

Winter

2020



THE CITY OF ORONOCO
THE GOLDEN EXPLORER

A Message from the Mayor

Clerk / Treasurer – Sandy Jessen, our Clerk / Treasurer is venturing out into a new chapter in life! She has been working at the City Hall office for 15+ years. First as a Deputy Clerk before being appointed Clerk / Treasurer in 2008. Her last day in the office was Friday, February 28. Sandy and her husband, Mark will be relocating to Wisconsin to enjoy their new home on a lake. We wish Sandy the very best and thank her for her time and service as the Clerk/Treasurer for the City of Oronoco! Congratulations Sandy and Thank you! The City Council has initiated the process to find a new clerk/treasurer.

Gold Rush Weekend will be in 6 months! August 14-16, 2020. Yikes! The committee is short from 1 to 3 members. The reason for the 1 – 3 is to keep the committee at odd numbers for voting purposes on issues that the committee has to make decisions on. If you are interested in community involvement, this is a great opportunity! Please contact City Hall, if you are interested, or let me know at oroncomayor@gmail.com or call me with questions at 507.993.9045. A few more changes coming in August for the weekend show - Show hours will be from 8 AM to 6 PM, Friday and Saturday and 8 AM to 2 PM on Sunday. 5K – we are planning for a 5K event on Sunday starting at 9 AM. We will also have a kids race, maybe 0.8 miles or so. Please watch for more details on the Downtown Oronoco Gold Rush Facebook page.

Enjoy the Spring weather coming up and hopefully it won't be like 2019!

WATER & SEWER

The Water & Sewer committee and Stantec Engineering, our City Engineering company has made some great progress the last 6 months with our regional wastewater project. We have been working very closely with the MPCA and have been approved and was issued a municipal wastewater discharge permit (aka National Declaration Elimination System (NPDES) / State Disposal System (SDS) Permit to Oronoco mid-February for our new regional wastewater treatment plant and infrastructure system. The permit 60-day Public Comment Period concluded without citizen, agency or environmental group opposition to the proposed permit issuance. The issuance of the permit has allowed the Public Facilities Authority (PFA) to approve additional funding of \$1.4 million dollars for Oronoco to proceed with more soil borings for the wastewater treatment plant location and infrastructure pre-design to be completed. We are still working with legislatures and the House and Senate Capital Investment Committee's with our request for \$20.4 million dollars to start construction in late 2020, early 2021 with a 2-year construction period. The overall State bonding bill we be approved May 18, 2020.

Please share your support by contacting our local legislators. Senator Senjem who can be reached at 651.296.3904 or by email at sen.david.senjem@senate.mn. Please also call Representative Duane Quam at 651.296.9236 or email at rep.duane.quam@house.mn. As mentioned before, they do like to hear from Oronoco constituents and others for support of our important project for the City, Oronoco Mobile Home Community and to promote 'Clean Water'. A simple call or quick email requesting their support and the importance for the wastewater project is all you have to say. It does not need to be lengthy email or long phone call. Short and simple! It IS APPRECIATED! Thank you!

Rivewood Hills Water Looping Project – A water looping project is planned for construction to begin April 20, 2020 from Sunny View Ln to Istas Ln. The project will hopefully not take the entire summer, but there will be some inconveniences around the Riverwood Hills Park playground area, Will work with the contractor to minimize the inconvenience. The project will help water pressure and fire protection for these areas of Riverwood Hills.

A message from
Councilor Trish Shields

This weather has been really something! Is it spring yet? Once the weather warms up and the ATV's /Golf Cart's start to get some use, please stop into City Hall for an ATV/Golf Cart permit. As of 2019, permits for ATV's and Golf Cart's are now required by city code. It is also a great idea to read city ordinances, as there have been changes.

It is that time of year again to get your pet tags. If you are unable to make it in during office hours, you may contact City Hall for arrangements.

