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# Otsego VIEW

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### OTSEGO CELEBRATES 35 YEARS AS AN INCORPORATED CITY!

This **September 2025**, the vibrant community of Otsego marks its **35th anniversary** as an incorporated city! The city is embracing the milestone—bringing a sense of hometown pride and festive anticipation.

#### FROM TOWNSHIP TO CITY

Originally organized as a township in **1858**, Otsego earned its city status in late 1990, transitioning from purely rural roots into a dynamic, administratively capable urban center.

#### NUMBER 855

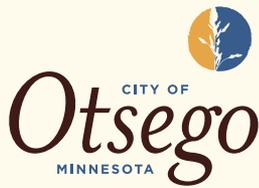
Remarkably, Otsego is Minnesota's **855th incorporated** city—a distinct recognition in the state's municipal landscape. Minnesota is home to approximately 856 such cities as of 2024, placing Otsego firmly within the state's tapestry of local governance.

#### A STORY OF RAPID GROWTH

Back in 2000, Otsego was home to just around **6,400 residents**. Twenty years later, the 2020 Census recorded nearly **20,000 people**, with recent estimates from the Minnesota State Demographer pushing that figure to **23,790 in 2025**. A 250% population surge dramatically transformed the community over just two decades.

*Continued on page 12*





**CITY HALL**

Address: 13400 90th Street NE

Phone: 763.441.4414

Website: [www.otsegomn.gov](http://www.otsegomn.gov)

Email: [cityhall@otsegomn.gov](mailto:cityhall@otsegomn.gov)

Hours: Monday-Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
& Friday 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

**PRAIRIE CENTER**

(Community Center and Council Chambers)  
8899 Nashua Avenue NE

**TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

Department of Building Safety: 763.441.2593

Utility Billing: 763.441.2310

After Hours Emergency Service: 1.877.274.6492

Parks and Recreation: 763.235.3148

Wright County Sheriff's Non-emergency: 763.682.1162

**CITY COUNCIL**

**MAYOR**

Jessica Stockamp: [jstockamp@otsegomn.gov](mailto:jstockamp@otsegomn.gov)

**COUNCILMEMBERS**

Ryan Dunlap: [rdunlap@otsegomn.gov](mailto:rdunlap@otsegomn.gov)

Tina Goede: [tgoede@otsegomn.gov](mailto:tgoede@otsegomn.gov)

Michelle Lund: [mlund@otsegomn.gov](mailto:mlund@otsegomn.gov)

Corey Tanner: [ctanner@otsegomn.gov](mailto:ctanner@otsegomn.gov)

**CITY STAFF**

City Administrator/Finance Director: **Adam Flaherty**

City Clerk: **Audra Etzel**

Human Resources/Assistant City Administrator: **Sabrina Hille**

City Planner: **Daniel Licht**

City Engineer: **Ron Wagner**

Parks and Recreation Director: **Nick Jacobs**

Communications Specialist: **Heidi Carey**

Street Operations Manager: **Kevin Lamson**

Utility Manager: **Kurt Neidermeier**

Emergency Services Director: **Daryl Rausch**

Building Official: **Mike Rosenau**

**MEETING SCHEDULE**

City Council: 2nd and 4th Monday of the month

Planning Commission: 1st and 3rd Monday of the month

Parks & Recreation Commission: 3rd Tuesday of the month

Heritage Preservation Commission: 2nd Tuesday of the month

Public Safety Commission: 2nd Tuesday of the month

*\*Meeting dates are subject to change;*

*call City Hall to confirm dates and times.*



**FOR ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES**

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**Quick. Easy. Impactful.  
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The City of Otsego is inviting residents to take part in a Community Survey to help us better understand the needs of our growing City. Your input will guide City planning, shape local programs and services, and ensure we're moving in the right direction—together.

Share your voice today!



**About The Survey:**

Take the survey by scanning the QR code or by visiting the City website. Look for the Survey under the Community section.

The survey takes only 2-5 minutes to complete.

Completely Anonymous

Survey ends September 30, 2025!

Thank you for sharing your feedback. Your participation truly makes a difference!



Questions: (763) 441-4414 [www.OtsegoMN.gov](http://www.OtsegoMN.gov)

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## GREETINGS NEIGHBORS!

This year marks an important milestone for our community—the City of Otsego is celebrating its 35th anniversary! Since officially becoming a city in 1990, Otsego has grown, thrived, and built a proud legacy rooted in community spirit, natural beauty, and shared progress.

We invite all residents to join us at the Otsego Prairie Festival on Saturday, September 13, 2025, at Prairie Park. The festivities begin at 10:00 a.m. and continue through the evening, concluding with fireworks at dusk.

As part of the celebration, we encourage you to stop by the Otsego Heritage Preservation Commission booth, which is currently gathering ideas for a community time capsule. This is a unique opportunity to help preserve what life in Otsego looked like in the early years—and in 2025—for future generations. You can share your ideas at the booth or by emailing the City of Otsego Deputy Clerk, Katie Kalland at [Kkalland@otsegomn.gov](mailto:Kkalland@otsegomn.gov).

This year's Prairie Festival promises to be one of the best yet, with a mix of new attractions and returning fan favorites. New food trucks will be on site offering a variety of delicious options, alongside familiar favorites.

In addition to the new attractions and food trucks, the festival will feature longtime classics like the Otsego Rod & Custom Car Show, local vendors and exhibitors, a petting zoo, inflatables, Touch-A-Truck, and paintball laser tag—all free and fun for the whole family. Gifts Anonymous will host Bingo, and tournaments like Paddle Battle pickleball, bean bags, and gaga ball will keep attendees active and entertained.

Start your morning off right with the Otsego Lions Club Pancake Breakfast from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m., then enjoy live performances under the shelter throughout the day by Roger's School of Music's "Awkward Silence" and North Ballet, to name a few. Under the Otsego Lions Beer Tent, enjoy live music featuring Todd Hurst during the midday and The Cyclones in the evening.

For more information on event timing, check out the Otsego Prairie Festival Facebook page or visit [www.otsegofestival.com](http://www.otsegofestival.com).

We hope you'll join us in celebrating 35 years of Otsego—past, present, and future—at this year's Prairie Festival!

