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2021 Annual Town Meeting and Election

Penny Morton was elected to the Town Board of Supervisors for a 3-year term. Tim Strom was elected as a write-in candidate and accepted a 2-year term. Dave Mount was elected moderator of the Annual Meeting. Town Clerk Ann Cox provided a handout summarizing the 2020 audit and expenditures, the 2021 budget that was approved last year, and the proposed 2022 budget. Due to Covid-19 pandemic restrictions, a motion was made to continue the Annual Meeting to a later date of August 10th at 6:30 p.m. The meeting was then paused and will reconvene on that later date.

Memorial Day Ceremony: As of now, there has not been a decision made on the Memorial Day Ceremony. This will be made after the May Town Board meeting. Up to date information will be on the Towns website. This Newsletter would like to take a moment to recognize all the fallen service men and women who paid the ultimate price. Speak their names. Never forget.

“Our debt to the heroic men and valiant women in the service of our country can never be repaid. They have earned our undying gratitude. America will never forget their sacrifices.” — Harry S. Truman

Clover Valley Farmers Market Blooms
June 8, 2021
At the Duluth Town Hall

Beginning this summer, Duluth Township will have a farmers market! A group of community members, Justin Osadjan, Pam West, and Blane Tetreault, in cooperation with the Town Board, have sowed the seeds of the Clover Valley Farmers Market.

The market will be held Tuesdays from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., June 8 through September 28, outside the Town Hall on Homestead Road. Vendors will sell items such as locally-produced foods, beverages, produce, plants, flowers, arts, and crafts. Products sold will be required to be at least 50% produced within the Township or contiguous areas.

More information about the Clover Valley Farmers Market can be found at www.clovervalleymarket.com. The market is now accepting vendor applications. Learn more about vendor requirements and apply on the website under Vendors. Questions can be emailed to: clovervalleymarket@gmail.com.

We look forward to seeing you at the market in June!

Thanks to all of the contributors to this issue
Charlene Brown, Ann Cox, Beth Luikart, Beth Mullan, Bob Engelson, Carla Tamburro and NSCS Sixth Graders, Carol Surine, Colette, Corlis West, Cynthia Lovold, Jana Pastika, Jo Thompson, John Schifsky, Shawn Padden, Shelly Pierson, Sherry Rovig, Valerie Brady

* Photos provided by NSCS Sixth Graders
Three of our members are newly certified as Emergency Medical Responders. They are Trevor Swoverland, Nathan Koski, and Devon Cahoon. All three are also firefighters. The department now has 16 members trained to respond to medical emergencies. Two are certified as EMTs. Our current roster is 23 with one member on leave. We have been called out to 24 emergencies as of April 15th of this year.

The repairs to Hall One, because of the frozen pipes last winter, are close to completion.

We are still looking at high fire danger with the abundance of dead and dying balsams and spruce from the budworm outbreak. Please follow the Firewise practices we have been sharing on the website and that are included in the flyer in this Newsletter. We hope to hear soon about grant funding for another free Chipper Day in July where you can bring your cleared brush. Dates and location will be announced as soon as they are confirmed.

**Fire Sign Update (April 2021)**

Thank you to all those who responded to our last appeal for residents to pick up their new two-sided fire sign and install it at the end of their driveway. However, we still have a long way to go as there are well over 500 signs left to distribute. Now that the frost and snow are gone, this is a good time to get this done. Your sign, post, and hardware are available for pickup from the Town Clerk or Deputy Clerk during regular office hours. If you call the office at 525-5705, the materials can be placed outside for you. We can’t emphasize enough how valuable it is for us and other responding agencies to have these signs conspicuously displayed so we can locate your residence as quickly as possible.

If you are interested in joining the department and live in our response area, contact Bob Engelson, Fire Chief, at 525-6819. Training and equipment are provided.

For medical & police emergencies call 911.