I would also like to thank our City Clerk Sandy Jessen for her many years of service.

You will be greatly missed!

Enjoy the beautiful weather!

Oronoco Food Shelf

Oronoco Food Shelf has been selected to receive donations from Hy-Vee through this reusable bag program. For every bag purchased at the West Circle drive Hy-Vee in March we receive \$1. Other Hy-Vee stores offer the bags and if you shop there and purchase a bag you must fill out the tag to designate the Oronoco food Shelf as the recipient for your donation. Each Hy-Vee store designates a different charity.



**We've been selected for the
HY-VEE REUSABLE BAG PROGRAM!**



**When you buy the \$2.50 red My Heart Reusable Bag
this month, we will receive a \$1 donation.**

We are still looking for a new location in town and may end up building an addition to the current location in order to comply with ADA regulations and get our operations on one level so no stairs to be navigated by visitors.



Presbyterian Church of Oronoco

20 -3rd Street S.W., P.O. 118
Phone 507-367-4711
website: www.oronocochurch.org
Pastor: Lisa Johnson
Email: 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 winter months the food shelf will be
open from 4-6:00 p.m.**



Cont.

March Luncheon

Wed., Mar. 18

11:30 am - 1:00 pm

Maundy Thursday Service

Worship around a soup and bread dinner

Thurs., Apr. 9

6:00 p.m.

Good Friday Tennebrae Service

Fri., Apr. 10

7:00 p.m.

Easter Worship

Sun., Apr. 12

10:00 a.m.

T-Ball Information

*We are looking for a T-Ball coordinator
for the 2020 season.*

The season will be June-August 4th.

*Please contact City Hall at
oronococityhall@gmail.com*

or at (507) 367-4405

With any questions you may have.

*More information will follow
after T-Ball obtains
a 2020 coordinator.*



Parks and Trails

Are you interested in gardening but may not have the room?

The City of Oronoco has garden plots at Garden Park available now. Please contact City Hall for pricing and an application.

The next Parks meeting date is March 2nd, 6:30 pm at City Hall. Meetings are open to the public and anyone is welcome to attend.

Planning & Zoning

Our next meeting is March 12th, 7 pm at City Hall. We will be discussing the FLUP and other topics at this meeting. Please attend if you are interested in the zoning of the city.

Camping season at Oronoco Park will be open Memorial weekend, May 22nd, 2020.



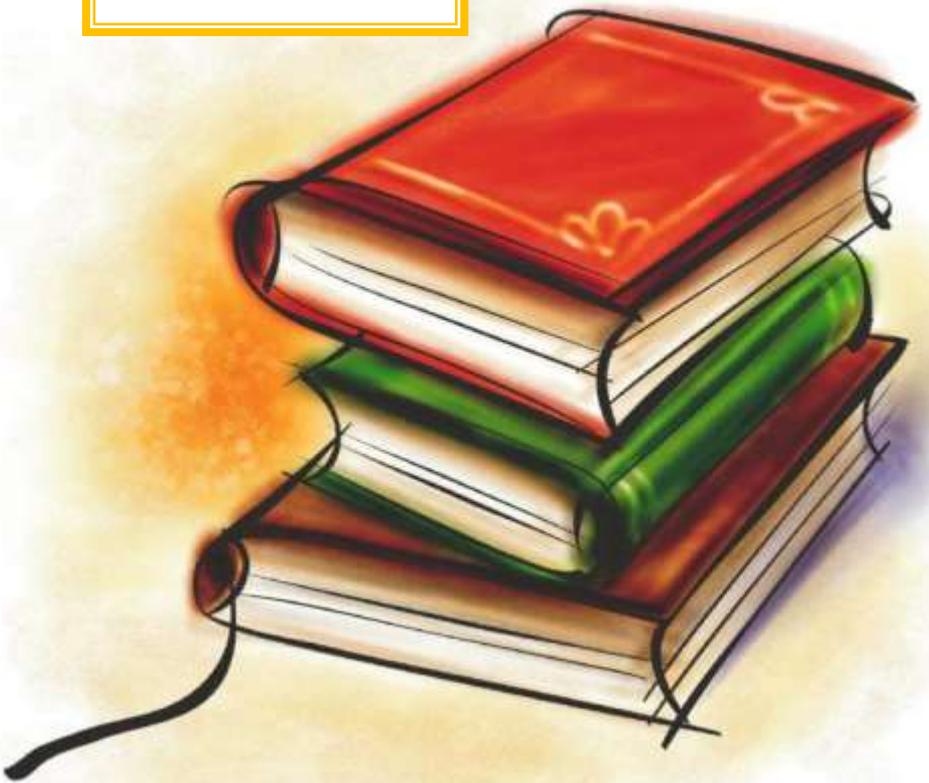
***1st Responder's
and
Fire Department***