*Jessica Stockamp*

MAYOR OF OTSEGO

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 <b>5</b> YEARS <b>Susan T. Peterson-Lerdahl</b> Estate & Probate 5 YEARS	 <b>5</b> YEARS <b>Tifanne E. Wolter</b> Family Law 5 YEARS	 <b>Rachell L. Henning</b> Elder Law RISING STARS HONOREE

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## HYDRANT FLUSHING

Hydrant flushing is a key preventive maintenance task that helps ensure hydrants, valves, and water mains are functioning properly. Releasing water at high pressure also clears out built-up sediment or debris from the low-use winter months, enhancing water quality and improving the overall reliability of the system.

Flushing will take place:

East Public Water System – Oct. 1-15

West Public Water System – Oct. 16-31

Visit [www.OtsegoMN.gov](http://www.OtsegoMN.gov) to view the flushing maps.



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## CHIEF'S CORNER

by Daryl Rausch

### Fire Prevention Week

October 5-11, 2025

Did you know? Fire Prevention Week is observed each year during the week of October 9th in commemoration of the Great Chicago Fire in 1871. The story goes that Mrs. Oleary's cow knocked over a lantern in her barn and started the fire

which spread to surrounding buildings, killing 250 people, and leaving over 100,000 homeless.

With this year's FPW campaign "**Charge into Fire Safety™: Lithium-Ion Batteries in Your Home**," works to educate everyone about using these batteries safely. The campaign stresses how important it is to buy, charge, and recycle safely when it comes to lithium-ion batteries.

Most of the electronics we use in our homes every day – smartphones, tablets, power and lawn tools, laptops, e-cigarettes, headphones, and toys, to name just a few – are powered by lithium-ion batteries. In fact, most everything that's rechargeable uses this type of battery.



If not used correctly or if damaged, lithium-ion batteries can overheat, start a fire, or even explode. To reduce these risks, look around your home – it's important to know which devices are powered by them.

For more information about Fire Prevention Week and lithium-ion battery safety, visit [fpw.org](http://fpw.org).

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NFPA FIRE PREVENTION WEEK  
fpw.org

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## A STATEMENT FROM YOUR SHERIFF

Sean Deringer, Wright County Sheriff

### Back to School Safety

As the new school year approaches, the Wright County Sheriff's Office would like to remind all Otsego residents—drivers, parents, and students alike—to prioritize safety on our roads and around our schools.

With buses back on the streets and more kids walking or biking to school, it's critical that drivers remain alert during the morning and afternoon commute. One of the most serious violations we encounter this time of year is motorists ignoring extended school bus stop arms. Our office takes these violations seriously and works proactively to identify and cite drivers who fail to stop when required. Deputies regularly patrol known bus routes and follow up on reports from bus drivers and school staff.

We're also seeing a growing number of e-bikes in our community, especially among younger riders. E-bikes can be a great way to get around, but they come with risks if not used responsibly. State law requires e-bike operators to be at least 15 years old, and all riders should wear helmets and understand the rules of the road. Some e-bikes can easily exceed 20 mph—fast enough to cause serious injury in a crash.

Let's work together to make this a safe and successful school year. Deputies will be present in school zones and neighborhood routes to support safe travel for everyone. If you see something concerning or have questions about traffic safety, don't hesitate to reach out.



## THANK YOU SUMMER INTERNS & SEASONALS!

The City of Otsego extends a heartfelt thank you to all the summer seasonal staff and interns who dedicated their time and energy to serving our community. Your hard work, enthusiasm, and commitment played a vital role in keeping our parks, facilities, and programs running smoothly throughout the busy summer months. Whether maintaining public spaces, assisting in city departments, or supporting community events, your contributions made a lasting impact. We truly appreciate your efforts and wish you all the best in your future endeavors!



(left to right): Jaxson Bean, Riley Green, Kelly Skalsky, Elise Ames, Ethan Mitlyng, Logan Hendricks, Roman Lindenfelser

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## KAYAK RENTAL PROGRAM BRINGS NEW MISSISSIPPI RIVER ACCESS TO OTSEGO

The City of Otsego's latest opportunity for outdoor recreation—a new kayak rental program—opened this July. The program, called Paddle Share, allows residents and visitors to take full advantage of Otsego's special access to the Mississippi River with a scenic 8-mile paddling route.

"The ability for residents to rent and traverse approximately 8 miles of river and have that touch point with nature is a unique opportunity that our city is granted," said Otsego Parks and Recreation Director Nick Jacobs. "So, it's nice to have the ability to offer that to residents at an affordable rate."

Paddlers can pick up their kayaks at Norin Landing Park, cruise down the Mississippi River for approximately 8 miles, then drop off their kayaks at Carrick's Landing Park.

The program uses a self-serve rental system. After making a reservation online, users will receive an access code to a locker at Norin Landing Park containing their kayak of choice, a life jacket, and a paddle. There are six single kayaks and two tandem kayaks available for rent.

The return station at Carrick's Landing Park includes an ADA-compliant dock for easy access. Returning paddlers will also find a spacious new shelter with picnic benches for relaxing after their day on the water.

Kayaks are available for \$30 per day. Reservations can be made up to 21 days in advance, and same-day rentals must be reserved before 8:45 a.m. Rentals must be returned by

4:55 p.m. or they are subject to a \$100 fee for every hour they are late. Rentals are planned to run from spring through fall every year.

Friends of the Mississippi River secured a donation of approximately \$8,000 from Cargill to help make the Paddle Share program a reality.

Residents won't want to miss this opportunity to connect with nature and enjoy a few hours of peace and quiet on the river. To reserve your kayak, visit [otsego.mn.gov](http://otsego.mn.gov) and click on the Paddle Share icon, where you'll find details and a link to the registration website.





## Know the Difference: Electric Bicycles & More

Category	Segway/Hoverboard	Motorized Scooter*	Class 1** E-Bike	Class 2** E-Bike	Class 3** E-Bike
Photo					
Description:	Designed for one person. Self-balancing, two non-tandem wheels.	Designed for one person. With or without a seat or saddle; no more than three wheels.	Bike with electric motor that only engages while the rider is pedaling (pedal-assist or pedelec).	Bike with electric motor that can be engaged at any time, with or without the rider pedaling.	Bike with electric motor that only engages while the rider is pedaling (pedal-assist or pedelec).
What is the max assisted speed?	19 MPH	20 MPH	20 MPH	20 MPH	28 MPH
Do I need a license?	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Do I need to register my vehicle?	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Where can I ride?***	Trails, multi-use paths, and sidewalks; may only operate on roads with a speed limit of 25 mph or less	Roadways, bike lanes, trails, multi-use paths, and sidewalks	Roadways, bike lanes, trails, multi-use paths, and sidewalks	Roadways, bike lanes, trails, multi-use paths, and sidewalks	Roadways, bike lanes, trails, multi-use paths, and sidewalks
Do I need to wear a helmet?	Required for riders under 16; recommended for all	Required for riders under 16; recommended for all	Required for riders under 16; recommended for all	Required for riders under 16; recommended for all	Required for riders under 16; recommended for all

\*Additional local regulations may apply to shared fleets.

