

Summer

2018



THE CITY OF ORONOCO  
**THE GOLDEN EXPLORER**

*A Message from the Mayor*

Not sure about the weather this year, seems like we had August weather already with 90 degree plus temperatures and 100 deg heat indexes in late May and early June...what will happen in August-stick around! Should be interesting!

The summer activities are kicking in now, starting with July 4<sup>th</sup> and the Fireworks supported by the Fire Relief Association and the Downtown Oronoco Gold Rush Days donations! National Night Out is another great community event that is well attended. There will be bounce houses, door prizes for the kids and adults, canine demonstration by the Sheriff's Department and of course, food! Sponsored by the Downtown Gold Rush Days donations and many local businesses!

The big event of the year will soon be here – the 46<sup>th</sup> annual event of the Downtown Oronoco Gold Rush Days, August 17-19<sup>th</sup>. The Gold Rush Facebook and Instagram pages have been busy with posting and comments! There will be a Downtown Gold Rush Days 5K Walk/Run event on Sunday, August 19 – 1<sup>st</sup> time for Gold Rush Days and should be exciting and a nice touch for the Sunday morning crowd...check out their Downtown Oronoco Gold Rush Days 5K Facebook page. You can also register on the [www.goldrushmn.com](http://www.goldrushmn.com), under 'Menu' for a tee-shirt and an opportunity to say you ran/walked in the 1<sup>st</sup> one! Registration starts at 7AM and the 5K starts at 8AM!

Wastewater Project update – Oronoco received \$2.5 million dollars from the legislators this past Spring to continue to work on the Wastewater project. These funds will be used for keeping the project moving with the ability to purchase easements, properties, etc. and complete the design work of the project to go out and get quotes for the construction.

Cont.

The goal is to be “shovel ready” when the next bonding bill is considered in 2019 or 2020! Of course, this is dependent on the legislators’ decision and who gets the funding! We will need your support with contacting our local legislators!

By the time you read this, there will have been a June 28<sup>th</sup> Public Information Meeting regarding the two options that are being discussed for the Wastewater Project – a conveyance to Rochester or a Regional plant for the majority of the city of Oronoco and Oronoco Estates Mobil Community. I hope you took the time to come to the meeting to hear and provide comments about these two options the city council will be considering approving. Keep reading/watching/attending the city council meetings and minutes.

Enjoy the summer and please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions or comments! Thank you!



## A message from Councilor Trish Shields



### Welcome Summer!

Please check out all of the parks Oronoco has to offer. There is so much to do. Garden Park has gardens for residents to rent. Plants are sprouting and I am excited to see all the great produce. Should you have a garden in the city and get overwhelmed with produce this summer and early fall, please consider donating to the food shelf.

I am excited for the 4th of July fireworks at Oronoco Park, National Night Out, and Gold Rush right around the corner. Please join us for these great events. The city website has more information on National Night Out. It is a great community event and I hope to see you all there. Those looking to get involved with Gold Rush this year, we are looking for volunteers! Also, please remember to get your gathering permits at City Hall (gathering permits are required for those having garage sales as well).

As the weather is getting nicer, our lawns are happily growing fast. Make sure when you are mowing, to mow your right of way as well. You may reference ordinance #309 on the city website for mowing requirements.

Enjoy your summer!



## **DOWNTOWN ORONOCO GOLD RUSH DAYS**

### **August 17-19, 2018**

#### Volunteers Needed for Gold Rush

Please consider volunteering to work two or more hours at Gold Rush. Sign up via the Downtown Oronoco Gold Rush Days website, heading Get Involved, Volunteers! You may also volunteer at National Night Out on Tuesday, August 7th.

#### Gathering Permits for Downtown Oronoco Gold Rush Days

Anyone in the City of Oronoco who rents space to vendors, park vehicles on their property, or has a sale during the event needs to purchase a gathering permit at City Hall, The fee is \$25.00.

#### Right-of-Ways During Gold Rush

Residents please be aware that all Right-of-Ways will be marked even though Gold Rush may not utilize those lots. No exceptions.

#### Downtown Oronoco Gold Rush Days

Please check out the Downtown Oronoco Gold Rush Days Facebook page, "like" us, share the page with your friends and family, and attend the event.

Also check out our Instagram! There are lots of great photos of past merchandise.