***We are looking for members,
applications are on our website.***

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

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

We have great
reads for all!



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

2020 Mayor:

Ryland Eichhorst

2020 Council Members:

Trish Shields

Carl Krause

Nancy Quimby

Lori Novak

City Clerk / Treasurer:

Deputy Clerk:

Rebecca McGuire

Maintenance:

Dan Howard

Jim Ackman

Fire Department:

Dan Sundt

Emergency Medical Responders:

Chris Inman

Emergency Operations Center:

Pat McGovern

Planning & Zoning:

Paul Jannetto

Gold Rush Committee:

Carol Olson

Park Committee:

Katie Dudley

Cemetery Association:

John Tilford

Oronoco Township:

Lucy Shonyo

CITY HALL INFORMATION

Monday - Thursday

9AM-3:30PM

Friday

9-1pm

(507) 367-4405

oronococityhall@gmail.com

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!



**WINTER
WONDERLAND**

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.ORNOCO.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:	\$15
City Shelter:	\$30



ORONOCO AREA SENIORS GROUP

WE ARE LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS!

CALL Carole at 367-4717 or Judy 367-4462

Join the Seniors (Age 55+) of the Oronoco area at the Oronoco Community Center every 4th Wednesday of each month. A lunch buffet catered by Tilly's at noon is offered for only \$4.00. Call Carole for lunch reservations. Meals are not provided Jan - March.

Followed by programs and speakers at 1:15 pm. If time permits the group plays Bingo, 500 cards, other activities and have a great social gathering.

Hope you are well and Happy!

Our group will be meeting during the winter months for fun and fellowship. 500 cards (2-3 tables), but if you don't play cards - Mexican train anyone? Yahtzee? Other activities?

Time: 1-4 pm

Where: Oronoco Community Center

Dates: Wed., Jan. 22, Feb. 26th, and March 25th

Other: Snacks, treats, bottled water, and coffee provided

Call Carole at 367-4717 if you plan to attend

Don't miss this date!

April 22nd, 2020

- resume our buffet lunch at Noon
- 1 pm featuring special speaker:

Clyde Newton , WWII Veteran/retired teacher, "His stories"

July 22, 2020

- "The original" Kitchen Band

Friends, family, and community welcome!



Pine Island Area Home Services

A Living at Home/Block Nurse Program

Web site: www.pineislandareahomeservices.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/pineislandareahomeservices

Office hours: Monday through Thursday from 9:00-1:00

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.

Transportation, handyman services, light housekeeping, friendly visits and other services are available to help elders remain safe and comfortable in their home. Home visits are available to adults 65 and older who would like more information or need assistance.

Special Upcoming Events:

February 26, 2020 – “Coffee with a Cop” topic is the most prevalent SCAMS in 2019” presented by Pine Island Bank.

March 30, 2020 – Tax preparation assistance from AARP at PIAHS. You must call for an appointment. Our current PIAHS clients are given preference when scheduling. Limited times available.