\*\*All classes of e-bikes can be visually similar. The difference is in their max assisted speed and how the user can engage the motor.

\*\*\*Unless prohibited by local municipal code. Refer to local government regulations for more information and additional local e-bike restrictions.

## SAFETY REMINDERS: RULES OF THE ROAD

When using sidewalks, safety is key for everyone. Walkers should stay alert and avoid distractions like phones, while riders of e-bikes and e-scooters must yield to pedestrians at all times. E-bikes and e-scooters should be operated at a safe, slow speed on sidewalks and trails. Always be aware of your surroundings, announce when passing, and never block driveways or intersections. Let's work together to keep our sidewalks and trails safe and welcoming for all users!



### Safety Tips for E-Bikes & More



- **Wear a helmet!**
- **Stay visible.** Wear bright clothing. E-bikes must have a front white light and a rear red light.
- **Use your bell or horn.** Warn others of your presence or when passing.
- **Ride on the right side** and in a straight, single line. Obey traffic signs and signals.
- **Look twice** before changing lanes or turning. Establish eye contact with drivers.
- **Don't wear earphones** or earbuds while riding.
- **Watch out for others** and road hazards.
- **Keep your electric device maintained.** Inflate tires properly and follow the manufacturer's charging guidelines.
- **Learn local laws**, where e-devices are allowed, and speed limits or regulations.
- **Always ride safely!**

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## OTSEGO'S WEST WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY EXPANSION: MEETING FUTURE GROWTH

The City of Otsego's West Wastewater Treatment Facility—located at 7551 Lancaster Avenue—was originally commissioned in 2005 with a capacity of roughly **600,000 gallons per day**. To accommodate community growth and meet stricter water quality standards, as established within Wastewater Master Plan the site completed a capacity expansion.

### KEY COMPONENTS OF THE EXPANSION INCLUDED:

- A new preliminary treatment (fine screening) building
- Enhanced secondary biological treatment with membrane biological reactors
- UV disinfection and low energy cascade aeration for effluent polishing
- Enclosed solids loading and odor control systems to reduce nuisance to nearby homes and the adjacent Beaudry Meadows Park
- Relocation of utility administrative facilities to reduce truck traffic and noise

Now that the expansion is complete, the facility's rated capacity has more than **doubled to 1.4 million gallons per day**, ensuring sufficient treatment capability for Otsego residents and businesses.

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The City of Otsego marked the completion of the West Wastewater Treatment Facility expansion with guided tours and two ribbon cutting events held in late July. Attendees included members of the Otsego City Council and City staff, engineering teams, representatives from Rice Lake and other project contractors, regulatory officials, and the Star News.

The expansion ensures that Otsego can serve its growing population without compromising wastewater treatment standards.





## OTSEGO UNITES FOR A NIGHT OF CONNECTION AND COMMUNITY

Otsego residents enjoyed another successful Night to Unite, highlighting the City's strong sense of community. The Wright County Sheriff and area Fire Departments made stops at neighborhood gatherings throughout the City, giving residents the opportunity to engage with local law enforcement and first responders. The evening was filled with good conversations, delicious food, safety awareness, and a great sense of connection among neighbors. This event is held every year on the first Tuesday in August! Interested in having public safety attendance at your neighborhood event?

Visit the City website at [otsego.recdesk.com](http://otsego.recdesk.com).



## WINTER MAILBOX PREP REMINDER

As road construction nears completion, crews will soon shift their focus to snow removal. While essential, winter plowing can be hard on mailboxes.

To help avoid issues, residents are encouraged to prepare their mailboxes for winter. A damaged or unstable post could be destroyed by the weight of heavy snow.

Our plow operators do their best to avoid causing damage, but some impact is unavoidable—especially within the City's right-of-way, which typically extends 10 to 15 feet beyond the curb.

### TIPS TO GET YOUR MAILBOX READY FOR WINTER:

- Make sure the post has a strong, stable foundation
- Use durable materials like steel or heavy plastic
- Add reflective materials for better visibility
- Keep your driveway as clear of snow as possible

Taking these steps now can help protect your mailbox all winter long!

For more information, visit the City website [www.otsegomn.gov](http://www.otsegomn.gov).



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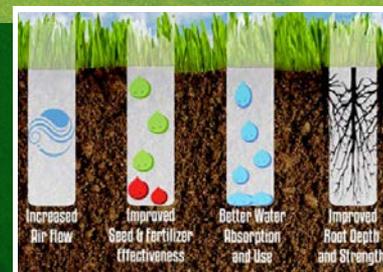
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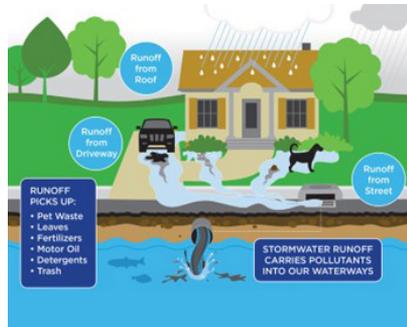


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# STORMWATER POLLUTION: ILLICIT DISCHARGE

## What is stormwater?

Stormwater is precipitation from rain or snow that does not get absorbed into the ground. It flows across our yards, driveways, and roads, and picks up contaminants on its way into storm drains and ditches. These drains and ditches lead directly into our waterways. The contaminants in stormwater are known as illicit discharge.



Source: [soundrivers.org/watershed-issues/stormwater-runoff](http://soundrivers.org/watershed-issues/stormwater-runoff)

## What is illicit discharge?

An illicit discharge is any contaminant that enters the city's storm sewer system. Illicit discharge includes things like pet waste, fertilizer, yard waste, salt from winter de-icing, sewage, pesticides and herbicides, sediment from construction sites, gasoline or oil, commercial car wash wastewater, sewage, and chlorinated pool water.



