home lot and what it offered, the 65-foot lot homes offered three to four bedrooms and a third stall garage, while

**See PLAN Page 2**



A context map showing the site's location and relationship to the nearby Mississippi River Critical Corridor Area (MRCCA). The southernmost area of the site is within MRCCA. Image courtesy City of Cottage Grove.

## County Board recognizes VFW Scout of the Year Riley Symicek

The Washington County Board of Commissioners recognized Riley Symicek, a resident of Cottage Grove, as the recipient of the VFW Scout of the Year award July 23.

Symicek was honored with the award for his Eagle Scout project, in which he and volunteers assembled 60 backpack "care kits" that were distributed to people experiencing homelessness. The backpacks were filled with items that people experiencing homelessness may need. Symicek and volunteers gave backpacks to those in need at

Listening House, a day shelter in St. Paul.

In addition to recognizing Symicek for this achievement, the County Board also recognized the work and partnership that the Cottage Grove VFW has with the Scouts of America Program.

Here's a rundown of other board actions from July 23: **County Board approves amended ARPA Recovery Plan**

The Washington County Board of Commissioners approved an updated American

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Left to right: Commissioner Michelle Clasen, Commissioner Gary Kriesel, VFW Scout of the Year Riley Symicek, Commissioner Karla Bigham, Commissioner Fran Miron, and Minnesota VFW State Commander David Staehlin. Photo submitted

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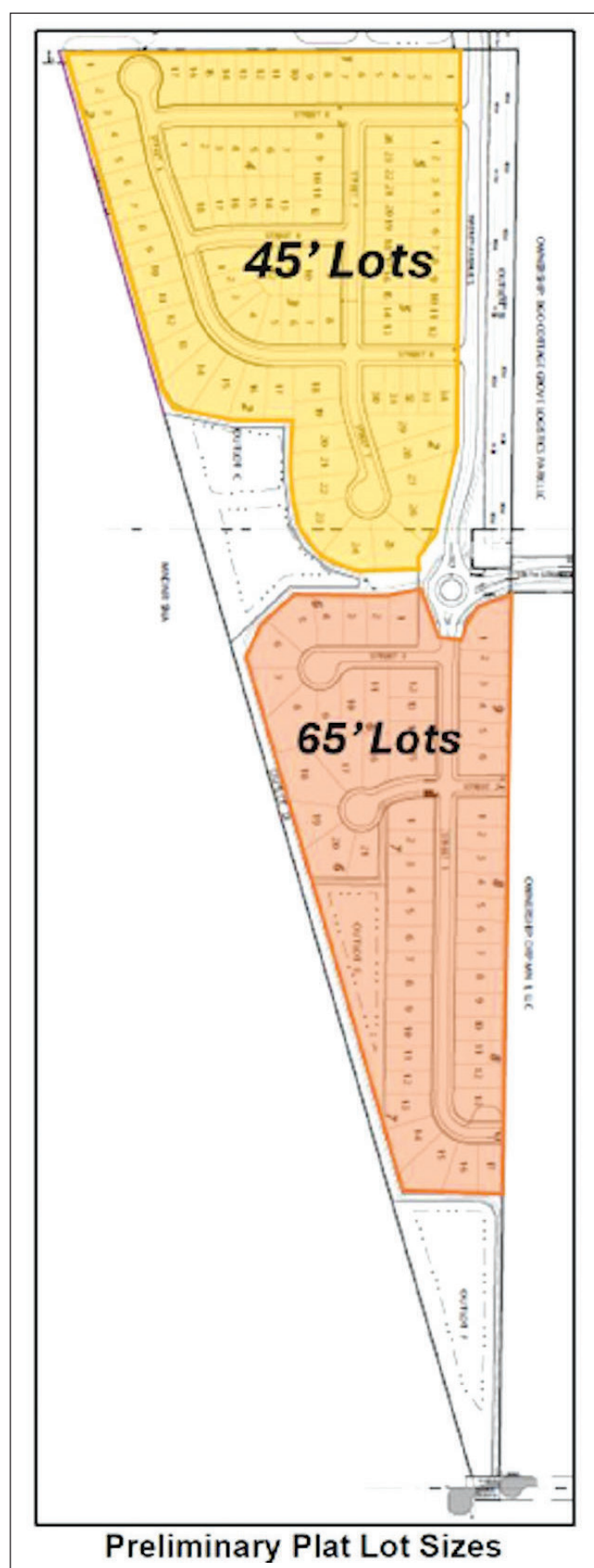
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# PLAN FROM PAGE 1



The preliminary plat by Pulte Homes called for two distinct lot sizes with 45 foot lots and another with 65 foot lots. Image courtesy City of Cottage Grove.

range from two to four bedrooms as well as two to two point five bedrooms.

From there it was into questions, led out by Commissioner Derek Rasmussen. “Those 45-foot lot homes, are they with basement or slab on grade?” he asked.

Slab on grade, he was told. But Rasmussen wasn’t over. “The 65-foot lot homes. I wanted to make sure your rows line up with Graymont Village,” he said, receiving an affirmative answer.

Commissioner Jessica Fisher was next. “Will you build spec homes and then sell them to individual people or will you sell them to individual people and then build?” She asked.

A mixture of both, Fisher was told. Commission Chair Evan Frazier spoke last for the commission, clarifying that the homes on the north and adjacent to Grey Cloud Dunes SNA would be 65-foot lots, rather than 45-foot lots as the other northern ones.

From there it was into public comment, with Bonnie Matter asking some questions and commenting on the comprehensive plan. “I just have a few questions,” she started. “There was the diagram of the housing - low, medium, high. And then there was another page with the zoning. And the color for the medium residential was the same color as the zoning. So if there could be a different color, because I know it’s all low density, correct?” she said, smiling.

“Correct?” Commissioner Frazier responded in turn. “Well I think I recall from the presentation that right now AG-2 is the zoning, but the comp plan is a mix of different uses,” he said. Two separate applications would intervene to make the change.

“Ok, but it would be low density?” Matter pressed.

“That is I believe the application,” Frazier replied. “Yes.”

“Ok, I just want to make sure I understand that correctly Matter said. “Because there was a meeting in 2022, and it got bounced back because the request was for low and medium, and medium was not acceptable to the Met Council,” she said.

From there it was into questions of wetlands. “Are there wetlands on the property?” She asked. “Where is the stormwater ponding located, and is that a wetland or is that new stormwater? There’s a recreational trail on the west, bordering the Grey Cloud Dunes SNA. What kind of buffer is planned between the property and the SNA? How will runoff be kept out of the SNA? Can the trail be made of a permeable as opposed to an impermeable material? Who educates the homeowners on the proper use of an SNA? Who keeps the dog poop, lawn refuse, and other garbage away from and out of the SNA? What’s the plan?” Matter asked.

Dogs are not allowed with-

in the Grey Cloud Dunes Scientific and Natural Area.

Matter then asked how many trees were being mitigated as compared with caliper inches and asked what Pulte was offering in return for its request.

“With is Pulte providing the city for this Planned Use Development?” she asked of PUD flexibility, noting comment be made to the relevant DNR representative. “And then I’d like to know what happens following this meeting?” she asked.

City staff answering in the person of associate city planner Connor Jakes, Matter was told that the similar coloring was correct and represented different overlays in planning, with Summergate requesting medium density, the Met Council involved.

“Staff has been in contact with the Met Council on this application and they preferred that low density was still the guiding of that northern part of the site,” Jakes said in relation to Summergate requesting medium density and site zoning.

Touching next on stormwater ponds, Jakes said there

are no wetlands currently on site. As to the recreational trail, it provided the barrier requested by the DNR in 2002 as well as a burn break, the SNA being subject to mandatory periodic burns to rejuvenate prairie grasses. As to trees versus caliper inches, the answer was 11, with reference to caliper inches explained as being city ordinance language.

Regarding the Scientific and Natural Area, the city would work with new residents and the developer to educate on the SNA and its use.

Responding next to a question from Commissioner Frazier, city staff said the trail was planned as an impervious trail, in part to act as a fire break.

With no other public comment made at the public hearing and the application for a comprehensive plan amendment was approved, with motion made by Rasmussen and seconded by Fisher.

The City Council is scheduled to act on the Preserve at Prairie Dunes application at its meeting Wednesday, August 21 at 6 p.m.

# COUNTY FROM PAGE 1

Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Recovery Plan July 23.

Washington County received \$50,975,893 under ARPA to address the expenditures and impacts of COVID-19 and to replace revenue shortage related to the pandemic.

The updated plan reallocates \$1,142,541 in funds to county infrastructure improvements projects and operations funded by lost revenue replacement. Projects to receive reallocated funds include the Emergency Housing Services Building project, which will provide 30 private rooms and supportive programs and resources for adults experiencing homelessness as they transition to more stable housing.

Following the County Board’s approval, staff will submit the completed 2024 Recovery Plan by July 31 to U.S. Department of Treasury and post it to the county website.

**Attorney Office’s Juvenile Division receives Excellence in Service Award**

The Juvenile Division of the Washington County’s Attorney’s Office (WCAO) was presented with an Excellence in Service Award by the Minnesota Juvenile Officer’s Association at their annual conference in Duluth this June.

The Washington County Board of Commissioners recognized WCAO staff for the award at its July 23 meeting.

The WCAO Juvenile Division received the award for the support they have shown to school resource officers in Washington County and the support they have shown to the Minnesota Juvenile Officer’s Association. Attorneys in the WCAO Juvenile Division carry a caseload of juvenile prosecution and child

protection cases.

The Minnesota Juvenile Officers Association formed in 1955 and works to support police officers, social workers, corrections agents, and school administrators.

**County receives \$374,000 PATH grant for homelessness services**

Washington County received \$373,963 in grant funding from Minnesota Department of Human Services’ Project for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH).

The PATH grant funds activities to provide street outreach and case management to individuals experiencing homelessness and who are diagnosed with serious mental illness and/or a substance use disorder. Washington County Community Services Department has been a recipient of the PATH grant for over 10 years and was awarded a significant increase in funding in 2024.

The Washington County Board of Commissioners approved the grant agreement for the grant period of April 21, 2024, through June 30, 2025, at its July 23 meeting.

**Bestview Care Options to provide personal care assistant assessment services**

The Washington County Board of Commissioners approved a contract with Bestview Care Options to provide personal care assistant (PCA) assessment and reassessment services July 23.

Washington County is mandated to provide PCA assessment and reassessment services to determine appropriate level of care, recommend the necessary amount of PCA service and qualified professional supervision of the PCA, and develop a service plan for the individual receiving PCA services. PCA

assessment and reassessments must be completed by certified Public Health Nurses. Bestview Care Options is a provider enrolled with the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) to complete PCA assessment and reassessments.

The term of the contract is for period of March 1, 2024, through December 31, 2025. Services under this contract will be billed directly to the State of Minnesota, so there are no county funds included in this contract.

**Optimal Care to provide semi-independent living skills services**

The Washington County Board of Commissioners approved a contract not to exceed \$30,000 with Optimal Care, LLC to provide semi-independent living skills services July 23.

Semi-Independent Living Services (SILS) are services needed by an adult with a developmental disability or related condition(s) to live successfully in the community. The goal of SILS is to support people in ways that enable them to achieve personally desired outcomes and lead self-directed lives. SILS service providers are based on individual choice, meaning if an individual chooses a provider that is not already contracted with Washington County, Washington County will use a lead-county contract or consider a contract with the provider. Optimal Care is a provider of SILS services that was chosen by an individual authorized to receive services from Washington County.

The contract term is for a period of May 13, 2024, through June 30, 2025, and is

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# SPELLING BEE Time

BY BEA WESTERBERG

## Loving the warm weather?

*"Cold drinks and warm laughter go hand in hand".  
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The mosquito and wasp families both seem to be having a productive year. I can see the mosquitoes resulting from all the rain we have had, but I don't know what the wasps need to be active reproducers. The wood ticks seem to be about average so I am not going to give them much attention. The mice are checking into my B & B on a somewhat regular basis which is a bit unusual for the summer months. Maybe they are thinking ahead to stake their site claims or Pumpkin the cat is sending out special offers to get them to come in. He has been an excellent provider of mouse bodies next to my dining room chair on a number of mornings. He works at night and does sleep a good part of the day.