Remember, Downtown Oronoco Gold Rush Days is a non-profit event, hosted by Oronoco residents volunteering their time. The funds remaining after expenses pay for July 4th fireworks, help pay for food and activities at National Night Out and support local organizations including Oronoco Seniors, History Center, Cemetery, Food Shelf, Fire Department, First Responders, City Parks, Oronoco churches, etc.

Visit the Downtown Oronoco Gold Rush Days website at [www.goldrushmn.com](http://www.goldrushmn.com) to see posts that highlight the vendors we are expecting this year.

Patsy Matts



**ORONOCO  
GOLD RUSH**

EVERY THIRD WEEKEND  
IN AUGUST.

August 17th, 18th, and 19th

For more information please visit the Gold Rush website at [www.goldrushmn.com](http://www.goldrushmn.com).

Gathering Permits available at City Hall for \$25.

The background of the entire image is a close-up, slightly blurred view of the American flag, showing the stars and stripes in shades of blue, red, and white.

Celebrate  
*4th of July*  
with Oronoco!

Oronoco Park.  
Fireworks start at 10pm.  
Hope to see you all there!

A special thank you, all of you, who make this event possible  
and a big Thank You to Downtown Oronoco Gold Rush!

City Hall will be closed for 4th of July

*Oronoco Area History Center*

Meetings 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 7pm at the  
Community Center

The History Center is open the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each  
month, 10:00am-12:00pm, or by appointment. Contact  
Mary at 507-367-4320

July 1, 1973 – **The King's Park Festival was a success with**  
9000 young people and 150 kegs of inexpensive beer. It  
was a hot day and many cooled off in the Zumbro River.  
There were no arrests, no trouble, no major accidents and  
a lot of happy young people. The festival was located on a  
farm 2 miles east of Oronoco.

December 11, 1952 – The Rural Electrification  
Administration (REA) has approved another loan of  
\$88,000 to the Pine Island Telephone Company. The funds  
will be used to replace the service now provided by the  
Oronoco Telephone Company, with a dial exchange serving  
207 customers on 51 miles of line.

July 7, 1923 – Oronoco State Bank was closed late  
yesterday due to the cashier being short more than  
\$15,000 in his accounts. No arrests have been made. The  
bank deposits total \$62,000. (The cashier was later  
arrested, found guilty and sent to prison.)

\*\*\*\*\*

The History Center will be hosting an Ice Cream Social and  
a Pie Night sometime during July and August. Watch  
Facebook for dates and times.

We are currently looking into the history of the Oronoco  
Creamery and Oronoco Cheese Factory, but have not  
found much information. We would welcome any photos,  
stories, records or any other information you may be able  
to provide! Thanks in advance for helping us in our  
research.

### ***The Young at Heart Exercise Group***

is continuing to meet weekly at 9 a.m. in the Oronoco Community Center. Exercises incorporate the use of hand and ankle weights and stretch resistance tubes. In July we will be adding small balls to the mix. Come and check out what we do to help make exercise more fun. Group exercise helps us support and encourage each other and the socialization of being in a group is also good for your health.

NOTE: We will not meet on July 4<sup>th</sup>.

Stay healthy and keep moving, Rosemary Van Houten

### ***Oronoco Seniors***

(and seniors from the surrounding areas)

Enrichment Programs 2018

(Public Welcome)

\*

#### **July 11th at 1 pm: Oronoco Flora**

Hosta's, shade plants and more. Presented by Jean Meyer, master Gardener from Rochester Garden Club. Followed by desserts, fellowship, 500 cards, bingo, and more.

#### **August 8th at 1 pm: Accordion Fan Fare**

By Jim Sexton (master artist) will lift our spirits with music. Followed by desserts, fellowship, 500 cards, bingo, and more.

#### **July 25th and August 22nd at Noon: Lunch**

Catered by Tilly's. Followed by fellowship, 500 cards, bingo and more.

\*

For any questions, please contact Carole at 507-367-4717 or at [Fier@bevcomm.net](mailto:Fier@bevcomm.net)

## *Hello from the Oronoco Fire Department*

The 4th of July holiday brings thoughts of warm weather, BBQ grilling, parades and of course, fireworks. While fireworks are often the highlight of the festivities, the Oronoco Fire Department would like to remind you to take proper precautions and stay safe around fireworks.