Source: [fmr.org/updates/water-legislative/how-heat-waves-fuel-toxic-algae-blooms-minnesota-waters](http://fmr.org/updates/water-legislative/how-heat-waves-fuel-toxic-algae-blooms-minnesota-waters)

## Is illicit discharge harmful?

The short answer: yes! Unlike water from our homes, stormwater is not treated before it enters our lakes, rivers, and streams. Illicit discharge negatively impacts aquatic life and diminishes both the health and beauty of our waterways. Fertilizers and yard waste contain phosphorus, which is a key contributor to potentially toxic algal blooms. Pet waste contributes to harmful bacteria, and chlorinated pool water can be lethal to some aquatic species.

## Can I help prevent illicit discharge?

There are many small actions you can take to help keep contaminants out of our waterways. Clean up after your pet, compost your yard waste, minimize your use of fertilizers or switch to a phosphorus-free fertilizer, maintain your septic tank, check your car for leaks, and throw away litter.

## How can I recognize illicit discharge?

There are several possible indicators of illicit discharge: unusual water color or cloudiness, strong pungent or musty odor, scum or foam on the water surface, oil sheen, floating debris, or dead fish.



Source: [cityoftonkabay.net/?SEC=A904EFF5-5C5E-4B62-AFB8-E2ABEEB87DE1](http://cityoftonkabay.net/?SEC=A904EFF5-5C5E-4B62-AFB8-E2ABEEB87DE1)

## What should I do if I see illicit discharge?

Please call Kevin Lamson, the Street Operation Manager, at the City of Otsego at 763.441.4414 and describe what, where, and when you saw the illicit discharge.

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## GOVWELL PERMIT PORTAL COMING JANUARY 2026

The new GovWell Permit Portal makes it easier than ever for residents to apply for and track permits online—no more printing forms, making trips to City Hall, or waiting for updates. With a simple, user-friendly design, residents can submit applications, upload documents, and pay fees all in one place, 24/7.

You'll also receive automatic status updates and messages from staff, so you always know where your permit stands. It's faster, more transparent, and puts everything you need right at your fingertips—saving you time and hassle.

### What all can you do via the Permit Portal?

- Apply for certain Permits, Licenses, and Zoning Approvals
- Report code violations pertaining to the City Ordinances (to come at a later date)
- Submit plan drawings and other documents for review
- Pay permit fees
- Request a permit inspection
- Look up pending applications, issued permits, and inspection results
- Access building permits, trade and business licensing, and code enforcement.

*Please note:* Some functions—such as inspection requests and document uploads—must be related to an ongoing project or active permit.

### No internet access / uncomfortable submitting an online application?

Applicants who do not have internet access, or are uncomfortable with submitting an online application, can visit City Hall at 13400 90th Street NE, for assistance. We will have staff members on site who will happily assist you through the application process.

Watch for more details on the new GovWell Permit Portal coming in the winter issue of the Otsego View.



**EXPLORE**  
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Our families and staff value educating the whole child and working together to provide our students with the best educational experience possible. Because of this partnership and dedication, you will see engaged, connected, and inquisitive students.

If you are curious to learn more about KCS, where your student's education is built to suit their unique needs and tailored to their individual strengths, we encourage you to contact us.

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**kcsmn.org**

**Kaleidoscope Charter School**  
7525 Kalland Ave NE, Otsego, MN 55301  
Phone: 763.428.1890





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## Hanson Builders is the proud builder of Minnesota's first St. Jude Dream Home® Showplace!

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### St. Jude Dream Home® Showplace



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Visit [hansonbuilders.com/st-jude](https://hansonbuilders.com/st-jude) for more information.



Continued from page 1

### A STRATEGIC CHOICE

Residents originally pursued incorporation to better manage that swift growth—gaining authority over zoning, infrastructure, taxes, and essential services. Otsego remains the largest city in Wright County.

### FUN FACTS ABOUT OTSEGO

- The Prairie Festival is held each fall to celebrate the anniversary of Otsego becoming an official city. This year's festival will take place on Saturday, September 13, at Prairie Park from 10:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m. ([www.otsegofestival.com](http://www.otsegofestival.com))
- Otsego has had just three mayors in its history: Norm Freske (1990-96), Larry Fournier (1996-2008), Jessica Stockamp (2008-present)

### LOOKING FORWARD

Now, 35 years deep, Otsego balances its suburban charm with bold development. Set along the Mississippi and Crow Rivers, just 30 miles northwest of Minneapolis, the city continues expanding residential, commercial, and industrial projects—including new schools, utilities, trail systems, businesses, and parks.



@maynardsrogers

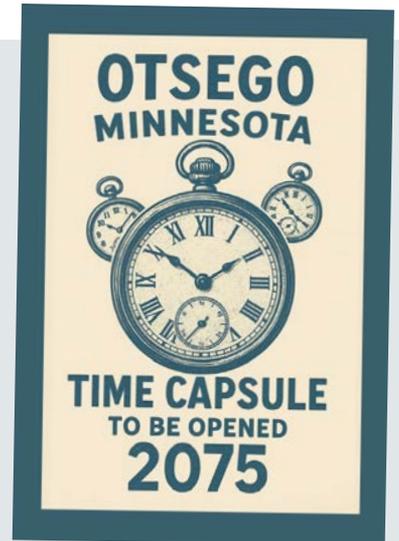
**BEST BAR IN TOWN.**  
**ROOTED IN THE HEART OF THE ROGERS COMMUNITY**

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 ROGERS, MN  
 763-428-0700

### HEY OTSEGO!

OHPC is creating a **2025 Time Capsule** to be opened in 2075 for our community and **NEED** your ideas! What items, photos, or memories should we include to capture life in Otsego right now?

Think local, fun, meaningful—or just plain weird. Share your suggestions by scanning the QR code or by visiting the OHPC booth at the Otsego Prairie Festival on September 13.



# FALL/WINTER 2025 PROGRAM GUIDE

CITY OF OTSEGO

# PARKS & Recreation



## Otsego Prairie Festival September 13

### OTSEGO COMMUNITY EVENTS

Sept. 13: **Prairie Festival** | Oct. 11: **Pumpkin Patch**

Nov. 25: **Tree Lighting** | Dec. 13: **Santa Day**



# Saint Therese



## Welcome Home!

Discover a warm, inviting community where residents enjoy life to the fullest

Step into a lifestyle of comfort and connection at Saint Therese of Corcoran and Saint Therese of Oxbow Lake. Nestled in the scenic northwest Twin Cities, these vibrant communities offer exceptional care and a full range of senior living options tailored to you.