Sign up for email police alerts and other urgent or informative notifications at the Township website: www.duluthtownship.org

**Police Events:** In the first quarter of this year there were 225 recorded police events. Most were direct service to residents – 97 requested checks on homes or businesses, 8 extra patrol requests, 4 health and welfare checks, 10 public assists, 6 mental health crises, 5 motorist assists, 2 personal injury accidents. There were 13 traffic related warnings/citations, 12 property damage accidents, 10 attempts to locate careless drivers, 8 medical emergencies, 7 animal complaints, 6 assists to other agencies, 5 burglar alarms, 3 damage to property reports, 3 domestic disturbance complaints, 3 fire alarms, 3 fraud complaints, 3 suspicious activity reports, 2 civil processes, and 2 trespassing incidents. There was 1 each of the following: check hazard, child neglect complaint, drug incident, hit/run, neighbor trouble, order for protection violation, parking problem, snowmobile disturbance, suicide, traffic control, unknown trouble complaint, vehicle prow, vehicle theft complaint.

If you have any information about any criminal activity in our community, please contact the Duluth Township Police Department at: 218-525-5705 or our mobile phone: 218-393-8407, or email: duluthtwppolice@duluthtownship.org.

**Note:** If you need/want/expect a police squad to respond immediately, call 911. Other than 911, the quickest way to get our police response is to leave a message on our squad phone (218-393-8407).

We may work 5 days in a row but may not always get into the office during that time. Our main office where we spend 90% of our time is in our squad vehicle.

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The February 25 and March 25, 2021 Meetings were held via video conference with a Planning representative at the Town Hall.

**February 25th Planning Commission Meeting.** Draft language for driveways was discussed for the Zoning Ordinance update. The primary concerns were how close a driveway can be built to the property line and the spacing of driveways. Although driveways that are widely spaced help maintain the rural nature of the Township, it was felt that dictating the spacing of driveways was impractical because the first driveway placed in an area would dictate the placement of subsequent driveways and could also result in suboptimal driveway placement. The Commission felt that driveways have a similar impact as an accessory structure, so driveway setbacks should be proportionate to accessory structure setbacks. Appropriate setbacks would be equal to the accessory structure setback in the FAM districts and half the accessory structure setback in the other zones.

**March 25th Planning Commission Meeting.** A public hearing was held for a conditional use request for a high-frequency short-term rental (HFSTR) on the Old North Shore Road near Bergquist Road. The property had previously been rented as a low-frequency short-term rental. The owners occupy the home during the week and wanted to be able to rent it out on the weekends. The proposed rental use had good support from the immediate community and a 24-month interim use permit was granted for the HFSTR.

It was the last Commission meeting for members Larry Zanko and Jerry Hauge. Both served consecutive terms and were valuable members of the Planning Commission. Their contributions and guidance will be missed.

The Commission decided to continue to conduct its meetings via video conferencing into April.

See the Town’s website under Planning & Zoning, Minutes, for further information.

Planning Commission meetings are open to the public. At this time, due to COVID concerns, meetings are being held primarily via teleconferencing. There will be a Planning representative at the Town Hall to allow the public to attend meetings. However, we encourage anyone with concerns or comments to submit them ahead of time in writing.