As you make your plans we recommend that you leave the display to the professionals. There are so many great fireworks displays across the state leading up to on the holiday itself, thus leaving it to the professionals lets you have all the thrills without the worry. The City of Oronoco will have a show starting around 10 PM on the 4<sup>th</sup>. If you do still plan to have your own fireworks display keep in mind what is legal here in Minnesota. The sale, possession and use of certain non-explosive and non-aerial consumer fireworks is permitted in Minnesota. A few examples of legal fireworks are sparklers, cones and tubes that emit sparks and novelty items like snakes and party poppers.

Consumer fireworks may not be used on public property across the state such as parks, schools, roads and alleys. Anything that flies or explodes is illegal in Minnesota. Explosive and aerial fireworks are prohibited for public sale, possession and use. Just a few examples of illegal fireworks include firecrackers, bottle rockets, roman candles and mortars and shells.

During summer celebrations people may use “sky lanterns” or “celebration lanterns”. These require heat from a candle to raise them skyward, where they blow out of sight and land wherever fate drops them. These devices are also illegal in Minnesota because they pose a distinct fire and safety threat to buildings, homes, natural settings and livestock.

We hope that everyone is able to get out and enjoy this 4th of July holiday.

Call the firehall at 367-4440 if you would like to contact us with any questions, and check out our website <http://www.oronocofire.com> and our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/oronocofire> for more information.



## *Presbyterian Church of Oronoco*

20 -3rd Street S.W., P.O. 118  
Phone 507-367-4711  
website: [www.oronocochurch.org](http://www.oronocochurch.org)  
Pastor: Lisa Johnson  
Email: [pastorlisaj@gmail.com](mailto:pastorlisaj@gmail.com)  
Phone: 507-995-7310



### **Sunday Worship 10:00a.m.**

**Communion is offered the first Sunday of each month  
and all are welcome to participate.**

The Food Shelf is housed at and sponsored by  
our church together with Channel One.

**The food shelf is open the second  
and fourth Wednesday of each month.**

**During the summer months the food shelf will  
be open from 5-7:00 p.m.**



### **All Around the Campfire**

We had so much fun with our campfire gatherings last summer that we're at it again this summer! One Sunday a month, we'll be gathering in the evening on the church lawn. There will be a campfire. There will be lawn games. There will be s'mores. This is a chance for us to spend some fun, relaxed, un-structured time together, and to invite people who may not be as comfortable coming through the church doors for the first time. Bring your neighbors and friends. Bring kids. Let's have fun!

- July 22: 5:30-8:00 p.m.
- Aug. 26: 5:30-8:00 p.m.
- Sept. 23: 5:30-8:00 p.m.



Cont.

## Vacation Bible School

We're getting an early jump on things this year! We had so much fun with our vacation Bible school last year that this year, we're going to try 5 evenings right here in Oronoco. This year's theme will be "Hero Central: Discover Your Strength in God."

Here are the details:

**Where:** Presbyterian Church of Oronoco

**When:** July 16-20, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

**Ages:** 4-12

**Cost:** \$15/person or \$30/family



We will be serving the kids dinner from 6:00-6:30 p.m., then enjoying some really fun programming after that. Registration is required, so check out [www.oronocochurch.org/vbs](http://www.oronocochurch.org/vbs) for the registration link as well as more information.



***1st Responder's***

***We are excited to see you all at  
National Night Out on August 7th!***

## CITY OF ORONOCO MEETINGS

### City Council:

3rd Tuesday each month @ 7:00 pm

### Planning & Zoning:

2nd Thursday each month @ 7:00 pm

### 1st Responders:

1st Monday each month @ 6:30pm

### Fire Department:

2nd Monday of each month @ 6:30pm

4th Monday of each month @ 6:30pm

### Parks & Trail Committee:

1st Monday of each month @ 6:30 pm

### Downtown Oronoco Gold Rush:

2nd Monday each month @ 6:00 pm

### Water & Sewer Committee :

2nd Tuesday each month @ 6:30 pm

## CITY CONTACTS

### 2017 Mayor:

Ryland Eichhorst (993-9045)

### 2017 Council Members:

Trish Shields (367-2525)

Beau Hanenberger (367-2223)

Carl Krause (358-5330)

Nancy Quimby (319-4328)

### City Clerk / Treasurer:

Sandy Jessen (367-4405)

### Assistant Clerk:

Rebecca McGuire (367-4405)

### Maintenance:

Dan Howard (367-2281)

Jim Ackman (367-2281)

### Fire Department:

Dan Sundt (367-4440)

### Emergency Medical Responders:

Jeff Allhiser (367-4440)