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WE OFFER:

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- Home Health Care • Rehabilitation
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### CONTACT US TODAY FOR A TOUR!

SaintTherese.org



SAINT THERESE OF CORCORAN  
19800 79th Pl | Corcoran, MN 55340

SAINT THERESE OF OXBOW LAKE  
5200 Oak Grove Pkwy | Brooklyn Park, MN 55443

## Go online to register for events and programs at [otsego-parksrec.com](http://otsego-parksrec.com)!

The Otsego Parks and Recreation Department will be allowing participants to register for fall and winter programs. Preregistration is required for every event and program. No on-site registration will be allowed.



### PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION:

- Kurt Baldry
- Kitty Baltos
- Stephanie McCool
- Matt Danzl
- Angie Dehn
- Jessica Schaffer
- Joe Tyberghein

### OTSEGO PARKS & RECREATION DIRECTORY

Parks & Rec Director: Nick Jacobs 763.334.3170

Recreation Supervisor: Connie Schwecke 763.235.3148

Parks Foreperson: Pat Lauderville 763.226.9857

## WHAT'S INSIDE!

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## PUMPKIN PATCH

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11 (FREE) | 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.**  
**LOCATION: OTSEGO PRAIRIE PARK, 13355 90TH ST. NE**

Celebrate fall with a fun and festive morning at Prairie Park's Pumpkin Patch! Children are encouraged to dress in their Halloween costumes and walk the decorated Pumpkin Patch Trail, where they'll stop at activity stations and trick-or-treat along the way.

Only children who are registered in advance will be eligible to receive one pumpkin to take home, and pumpkins will be available while supplies last — they are not guaranteed.

A live DJ will keep the energy high with kid-friendly Halloween music for a themed dance party throughout the event. Families can enjoy a festive fall-themed photo area, and leashed dogs are welcome to join the fun — with special treats available just for them! No pet registration required.

To participate and guarantee a pumpkin, each child must be registered individually.

There are two time slots available to choose from at registration: 10:00–10:55 a.m. | 11:00–11:55 a.m.

In the event of inclement weather, the Pumpkin Patch will be moved indoors to the City Shop, located at 13400 90th St NE.

Participants are encouraged to bring a non-perishable food item to donate to CAER.

## PUMPKIN PATCH ART/BUSINESS/CRAFT SHOW

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11 | 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.**

**LOCATION: PRAIRIE PARK SHELTER, 13355 90TH ST. NE**

You won't want to miss out on our show! At the end of the Pumpkin Patch Trail, there will be local vendors selling their goods. Bring your family and start your holiday shopping early with unique gifts. We'll also have coffee and food trucks to satisfy everyone.

## CALLING ALL VENDORS

**Interested in selling? We would love for you to join our show. Please check out our website for more information or call our office at 763.235.3148.**



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Otsego, MN 55330  
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# YOUTH DAYTIME HAPPENINGS

## Guiding You with Grace and Dignity



Proudly Serving MY Otsego Community  
Ryan Scharfencamp,  
Otsego Resident, Manager & Director

For over 50 years, Gearhart Anoka Funeral Home has offered funeral and cremation services, consistently serving families and adapting to our community's evolving needs.

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Cemeteries  
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Home of Jackie the Funeral Home Therapy Dog

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FUNERAL HOME

Anoka | (763) 421-4347

### DANCE ADVENTURES

#### AGES 3-5

A dance program designed for ages 3-5 that combines ballet/creative movement skills with a themed approach. It emphasizes creativity, imagination and a positive and encouraging environment. It includes a structured lesson plan with clear objectives but also allows for flexibility.

#### Holiday Themed - Three Sessions

Fridays, November 21 - December 12 9:30-10:00 a.m. \$27  
(not meeting November 28)

### OPEN PLAYTIME

#### AGES 1-5

Open Playtime gives young children and their caregivers a chance to play, explore, and connect with others in a fun and active environment. Kids can enjoy toys, crafts, engaging activities, and plenty of room to move, while caregivers meet other families and spend quality time together.

Program staff are on hand to help facilitate activities, but caregivers are responsible for supervising their children.

This program runs during the school year. New this year: Check our website for the Open Playtime activity calendar and see what special themes or events are planned each week.

Children under one year of age are free and welcome to join!  
For weather-related updates, follow us on Facebook.

#### MONDAYS AND THURSDAYS

September 22 - December 11 &

January - May 2026

10:00-11:30 a.m. \$3/child

Please check website for days not meeting (No program Oct. 16 & 30, Nov. 27, Feb. 16).

### NEW! EXTRA-SPECIAL PLAYTIME

#### AGES 1-5

Can't get enough of Playtime? Neither can we! Join us once a month for an extra-special playtime. These days will have everything you love about Open Playtime – toys, activities, and friends plus a theme to make the day even more fun. Preregistration is required. Anyone is welcome and kids do not have to attend regular Open Playtime to attend the Extra-Special Playtime sessions.

October 14: Fall Party 10:00-11:30 a.m. \$5/child

Registration deadline is October 8

December 9: Winter Party 10:00-11:30 a.m. \$5/child

Registration deadline is December 3

Have multiple participants? First participant is \$5, each additional is \$4/child.



### Boarding

1st dog \$35/day | 2nd dog \$29/day | 3rd dog \$18/day

On the 7th day, receive a 10% discount for your entire stay

### Services: Bath

Self Bath \$20 | Staff Bath \$30

Nail Trim \$10

Ask  
about our  
Doggie Day  
Care Packages!



Open from 7am to 7pm, 7 days a week!

Call 763.441.8102 or visit RinTinInnKennel.com

ALL EVENTS ARE HELD AT PRAIRIE CENTER, 8899 NASHUA AVE. NE (UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED)

## SPORTS CAMP WITH ADULT

### AGES 2-4

This child/adult class introduces kids to a variety of sports. There will be drills and skills, ending each class with highlighting what was learned that day. Sports focused on include soccer, basketball, and t-ball. Bring water and come dressed to move!