During my BIG CLEAN of the backroom storage space last fall, I did find my Popsicle forms or at least some of them. I feel I should have more but they must be in a secret safe place for now. That means my current passion is making frozen treats. I have a big stack of recipes I have clipped and several cook books on the subject so I should be able to find a few things I would like. Another clean of one of the kitchen drawers purchased the sticks I would need, so I think I have all the supplies on hand. I will let you know my favorites after some serious making and tastings.

One of the businesses that have gone away in our city that I really miss is

the Goodwill Store. Oh the great memories of shopping, meeting and friendships that place provided! I think it was Tuesdays that the color of the week on special sale started and a big group of us "regulars" would be in line at least a half hour before the doors opened. Once we got inside, each of us usually made a dash to our "must go to first place" part of the store and hope the color items we eyed earlier in the week were still there. For some it was the wool sweater place to get sweaters to make gloves, some needed to do a shoe check and I liked to see what was available in the kitchen ware department. We got to know what each of us had for our "special needs". If we spotted something we thought someone else might like, we picked it up and took it to them to see if it was a buy. We had some outstanding treasure memories from that move. This was way back in the "old days" when a color of the week was 99 cents rather than the marked price. Once in awhile a \$19.99 color item was available for 99 cents that really made the heart leap. (Mecca, I think you know what I am talking about!) There have been a lot of changes at Goodwill since that time, especially with much higher prices in the resale items. Bargains are few and far between as they say.

This all leads to the next part of the story. Goodwill fever faded after the Hastings store closed and I had not been in a Goodwill store for several years. On a recent trip to Cottage Grove I decid-

ed it was time to take a peek and see what I probably did not need. I had not wanted and I did not need a Magic Bullet blender but there was a whole complete set of 13 pieces sealed in a bag for \$10.00. That probably makes it a 75 percent savings if everything worked so I decided I needed and wanted it for making smoothies on these hot summer days. As I was checking out, the cashier said to be sure to save the slip because I could bring it back for a full refund if it did not work. WOW, it became a totally okay buy. Everything was in almost new condition and it works like a dream. It appears that I should be able to keep myself in summer treats.

It was a great disappointment to have all my plastic bottle ginger ales without sparkle after long term storage. I learned that even unopened plastic bottles of soda can go flat. The gas diffuses out of plastic bottles more than glass bottles. Further information shows that larger bottles go flat faster since they have more servings and more pouring of liquid before the bottle is empty and more fizz escapes the soda every time you pour. That means less gas to make the later servings fizzy. Since gas is more soluble in cold liquids, it can help to keep the soda cold so that less gas escapes compared to warmer soda. Keep cold and pour gently and it might work to keep it fizzier.

Bea Westerberg  
bea.in.the.wool@gmail.com

# Pineridge Garden Club announces 2024 Garden Awards

The Pineridge Garden Club is pleased to announce the winners of the 2024 Garden Awards. The club presents three awards annually to local gardens that beautify our community. This year's awards were presented as follows:

Bobby & Don Welck have a double corner lot that displays their beautiful gardens to the public in front of the house and alongside their garage with peeks into the backyard with its circular brick patio and curved beds. Garden accents such as butterfly chairs/benches with potted annuals, numerous tricycles/bikes, an antique pump and turkey feeder are scattered creatively amongst a wide variety of hydrangeas, hostas, astilbe, ferns, begonias, mandevillas, zebra grass, and hedges of peonies, lilacs, and ninebark shrubs. Yellow sundrops and flowering sedum as well as containers of annuals add additional color. Unique features include repurposed chandeliers retrofitted with solar lights hanging throughout the garden & a mounded bed designed around a tree stump and lined with a double row of rocks.

Jennie Dockendorf is a newly certified Master Gardner who also showcases her corner lot to passersby. A pollinator garden serves as a "living fence" between the yard and side street. A kidney-shaped perennial bed accents the front of the house, along with attractive foundation plantings. Oval beds contain river birch trees and diverse plantings of roses, hydrangeas, boxwood, hostas, petunias, nasturtiums, clematis, alliums, dahlias, heucheras, lambs ears and grasses. A variety of vegetables are planted in large, raised containers, along with several herbs. The raised deck is a private oasis with huge pots of flowers and comfy seating.

Mary & Randy Gerlach have an eye-catching front yard with extremely tidy kidney, circular and curved beds with a colorful mix of annuals and perennials. The backyard has

mandala-style flower beds of hostas and day-lilies around trees and symmetrical plantings including stunning blue delphinium and clematis in front of arbors. A number of annuals also dot the landscape beds. There is a raised bed vegetable garden and a cute nature-themed decorated shed in back as well as a patio area with seating bordered by more lovely plantings & an arbor over a bench swing. They are currently designing a memorial garden in honor of family members.

Gardens which have been nominated are voted on by a committee in late June/early July. The entire club tours the award-winning gardens the third Wednesday in July. The Pineridge Garden Club wishes to thank all local gardeners who work hard to add color and beauty to our local environment! For more information, view the club's website at [www.pineridgegardenclub.org](http://www.pineridgegardenclub.org) or the Pineridge Garden Club in Cottage Grove Facebook page.

Submitted by Pineridge Garden Club



Bobby & Don Welck with Jeanie Vogel, Club Member. Submitted photo



Randy & Mary Gerlach with Linda Johnston, Club Member. Submitted photo



Tracey Jenson, Club Member, with Jennie Dockendorf. Submitted photo



# MY View

BY JOHN MCLOONE

## Play ball – or don't

In the wake of weeks of political upheaval in our great nation, we did what any sane people should do on Sunday.

We went to Target Field to see the Brewers-Twins game.

We were invited guests, so we didn't plan to take the daylong break from swirling drama. I'm at the stage in life where I'm not going to go out and actively seek out large events to attend, but we sure had a blast for those nine innings, lengthened by an hourlong rain delay.

I'll admit I'd never been to the stadium before because of what I just wrote about in the last paragraph. It's beautiful, a true diamond of a diamond.

For those that were hoping for a political spin on this piece after reading the opening line, I'll give some of you something to argue with me about perhaps. I was happy when the Brewers won. I grew up outside of Milwaukee and went to many a ballgame at the old County Stadium. Our town's summer recreation program made regular trips, and we'd have a blast. A hot dog, Pepsi, some peanuts and one

of those plastic helmets set you back about eight bucks in the mid-1970s. Now, it's all payment by plastic, and I still don't want to look at how much Sunday's charges were. You put your beverage on a scanner device, throw in your card, and you're on your way.

I remember on one early journey watching the Brewers take on the Yankees. We'd get there early and crowd to the fence to try to get batting practice homers. A buddy of mine took a line drive to the shoulder from none other than Reggie Jackson. It was a beauty of a welt. Someone remarked that they could even see the seams in his massive purple bruise.

That was as close as we ever got to getting an elusive stray baseball. Heck, I'll have to admit that I was ill-prepared to catch one anyway. My baseball career ended at an early age. It would have ended at an even earlier early age if I had my say. I was considered, in my own mind, somewhat of a legend on the 5 and 6-year-old T-ball circuit. I was the last batter. It was up to me to

get everybody home. Those skills didn't translate to Little League, unfortunately. Back in those days, there was just Little League. You didn't start in coach pitch and advance up with kids your age. You were 8 years old at the plate being stared down by a 12-year-old pitcher with a peach fuzz mustache.

I was always relegated to right field. I didn't get much playing time, and I was happy about that. My father had been a standout first baseman, and perhaps he had some vision of me following in his footsteps. One night, we were short-handed, and I had to play the whole game. It didn't take long before the opposing team sent everything my way. It was good and bad. My dad let me quit after that game, but I'm sure I cast shame on the McLoone family baseball legacy, especially when a popup hit me on the head.

Those memories are tucked away these days, though, replaced with much better ones, and Sunday's excursion will remain at the top.

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# VIEWPOINTS

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Deadline for Letters to the Editor: 10 a.m. Monday

## Transfer and discharge delays continue to plague Minnesota mental health, substance use disorder patients

The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) released a new study today detailing reasons for the prolonged transfer and discharge delays experienced by mental health and substance use disorder patients who seek hospital care in Minnesota.

Findings from this study conducted by Wilder Research and MDH's Health Economics Program provide insights into the anguish that being held in hospital settings – a practice called boarding – can cause for patients, families, caregivers and hospital staff by pointing to specific factors such as the lack of next-setting care for mental health and addiction services. The study also sheds light on characteristics of patients most affected by transfer and discharge delays.

The 14-day study of 33 emergency departments and 13 inpatient units at Minnesota hospitals observed that though emergency departments and inpatient units are a critical access point for life-saving stabilization and treatment, gaps in the chain of behavioral health care have led to an over-reliance on these settings. The study showed that 17% of people being treated for mental health or substance use disorders experienced a discharge delay from inpatient care and that the delays averaged eight days per patient. The most common reason for discharge delays was a lack of available beds in a safe setting like inpatient psychiatric units and intensive residential treatment service facilities for adult and pediatric patients.

"We know that people being treated in the hospital or emergency department for behavioral health disorders have more delays in their discharge than Minnesotans who do not have these conditions. This reality is particularly acute for Black Minnesotans," said Minnesota Commissioner of Health Dr. Brooke Cunningham. "Discharge delays also contribute to the shortage of hospital beds. This study suggests that more community-based services such as intensive residential treatment services for

mental health or chemical dependency treatment for addiction recovery are two strategies among many that are needed to help reduce time to discharge."

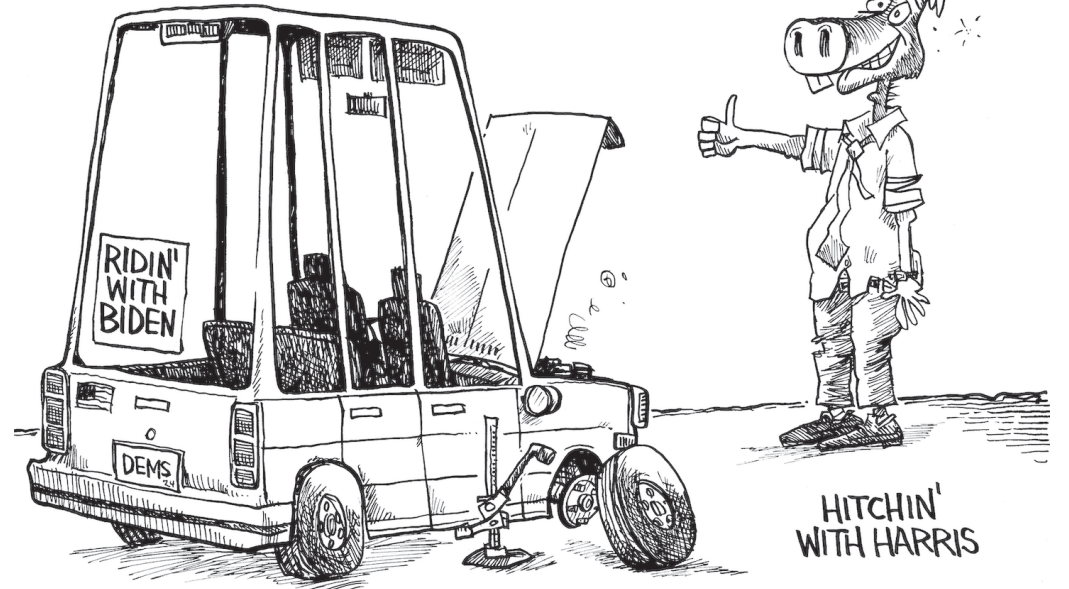
Whether a patient had state public insurance program coverage was the leading predictor for experiencing delays. According to the study, 75% of patients who experienced a discharge delay from inpatient care were covered by Medicaid or MinnesotaCare, despite accounting for just 46% of patients admitted with behavioral health diagnoses. The study also found a disproportionate percentage of inpatient delays impacting Minnesotans of color and specifically those who identify as African American or African-born.