April 17, 2020 – PIAHS Fundraiser Dinner at the American Legion from 5:00-7:00. Menu to be determined.

Current and Ongoing Services are as follows:



Transportation

Transportation services are provided by our volunteer drivers.

Please call the PIAHS office (356-2999) 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 exercise 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.

Cont.

Yoga Class

Gentle Yoga classes are held in Pine Island on Wednesdays at 9:30. The sessions are held at St. Paul's Lutheran Church.



NEW! Chair Volleyball

Beginning March 16th, we are having "Chair Volleyball". It will be held at the Pine Island Senior Center at 12:30 the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month. Come join in the fun!

Foot Care Clinic

A foot care clinic is changing its schedule since Ruth Fredrickson's husband passed away. Our new nurse is Suzette Hirichs and she will be setting a new schedule. 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.



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:

- 2nd and 4th Tuesdays each month at the City Center.
- 4th Wednesday each month at 11:30 at the Oronoco Community Center (Not held January thru March)
- 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.

Do you need help with completing the census?

Let us know how we can help.



Every 10 years, the US government conducts the census. The census is a snapshot of the community and defines the opportunities ahead. Every person counted OR not counted impacts the next 10 years of federal funds, political representation, public infrastructure, etc. Missing just one person in the census will result in loss of federal funding of thousands of dollars over the 10 years until the next census. Because of the change in how the census is being done, Pine Island Area Home Services does not want to take any chance on missing anyone. It is especially important to get a complete count of people 65+ as that affects funding for services to help people be able to stay living at home.

More importantly, it is imperative to have an accurate count which includes EVERYONE!



*Grace Evangelical
Lutheran Church*

Wisconsin Synod (WELS) - wels.net

45 1ST Ave. NE, Box 238
Oronoco, MN 55960

Pastor Roger Riedel – Cell: (507) 601-8541
riedels.1999@gmail.com

Follow us on Facebook
www.gracelutheranoronoco.com

Sunday Worship – 10:00am

Monday Worship – 7:00pm

Wednesday Lenten Worship – 7:00pm

(The beginning of Lent is Ash Wednesday, February 26th.)

Please join us in worshipping the suffering Savior, our Lord
Jesus Christ.

By His wounds we are healed!



2 Peter 3:18 - "Grow in the grace and knowledge of our
Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."

Sunday schedule:

8:15-9:45am Youth confirmation/catechism class with Pastor

8:45- 9:45am Sunday school

10:00am Worship

11:15am Family Bible Time & Fellowship Hour

Cont.

2020 Lenten Worship

Sunday & Monday Theme: “Contrasts”

Midweek Theme: “The Son of God Goes Forth to War”

Ash Wednesday, Feb. 26th at 7:00pm – “Reconnaissance Report”

Sunday, March 1st (10:00am) & Monday, March 2nd (7:00pm)

“The contrast of Adam and Christ.”

Wednesday, March 4th at 7:00pm – “Skirmishes”

Sunday, March 8th (10:00am) & Monday, March 9th (7:00pm)

“The contrast of works and faith.”

Wednesday, March 11th at 7:00pm – “Hidden Warrior”

Sunday, March 15th (10:00am) & Monday, March 16th (7:00pm)

“The contrast of darkness and light.”

Wednesday, March 18th at 7:00pm – “The Promised Warrior”

Sunday, March 22nd (10:00am) & Monday, March 23rd (7:00pm)

“The contrast of old self and new self.”

Wednesday, March 25th at 7:00pm – “The Warrior Faces Satan's Ally”

Sunday, March 29th (10:00am) & Monday, March 30th (7:00pm)

“The contrast of death and life.”

Wednesday, April 1st at 7:00pm – “The Warrior Rejected”

Sunday, April 5th (10:00am) & Monday, April 6th (7:00pm) –
Palm Sunday

“The contrast of exaltation and humility.”