**February 11th Regular Meeting.** Supervisors Tim Strom, Michael Kahl, Penny Morton, Rolf Carlson (Chair), and John Schifsky attended along with the Town Clerk Ann Cox, Deputy Clerk Nicole Chatterson, and Treasurer Mel Peulen. **Reports:** Treasurer: Beginning balance $542,613.44, deposits of $9,536.55, expenses of $45,016.66, ending balance of $507,133.33. Public Comment: Clover Valley Farmers Market (CVFM) representative Justin Osadjan attended. Previously, the CVFM met with Tim Strom and Penny Morton to discuss the CVFM moving forward. Blane Tetreault, Pam West, and Justin Osadjan would be CVFM Board Members. Rolf made a motion that the Board approve having a Farmers Market at the Town Hall under the direction of Blane Tetreault, Justin Osadjan, and Pam West starting June 8th on weekly Tuesdays. Seconded by Penny. Motion passed unanimously. **Police:** Nothing to report. **Fire:** Cleanup continues from broken pipe. Everyone is vaccinated. **Planning:** There are 2 vacancies on the Planning Commission that will need to be filled. Larry Zanko and Jerry Hauge have completed their terms. Rolf made a motion to move Larry and Jerry to be ex-officio non-voting members of the Planning Commission so they may continue to provide input during the Ordinance update, seconded by Tim. Motion passed unanimously. **Legal:** Cross motions for the Bille Variance now has 90 days. Mr. Bille has passed away. **Roads:** The Rodda grading contract is up for renewal; an ad will need to go in the March Newsletter. **March 11th Board of Canvas:** John Schifsky, Rolf Carlson (Chair), Tim Strom, and Michael Kahl attended along with Town Clerk Ann Cox and Deputy Clerk Nicole Chatterson. Although Tim Strom did not run for office, it was decided that he would not participate in canvassing the March 9th ballots. Ballots were divided into three piles and counted by a supervisor. The election was found to be true and the Canvas document was signed.

**March 11th Regular Meeting:** Tim Strom, John Schifsky, Rolf Carlson (Chair), Michael Kahl, and Penny Morton attended along with Town Clerk Ann Cox, Deputy Clerk Nicole Chatterson, and Treasurer Mel Peulen. **Reports:** Beginning $507,133.33, deposits $53,683.10, expenses $35,103.59, ending balance of $499,712.84. **Treasurer:** Beginning balance $512,613.44, deposits of $9,536.55, expenses of $45,016.66, ending balance of $507,133.33. **Clerk:** Nothing to report. **Fire:** Insulation is in, cabinets are being installed, progress is being made. **Planning:** Jo Thompson and Val Brady requested that a Board member assist with filling out the Town’s MS4 permit application. Jerry and Larry accepted the ex-officio positions. Sections 1 & 3 of the Zoning Ordinance update are done. Land and Conditional Uses need further discussions. Salary increases for Planning Director and Secretary were approved unanimously. **Roads:** Spring thaw is underway.

Regular **Town Board meetings** are held on the second Thursday at 6:30 p.m. in the Town Hall.
The school year is winding down in its last full month while we are gearing up for a grand finish to this monumental year. We have recently moved to five full days of in-person learning and there is a sense of normalcy. Teachers and staff have provided excellent educational opportunities for our students who are distance learning all year and for our students learning in person. Our school community is stronger for the time we have been together, even when we can’t do things the way they have always been done. Throughout this year, with all of its changes between hybrid learning, distance learning, and full in-person learning, one thing has remained constant: Learning! We would like to thank all of our families and community members for their encouragement, feedback, and flexibility as we continue to keep our students and their learning front and center!

For our Township youth: Advertise for FREE! Any youth seeking work or Township residents needing help with various jobs suitable for youth (babysitting, lawn and garden maintenance, house cleaning, etc.) can submit an ad by email, by phone or by dropping it off at the Town Hall to be published in the July edition of the Newsletter. I have had calls looking for workers! The deadline is June 23, 2021. 525-5705 or deputyclerkduluthwp@gmail.com

In Duluth Township, our stormwater system consists of our roads, ditches and culverts. They are the conduits that carry rainwater from our properties to our streams and rivers and ultimately to Lake Superior. It should be everyone’s goal that this water remains clean and does not carry pollutants to waters that support recreational use, wildlife, aquatic organisms, and human health.

Any substance other than stormwater that enters our ditches and streams is considered an illicit discharge. Illicit discharges include soil from land disturbance activities, pesticides and fertilizers, pet and livestock waste, leaky septic systems, construction debris, paints, oil and many other things that can pollute our streams. We can all work together to keep these things from entering our ditches and streams. To report an illicit discharge on Town roads, call or email the Town Hall. If it is on a County road, call the Jean Duluth Garage (720-1508) or the Environment Project Manager (625-3800).