"The results of the study are important but also don't come as a surprise," noted Sue Abderholden, executive director of NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) Minnesota. "We know all too well that youths and adults with mental illnesses languish in our ERs without treatment and comfort. They face long wait times for every level of care in our mental health system and stay in the highest level of care longer than needed due to lack of community options. We believe it is critical that solutions include improving access by increasing reimbursement rates, addressing the workforce shortage and increasing the diversity of the workforce."

The emotional cost to patients and families of boarding is significant, as is the economic cost to hospitals when accommodating patients who are ready to be transferred to an inpatient bed or discharged to community-based services.

"There is a strong consensus that patients waiting in a hospital setting when they can be discharged is harmful to patients, caregivers, hospital staff and the health care system," noted Kristin Dillon from Wilder Research, a lead author on the study and similar previous studies in Minnesota and Maryland. "However, we

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cannot take steps to effectively address these discharge delays without understanding the underlying reasons behind the delays and which parts of the behavioral health system can have the greatest impact on reducing these delays."

The study indicates that creating additional post-hospital infrastructure is a key element of reversing Minnesota's stubborn boarding issue. At the same time, the data show that streamlining the transfer and discharge processes could have significant benefits and should be an important policy goal.

"The issue is not just how frequently delays occur, because boarding and decompression are not new," MDH Researcher Nate Hierlmaier added. "This study points to concrete steps such as increasing residential treatment capacity and addressing administrative barriers that could make a real difference for patients boarding in emergency departments and hospital beds. Additionally, recommendations from a recent study by the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) point to the importance of adequate payment rates as an additional component in addressing capacity challenges."

An approach aimed at helping youth has been the Mental Health Collaboration Hub, funded by MDH. The hub is a statewide virtual networking center aimed at helping chil-

dren and youth who are boarding in hospitals and emergency departments get connected to mental health treatment settings. To date, this program has helped hundreds of children. Preliminary data collected from October 2023 to January 2024 through the hub showed a 55% reduction in days children or youth boarded, or 24 fewer days. Approximately 80% of youth entered in the hub's virtual community were able to discharge in less than 45 days.

During the 2024 session, the Minnesota Legislature passed additional budget and policies designed to assist in expediting hospital discharges and increasing access to behavioral health services. The legislature added additional mental health beds to the state's direct care and treatment system, funded rate increases for some outpatient mental health services and residential substance use disorder services paid for through Medicaid, and made policy changes to improve access to supports in the community.

The Minnesota Study of Behavioral Health Discharge Delays included a study sample of 182 inpatients and 537 emergency department patients experiencing delays at Minnesota hospitals during a 14-day period between Sept. 5 and Oct. 20, 2023.

## A Time of Innovation – The Woodland Period

About 2,500 years ago people in much of Minnesota began making pottery and constructing burial mounds. In some areas, it is also the beginning of more intensive plant cultivation including early varieties of corn. The bow and arrow appears about half-way through the period, perhaps at about AD 500. With the appearance of the bow and arrow, projectile points get considerably smaller and the points truly become arrowheads. This pattern of technological and religious innovation is called Woodland, because it was first recognized in wooded areas of the Eastern United States.

In the eastern Midwest, the Woodland Period is usually divided into three sub-periods: Early, Middle, and Late. As with the Archaic, this division works well in southeastern Minnesota, but not as well in the rest of the state. Individual Woodland complexes in Minnesota are mostly defined by the types of ceramics present with the ceramics usually named for a geographic feature close to the initial discovery site. Thus in northern Minnesota we have major Woodland complexes called Laurel, Brainerd, and Blackduck. In central Minnesota we have Malmo, St. Croix, Onamia, and Kathio. In southwestern Minnesota we have Fox Lake and Lake Benton. In southeastern Minnesota, we have La Moille, Howard Lake, Sorg, and Effigy Mound.

Burial mounds are present in all of Minnesota except the far northeast. There are no confirmed burial mounds in Lake or Cook counties. There have been over 12,000 mounds recorded in the state, although less than half of these still survive due to intensive cultivation and development over the last 150 years. The three areas with the highest concentrations of mounds are the Red Wing area, the Lake Minnetonka area, and the area around and near Mille Lacs Lake. While mounds were the initial focus of archaeological research, no mounds have been excavated for research purposes since the early 1970s and it is now against the law to excavate a mound without the consent of the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council. About three-quarters of the mounds that were excavated contained burials.

In north-central, northeastern, and east-central Minnesota, wild rice became a very important food during the Woodland Period. Pits were dug to husk the grain and it was then parched in ceramic vessels. The wild rice peoples also hunted a wide variety of animals including deer, obtained fish by various means, and used other vegetal foods. They may have even developed techniques to make maple sugar.

In the Red River Valley, bison were the most important resource, but Woodland people appear to have seasonally moved back and forth between the prairie and the woodlands. In

southwestern Minnesota, bison were important and the shallow lakes provided rich aquatic resources including plants, fish, and aquatic mammals such as muskrats. In southeastern Minnesota, Woodland peoples had access to the rich and varied resources of deep and broad river valleys. They also had small gardens in the fertile bottom-lands where they grew squash, beans, and some corn.

### Corn and Conflict – The Late Prehistoric

The Woodland Period ends in most of Minnesota at about AD 1000, but it survives virtually unchanged in far northern Minnesota until the French make their appearance in the mid-1600s.

### Cahokia

The major cultural influence during this period emanates out from the large prehistoric city of Cahokia across the Mississippi River from modern-day St. Louis. Cahokian influences ascend both the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers in the form of globular ceramics that are tempered with crushed clam shells and an increasing dependence on corn horticulture. Cahokian religious and social ideas also moved throughout the midcontinent.

In southeastern Minnesota, especially around what is now Red Wing, Cahokian influences were the most pronounced with finely-made ceramics closely resembling Cahokia types, large palisaded villages dependent on corn horticulture, and even socio-religious evidences in the form of square earthen mounds that may have been the bases for temples. This cultural manifestation is called Middle Mississippian and the particular expression around Red Wing is referred to as Silvernale. Many of the small burial mounds in the Red Wing area may also be associated with the Middle Mississippian effervescence. Silvernale appears to be a relatively short-lived cultural phenomenon, existing for perhaps only 50 years around AD 1200.

### Oneota

A longer-lived and more broadly distributed cultural complex in the Upper Midwest is called Oneota. Oneota peoples also had some Middle Mississippian influences such as intensive corn horticulture and shell-tempered ceramics, but were more mobile, had broader economies, and did not leave durable non-burial architectural expressions of their socio-religious practices (e.g., temple mounds).

Slightly different Oneota complexes are evident in southeastern Minnesota (called Orr), south-central Minnesota (called Blue Earth), and central Minnesota (called Ogechie). Shell-tem-

pered ceramics featuring globular vessels with high rims are the most distinguishing Oneota trait. Oneota first appears in Minnesota at about AD 1000 and lasts in some areas of the state into the time of French contact. Most Oneota peoples spoke dialects of the Siouan language.

### Plains Village

In western Minnesota, Oneota people bumped up against another extensive and long-lasting cultural tradition called Plains Village. The historical expression of this tradition was seen by Lewis and Clark in 1804 as they went up the Missouri River in the Dakotas and encountered the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara. The Plains Village lifeway featured a mixture of corn horticulture and bison hunting. People lived in villages with large earth-lodges and wooden palisades around the outside resembling frontier forts. Ceramics were globular jars that were tempered with crushed rock (grit).

One of these Minnesota Plains Village cultures located just west of Mankato is a concentration of sites called Cambria. Cambria features one major village and a number of smaller satellite villages. Cambria ceramics are grit-tempered, globular jars exhibiting considerable variety. Cambria people grew corn, but also hunted a variety of mammals including deer and bison, fished, collected mussels, and gathered local wild plants. Cambria burials appear to be in mounds. Excavations at the main Cambria site took place in the early 20th century and were done in a surprisingly professional manner.

Another western Minnesota Plains village complex is called Great Oasis, named after the type of site that was excavated by the University of Minnesota in Murray County. The site sat on a large wooded island in what had been one of the largest lakes of southwestern Minnesota. Great Oasis may be one of the earliest Plains Village complexes and is more common in northwestern Iowa and southeastern South Dakota than in southwestern Minnesota. Radiocarbon dates for the Great Oasis complex fall between AD 900 and 1100.

Great Oasis pottery has much less variety than Cambria and has closer affinities to Woodland cultures and Plains Village cultures to the west (e.g., cord-marked vessel bodies). Great Oasis pots are globular, grit-tempered jars with either low, undecorated wedge-shaped rims or high rims decorated with narrow-spaced fine-trailed lines. Stone tools included small, side-notched arrowheads and sandstone arrow-shaft abraders. Like Cambria, bison and corn were an important part of the Great Oasis diet with a wide variety of supplemental foods from both aquatic and upland settings. No Great Oasis burials have been found in Minnesota, but in Iowa, Great Oasis burials are in mounds.

A third Plains Village complex in Minnesota is called Big Stone as it is centered in extreme west-central Minnesota near lakes Big Stone and Traverse. The site that contained the Paleoindian Browns Valley burial also had a Late Prehistoric fortified village affiliated with the Big Stone complex. Big Stone ceramics have some similarities with both Great Oasis and Cambria, along with strong Woodland affinities. Subsistence is assumed to be much like other Plains Villages complexes with corn and bison supplemented with a wide variety of wild food resources.

In central and northern Minnesota, the basic Woodland lifestyle continued into the Late Prehistoric with deer and wild rice being two key resources supplemented with small mammals, waterfowl, fish, and wild vegetal foods. The only evidence for gardening is tobacco at Lake Mille Lacs, although some corn may have been obtained through trade. In central Minnesota, ceramics change from basic Woodland types to a hybrid of Woodland and Oneota traits.

--From Minnesota Department of Administration, State Archaeologist

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# What's happening this week in *Cottage Grove*?

## Thursday, July 25 Resumes (online)

9:30-11:30 a.m. - [www.MinnesotaWorks.net](http://www.MinnesotaWorks.net)

Learn how to create a Targeted Resume that get results. Targeted resumes are the best way to open the door to the next opportunity. Please bring an electronic copy of your resume, a job description, and a flash drive to the workshop to practice targeting a resume to a job. Registration will take place on [www.MinnesotaWorks.net](http://www.MinnesotaWorks.net). Remember to check your email spam folder for join links the morning of class. This event is provided through Washington County.

## Baby Storytime

9:45-10:15 a.m. - Park Grove Library, 7900 Hemingway Ave. S., Cottage Grove

Join us in singing, talking, reading, writing, and playing at this inclusive Storytime for families with ages 0-3. This is a time for you and your baby to bond with one another through early literacy activities. It's also an opportunity for you to meet new friends in a welcoming environment. This Storytime is recommended for soon-to-be parents, developmental ages 0-3, and their grown-ups (siblings always welcome). You are encouraged to attend the Storytime that best meets your family's developmental needs. Registration is not required.

## Food Truck Thursdays at Cottage Grove City Hall

11 a.m. to 1 p.m. - Cottage Grove City Hall, 12800 Ravine Parkway S., Cottage Grove

Beginning May 2, there will be a food truck weekly for residents and visitors to enjoy. This Thursday, enjoy "Asian Invasion."

## Short Story Writing Workshop

2-4 p.m. - R. H. Stafford Library, 8595 Central Park Place, Woodbury

Calling all storytellers and writers! Join us in a week-long creative writing workshop for students entering grades 3-8, covering the foundations of both personal and narrative writing. Students will work with editors from East Ridge High School's Fine Print Art and Literary Magazine to brainstorm their stories, draft, craft a plot, and refine their pieces. Facilitators will provide individualized feedback and peer editing on all work. At the end of the week, students will produce 1-2 completed pieces of writing.

Participants will also have the option to enter their work in the Minnesota State Fair K-12 Writing Competition and get the chance to win awards! Winning pieces will be displayed at the State Fair in August. Registration is required, and participants are expected to attend all five sessions. Accommodations are available on request for participants who need learning supports.