Thursday, April 9th at 7:00pm – Maundy Thursday -

“The Battle Is Personal”

Friday, April 10th at 2:00pm – Good Friday -

“The Greatest Battle Ever Fought”

Friday, April 10th at 7:00pm – Good Friday Tenebrae Service

Sunday, April 12th at 7:00am – Easter Sunrise Service - “Victory!”

Sunday, April 12th at 10:30am – Easter Song Service

Please take these worship opportunities during Lent

Sunday morning Bible class meets after Sunday worship in the church basement “fellowship hall.” In our current study, “Back to the Basics,” we are having an in-depth discussion of “The Ten Commandments.”

Wednesday evening Bible class meets in the church basement near the fire place. (You may enter through the double doors upstairs or the glass doors downstairs.) We paused our study until April 15, 2020.

For information regarding monthly Friday Fun Nights, Youth Group and church membership, or additional information about Sunday worship and weekly Bible study, please call Pastor Riedel.



Young at Heart Exercise Group

The Oronoco Young at Heart Exercise Group meets Wednesday mornings; 9 a.m. at the Oronoco Community Center. Following at 10:15 will be yoga class for those interested.

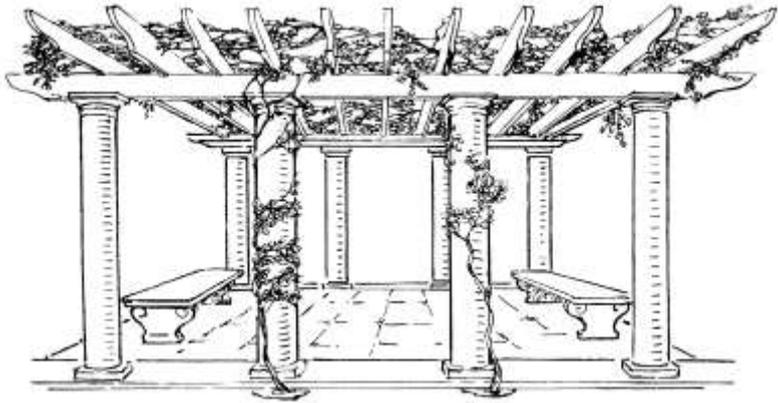
“Motion is lotion”. Exercise can have a positive effect, lubricating joints to keep them moving. It is important to maintain flexibility, strength, range of motion and endurance. As we age, we tend to get visits from “arther”-itis. Exercise is the best thing you can do for arthritis. It helps you break out of the pain cycle. According to Mayo Clinic: “Over time, exercise is probably the one therapy that will do the most good for managing your arthritis. Exercise must be done regularly to produce and sustain improvements.” If you have questions about exercising, check with your doctor. Don’t exercise to the point of pain. If you associate exercise with pain you most likely will not want to continue. You are encouraged to listen to your body. Never feel you need to keep up with what the group is doing. Every “body” is different. Work at your own level.

Join us at the Community Center Wednesday mornings and check it out.

Rosemary Van Houten

If you are interested in holding an event at the Community Center, please contact Oronoco City Hall for arrangements at oronococityhall@gmail.com or at 507-367-4405.

Rental information is also located on the city website at www.oronoco.com



Coloring Corner





City of Oronoco ~ 2020 Calendar

March 2 - 5:30 pm - Oronoco Township

March 2 - 6:30 pm - Parks

March 2 - 6:30 pm - 1st Resp.

March 3 - 7 am to 8 pm - PNP

March 8 - Daylight Saving

March 9 - 6 pm - DOGR

March 9 - 6:30 pm - FD

March 10 - 6:30 pm - Water & Sewer

March 12 - 7 pm - FLUP Public Information mtg

March 12 - 7 pm - Planning & Zoning

March 17 - 7 pm - Reg. Council Mtg.

March 23 - 6:30 pm - FD training

March 25 - noon - Seniors Group

March 28 - 11 am - Water Bills Due

*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!