Some substances like fuel leaks or chemical spills are considered hazardous waste and can pose an immediate risk. If you suspect a hazardous waste, call 911 immediately and the operator will notify the appropriate responders.

For more information about illicit discharges, see Town Ordinance 031413 at: http://www.duluthtownship.org/pdf/ordinances/031413_Illicit_Discharges.pdf or refer to the Illicit Discharges Fact Sheet available at the Town Hall.

Thank you to the NSCS students from the sixth grade class! The photos from the front page were provided by some of the students. They were taken on the Nature Trail at the School.

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BOOK EXCHANGE UPDATE
Please do not bring books to the Township book exchange while the Community Room is closed to the public. Watch the Newsletter or the Town website for updates about re-opening.

Thank you.
Hidden Treasures In Our Community

Cynthia Lovold

“Back in the day,” when small convenience stores dotted our township, it was easy to keep a pulse on the local community — “who’s who,” where they lived, you know, everyone else’s business. If you were looking to buy or sell just about anything, someone could hook you up with someone. We don’t have that luxury anymore, save for social media. But even with that, members of the community may be unaware of all the talented people that we live amongst.

Ten years ago it was along this vein that Cynthia Lovold and Rose Vastila (who are local potters), along with others, started the Lake Superior 20/20 Studio Art Tour. The goal was to get the word out about the wonderful artists we have right here in our community. The art tour is now being curated by Alden Township potters Gail Rosenquist and Paul Zoldahn (whose studio is on the Hill Rd.) and who each has their own individual style, creating beautiful, functional pottery.

Artists of many different mediums dot the entire township. The area boasts several potters, all unique in their own style, as well as visual artists, wood turners, wool felters and basket weavers.

Gail Trygstad, who is known by many for making beautiful baskets, recently took up the craft of needle felting. Just prior to the pandemic “lock down,” Trygstad says she was grateful for the class she took through the Duluth Folk School, so she had a new medium to explore that was great fun and kept her occupied when social get-togethers weren’t an option. “I made a chickadee in the class and was soon making all kinds of different birds that became our Christmas tree ornaments this year.” Pictured is a hare that she recently made. In addition to animals and other figures that can take up to 6-7 hours to create, she is also exploring 2D felting.

Bruce and Cynthia Lovold own Saddle Rock Pottery on Culbertson Rd. and that all started rather organically when Bruce received his wheel for Christmas in 2006. Wanting to get back to a craft he enjoyed in school, as well as make functional items for themselves and for gifts, word quickly traveled and he was invited to the annual French River Night Market, which is where they met Rose Vastila, of Alden Township. Rose’s Pottery is located on Nappa Rd. Cynthia collaborated with Bruce on design and decoration of pots, before learning hand building techniques herself. “We have found that many repeat customers are both local and from the Twin Cities area, which is really nice. People may need a last-minute gift for someone’s birthday or other occasion, so it’s nice for them to know there are people just down the road who make quality items that make nice gifts. And it supports local businesses and artists.” The Lovolds’ focus is functional pottery and art tiles.

Rose Vastila was an art teacher in the St. Paul school district prior to retirement, which has afforded her the opportunity to explore her love of pottery. Rose’s pottery features wheel-thrown, sculpture and pit-fired items.

Down on the shore of Lake Superior at Stoney Point is visual artist Eric Klepinger (artist name E.J. Klepinger), who draws on his years of experience and education as a graphic designer as well as work in industrial arts to create beautiful images using many types of medium including, but not limited to, pencil/pen, acrylic, pastel, and scratchboard. Eric hales originally from Conifer, Colorado, but has currently made the North Shore his home, where he works on nature inspired collections, commissioned works in addition to teaching at the Duluth Art Institute.

Most of these artists have information and works posted on Facebook, as well as links to individual websites. Studio visits are available currently by appointment.

Contact information for these artists are as follows: saddlerockpottery@gmail.com (Pottery), rvast52@gmail.com (Pottery), gailrosenquist@yahoo.com (Pottery), gtrygstad@gmail.com (Felted wool/baskets), jeff@clovervalleyfarms.com (Wood turned bowls), Eric@EJKlepinger.com (Visual prints/visual artist).