## STEM Lab: Algorithms and Codes

2-4 p.m. - R. H. Stafford Library, 8595 Central Park Place, Woodbury

Explore the science that makes computers work -- without using a computer! In this drop-in program, you can craft a name bracelet using binary code, help create an "algorithm art" installation, make a secret code ring, and more. This program is created for children ages 6-12, but all are welcome. Children under age 8 must be accompanied by a responsible adult at all times. Caregivers are encouraged to participate alongside their children.

## Cottage Grove Farmers Market

2:30-6:30 p.m. - United Church of Christ, 7008 Lamar Ave. S., Cottage Grove

From June 20-Oct. 10, 2024 in the parking lot of the United Church of Christ. Find fresh fruit and vegetables like rhubarb, green onions, sugar snap peas, kale, basil, kohlrabi, dill, potatoes, tomatoes, pumpkins and more throughout the growing season, along with honey, pickles, jams, jellies, salsas, freshly roasted coffee, macarons, micro greens, freeze dried foods, pop up greeting cards and more! The market has staple food

trucks that typically come every week such as the Egg-roll Queen.

## Contraption Club

3:30-5 p.m. - Park Grove Library, 7900 Hemingway Ave. S., Cottage Grove

Children ages 9-12 are welcome to learn how to use a variety of technologies including 3D printers, a Glowforge laser cutter, a Cricut machine, an embroidery machine, TinkerCad, AdaFruit, and much more. No prior experience is required, librarians are on hand to assist you with the project of the day or free exploration. Limit to nine participants at a time. If over nine participants, the class will rotate participants every 45 minutes. No registration is required. This class is on a first-come basis.

## Yoga in the Park

6-7 p.m. - Lake Elmo Park Reserve, 1515 Keats Ave N., Lake Elmo

Reconnect with the rhythms of nature as you flow through a variety of yoga poses under the open sky! Embrace the tranquility of outdoor yoga and find your inner balance while soaking in the beauty of your surroundings. All levels are welcome to join in this uplifting experience and the revitalizing journey of mind, body, and nature. For more information go to [WashingtonCountyMN.gov](http://WashingtonCountyMN.gov).

## Friday, July 26

### Public Bird Banding

8:30 a.m. to noon - Carpenter Nature Center, 12805 St. Croix Trail S., Hastings

See birds up close and watch the experts band birds. Banding runs continuously, so come and go as you please. Donations of bird seed and suet are appreciated in place of a program fee. In case of inclement weather such as heavy rain or snow banding may be canceled. All banding, marking, and sampling is being conducted under a federally authorized Bird Banding Permit issued by the U.S. Geological Survey's BBL. The program is free.

### On Our Quilt Time

9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. - Park Grove Library, 7900 Hemingway Ave. S., Cottage Grove

Do you have a quilting project you are working on? Join fellow quilters for camaraderie, inspiration, and ideas. Bring your own sewing machine and project supplies. Come and go as needed. No registration required.

### Storytime

10:30-11 a.m. - Park Grove Library, 7900 Hemingway Ave. S., Cottage Grove

Join us in singing, talking, reading, writing, and playing at this inclusive, welcoming Storytime for families. This Storytime focuses on concepts such as life skills, emotions, community, family, and kindness. Storytime is your opportunity to meet new friends, socialize, and strengthen early literacy skills. Activities during and after Storytime are designed to strengthen fine and large motor skills. Grown-ups are encouraged to actively participate alongside the children they bring (modeling is one of the best ways to influence behavior). Please limit discussion between grown-ups until Storytime has finished. Registration is not required. We will meet in the children's area; recommended for developmental ages 0 - 8 and their grown-ups!

### Storytime at Arbor Ridge Park

10:30-11 a.m. - Arbor Ridge Park, 7366 Hargis Pkwy, Woodbury

Join Washington County Library and Woodbury Parks and Recreation to read, sing, and learn together. Storytime lasts roughly 30 minutes and will be canceled in the case of inclement weather. Registration is not required for this event.

For the latest news from WashCoLib, subscribe to our email newsletters! Learn more about all our Summer at Your Library activities for kids, teens, and adults on our website, and follow us on Facebook and Instagram for a peek behind the scenes at the library.

### Family Art Cart

11 a.m. to noon - Park Grove Library, 7900 Hemingway Ave. S., Cottage Grove

Every Friday following Storytime we will spend time making art related to the books read at Storytime that day. Registration is not required. This event is recommended for families with children ages 3-12 and will relate to the Storytime theme of the day.

### Robot Engineering Workshop

1-4 p.m. - R. H. Stafford Library, 8595 Central Park Place, Woodbury

In this workshop, small groups of students will collaborate with Tartan High School Robotics Club members to build and program a LEGO Mindstorm robot. If time permits, groups can equip and program their robot to follow a line or explore the room using an ultrasonic sensor. This program is designed for students entering grades 3-7. Registration is required, and due to the complexity of the build and programming, students must have completed second grade.

The content of this class covers a significant amount of the requirements needed for the retired robotics adventure for Bears in Cub Scouts, the Boy Scouts' Robotics Merit Badge and two of the three Robotics badges for Girl Scouts.

### Latin Dance Class

2-3 p.m. - R. H. Stafford Library, 8595 Central Park Place., Woodbury

Join Nela Dance Company for a vibrant Latin dance class that promises to ignite joy and enthusiasm in all participants. Salsa, with its roots tracing back to the lively streets of New York City in the 1960s, blends Cuban rhythms with American influences, delivering an irresistibly fun and energetic dance experience. Meanwhile, Bachata, steeped in the rich culture of the Dominican Republic, exudes romance and charm, inviting dancers to immerse themselves in its captivating rhythms and movements. This event is recommended for children ages 6-12. Children under 8 must be accompanied by a grown-up.

### Friday-Saturday, July 26 - 27

#### BioBlitz - MN Campus

Carpenter Nature Center, 12805 St. Croix Trail S., Hastings

Friday, July 26 - 3 - 10 p.m.

Saturday, July 27 - 4:45 a.m. - noon

Free! All ages welcome. Learn from bird, reptile, amphibian, invertebrate, and plant experts in a fun day of citizen science. Join us at Carpenter's Wisconsin Campus to help inventory teams in restored prairies, riparian habitats, and wooded bluff lands to discover and document plant and animal species. This program is FREE; however, donations are always appreciated! Registration is not required but highly suggested.

### Saturday, July 27

#### Cottage Grove Parkruns - Weekly 5k

9 - 10 a.m. - Cottage Grove Parks

Parkruns are free weekly community events held all around the world on Saturday mornings. Parkrun events are 5ks and are meant to be a positive, welcoming and inclusive experience for all. There is no time limit, and no one finishes last. Whether you walk, jog, volunteer or spectate, all are welcome on Saturdays at Kingston Park for a Parkrun! Free to the public.

9-10 a.m. - Kingston Park, 9195 75th St. S., Cottage Grove

9-10 a.m. - Hamlet Park, 8883 Hamlet Ave. S., Cottage Grove

#### Paddle with a Ranger: Vermillion River Bottoms

4-6 p.m. - Vermillion River Bottoms, 17208 Ravenna Trail, Hastings

Explore a unique portion of this national park with a National Park Service ranger who will guide you through the back channels of a floodplain forest! This area of the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area is great for observing wildlife. Participants may see bald

eagles, great blue herons, or prothonotary warblers--we might even sneak up on a muskrat! Routes vary as the summer progresses due to changing water-level conditions.

Attendees must be 18+ and must be able to maneuver a kayak on the Mississippi River. A person under 18 years old may attend if they are in a tandem kayak with an adult from the same household. We recommend that you have at least some paddling experience. The Pickerel Lake Paddle Share station is a great alternative for beginners!

Please note when ordering tickets: double (tandem) kayaks are for two people from the same household.

### Learn to Paddle

1-3 p.m. - Cottage Grove Ravine Regional Park, 9653 Keats Ave. S., Cottage Grove

Participants will learn how to paddle and safely navigate one of Minnesota's lakes via kayak. Friendly instruction offered through Wild Rivers Conservancy. Kayak, life jacket, paddle, and vehicle permit are provided.

### Sunday, July 28

#### Summer Scavenger Hunt: Brown

1-5 p.m. - Park Grove Library, 7900 Hemingway Ave. S., Cottage Grove

Join fellow seekers in the children's space to search for 10 items related to one theme. The instructional sheet even has recommended books on the topic! This is our first summer of changing out our scavenger hunts weekly for all of you regular library visitors. Doing a scavenger hunt builds observational skills of the participant, enhances vocabulary and communication skills, fosters collaboration and teamwork, offers a high level of engagement, promotes exploration and curiosity and allows for all patrons to experience library programming. Registration is not required. This is an all-ages event best enjoyed by developmental ages 3-10 and their grown-ups.

### Drop-In 1:1 Tech Help

2-4 p.m. - R. H. Stafford Library, 8595 Central Park Place, Woodbury

Do you need help with a tech issue? Bring your questions and tech issues when you meet for up to one hour 1:1 with a library volunteer. We can help you with a range of topics, including searching the Internet, setting up an email account, using Libby and eReaders, iPhone and Android phone basics, basic instruction on laptops and tablets. If we can't answer the question, we'll help you find resources that can. This is a drop-in service that is first come, first served.

### Monday, July 29

#### Baby Storytime

10:30-11 a.m. - R. H. Stafford Library, 8595 Central Park Place, Woodbury

Join us for an interactive Storytime for babies and their grownups! We'll share books, songs, rhymes, and more to practice early literacy skills. After Storytime, stay for a play and social time designed just for babies; recommended for developmental ages 0-24 months. Everyone is always welcome. Registration is not required.

### Library Play Date

10:30 a.m. to noon - Park Grove Library, 7900 Hemingway Ave. S., Cottage Grove

Stop by for the opportunity to play with your child(ren) in a literacy-focused environment. Each week will feature a variety of activities designed to strengthen fine motor skills, large motor skills and early literacy development. You may even meet a new friend or discover a new activity you enjoy! This inclusive, welcoming program is recommended for developmental ages 0-8 and their grown-ups (siblings always welcome). No registration required.

### Tuesday, July 30

#### Blazing Needles

9:30 a.m. - noon - Park Grove Library, 7900 Hemingway Ave. S., Cottage Grove

Do you have a needlework

project you are working on? Join fellow enthusiasts for camaraderie, inspiration, and ideas. Bring your own project supplies. Come and go as you wish. Join the fun!

### Storytime

10:30 - 11 a.m. - R. H. Stafford Library, 8595 Central Park Place, Woodbury

Sing, talk, read, write, and play with us at Storytime in the Children's Area. Storytime is a great opportunity to meet new friends, socialize, and strengthen early literacy skills. Registration is not required; recommended for children ages 2-6 and their grown-ups!

### Cakery Wonder Kit Pick Up

Noon - 8 p.m. - Park Grove Library, 7900 Hemingway Ave. S., Cottage Grove

Calling all bakers and aspiring cake artists! Come pick up a cake-baking kit and take it home with you to help you create the best book-based theme cake you can make! Bring your finished cake back on Saturday, Aug. 17 at 3:30 p.m. to show it off! Cakes will be judged for creativity and originality of design. The winner will take away bragging rights as a Cakery Wonder champion.

This event is limited to 15 participants. Registration is required. The library will supply a box cake mix and vanilla frosting. Participants will have to supply any other materials and have the ability to bake the cake elsewhere. Please note that homemade cakes cannot be eaten at the library for food safety reasons.

### Virtual Reality Gaming

3-4:30 p.m. - Park Grove Library, 7900 Hemingway Ave. S., Cottage Grove

Come play the Oculus Quest VR. You can choose from up to 23 VR games including the popular Beat Saber, Superhot, and Job Simulator. As you wait for your time slot with the VR, the Nintendo Wii U or Switch will be out for open play from 3-4:30 p.m. Remember to sign up for a time slot for the VR. For ages 8-18. A participant waiver is required for VR.

Important! Minors must have a parent or legal guardian sign the waiver before they can play. Waivers will be available at the event to sign or you can stop by earlier to sign at the information desk.