**Session 1:** Wednesdays, October 1-22 (*not meeting October 15*)  
Registration deadline is September 25

**Session 2:** Wednesdays, November 5-19  
Registration deadline is October 30

**Session 3:** Wednesdays, January 7-21  
Registration deadline is December 30

<b>Ages 2:</b>	9:15-9:40 a.m.	\$24
<b>Ages 3-4:</b>	9:50-10:20 a.m.	\$24

## TUMBLING

This adult/child class introduces young ones to the basics of tumbling. Class will be full of basic tumbling, balance, and movement-based activities working to build strength, coordination, and fun. Dress for movement and bring water. Please note adult participation is required for the entire class. This class is perfect for kids who have not done a tumbling class before. *We recommend only taking this class one time.*

**Session 1:** Thursdays, October 9-30 5:30-5:55 p.m. \$27  
(*not meeting October 16*) Registration deadline is October 2

**Session 2:** Thursdays, November 6-20 5:30-5:55 p.m. \$27  
Registration deadline is October 31

**Session 3:** Thursdays, January 8-22 5:30-5:55 p.m. \$27  
Registration deadline is January 2

## ACTIVE ALL-STARS

### AGES 3-4

This class will focus on gross motor skills through a variety of games, activities and socialization. This class will include things like Duck, Duck, Gray Duck/Goose, parachute games, relay races, and so much more. Whether it's running, jumping, or meeting new friends, every session promises fun and physical development. Come dressed to move and bring a water bottle.

**Session 1:** Thursdays, October 9-30 6:05-6:35 p.m. \$27  
(*not meeting October 16*) Registration deadline is October 2

**Session 2:** Thursdays, November 6-20 6:05-6:35 p.m. \$27  
Registration deadline is October 31

**Session 3:** Thursdays, January 8-22 6:05-6:35 p.m. \$27  
Registration deadline is January 2

## NINJA

### AGES 3-5

This program is all about building ninja skills. There will be obstacle courses, training exercises, and other ninja fitness activities. While an active program, there is an emphasis on fun and safety. Future ninjas should come dressed to move and bring a water bottle.

**Session 1:** Thursdays, October 9-30 6:50-7:20 p.m. \$27  
(*not meeting October 16*) Registration deadline is October 2

**Session 2:** Thursdays, November 6-20 6:50-7:20 p.m. \$27  
Registration deadline is October 31

**Session 3:** Thursdays, January 8-22 6:50-7:20 p.m. \$27  
Registration deadline is January 2



## SPORTS CAMPS

These intro-to-sports camps introduce kids to the fundamentals of sports. There will be warm ups, drills, and skills. No prior experience is necessary. Sportsmanship will also be emphasized. Bring water and come dressed to move. Please bring a change of shoes to wear during class.

### SATURDAYS

**Session 1:** November 8-22 \$25  
Registration deadline is November 4

**Session 2:** January 10-24, 2026 \$25  
Registration deadline is January 6

**Age 2 years WITH ADULT** 9:00-9:25 a.m.

An adult must participate with their participant. Sports include soccer, basketball, and t-ball.

**Ages 3-4** 9:30-10:00 a.m.

Sports include soccer, basketball, and t-ball.

**Ages 5-6** 10:15-10:45 a.m.

Sports include soccer and basketball.



# YOUTH PROGRAMS

## Your Future, Your Possibilities



Explore program  
and degree options.



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TECHNICAL COLLEGE



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©2025 Anoka Technical College/Anoka-Ramsey Community College, an affirmative action, equal opportunity employer and educator and a member of Minnesota State. Accredited by the Higher Learning Commission. Disclaimer, Non-Discrimination Statement, Student Consumer Information such as graduation rates and median debt, can be found here: [anokaramsey.edu/disclosures](http://anokaramsey.edu/disclosures). This document is available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by calling the Minnesota Relay Service at 7-1-1 or 1-800-627-3529. 250208AL.

### SANTA'S WORKSHOP ART CAMPS

#### AGES 3-9

Get ready for the holidays! Participants will make gifts to give to family and friends all wrapped up and ready to give during the holiday season. We will make the same crafts at the morning and afternoon sessions, so please only sign-up for one!

#### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5

Registration deadline is November 24

#### Ages 3-5

Morning Session:	9:00-10:15 a.m.	\$32
Afternoon Session:	4:30-5:45 p.m.	\$32

#### Ages 6-9

Morning Session:	10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	\$37
Afternoon Session:	6:00-7:30 p.m.	\$37

**LOCATION: PRAIRIE CENTER, 8899 NASHUA AVE. NE**

### YOUTH SNOWMOBILE SAFETY TRAINING

#### AGES 12+ | NEW HYBRID FORMAT

Get ready for winter adventure by earning your Minnesota Snowmobile Safety Certificate! The Otsego River Riders are offering a hands-on, hybrid-style training course designed to prepare young riders with the knowledge and skills they need to operate a snowmobile safely and responsibly. *This course is open to students who will be 12 years old or older by January 1, 2026.*



How it works: Students will first complete an online training course through the Minnesota DNR website. This flexible option allows families to work through the material at their own pace from home. The online portion must be completed prior to December 6: [snowmobilecourse.com/usa/minnesota/](http://snowmobilecourse.com/usa/minnesota/)

Then, on Saturday, December 6 at 9:00 a.m., students will meet in person for a course review and outdoor driving test led by the Otsego River Riders. This practical session gives students the chance to review key safety concepts and demonstrate their skills on a marked driving course.

What to expect on training day: Dress for the weather – this event will be held outdoors, rain, snow, or shine. Please bring a snowmobile helmet if you have one available. The driving test will take place in the parking lot, regardless of snow conditions. Instructors will be on-site to guide participants through the process and answer any final questions.

This is a great opportunity for young riders to build confidence and earn the certification required to ride on public trails in Minnesota.

#### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6 | 9:00 A.M.

Registration deadline is December 2

**FEE: \$5**

**LOCATION: PRAIRIE CENTER  
8899 NASHUA AVE. NE**



To register, please visit [otsego.parksrec.com](http://otsego.parksrec.com).



## ADULT FITNESS WEEKLY CLASSES AT PRAIRIE CENTER

8899 NASHUA AVE. NE | ALL LEVELS AGES 12+

Otsego Parks and Recreation offers fitness options to the community! Make sure to check out all the classes we are offering this FALL/Winter at our off site SignUp Genius link.