Spring Cleaning Is For Our Water, Too

Valerie Brady

Isn’t spring nice to see after the winter we have had? And I refer less to the weather than to all the pandemic restrictions. I’m writing this as we approach Earth Day, but since my specialty is water, I’m focused on what we can do to protect and care for all the water around us. I walked my ditch yesterday and was dismayed by the amount of trash, mostly beer cans. This is a great time of year to get out and clean those up along with all the other stuff that ends up in ditches. If you leave it, some of it will end up in our trout streams and our trout don’t want our trash!

I also noticed that the County had knocked a lot of small trees and branches into the ditch while clearing snow. This is also the best time to move those out of the ditch so they don’t create blockages later on that cause the ditch to erode or take out someone’s culvert. And of course spring is the perfect time to spread grass or native flower seed on those ditch bank areas that need a little help. Tamp the seed in well to keep it from washing away. The trout don’t want our dirt, either.

If you live on a Township road and your ditch has a problem, contact Town Road Supervisor Mike Kahl. If you live on a County road, contact the County maintenance supervisors for our area (Gordy Halversen, halversong@stlouiscountymn.gov, 218-720-1508; or Bradley Olson, olsonb@stlouiscountymn.gov, 218-720-1509).

Contact information for these artists are as follows: saddlerockpottery@gmail.com (Pottery), rvast52@gmail.com (Pottery), gailrosenquist@yahoo.com (Pottery), gtrygstad@gmail.com (Felted wool/baskets), jeff@clovervalleyfarms.com (Wood turned bowls), Eric@EJKlepinger.com (Visual prints/visual artist).
Breakfast on the weekend is my family’s favorite meal. While I have an array of meals we make from the standard bacon, eggs, and toast to stuffed french toast, or everything-but-the-kitchen-sink egg bake (great for using up leftovers), my all-time favorite breakfast item, the thing that brings me back to the Saturday morning kitchen of my youth (when my dad was in the kitchen whipping up the most delicious and scrumptious breakfast to wake up to then go watch Saturday morning cartoons), was pancakes!

Now I love to make my pancakes from scratch, and this is my go-to recipe for flapjacks. What I like about this recipe is that it is easy to play around with. If you don’t have the heavy cream, no big deal. Just sub half and half or use more milk. However, with any pancakes I always add in a couple good scoops of yogurt to the milk and mix well before combining with the wet ingredients. It makes for a lovely addition and adds a nice flavor component, especially if you choose a fruit yogurt.

As I mentioned, I liked this recipe because it is easy to play around with. You don’t have to just make traditional pancakes with this, you can also make a sheet pancake that is great for a pre-heat your oven to 500°F. Follow the instructions below and instead of cooking in a griddle, prep a sheet pan with parchment paper or grease. Then pour your batter in. You can top the cake with whatever fun topping you wish. Chocolate chips, bananas and walnuts, strawberries, blueberries, you get my point. This is a fun way to get the kids involved in the morning, they love to pick and add toppings! Once the oven is preheated, reduce the temperature to 400°F and bake for 20-25 minutes. Insert a toothpick to determine doneness. Preheating and baking at this temp allows the pancake to achieve the perfect golden brown. Butter the top when it comes out of the oven.

I’m always looking for new recipes to test in my kitchen. If you have a recipe you would like to share with the community, email the Deputy Clerk, deputyclerk.duluthwp@gmail.com. Happy baking!