### VR and Open Gaming

3-4:30 p.m. - Park Grove Library, 7900 Hemingway Ave. S., Cottage Grove

Play video games! A variety of console systems will be out to play such as the Nintendo Wii U, Nintendo Switch, and the PlayStation 4. The Oculus Quest VR will also be available by appointment only. You can choose from up to 23 virtual reality games including the popular Beat Saber, Superhot, and Job Simulator. For ages 8-18. Appointment and partici-

pant waiver are required to play VR. Important! Minors must have a parent or legal guardian sign the waiver before they can play.

### Wednesday, July 31

#### Storytime

10:30-11 a.m. - Park Grove Library, 7900 Hemingway Ave. S., Cottage Grove

Join us in singing, talking, reading, writing, and playing at this inclusive, welcoming Storytime for families. This Storytime focuses on concepts such as life skills, emotions, our community, and kindness. Storytime is your opportunity to meet new friends, socialize, and strengthen early literacy skills. Plus, there will be plenty of music (both singing and dancing varieties). We will meet in the children's area. Registration is not required; recommended for developmental ages 0-8 and their grown-ups!

### Teen Maker Series: DIY "Neon" Light

4-5:30 p.m. - R. H. Stafford Library, 8595 Central Park Place, Woodbury

Use EL wire, a needle, thread, tape, and a canvas to create your own "neon" light. Paint will also be available to enhance your custom sign. Tools and supplies are limited so registration is required. This event is for ages 11-18. All teen events are adult-free zones, excluding library staff and partners. We encourage grown-ups and siblings who wish to stay nearby to browse the library collection or explore other areas of our library during this time.

### City Council Meeting (Special Open Meeting)

5:30-6:30 p.m. - Council Chamber, City Hall, 12800 Ravine Pkwy S., Cottage Grove

Watch your city council at work for this Special Open Meeting - Budget Review.

### Harry Potter Escape Room (Millennial Edition)

6-6:45 p.m. and 6:45-7:45 p.m. - Park Grove Library, 7900 Hemingway Ave. S., Cottage Grove

Are you a Harry Potter fan who was born between 1980 and 1996? Come celebrate Harry Potter's Birthday. You and a few other Hogwarts students are trapped in Professor Vector's office for detention. The only problem is that the last time students had detention with Professor Vector they were never to be seen from again!! You will have 30 minutes to escape from Professor Vector's office by solving a series of puzzles. Solve the puzzles to escape the room.

Limit six participants per session. Registration is required for this event.

### Bingo! At the Muddy Cow

7 p.m. - Muddy Cow, 7350 Hardwood Ct. S., Cottage Grove

\$1,000 Coverall game starts at 7 p.m.

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# New pastor at St. Ritas

Father Michael Reinhardt is the new pastor at St. Rita's Catholic Church in Cottage Grove. Appointed by Archbishop Hebda at the start of July, a reception will be held after all Masses Aug. 3 and 4 to welcome Father Reinhardt. Photo by Joseph Back



## ACCIDENT Report

**Saturday, July 13**  
1:57 p.m. - Police were dispatched to a hit and run motor-vehicle accident with property damage at 80th Street South over Highway 61.

**Monday, July 15**  
12 a.m. - A hit and run motor-vehicle accident with property damage was responded to in the 7200 block of East Point Douglas Road South.

## ARREST Report

**Thursday, July 11**  
• At 3:17 a.m., **Kyleisha R. Garrigan**, 20, Redby, was arrested for fifth degree drugs - possess schedule 1, 2, 3, 4 or paraphernalia residual - not cannabis/hemp.  
• At 4:42 a.m., **Delisha R. Rodriguez**, 35, Cottage Grove, was arrested for second degree drugs - possess 6 grams or more; 50 dosage units or more; fentanyl or heroin, traffic regulation - physically disabled; park/obstruct parking space and warrant service - arrest.  
• At 7:22 a.m., **Amber M. Sayers**, 40, Red Lake, was cited for fifth degree drugs - possess schedule 1, 2, 3, 4 or paraphernalia residual - not cannabis/hemp.

**Friday, July 12**  
• At 12:19 a.m., **Tija A. Leonard**, 33, Cottage Grove, was arrested for giving a peace officer a false name/birthdate/ID card, violate no contact order - within 10 years of the first of two or more convictions and warrant service - arrest.  
• At 8:12 a.m., **Kathryn M. Parranto**, 46, Cottage Grove, was cited for theft - take/use/transfer movable property without consent.

**Saturday, July 13**  
• At 5:01 a.m., **Veronica V. White**, 35, Saint Paul Park, was arrested for traffic - speeding - excess speed in temporary posted work zone, traffic - open bottle law; possession, traffic - DWI - operating a motor-vehicle under the influence of alcohol and fourth degree assault of an operator or throw/transfer body fluid or feces on transit operator.  
• At 2:06 p.m., **Cebrian Om Sims**, 36, Cottage Grove, was arrested for receiving stolen property.  
• At 4:06 p.m., **Terrell A. Frazier**, 33, North Saint Paul, was arrested for war-

rant service - arrest.

**Sunday, July 14**  
• At 2:13 p.m., **Bostone C. Puta**, 46, Cottage Grove, was arrested on-view for warrant service - arrest.

**Monday, July 15**  
• At 2:27 a.m., **Marco A. Diaz Gomez**, 24, Wis., was arrested for DL - driving without a valid license for vehicle class or type, traffic - open bottle law; possession, DWI - operating a motor-vehicle with alcohol concentration of 0.08 within 2 hours and DWI - operating a motor-vehicle under the influence of alcohol.  
• At 8:57 a.m., **Natalie A. Lopez**, 38, Rosemount, was cited for fifth degree drugs - possess schedule 1, 2, 3, 4 or paraphernalia residual - not cannabis/hemp and theft - take/use/transfer movable property without consent.  
• At 10:13 a.m., **Robert J. Reid**, 71, Cottage Grove, was cited for make or initiate call knowing no emergency exists with intent to disrupt, interfere emergency services.  
• At 12:25 p.m., **Angel J. Potter**, 32, Cottage Grove, was cited for DWI - operating a motor-vehicle - alcohol concentration 0.08 within 2 hours, DWI - operating a motor-vehicle under the influence of alcohol and traffic regulation - license plates required on front and rear of vehicle.

**Tuesday, July 16**  
• At 8:41 a.m., **Ashly M. Bonin**, 41, Inver Grove Heights, was cited for theft - take/use/transfer movable property without consent.  
• At 5:14 p.m., **Matthew J. Moore**, 40, Stillwater, was arrested for emergency telephone calls/communications - interrupt, interfere, impede, disrupt 911 call.



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  - Save the ad for future reference
  - Visit the advertiser's website

## SOUTH WASHINGTON COUNTY Religion Directory

**AFTON**  
**St. Mary's Episcopal Church (Anglican)**  
8435 St. Croix Trail South  
Afton, MN 55033  
Scott Monson, rector  
(651) 436-1872  
web: <http://stmarysafton.org/>

**Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church**  
14107 Hudson Road S  
Afton, MN 55001  
Jeremey King, lead pastor  
Caitlin Ronayne, special needs and serving coordinator  
(651) 436-8248  
sov.church

**Eastern Twin Cities Islamic Center**  
12585 Hudson Road South  
Afton, MN 55001  
web: [www.etcic.org](http://www.etcic.org)

**COTTAGE GROVE AREA**  
**All Saints Lutheran Church (ELCA)**  
8100 Belden Boulevard  
Cottage Grove, MN 55016  
An official "Reconciling in Christ" (RIC) Church  
Pastor Jules, Erickson, senior pastor  
Associate Pastor Wes Kimball  
(651) 459-1117  
web: [www.allsaintscg.org](http://www.allsaintscg.org)

**Christ Redeemer Church**  
8500 Hillside Trail S  
Cottage Grove, Mn 55016  
Classes available 9:00  
Worship service 10:30  
website: [crcmn.church](http://crcmn.church)  
Email: [info@crcmn.church](mailto:info@crcmn.church)

**Christ The Lord Lutheran Church**  
9998 90th Street South  
Cottage Grove, MN 55016  
Dave Barkow, pastor  
(651) 459-7597  
web: [www.christthelord.net](http://www.christthelord.net)

**Crossroads Church**  
Cottage Grove Campus  
7955 Ivystone Avenue  
Cottage Grove, MN 55016  
Austin Walker, campus pastor  
Sunday service at 10 a.m.  
**Woodbury Campus**  
5900 Woodbury Drive  
Woodbury, MN 55129  
Sunday services at 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.  
**Hastings Campus**  
225 33rd St. West  
Hastings, MN 55033  
Tim Stanley, campus pastor  
Sunday services at 9:15 a.m and 11 a.m.  
web: <https://crossroads.co>  
Phone: 651-294-7700

**Hope Community Church (C&MA)**  
8300 Hyde Avenue South  
Cottage Grove, MN 55016  
Mark Wiggins, senior pastor  
[www.got-hope.org](http://www.got-hope.org)  
(651) 459-6242

**St. Luke Lutheran Church**  
7000 Hinton Ave. S.  
Cottage Grove, MN 55016  
Keith Long, senior pastor  
(651) 459-1222  
web: <https://www.stlukecg.org>

**Rose of Sharon Lutheran (LCMS)**  
6875 Jamaica Ave S.  
Cottage Grove, MN 55016  
Rev. Martin Schoenfield, pastor  
Kayla Moelter, Rosebuds early learning center director  
[roseofsharonlutheran.org](http://roseofsharonlutheran.org)  
(651) 459-3551  
Worship Schedule  
Saturday at 4:00 p.m.,  
Sunday at 9:00 a.m.

**Catholic Church of St. Rita**  
8694 80th Street South  
Cottage Grove, MN 55016  
[www.saintritas.org](http://www.saintritas.org)  
651-459-4596  
Father Mike Reinhardt, Pastor  
**Weekend Masses**  
Saturday 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday: 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.  
**Daily Masses**  
Tuesday: 5:00 p.m.  
Wednesday: 8:30 a.m.  
Thursday: 5:00 p.m.  
Friday: 8:30 a.m.  
Sacrament of Reconciliation:  
4 p.m. Saturday or by appointment  
Eucharistic Adoration:  
Thursdays 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Free Community Meal the third Friday of each month at 6:00 p.m.

**The Grove United Methodist Church**  
See Woodbury listing

**Zion Lutheran Church (ELCA)**  
8100 Belden Boulevard  
Cottage Grove MN 55016  
Steve Biedermann, Senior Pastor  
(651) 459-3010  
web: [www.zioncg.org](http://www.zioncg.org)  
Sunday worship at 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday School at 10:15 a.m.

**The Alley Church (LCMS)**  
8944 Indahl Ave South  
Cottage Grove, MN 55016  
Phone 651-459-2063  
Pastor: Martin Cornes  
Worship service Sunday 10:00 a.m.  
[www.thealley.church](http://www.thealley.church)  
Facebook [thealley.church](https://www.facebook.com/thealleychurch)

**Lighthouse Baptist Church**  
9979 80th St. S  
Cottage Grove, MN 55016  
[www.lighthousebaptistmnn.com](http://www.lighthousebaptistmnn.com)  
Sunday Morning Service, 10:45 a.m.  
Sunday Evening Service, 6:00 p.m.