### CLASS SCHEDULE:

A complete class list with dates and times is available under Adult Fitness on the [otsego.recdesk.com](http://otsego.recdesk.com) page. If there is a class you would love to see, even as a one-time event, let us know!

### SIGN UP:

This is separate from the schedule above, but super easy! Each month classes can be found under the FITNESS tab on the Otsego Park & Rec website. Sign up in advance, each month for the classes that fit your schedule.

### CLASS FEES:

**Electronic Group Fitness Punch Cards –**  
Each class, unless otherwise specified, is one punch.

- 10 class punch card = \$55
- 5 class punch card = \$35
- Family Pass - 5 class punch card = \$45

Follow us on social media for the latest updates:  
[@otseGOParkRec](https://twitter.com/otseGOParkRec).

To register, please visit [otseGOParksRec.com](http://otseGOParksRec.com).



## ADULT YOGA CLASS

This class incorporates a series of yoga poses designed to warm up your body and enhance your awareness of connecting breath to movement. Through basic yoga poses, we aim to improve both strength and flexibility. Modifications will be provided to accommodate all levels. Please bring your yoga mat and wear appropriate clothing.

### SUNDAYS:

October 5-19	6:45-7:45 p.m.	\$15
November 16	6:45-7:45 p.m.	FREE
November 23 - December 14	6:45-7:45 p.m.	\$20

**LOCATION: PRAIRIE CENTER, 8899 NASHUA AVE. NE**

You need to register for this class at [otseGOParksRec.com](http://otseGOParksRec.com).

## WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL WINTER LEAGUE JANUARY 2026

Offered by the City of Otsego Parks & Recreation in partnership with Community Education.

We are back and ready for some fun! Adult Women's Volleyball League consists of an 8-game regular season schedule with a double elimination tournament to follow. Matches are on Sunday evenings at 6:00, 7:00, and 8:00 p.m. at Prairie View Elementary.

There will be a captain's meeting at 6:00 p.m. on December 14 via Zoom.

**WINTER LEAGUE: JANUARY 11 - MARCH 8, 2026**

*Not meeting February 8*

**Double elimination tournaments:**

March 15, 22, and 29

**COST/TEAM: \$275**

*Deadline to Register: December 9*



## MOONLIGHT SNOWSHOEING CLASS



### AGES 10 - ADULT

It's time to discover winter's wonders off the beaten path as we venture to and through areas accessible only by snowshoe in winter. Under the moon this winter, explore the wonders of Otsego Prairie Park! Snowshoes are included in the program.

### FEBRUARY 19

Ages 10-17	6:30-8:00 p.m.	\$18
Ages 18 and up	6:30-8:00 p.m.	\$20

**LOCATION: PRAIRIE PARK, 13355 90TH ST. NE**

# 55+ ACTIVITY CENTER

ALL EVENTS ARE HELD AT PRAIRIE CENTER, 8899 NASHUA AVE. NE (UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED)

## ACTIVITY CENTER

The Prairie Center (8899 Nashua Ave. NE) is home to the Otsego 55+ Activity Center. Programs and classes are free unless listed. Questions about any programs? Call the Rec Line at 763.235.3148.

Mondays - Thursdays 10:00-4:00 p.m.  
(Closed on City Holidays)

**LOCATION: PRAIRIE CENTER, 8899 NASHUA AVE. NE**

## 55+ DRIVER DISCOUNT

**SEPTEMBER 10 | 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**  
**NOVEMBER 6 | 5:00-9:00 p.m.**

Complete this course to get a 10% discount on your auto insurance premiums! Taught as a presentation from a certified instructor, you'll discuss challenges we face as drivers, new road designs, vehicle technology, and updates on current laws. Best of all, there are no written or behind the wheel tests! Certificate will be provided at the end of class.

*\*\*8-hour initial class requirement has been removed as of July 1, 2024. Participants must take 4-hour course to initially earn the discount and then repeat the 4-hour class every three years to maintain the discount.*

Cost is \$24 per participant. Pre-registration is required. Call 320.308.1400 or 1.888.234.1294 to register. You can also register at [driverdiscountprogram.com](http://driverdiscountprogram.com).

**LOCATION: PRAIRIE CENTER, 8899 NASHUA AVE. NE**

## MONDAYS:

### HAND AND FOOT CARD GAME

Join us for an enjoyable game of Hand and Foot, a fun and strategic card game that's perfect for socializing and exercising your mind. Whether you're a seasoned player or new to the game, this group is welcoming to all skill levels. Meet new friends, sharpen your card-playing skills, and have a great time. Light refreshments will be provided.

Mondays 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

### BOOK CLUB

Join us for engaging discussions and literary adventures in our Senior Book Club! Each month, we delve into a new book, exploring different genres and authors. It's a fantastic opportunity to share your thoughts, discover new favorites, and connect with fellow book enthusiasts. Light refreshments are provided. For the current book list or any questions, please call the Rec Line at 763.235.3148.

The second Monday of the month 12:00-1:00 p.m.



## CHAIR YOGA

Chair yoga increases flexibility, strength, and body awareness. It can be practiced either sitting or using chairs for support in various postures, designed to mindfully increase range of motion. This class is ideal for everyone.

Mondays 12:15-12:45 p.m.

## SENIOR BINGO (FREE)

Come and enjoy a lively game of Bingo with fellow seniors! This fun and social event is a great way to keep your mind active and make new friends. Prizes will be awarded, and light refreshments will be served. Whether you're a seasoned player or new to Bingo, everyone is welcome to join in the fun.

Mondays 1:00-3:00 p.m.

### THE THIRD MONDAY OF THE MONTH IS THEME BINGO:

October 19	Pie and Bingo Social	1:00-3:00 p.m.
November 30	CODA Holiday Performance	2:00-3:00 p.m.
December 21	Holiday Party Bingo	1:00-3:00 p.m.
January 19	Winter Wonderland Bingo	1:00-3:00 p.m.

## TUESDAYS:

### MAHJONGG

Discover the fascinating game of Mahjongg, a tile-based game that combines skill, strategy, and a bit of luck. Whether you're an experienced player or new to Mahjongg, this group offers a supportive and friendly environment to learn and enjoy the game. Join us for a fun and engaging session that's perfect for socializing and mental stimulation.