**Sweet Cream Pancakes**

**Ingredients**
- 3 eggs, separated
- 1 cup milk (with a couple scoops of yogurt, optional)
- 1 cup heavy cream or half and half
- ¼ cup sugar
- 2 tsp baking powder
- Pinch of salt
- 2 cups all purpose flour
- 1 ½ T vanilla
- 1 T almond extract (optional)
- Butter
- Blueberries or chocolate chips or other fruit

**Instructions**
1. Mix flour, baking powder, salt, and sugar together.
2. In another bowl mix egg yolks, milk mixture, heavy cream, vanilla and almond thoroughly.
3. Pour the wet ingredients into the dry ingredients and mix until it just comes together.
4. Beat egg whites to soft peaks and fold into batter.
5. Melt butter in a griddle or cast iron skillet over medium heat.
6. Pour in a small amount of batter. Batter will be thick. Top with fruit before flipping cakes.
7. Adjust heat or butter depending on how fast the pancakes are cooking.

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**Growing Your Own Food**

Colette, Township Resident

Have you ever considered growing your own food but didn’t know how to begin? Well, you’re in luck. If you’re reading this newsletter, you’re likely a resident of Duluth Township. Fortunately, our Township homes a hardy bunch of do-it-yourselfers who know how to do just about everything, including growing food!

Growing food, or gardening, has too many benefits to mention in this article, but for persuasion’s sake, I’ll list a few…

Most importantly, grow food for your health! If you’re a person who doesn’t eat enough fresh food, growing your own is a great incentive to get those servings of fruits & veggies into your diet. Eating food you’ve grown is fresher, and therefore healthier, than what is sold in the store. You will be more inclined to eat food you’ve put the effort into growing. When fresh food is grown and available in your own yard, it’s much more convenient (and exciting) to eat healthy.

Next, growing food is good exercise! When you cultivate garden space, you move your body. You stretch, crouch, bend and reach. You use your muscles. You breathe fresh, clean air. You soak up that much-needed vitamin D. When you touch your soil, you expose yourself to the organisms that live in it, which is great for your immune system.

Growing food gets you connected, and I don’t mean in that social media kind of way. I mean real connection. Touching dirt, plants, weeds, and bugs connects you to those things, to the food you grow and to the space in which you all exist together. It’s calming, rewarding and interesting. It lends you a “worm’s-eye” view, expanding your perspective. You learn to identify the living beings that occur organically (naturally) in the space you share and how they cohabitate with you and the plants you’ve introduced to the space.

Growing also connects you to the community. If there’s one thing gardeners love to talk about, it’s gardening. (Think “fish stories”). Gardeners come in all forms, each with their own tried and true methods. Some of us grow only organic or non—GMO seed (which can and should be saved!) while others use more conventional techniques. You may find that once you get growing, you’ll craft your own style as well. Start small but listen big. Do what works for you but always be willing to learn from others. Gardening is a lifelong teacher and the curriculum is always changing, so even the most experienced gardeners are forever honing their skills.

So start the conversation. Ask around and connect with some growers. Get the whole family involved. Gardening is a valuable life skill that gives children a sense of responsibility while teaching them where food comes from. We all have something to contribute to the framework of growing local food!

*If you’re not interested in growing your food, please consider supporting a local grower.*
Kindred Paths Nature School will be entering its second full school year this coming fall. As we begin to think about next year, we also want to share some updates from this school year.

The French River Forest has been a steadfast haven of exploration and play for Nature School students throughout this year so far. With so many changes, big and small, everywhere around us, the children at KPNS are learning to adapt to their environment. Each day as the children eat lunch, they reflect on their day and share ideas for our “lists”; we make one list of what we did and one list of what we observed every day. Here is a summary of our year so far through the reflections of the children (in italics) and teachers of Kindred Paths Nature School.

We began the year by soaking up the plentiful sunshine, watching blooming flowers go to seed, splashing in the river, and mixing up mud creations. We heard the construction at the bridge and watched 10 dump trucks go by every day. We found a pattern of tucking into the river valley when the wind was stronger and visiting the Lake Superior shoreline when the wind was gentle. Down at the river, we threw tree sap into the water that turned into a rainbow, we guessed if things would sink or float, and we did a lot of rock hopping.