### Emergency Operations Center:

Pat McGovern (367-2277)

### Planning & Zoning:

Adam Brase

### Gold Rush Committee:

Carol Olson (367-2111)

### Park Committee:

Katie Dudley (367-2744)

### Cemetery Association:

John Tilford (507)273-1661

## CITY HALL INFORMATION

Monday - Thursday

9AM-3:30PM

Friday

9-1pm

(507) 367-4405

[oronococityhall@yahoo.com](mailto:oronococityhall@yahoo.com)

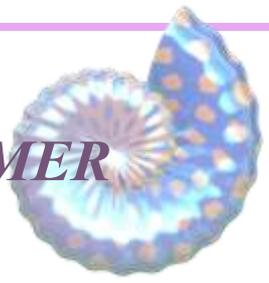
[www.oronoco.com](http://www.oronoco.com)

**Please remember that  
all dogs and cats  
must be current on shots  
and licensed with Oronoco  
per City Ordinance. License  
are \$5.00 a year per pet.  
Please renew your license  
every December at City Hall  
with a copy of your animals  
vaccination record.**

**Thank you!**



**SUMMER**



**Need A Document Notarized?**

If you need a document notarized, contact City Hall. Your City Clerk, is a Notary of the Public. This is a service provided FREE by the City.



**WATER TEST  
KITS**

Available at City Hall. It tests for coli form, bacteria, nitrate, chloride, sulfate, nitrite and fluoride.

Please visit our website for notices, events, applications, permits, meeting minutes, and more.

[WWW.ORONOCO.COM](http://WWW.ORONOCO.COM)



**LIKE us on Facebook!**



**COMMUNITY CENTER  
AND CITY PARK RENTALS**

CC Room Rental:	\$75 - \$150
Meeting Room Rental:	\$25
Chairs:	\$35
Picnic Tables:	\$50
Camp Sites:	\$10
City Shelter:	\$30





## Pine Island Area Home Services A Living at Home/Block Nurse Program

How can we  
help you?

Web site: [www.pineislandareahomeservices.org](http://www.pineislandareahomeservices.org)

Facebook Page: [www.facebook.com/pineislandareahomeservices](http://www.facebook.com/pineislandareahomeservices)

Pine Island Area Home Services provides volunteer services to promote independent, home-based living for adults 65 and older in the Pine Island and Oronoco area.

### Current and Ongoing Services are as follows:

#### Transportation



Transportation services are provided by our volunteer drivers. Please call the PIAHS office (356-2229) to request transportation. If you are interested in volunteering as a driver, we would welcome your help. We are always in need of more volunteer drivers!



#### Exercise Classes

One-hour classes are held at the Pine Island Senior Citizen Center on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9:30a.m. **Oronoco** holds an exercise class at 9:00 on Wednesdays at the City Hall. The exercise classes incorporate weights into the regular exercise program to improve strength and balance. This class is designated to prevent or reverse bone loss. This class is recommended especially to those concerned about osteoporosis prevention or reversal.



#### Blood Pressure Clinics (open to anyone)

You are welcome to have a blood pressure check at 11:00 a.m. on the following dates and locations:

- 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays each month at the City Center.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday each month at the Pine Island Senior Citizen Center

**4th Wednesday each month at the Oronoco Community Center**  
(Not held January thru March)

Cont.

**Taste of Pine Island**

**Supporting Pine Island Area Home Services &**

**Pine Haven Care Center**

In-home blood pressure monitoring is available for elders having difficulty leaving home.

### **Shopping Trips**

Twice a month you may take our bus to Walmart for your shopping needs. Call for dates and time.

### **Foot Care Clinic**

A foot care clinic is provided on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday each month. An \$18 fee is paid directly to the nurse. Call Pine Island Area Home Services at 356-2999 for appointments. In-home appointments are available for elders having difficulty leaving home.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**



### **Fundraiser Dinner**

July 20<sup>th</sup>, a fundraiser dinner will be held at the Pine Island Legion. Join us for a great meal and good conversation while supporting our program! Visit us on Facebook for further information.

### **Taste of Pine Island**

Join us for our 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Taste of Pine Island held at the Pine Haven Care Center. Dinner is served from 5:00 - 7:30. A silent auction is held also from 5:00-7:30, and the raffle drawing is held at 7:30. The dinner will include, chicken, ribs and pulled pork. Enjoy the live entertainment of "Becky Schlegal". Join us for a great time!

