

COMMUNITY



Photo by Kelly Olson

## Spring has sprung at Hartmeyer Ice Arena

By Kelly Olson

It is spring time at Hartmeyer Ice Arena! Hartmeyer Ice Arena will be open April 6-10 for open skate and open hockey. The cost is family friendly. This is your last chance, so enjoy! Check our website for days and times at [madisonicearena.com](http://madisonicearena.com).

Now that spring has sprung, the ice sheet will be removed and the concrete base will come alive! This will allow Hartmeyer to be open for some of the summer months, with more opportunities for the Northside! Come visit us at 1834 Commercial Ave. and see for yourself.

Madison Ice, Inc. (MII) continues to create new programs like the Stroll and skate program offered in January. This program was developed for our seniors to have a safe place to stroll and skate. It was small in attendance but enormous in spirit.

Here's a quick little story for you

...The first day a lady came with walking shoes and walked around the ice sheet. Afterwards we talked and she remembered her love for skating as a child and as a young adult but admitted she was very unsure of herself. "I have not skated for over 45 years!" She exclaimed. The second day she came with her skates and skated. "I feel young again!" She reported with a child like smile. She comes to Hartmeyer every week and continues to leave with that same child-like smile.

The Senior Stroll and Skate ended on April 3 but will continue this fall.

The staff from MII will continue to provide for the Northside community, so keep your eyes open for some new and exciting things to come in the future.

If you have comments or concerns contact Kelly Olson at 220-0029 or [kelly29@charter.net](mailto:kelly29@charter.net).

## The River Food Pantry receives \$15,000 grant

The River Food Pantry has received a \$15,000 grant from Madison Community Foundation. The grant will be used to purchase commercial refrigeration, one refrigerator and two freezers.

"Our refrigeration is inadequate for serving 350-400 families weekly" said Jenny Czerkas, Director of The River Food Pantry. "This grant allows us to store a sufficient amount of frozen foods to accommodate the weekly need."

The River Food Pantry, located at 2201 Darwin Rd., seeks to provide free groceries, clothing, dinners and encouragement to our neighbors in need. The pantry currently serves 1,300-1,600 families each month, along with 1,400 hot meals.

"By strengthening the infrastructure of The River Food Pantry we hope to better serve the local community," said Tom Linfield, Vice President of



Grantmaking for MCF. "We are providing increased capacity, storage, and healthy food for those who need it most."

The River is currently open for four pantry sessions weekly. A nutritious and tasty community dinner, which includes flowers on the tables and live music whenever possible, is served on Friday evening.

To learn more about The River Food Pantry, visit the website at [www.theriver-madison.org](http://www.theriver-madison.org), email [river@theriver-madison.org](mailto:river@theriver-madison.org) or call 442-8815.

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