**LAKELAND**  
**Valley Baptist Church**  
860 St. Croix Trail South  
Lakeland, MN 55033  
[www.myvalleybaptistchurch.com](http://www.myvalleybaptistchurch.com)  
(651) 436-5278  
Mailing Address  
PO Box 815,  
Lake St. Croix Beach, MN 55033-0815

**LAKE ST. CROIX BEACH**  
**St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church**  
16770 13th Street South  
Lake Saint Croix Beach, MN 55043  
**Weekend Masses**  
Saturday - 5:00 a.m.  
Sunday - 9:30 a.m.  
**Daily Masses**  
Wednesday and Friday - 9:00 a.m.  
Father Mark Underdahl, pastor  
Julie Terwey, office manager  
Cindy Buckland, director of faith formation  
web: <http://www.stfrancisclubmnn.org>  
(651) 436-7817  
After hours emergency  
(651) 436-1746

**NEWPORT**  
**Newport Lutheran Church (ELCA)**  
900 15th Street  
Newport, MN 55055  
Rev. Sue Gravelle, pastor  
(651) 459-2447  
More information at [newportlutheran.com](http://newportlutheran.com)

**Newport United Methodist and Community United Church of Christ**  
1596 11th Avenue  
Newport, MN 55055  
Pastor Anne Kadue

Phone: 651-459-2747  
[www.newportumc.org](http://www.newportumc.org)

**ST. PAUL PARK**  
**St. Andrew's Lutheran Church (WELS)**  
1000 Portland Avenue  
Saint Paul Park, MN 55071  
Jim Roecker, pastor  
(651) 459-2569  
Join us Sundays at 9 a.m. or  
Wednesday at 7 p.m.  
More at [www.standrews-lutheran.org](http://www.standrews-lutheran.org)

**Discovery Community Church**  
828 Portland Avenue  
Saint Paul Park, MN 55071-1505  
Wayne Allen, senior pastor  
(651) 459-9328  
[www.trydiscovery.org](http://www.trydiscovery.org)

**St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church**  
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920 Holley Ave  
St. Paul Park, MN 55071  
651-459-2131  
Father Michael Tix, pastor  
Joe Utecht, parish deacon  
web: [www.st-thomas-aquinas.com](http://www.st-thomas-aquinas.com)  
Facebook:  
[www.facebook.com/STAFaithFormation/](https://www.facebook.com/STAFaithFormation/)

**WOODBURY AREA**  
**Saint Ambrose Catholic Church**  
4125 Woodbury Drive  
Woodbury, MN 55129  
Fr. Peter Williams, pastor  
Fr. Ben Wittebel, parochial vicar  
Janet Parker, administrative assistant  
(651) 768-3030  
web: [saintambrosecatholic.org](http://saintambrosecatholic.org)

**Crossroads Church**  
See Cottage Grove listing

**Guardian Angels Catholic Community**  
"Engaging in God's Service"  
8260 4th Street North  
Oakdale, MN 55128  
Fr. Joe Connelly, Pastor  
Denny Farrell, administrator  
(651) 738-2223  
[www.guardian-angels.org](http://www.guardian-angels.org)  
Also on Facebook

**Resurrection Lutheran (ELCA)**  
9925 Bailey Road  
Woodbury, MN 55129  
Paul Dean, pastor  
Summer Sunday worship  
9 a.m. indoor and livestreamed  
10:30 a.m. outdoor  
(651)730-1000  
[www.liveresurrection.org](http://www.liveresurrection.org)

**The Grove United Methodist Church**  
**Woodbury campus**  
7465 Steepleview Rd  
Woodbury, MN 55125  
Dan Wetterstrom, Pastor  
Kelly Lamon, Pastor  
**Cottage Grove campus**  
8600 90th Street South  
Cottage Grove, MN 55016  
Jeremy Peters, Pastor  
Woodbury Office phone: (651) 738-0305  
Cottage Grove Campus: (651) 769-1303  
More information at [www.thegrovemn.church](http://www.thegrovemn.church)

**Woodbury Church of Christ**  
4920 Woodbury Drive  
Woodbury, MN 55129  
[www.woodburychurch.org](http://www.woodburychurch.org)  
Email [staff@woodburychurch.org](mailto:staff@woodburychurch.org)  
(651) 459-1869

**Your Church here!**  
If you have a church entry to include or else corrections to make to an existing one, please email them to [joe@thepaperboy.news](mailto:joe@thepaperboy.news).

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The Art Dungeon

PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS:  
303 21st Suite 116  
Newport, MN. 55055

NAMEHOLDER(S)  
Name:  
Heather CT Moore

ADDRESS:  
9660 190th St E  
Hastings, MN 55033

SIGNED BY:  
Heather CT Moore

EMAIL:  
theartdungeon@aol.com

7 25, 8 1

**OFFICE OF MINNESOTA SECRETARY OF STATE**  
Certificate of Assumed Name

ASSUMED NAME:  
Sorg Farms Partnership

PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS:  
13569 Mississippi Trail  
Hastings, MN. 55033

NAMEHOLDER(S)  
Name:  
Randy C. Sorg  
Karl T. Sorg

ADDRESS:  
13569 Mississippi Trail  
13955 Mississippi Trail  
Hastings, MN. 55033

SIGNED BY:  
Randy C. Sorg

EMAIL:  
kseanor@hjlawfirm.com

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ASSUMED NAME:  
North Edge Wealth

PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS:  
566 Bavaria Ln  
Chaska, MN. 55318

NAMEHOLDER(S)  
Name:  
GSH Asset Management, LLC  
CMR Advisors, LLC

ADDRESS:  
566 Bavaria Ln  
Chaska, MN. 55318

8147 Globe Dr.  
Woodbury, MN. 55125

SIGNED BY:  
Geoffrey Hansen

EMAIL:  
Erin.Kerber@ipl.com

7 25, 8 1

**State of Minnesota Washington County**

**District Court Tenth Judicial District Court File Number: 82-PR-24-2195**  
**Case Type: Informal Probate**

**Notice of Informal Appointment of Personal Representative and Notice to Creditors (Without a Will)**

In re the Estate of Tawnia E. Pitcher, Deceased

**TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND CREDITORS:**

Notice is hereby given that an application for informal appointment of personal representative has been filed with the Probate Registrar. No will has been presented for probate. The application has been granted.

Notice is also given that the Probate Registrar has informally appointed the following:

**State of Minnesota Washington County**

**District Court Tenth Judicial District Court File Number: 82-PR-24-3076**  
**Case Type: Informal Probate**

**Notice of Informal Appointment of Personal Representative and Notice to Creditors (Without a Will)**

In re the Estate of COLLEEN FLUM ROETTGER, Deceased

**TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND CREDITORS:**

Notice is hereby given that an application for informal appointment of personal representative has been filed with the Probate Registrar. No will has been presented for probate. The application has been granted.

Notice is also given that the Probate Registrar has informally appointed the following:

**Self-Represented Litigant**  
Bradley David Roettger

**Address**  
8365 Hale Ave South  
Cottage Grove MN 55016

**Email**  
Brad@RRDMN.com

**Phone Number**  
651-707-5659

as Personal Representative of the Estate of the Decedent. Any heir, devisee or other interested person may be entitled to appointment as Personal Representative, or may object to the appointment of the Personal Representative. Unless objections are filed pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 524.3-607, and the court otherwise orders, the Personal Representative has full power to administer the Estate, including, after 30 days from the date of issuance of letters, the power to sell, encumber, lease or distribute real estate.

Notice is also given that, subject to Minn. Stat. § 524.3-801, all creditors having claims against the Estate are required to present the claims to the Personal Representative or to the Court Administrator within four (4) months after the date of this Notice, or the claims will be barred.

Pamela Kreier  
Probate Registrar  
Date: 7/15/2024

Teresa Underwood  
Court Administrator  
Date: 7/15/2024

7 25, 8 1

**Self-Represented Litigant**  
Margaret C Pitcher

**Address**  
4910 S ORO LN  
Pahrump NV 89061

**Email**  
margaretpitcher.ins@gmail.com

**Phone Number**  
725-249-4994

as Personal Representative of the Estate of the Decedent. Any heir, devisee or other interested person may be entitled to appointment as Personal Representative, or may object to the appointment of the Personal Representative. Unless objections are filed pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 524.3-607, and the court otherwise orders, the Personal Representative has full power to administer the Estate, including, after 30 days from the date of issuance of letters, the power to sell, encumber, lease or distribute real estate.

Notice is also given that, subject to Minn. Stat. § 524.3-801, all creditors having claims against the Estate are required to present the claims to the Personal Representative or to the Court Administrator within four (4) months after the date of this Notice, or the claims will be barred.

Pamela Kreier  
Probate Registrar  
Date: 7/15/2024

Teresa Underwood  
Court Administrator  
Date: 7/15/2024

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# COUNTY FROM PAGE 2

largely funded by state funds (85%) with the remainder coming from county levy dollars.

**Solid Ground and Valley Outreach to provide homelessness prevention direct assistance**

The Washington County Board of Commissioners approved contracts to subgrant Family Homelessness Prevention and Assistance Program (FHPAP) funds to Solid Ground and Valley Outreach July 23.

Under the contract, Solid Ground and Valley Outreach will provide direct assistance for homelessness prevention and administrative services to support the delivery of these direct assistance funds in the community.

Washington County Community Services Department applied for a second round of FHPAP funds for the 2023-2025 biennium and was awarded an additional \$715,016 for the remainder of the two-year period that began October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2025.

The County Board approved a contract with Solid Ground for \$320,000 and with Valley Outreach for \$270,000 for the period of July 23, 2024, through Sept. 30, 2025.

The purpose of the FHPAP program is to provide supportive services and/or financial assistance to families, youth and single adults that are experiencing homelessness or at imminent risk of homelessness. Washington County has received FHPAP funding from Minnesota Housing Finance Agency (MN Housing) since 2007 to assist households to obtain or retain housing. The majority of funds are sub-allocated for direct household assistance.

**Attorney Office's Juvenile Division receives Excellence in Service Award**

The Juvenile Division of the Washington County's Attorney's Office (WCAO) was presented with an Excellence in Service Award by the Minnesota Juvenile Officer's Association at their annual conference in Duluth this June.

The Washington County Board of Commissioners recognized WCAO staff for the award at its July 23 meeting.

The WCAO Juvenile Division received the award for the support they have shown to school resource officers in Washington County and the support they have shown to the Minnesota Juvenile Officer's Association. Attorneys in the WCAO Juvenile Division carry a caseload of juvenile prosecution and child protection cases.

The Minnesota Juvenile Officers Association formed in 1955 and works to support police officers, social workers, corrections agents, and school administrators.

**County Board proclaims July 21-27 as Pretrial, Probation, and Parole Supervision Week**

The Washington County Board of Commissioners proclaimed July 21-27,

2024, as Pretrial, Probation, and Parole Supervision Week July 23.

The week honors the work of pretrial, probation, and parole officers in Washington County and recognizes their achievements. This year's theme is "Wellness Unveiled: Navigating the Journey."

Washington County's Community Corrections professionals supervise adult and juvenile offenders in the community and provide services and referrals for offenders. They promote prevention, intervention, and advocacy. They provide services, support, and protection for victims and advocate for community and restorative justice.

The county's Community Corrections staff partners with community agencies to keep communities safe and transform the lives of justice-involved clients.

**SRF Consulting, Inc. to provide final design services on Radio Drive improvement project**

SRF Consulting, Inc. will provide final design services for the County Highway 13 (Radio Drive) Improvement Project.

The Washington County Board of Commissioners amended the existing contract with SRF Consulting, Inc. to include final design services July 23.

The County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 13 (Radio Drive) Improvement Project, located in the City of Woodbury, includes highway expansion, the addition of multi-use trails, and improvements to intersections from CSAH 20 (Military Road) to Hargis Parkway.

SRF Consulting, Inc. has worked closely with county staff since February 2023 on the project. To date, SRF Consulting, Inc. has completed planning, community engagement, and preliminary engineering tasks for this project. The project team has engaged with the community through meetings with adjacent property owners, pop-up events, and a series of public open houses.

Through this engagement process, the project team created and shared a preferred layout to improve this corridor. This preferred layout has been supported by the Woodbury City Council through a resolution.

This amendment to the existing contract will take the project through final design and includes all aspects necessary to bring this project to bidding, including additional public engagement, coordination with private utility companies, production of final plans, cost estimating, and permitting. The negotiated fee is \$749,985 to complete this work.

The contract amendment will be funded by State Aid funds (\$694,985) and local contributions from the City of Woodbury (\$100,000).

The County Board also passed a resolution to acquire the necessary right-of-way and associated easements for

the County Highway 13 Improvement Project, which are necessary to proceed with the acquisition and construction of the project. The right-of-way estimate is \$1,100,000. Right-of-way costs will be funded by State Aid funds (\$500,000) and local contributions from the City of Woodbury (\$600,000).

**Bituminous Roadways, Inc. selected for Lake Elmo Park Reserve's Eagle Point Trailhead Improvement Project**

Bituminous Roadways, Inc. was selected to provide services for the Lake Elmo Park Reserve Eagle Point Trailhead Improvement Project.