### **Volunteers**

We are always looking for new volunteers to assist our seniors. We especially need volunteer drivers. Please contact us if you are interested.



***Book Exchange  
at  
Oronoco City  
Hall***

We now have  
**MORE  
BOOK  
SHELVES!**

Please feel free to  
bring books in  
or  
take books  
out!

We have great  
reads for all!

There is something  
for everyone!

*Notice:*

Please remember that  
it is against City  
Ordinance #709 to  
have motorized  
vehicles (Golf Carts,  
ATVs, etc..) in the  
parks or on the trails.

This ordinance will  
be under review at the  
July City Council  
meeting.

If you are interested in holding an event at the Community Center, please contact Oronoco City Hall for arrangements at [oronococityhall@yahoo.com](mailto:oronococityhall@yahoo.com) or at 507-367-4405.

**Oronoco Park shelter is available to rent for \$30 for the day. It's a great area for showers, graduation, weddings, or family gatherings. If you are interested (weekends are booking fast), please call City Hall to reserve your day!**

Rental information is also located on the city website at [www.oronoco.com](http://www.oronoco.com)

The City has had a lot of animals getting out and enjoying the great weather. Please remember to register your animals with City Hall should your animal go for a nice stroll. If your animal is registered, the City can get your family pet back to you safely. Having a tag also ensures your neighbors that your pet is up to date on shots. If you are unable to make it in during business hours, please contact staff to make arrangements.



## *Water & Sewer*

Welcome Lori Neu as a new committee member!

## *Parks and Trails*

Please visit the Oronoco Parks this summer! See what we have available at our 9 parks, they are all listed on the city website. This month I'd like to highlight Cowden Park (located off 3rd Street SW). Check it out and experience the 9 hole disc golf course!  
Happy July to you all!

## *Planning & Zoning*

*P&Z has made some changes. Please welcome Paul Jannetto as the new chairmen. Thank you Adam for your time as chairmen and staying on the committee. Have a safe 4th!*



## *Grace Lutheran Church*

45 1<sup>ST</sup> Ave. NE  
Oronoco, MN 55960  
See us on Facebook  
[www.gracelutheranoronoco.com](http://www.gracelutheranoronoco.com)

Summer (Sunday after Memorial Day through  
Labor Day):  
9:30 a.m. – Worship

### **ELECTIONS**

#### **Open Seats:**

Mayor - 2 year term  
Council - 4 year term  
Council - 4 year term

Sign up for candidacy at City Hall  
starts July 31st and  
ends August 14th at 5 pm.

#### **Primary:**

August 14th, 7am to 8 pm

#### **Election Day:**

November 6th, 7 am to 8 pm

\* More information is on the city website



**POLICE • COMMUNITY • PARTNERSHIPS**

**National Night Out  
August 7th, 2018  
5 PM - 7 PM  
Oronoco Park**

**\* More information is on the city  
website**

Oronoco Cemetery Association  
2018 Season Watering Program  
Memorial Day – Labor Day

For \$50.00 we will water your (1) plant during the summer

Name on Marker \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Planters \_\_\_\_\_

If interested please contacted Mary Fuller at 507-367-4320 or  
Mail payment along with name on marker to Oronoco Cemetery,  
PO Box 61, Oronoco MN 55960



Coloring Corner





City of Oronoco ~ May 2018 Calendar

July 2 - 6:30pm - 1st Responders

July 2- 6:30pm - Parks & Trails

July 2 - 7pm - Township

July 4 - City Hall Closed for the 4th

July 4 - 10 pm - Fireworks at Oronoco Park

July 9 - 6pm - DOGR

July 9- 6:30pm - Fire Department

July 10- 6:30pm - Water & Sewer

July 11- Noon - Seniors

July 12- 7pm- Planning & Zoning

July 12 - 7:05 pm - Public Hearing

July 17 - 7pm - Reg. City Meeting

July 17 - 7 pm - Public Hearing for a vacate

July 23 - 6:30pm - FD training

July 25 - Noon - Seniors

July 28 - Water Bills Due

August 7- National Night Out

August 14 - Primary Election

August 17 - Gold Rush

*\*Seniors Exercise Class - Every Wednesday Morning,*

*9am at Oronoco City Hall*

*\*More than 2 City Council Members may attend committee meetings creating a quorum.*

*Thank you to everyone who makes this newsletter possible!*