Tuesdays and/or Thursdays 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

### INDOOR PICKLEBALL

Come try the exciting game of pickleball! This fun and engaging sport combines elements of tennis, badminton, and ping-pong. Whether you're a seasoned player or a beginner, you'll enjoy a great workout and the chance to meet new friends. We provide the paddles and balls, and players rotate in and out. Beginners are always welcome!

Tuesdays 5:30-8:30 p.m.

**LOCATION: GUARDIAN ANGELS, 9200 QUANTRELLE AVE. (GYM).**

## WEDNESDAYS:

### 500 OR SHANGHAI RUMMY CARDS

Join us for a fun and engaging session of 500 or Shanghai Rummy Cards. Whether you're a seasoned player or new to the games, you'll find a welcoming and friendly atmosphere. Meet new friends, challenge your skills, and enjoy some light refreshments. Beginners are always welcome!

Wednesdays 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.



# 55+ ACTIVITY CENTER

ALL EVENTS ARE HELD AT PRAIRIE CENTER, 8899 NASHUA AVE. NE (UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED)



## READY TO ROLL?

Buckle up! Our upcoming senior programs are full of thrills—new trips, great shows, and lots of fun. Don't miss the adventure—coming soon! Call for details.

### SENIOR SOCIAL CRAFT HOUR

Bring your favorite craft project and join us for Social Craft Hour! Whether you knit, crochet, scrapbook, or enjoy any other craft, this is a wonderful opportunity to work on your projects in a relaxed and social environment. Meet new friends, share tips and ideas, and enjoy light refreshments as you craft and chat. All skill levels are welcome!

The first Wednesday of the month 2:30-4:00 p.m.

### CREATIVE ART CLASS

Unleash your creativity and join us for our Senior Art Class! Throughout the year, we'll be creating beautiful, holiday-themed art masterpieces in a relaxed and friendly environment. Whether you're an experienced artist or a beginner, this class is a wonderful opportunity to explore your artistic talents, meet new friends, and have fun. Most materials will be provided. The upcoming art project will be available for public viewing starting the first Wednesday of the month. Please call the Rec Line at 763.235.3148 to register.

The third Wednesday of the month, 2:30-4:00 p.m.  
preregistration is required.



### SENIOR LINE DANCING

Get moving and have fun with Senior Line Dancing! This class offers a fantastic way to stay active while learning various dance routines in a supportive and friendly environment. Perfect for all skill levels, the class will help improve your coordination and provide a great social outlet. No prior dance experience is required—just bring your energy and enthusiasm!

Wednesdays 1:00-2:30 p.m.

### ACOUSTIC MUSIC JAM

Strummers and pickers, bring your acoustic guitar, ukulele, or other stringed instrument to our acoustic music jams at Prairie Center. All ages and skill levels are welcome. Join the fun of making music with other musicians in a friendly, supportive atmosphere. For more information, contact the Parks and Rec Line at 763.235.3148.

The second and fourth Wednesday 6:00-7:30 p.m.  
of the month



### THURSDAYS:

#### MAHJONGG

Discover the fascinating game of Mahjongg, a tile-based game that combines skill, strategy, and a bit of luck. Whether you're an experienced player or new to Mahjongg, this group offers a supportive and friendly environment to learn and enjoy the game. Join us for a fun and engaging session that's perfect for socializing and mental stimulation.

Tuesdays and/or Thursdays 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

#### MEXICAN TRAIN

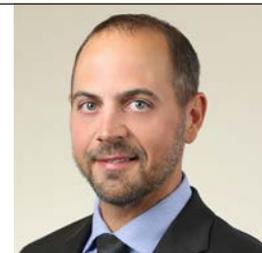
Join us for a lively game of Mexican Train, a popular and easy-to-learn dominoes game perfect for socializing and having fun. Whether you're a seasoned player or new to the game, you'll find a welcoming and friendly group ready to share in the excitement. Enjoy a fun time filled with camaraderie, laughter, and friendly competition.

Thursdays 1:00-3:30 p.m.

## Delivering Education and Guidance on Medicare Solutions

Contact **Dan Pfeifer** at 763.310.7627  
[mninsurancesolutions.com](http://mninsurancesolutions.com)

**Pfeifer**  
Insurance Solutions



**Dan Pfeifer**  
Independent  
Licensed Agent

We do not offer every plan available in your area. Any information we provide is limited to those plans we do offer in your area. Please contact Medicare.gov or 1-800-MEDICARE to get information on all of your options.

# SUMMER PROGRAMS AND EVENTS HIGHLIGHTS!

Thank You  
& See You  
This Fall!



## Summer: A Season of Fun, Laughter, and Recreation

**Broadway in the Park: A Big Hit - SOAR Regional Arts** lit up summer evenings with Beetlejuice Jr. and The Lion King during Broadway in the Park. Nearly 1,200 attendees enjoyed four performances at Prairie Park.

**Otsego Farmers Market: Growing Every Year** draws approx. 20 vendors and food trucks each week, offering fresh produce, handmade goods, and great eats. Thanks to the Otsego Lions for sponsoring the Kids POP Club and to Coborn's for hosting this vibrant Tuesday tradition.

### Touch-A-Truck: Fun For All Ages!

We kicked off summer with May's Touch-A-Truck event, drawing 1,100 attendees despite the heat. Families explored fire trucks, a sheriff's airboat, racecars, city equipment, and more— meeting the everyday heroes behind the wheel.

**T-Ball and Soccer:** T-ball and soccer leagues welcomed nearly 600 young athletes who gave it their all—rain or shine. The unpredictable weather didn't dampen the fun, as kids learned new skills, built friendships, and had a blast.

**Color Run: A Staff Favorite:** Watching kids race through obstacles, get splashed with slime, and burst through clouds of colored powder was pure joy. The giant water slide at the finish was such a hit!

### New This Year! Epic & Mini KidVentures Summer Camps

Both programs kept kids active and engaged with themed games, outdoor activities, crafts, and lots of smiles. We loved seeing campers explore, create, and make new friends.



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR UPCOMING WINTER EVENTS AND PROGRAMS:

**TREE LIGHTING**  
November 25

**SANTA LETTERS**  
November 25 - December 13

**SANTA SHARK IN THE PARK HUNT**  
November 28 - December 15

**SANTA DAY**  
December 13, 10:00 a.m - 1:00 p.m.



**WINTER FESTIVAL**  
February 7, 10:00 a.m - 1:00 p.m.



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# SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

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