The project is scheduled for construction in 2027.

The Washington County Board of Commissioners approved the \$1,278,402.50 contract with the company July 23.

The project includes a pavement mill and overlay along the entrance road from County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 10 to the Eagle Point Parking Lot, a 49-parking space expansion and pavement rehabilitation of the parking lot, and the construction of a permanent restroom facility.

This parking lot serves as the trailhead for the increasingly popular Eagle Point Trail system, which encompasses most of the trails on the west side of the park. This parking lot will also be one of the official trailhead locations for the Central Greenway Regional Trail and for future mountain bike single-track trails that will be added to the park over time.

The project received a \$1 million Community Project Funding Grant, through the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Subcommittee. This grant, sponsored by Congresswoman Betty McCollum, was approved for this project in 2022. Additional funding will come from the Transmission Line Tax and Transportation Advancement Account funds.

Bids for this project were opened on June 18, 2024, and Bituminous Roadways, Inc. was selected as the lowest responsible bidder. Construction is scheduled to begin in August 2024.

**Washington, Ramsey counties to take over one-mile stretch of Century Ave from state**

The Washington County Board of Commissioners approved an agreement with the State of Minnesota to transfer a one-mile segment of Century Ave. N. from the state to Washington and Ramsey counties July 23.

Upon agreement execution by Ramsey County and the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT), the counties will take over jurisdiction from the state of Trunk Highway 120 (Century Ave.) from Interstate 694 to County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 12, also known as Wildwood Rd.

The transfer of this seg-

ment of Century Ave. has been planned for over 20 years and is included in a 1996 Memorandum of Understanding between Washington County and the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT). The transfer was reviewed and confirmed in a 2014 Minnesota Jurisdiction Re-alignment study and included in Washington County's Comprehensive Plans.

This portion of TH 120 is a border road between Ramsey and Washington County and is in the cities of White Bear Lake and Mahtomedi. As this portion of the roadway currently functions like a county highway, past studies and plans indicate that the county is the best agency to own and maintain it.

Under the Transfer Agreement, the State of Minnesota will pay Washington County \$10,500,000, as Washington County is acting as the fiscal agent for the counties. These funds will be used for capital improvements to the roadway and operating costs. Upon agreement execution by all parties, the transfer will be effective in spring 2025.

**Washington County Parks Division recognized with four awards**

The Washington County Board of Commissioners recognized staff from the Parks Division for four recently received awards July 23.

The Minnesota Recreation and Park Association (MRPA) Awards of Excellence Program is an annual program that recognizes agencies or organizations in Minnesota for outstanding achievements in parks, recreation and leisure service. The awards recognize programs, projects, or initiatives that were implemented or received substantial revisions in 2023. Washington County is receiving an award in the Programming Category for the Día de los Muertos Celebration.

The National Association of County (NACo) Achievement Awards recognize innovative county government programs in a wide variety of categories. Washington County has been recognized with a NACo Achievement Award for the BIPOC Connect program, recognizing the innovation and effectiveness of this program to strengthen services for our residents.

Finally, the National Association of County Park and Recreation Officials (NACPRO) selects projects or programs in a variety of categories that provide inspiration and innovation in parks and recreation across the nation. NACPRO selected the reconstruction of St. Croix Bluffs Regional Park Boat Launch for an award in the Parks and Recreation Areas and Facilities category and also selected the Día de los Muertos Celebración for its award in the Park and Recreation Program category.

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# Church Spotlight

## ALL SAINTS LUTHERAN CHURCH AND ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

BY DANIELLE BOOS

### Two churches, one home

Located at 8100 Belden Boulevard in Cottage Grove, All Saints Lutheran Church and Zion Lutheran Church serve as gathering places where residents of Cottage Grove unite to worship together and share their faith, joys, sorrows, and commit to make their community a better place. Both of these congregations exemplify the timeless values of faith, service and community and stand as beacons of kindness and compassion in Cottage Grove, Wisconsin. The central Lutheran theme is "saved by grace through faith." It emphasizes that you can't earn God's favor or salvation and reinforces the Truth that God is going to love you no matter what you do.

Founded in 1960, All Saints Lutheran Church sold their Church building a year ago to Christ Redeemer Church. Realizing that the campus no longer fit their needs, the vote was unanimous to sell the property. Zion Lutheran Pastor Steven Biedermann said, "We have now found a good home at All Saints Lutheran Church. We are grateful for their hospitality. We are also grateful to spend less time/money/energy working on maintaining a facility and more time/money/energy focusing ministry basics such as: supporting our staff and congregation, being generous and helping others, centering ourselves in prayer and helping other churches in the area. I am incredibly proud of Zion for selling their building even though it was a very risky thing to do."

Pastor Steve loves his congregation's resiliency and capacity for change. Commenting on the Church's joys and struggles for the past sixty years, he says, "When I first came to Zion six years ago, they were mostly focused on their troubled past. Now they are less focused on who they used to be, and more focused on who God is calling them to be today."

He is grateful for the kindness of All Saints staff and congregation. "All Saints have been incredibly gracious and hospitable hosts. They have generously given of their space and their time. They even agreed to let us hang our own worship paraments mixed with their own. Office space is a limited resource at All Saints, but the parish nurse generously gave up her small office for me and our office admin to share. We now have staff meetings together, and I help with their Bible studies on Thursday mornings."

All Saints Lutheran Pastor Jules Erickson is grateful that her congregation can be a safe haven for those in need around them.

"All Saints is a place of grace where people can land and simply be. We have welcomed Pleasant Grove UMC, Zion, and people going through life transitions. We have gone through difficult times as a congregation and I often hear 'sticks in a bundle are harder to break.' I see the people under the steeple as resilient, welcoming, learning, enjoying each other, and really quite funny. I understand that a healthy community is one that contains joy; that is certainly true in this case. Laughter is carbonated joy, and you can hear it peeling around the

building all week long and especially on Sunday mornings."

Both congregations are ELCA Lutheran churches and while it is common for more than one church to share a building, it is very rare to see two of the same denomination in the same space. With two Church congregations of similar beliefs, located in Cottage Grove, the question arises, "Why not combine?" Pastor Steve answers honestly. "Although our two congregations get along well, we still have different vibes. Different types of people are drawn to our churches because of their differences in character and mission. For now, we are stronger together yet separate. As it says in Proverbs 27:17 "As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another." This is true for All Saints and Zion." He finishes, "We make each other better because we are separate yet together. We help each other define our purpose better, as each church sees itself from the perspective of the other."

The Sunday morning services for both Churches are welcome to all with All Saints Lutheran beginning at 9 AM in person or virtually and Zion Lutheran at 10:30 AM. All Saints also has Confirmation classes at 10:15 AM on Sundays and Sunday School on Sundays at 10:30 AM, both beginning in the fall. The new Wednesday night youth group, Flames and Games, is held at 7pm on Wednesdays throughout the summer, and will be having one weekend youth event per month.

The styles of music in both congregations differs in their tastes. Zion Lutheran is blessed to have classically trained pianist, Szu-Ling, who plays for student recitals at St. Olaf during the week. While Zion Lutheran is typically more traditional in their music, they are known to periodically "dabble in contemporary music and will sometimes have guitar/bass."

All Saints Lutheran has a varied blend of worship with traditional, contemporary, meditative, camp songs, and international songs every week and is led by Music Director Karen Pieper who has served there since 2003. Their music also includes a bell choir, adult choir, and an occasional kid's choir. All Saints Lutheran describes the worship as eclectic, liturgical, upbeat, and joyful and states that, "Worship is inclusive of all people as we are a Reconciled in Christ Congregation."

Both Churches host many community events and participate in various outreaches. Zion Lutheran has a Holiday Fair in the Fall, Fare for All, Al Anon, Zion Fitness (open to community), graduations, weddings, funerals, Senior Men events, Skoolie Bus, Connect Center, Cold Weather Shelter, and Immigration activism. All Saints Lutheran is a place where people can stay for Cold Weather Shelter and if they are in between housing through Washington County, The Connect Center, and Basic Needs.

Pastor Jules grew up in a theologically conservative congregation in Eagan, where her parents and one of her brother's family still live. Having attended Two Rivers High School, she



One year ago, All Saints Lutheran Church opened their doors at 8100 Belden Boulevard in Cottage Grove to Zion Lutheran Church. Submitted photo

went on to earn a bachelor's degree from Mankato State, followed by a Master of Divinity from Luther Seminary in St. Paul, where she serves as an adjunct professor. She later obtained a Doctor of Ministry from Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago. In addition to her academic achievements, she is a facilitator for Brené Brown's curricula and holds a certificate in Mediation Skills for Church Leaders. She was ordained in 1996, has served at All Saints since 2003 and has two goldendoodles named Crash (10) and Carsyn (8).

Pastor Steve lives in Apple Valley with his wife who is a nurse and their two daughters, Alice (8) and Violet (5). While he is primarily from Marshfield, Wisconsin and Ankeny, Iowa, he attended Wartburg College and Luther Seminary and is an eighth-generation Lutheran pastor.

Pastor Steve mentions that he appreciates the diversity of political opinions in Cottage Grove. "I love the mix of political opinions in this town. I see Cottage Grove as a very 'purple' town with plenty in our congregation representing both democrat and republican ideals. In a lot of ways, I see Cottage Grove as a town driven by small town ideals that just happens to exist in the Twin Cities metro. I think a lot of people end up going to churches that echo their political agendas. I try my best to keep Zion relatively neutral politically, so that both sides would feel welcome in our community."

Pastor Jules shares that her community doesn't only speak God's Word, but they live the Life of Jesus out loud. "They show up, do good, and are kind. I see them living into their mission statement: Meeting people where they're at and connecting them with the full life of Christ."

Pastor Steve and Pastor Jules both agree on the need for connection in their communities and that the answer can be found in the Church. "I think people are lonely. I think church can serve as a safe place for people to meet and support each other no matter what their background is. I'm especially proud of the multi-generation connections that happen at church. I think those are increasingly hard to find in any community these days," said Pastor Steve.

"I agree with Pastor Steve," begins Pastor Jules. "We are wired for connection and social media and an online persona does us no favors. Here we come together and share our joys and our sorrows. You can be 'you' at All Saints."

Pastor Steve adds, "We might not have the programming and outreach of larger churches...there is something special about the fam-



Pastor Jules Erickson was ordained in 1996 and has served as the Pastor of All Saints since 2003. Submitted photo



Pastor Steve Biedermann has been serving Zion Lutheran Church for six years along with his wife and two daughters. Submitted photo

ily feeling and support you get from a small church that "feels like home." We are a small church with a big heart." He shares that an obstacle that his Church faces is letting people know where they are located. "I don't think most people know we exist. We are a small church, and we are ok being a small church."

Pastor Jules feels that All Saints is a hidden gem of goodness and grace. "I liken All Saints to the old Bartel's Hardware store in New-

port or Terry's Hardware in Hastings. When you walk in someone greets you and helps you figure out how to repair something that is broken. We're not a 'Big Box' Church; we're here to help and do our best to meet people where they are in life." She encourages people to "try out both congregations and see if either is a good fit."

For more information on the services and events at All Saints Lutheran Church, call 651-459-1117 or follow

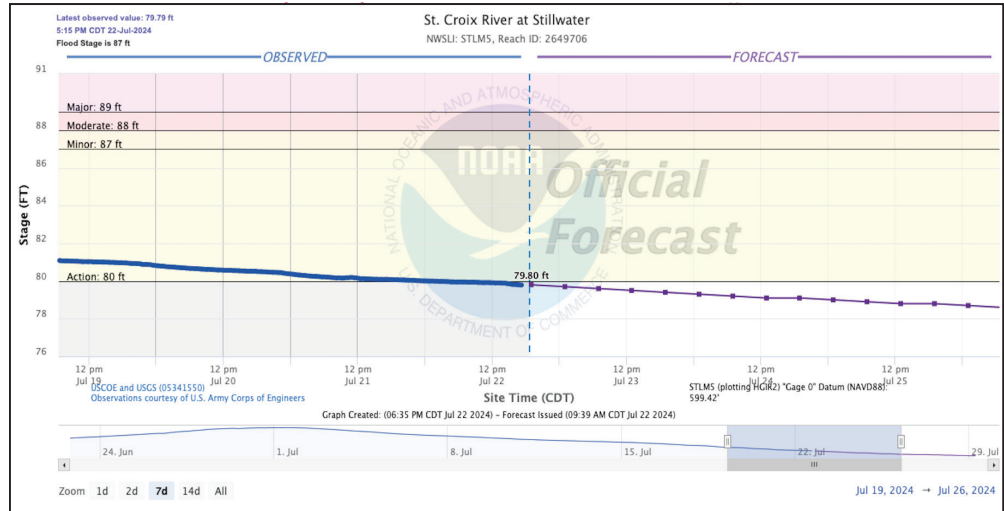
All Saints Lutheran Church, ELCA on Facebook. For more specific outreach opportunities or resources, go to [www.allsaintscg.org](http://www.allsaintscg.org)

For more information on the services and events at Zion Lutheran Church, call 651-459-3010 or email the office at [office@zioncg.org](mailto:office@zioncg.org) or follow Zion Lutheran Church on Facebook at Zion Lutheran Church Cottage Grove, MN. You can also visit their website at [zioncg.org](http://zioncg.org)

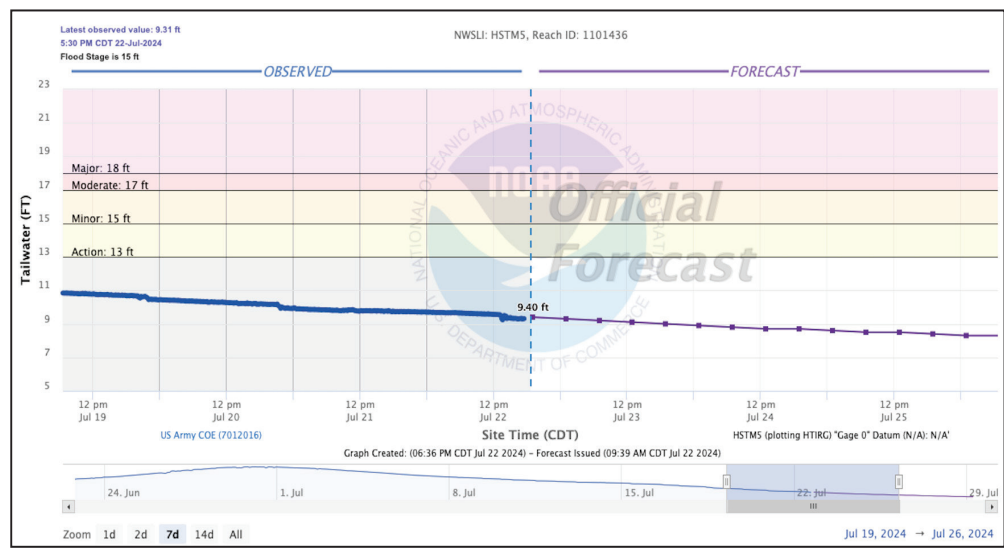
### WEEKLY Rivers Report

The following river level data was logged and/or forecast for the St. Croix and Mississippi Rivers by the National Water Prediction Service of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration at [water.noaa.gov](http://water.noaa.gov).

#### St. Croix River at Stillwater



#### Mississippi River at Hastings



# A Look Back

- COMPILED BY JOSEPH BACK -

**25 years ago**  
**January 6, 1999**

Acquired by the DNR the past fall, the Grey Cloud Dunes SNA was to a new parking lot would be built at the site of what was to be Grey Cloud Dunes SNA. With work on acquisition dating back to 1989, interest in the site from DNR had started after a 1987 survey and sought to protect between 200 and 225 rare plant and animal species, including the sea beech needle grass and the blue racer snake. But while the DNR had removed more than 50 tires and large pieces of broken concrete from the former dump site as it worked to put up 'no trespassing' signs, not all was being removed. Asphalt waste deemed "non-hazardous" to public health or the environment was to be left in place, the site having been used for dumping in the 1950s and 1960s.

"Most people are cooperative about protecting the site," Djupstrom said of the new SNA off Hadley Avenue. "It's a fantastic piece of property. It's something people in Cottage Grove and across the state will cherish into the future. Off limits to housing, the site was deemed protected.

"There's no possibility of housing being built there," Djupstrom said. "The agricultural fields surrounding the preserve are still owned by Ashland, and they can use them as they see fit." Outgoing council member Rod Hale said the city gained from the settlement. "The city gains from this, because families will now have a place to enjoy a nature walk," he said. "I believe compliments current housing and future housing by creating needed open space." That being said, the

multi-term council member was moving on, in part to spend time with family, but also give others a chance at running.

I have a limited amount of time," Hale said of stepping down. "I wanted to give others a chance."

Hale wasn't the only one deciding to bow out of government. Reported by Doug Hanneman over at Newport, city administrator Don Strege and council member Tom Ingemann had ended their service with emotional messages, serving a combined 26 years in city government.

**December 2, 1998**

Earning national recognition, the St. Paul Park facility of Marathon Ashland Petroleum had made "significant achievements" in the creation and conservation of wildlife habitat.

Starting in 1995 with what was known as the MAP program, Marathon Ashland employees and community volunteers had banded together to clean up five separate areas, putting up bluebird, wren, and wood duck houses, as well as planting trees and flowers and creating walking paths.

"The certification program recognizes companies that go above and beyond the requirements of environmental regulation," Bill Howard said as president of the Wildlife Habitat Council or WHC.

**October 7, 1998**

Reported by staff writer David Anderson, the Minnesota DNR had just acquired the site of Grey Cloud Dunes SNA. Coming after years of negotiations and part of a multi-million dollar nationwide environmental settlement with the site owner, the DNR had acquired the site adjacent to Mississippi Dunes Golf

Course for free, as shared by Bob Djupstrom, in charge of the DNR natural area program.

"It's nice to see because we can protect this site for so many people," Djupstrom said. "We have this fantastic prairie preserve to protect for generations, and we didn't have to pay for it."

Including a small portion of submerged backwater property, the new preserve was done to protect the "outstanding sand prairie," with many rare plant and animal species on site.

**30 years ago**  
**July 20, 1994**

With the historic St. Mathew's Church in Old Cottage Grove slated for possible demolition, a meeting was to be held at city hall July 25 at 1:45 p.m., with the city's advisory committee on historic preservation to consider a council request for permit to destroy the church along with attached quonset hut form 1955.

Robert Vogel, city historic preservation officer, said the church should be saved and moved, deemed to cost an estimated \$43,500.

Destroying it, on the other hand, would cost "around \$20,000."

**July 13, 1994**

Asked by a property owner off Grey Cloud Island Drive if it was still interested in buying land for a fishing spot, the answer was affirmative, with city staff expected to negotiate a deal, potentially with DNR help.

**July 6, 1994**

Announcing the district population some 39 years ago, District 833 was projected at 61,066 people, with ninety percent of Woodbury or 25,777 out of 28,642 included in this number.

**40 years ago**

**WASHINGTON COUNTY BULLETIN**  
**July 5, 1984**  
Growing from a village into a city over the past two decades, growth had changed the size of city departments. Reported on by Jane McClure, employment had increased, from eight city employees when it started to 24 in 1984.

"When I started there were eight employees, and now there are 24," McClure quoted recently retired

Administrative Assistant JoAnn Kuntz as sharing.

Among the changes talked about were an interchange, street name changes to conform to a county road grid, and miles of roads as well as water and utility lines. With that came snow removal.

"I won't miss snow removal complaints," Kuntz said on her time working with the city.

**50 years ago**  
**WASHINGTON COUNTY BULLETIN**  
**July 11, 1974**

Reported by Clystene Wilson, the Cottage Grove Council had asked for a redraft of a "preservation" resolution. Deemed a declaration of intent by the city to discourage development other than agricultural, low density residential, and open space near the river, Mayor Roger Peterson was reported as saying the resolution should be "totally general until all areas are defined, while another council member pointed out the council was in the process of drawing up a new planning ordinance including regulations, and thought the Mississippi River front part could be included in a conservancy district.

Others were skeptical. "We have no right to do that," another council member said. "Let the citizens of the community buy the property. Otherwise the owners are stuck with it because it has no use."

**80 years ago**  
**June 30, 1944**

**Obituaries.**  
Christopher Wagner, 71, of Vermillion.

Thomas M. O'Shaughnessy, age 87, of Hastings.

**105 years ago**  
**July 19, 1919**

**Help Buy the Park**  
Mayor Wilson has offered \$1,000 to buy the park for Hastings, provided it is named Wilson Park. He also generously offered to name it after any one else who will give more than he does in a lump sum. The mayor has taken a position on the matter which is admirable, and all Hastings ought to thank him. Other citizens have offered from \$100 down to \$5, but the amounts do not total up enough to buy the park and equip it. Now is

the time to buy the park and begin to make Hastings the City Beautiful.

**130 years ago**  
**THE DAILY GAZETTE**  
**July 24, 1894**

Minor Topics.  
The funeral of the late Timothy Leonard will take place from the Church of the Guardian Angels today, at half past two p.m, under the auspices of Peller Post No. 89, G.A.R., of which he had been a member. The Rev. J. A. Fitzgerald will officiate. The interment will be in the new cemetery.

**169 years ago**  
**SAINT CROIX UNION**  
**July 21, 1855**

From the North Star.  
Osceola, Marine and the Boom.

In leaving Taylor's Falls and descending the river, we pass a great many works of art and civilization, among which are the village of Osceola and its mills, the Marine mills, and the St. Croix Boom; all of which will be the theme of our few remarks today.

The first mill reached in descending the St. Croix is the Osceola. Its water power is a spring branch, which takes rise in the bluffs nearby, and it is undoubtedly the best water-power on the river below the Falls of St. Croix...On the St. Croix, a mill and a couple of dwelling houses are invariably the nucleus of a thriving village, or at least, such has been the foundation of every village, now in existence upon these waters. Osceola mills, built in 1845, since which time a village of several hundred inhabitants has sprung into existence...A few miles below, on the Minnesota side, are the Marine mills, which at present, as we have been informed are doing an extensive business.

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Hudson, Red Rock (Newport-Woodbury by dating) and Stillwater, all affording ready and accessible markets for produce.

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Henry McKenty  
Dealer in Real Estate  
St. Paul, July 12, 1855.  
(37-1f)

**THE MINNESOTA PIONEER**  
**August 16, 1849**

The River St. Croix and its Towns

This stream, celebrated for the manufacture of pine lumber, forming the boundary line on the East side of the Mississippi River, between Wisconsin and Minnesota. The sources of the St. Croix and its tributaries, penetrate the wide expanse of swamps and plains covered with pine forests, extending from the western shore of Lake Superior to the ridge of highlands dividing its water from the tributaries of the Mississippi on the west...On the morning of the 10th of August, the steamboat Highland Mary No. 2, John Atchison, master, entered the mouth of the St. Croix, with, probably, one hundred passengers on board, nearly all of whom were making the excursion, for the sake of seeing the wonders of the St. Croix... (travel upriver)...

ST. PAUL, which is the principal commercial town on the Mississippi, is situated upon a bluff some seventy-five or one hundred feet above the river on its outward sweep, commanding a view of the stream for a distance of some two miles. The face of the country in the rear, that is, north of the tow, is quite uneven; and is made up of oak openings, mirrored by numerous little ponds. St. Paul has about eight hundred inhabitants, most of whom have sprouted up within the last few months. We have already most of the material comforts of life; we are usually visited by four steamboats a week, and Galena, Dubuque, and St. Louis, though the latter town is some eight hundred miles south of us, seem like neighbors...We need no more merchants. There is already too great a supply of all sorts of merchandise adapted to this market...We want farmers. We are almost ready to offer a bounty on farmers.. And we recommend to them to come—come as soon as they can. Corn and oats have retailed here during most of the present season at 50 and 75 cents, potatoes at 75 cents and one dollar.

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