As the mornings became cooler, we started having more campfires for which we gathered wood, birch bark, and pine trees. We noticed different colors of the trees and did a Color Hunt where we tried to find a whole rainbow in the forest, and we did it! While it was still warm enough to play in the water, we made a dam with moss, mud, sand, and rocks. We saw two big fish spawning in the river and wondered how cold it is and how long they will be there. We made predictions about what animals were doing to prepare for winter as we noticed the birds flocking to migrate, and the crawfish buddy freezing at the lake. Froggy was getting ready to be frozen all winter, which would probably be boring.

When we got our first snowstorms, everything changed! The mud kitchen was now used to make Icky Gicky Snow Goo and special ice gems. The driveway and slide were really slippery. We found thrilling natural snow slides on the river bank - our favorite we named Pine Slide. Of course, we ate snow and snow and snow and snow. The blank canvas of the ground made a great backdrop for spelling words with letters shaped from sticks. The river changed a lot during this time - one day we would come and find fragile ice formations on the sides, and the next day it would be roaring and frothing. The ice was gone and the river was white and when I threw a heavy rock on the ice it didn’t break.

Since our winter break, we have been spending more time inside the church to create and eat our snacks, practice reading and writing, play music, and stay warm. We often make frittatas and sweet breads in our charcoal dutch oven, which are always hot and delicious on a cold day. On our hikes, we started to notice the paw prints in the snow, and rabbit holes and mouse holes. There were so many deer beds, and it looked like there were some footprints inside one. We want more snow! A huge blizzard!

The children have been noticing and learning so much from the French River Forest. They experiment and play to find out how clever and strong they are. The biggest lessons learned at Kindred Paths Nature School this year so far have been about how to keep ourselves and each other healthy and happy - with communication, careful decision-making, plenty of mistakes and forgiveness, and most of all, fun in the forest!

We have openings for next school year beginning in September, with options for full time (5 days/week), part-time (2 or 3 days/week), full days (approx. 8:00-4:00), or half days (approx. 8:00-12:00). Do you have or know a 3-5 year old child that would enjoy learning in the forest with us? We would love to hear from you: text or call Zach 607-342-3377 and Lane 218-721-2580, or email us at kindredpathsllc@gmail.com. For more information and pictures, check out our Facebook or Instagram page, and our website: www.kindredpathsllc.com.

French River Book Club
Carol Surine

At the last meeting we chose books for both May and June! For May we have chosen Nomadland by Jessica Bruder. There are not a lot of copies at the library, so you may have to procure your own copy, and that's why we are giving you a month to do it. Carolyn Marino has offered her Folly (it's an architecture term; Google it!) as the meeting place for June, and this is what we will plan for. BUT if the weather doesn't cooperate, be prepared to be flexible because we haven't made a Plan B just yet. We'll let you know via email.

Regular Community Meetings
AA meets 7pm on Tuesdays at French River Lutheran Church on Ryan Road.
Greenwood Road takes its name from a platted area in the southwest corner of Duluth Township – Greenwood Beach. The plat is dated 14 July 1922; Henry W. Cheadle and Margaret M. Cheadle are identified as the owners of the “described property.” The area is bounded by the railroad tracks (originally D&IRR) to the north, Schmidt Creek (roughly) to the east, North Shore Drive to the south, and the Talmadge River on the west.

Greenwood Road bisects the area which was platted for more than 270 lots, the majority (north and south of Greenwood Road and along North Shore Drive), roughly 80’ by 300’. From the county’s perspective a plat would encourage building by meeting potential buyers’ desire for legally defined lots. The county would see an increase in tax revenue.

Greenwood Road is a little more than a mile long, leaving North Shore Drive a short distance east of the Talmadge River, going north for a few hundred yards, then turning east. Greenwood Road ends at Ryan Road. Wayne Dahlberg, who grew up at the north end of Pine Tree Road which connects Greenwood Road and North Shore Drive, remembers using Bertle’s Creek (named after Victor Sundstrom’s oldest son, Bertil) and Walter’s Creek (aka Bruce’s or Wolter’s) as rocky alleyways to the lake. The creeks bracket Pine Tree Road. (Walter Johnson, the creek’s namesake, was one of two school bus drivers transporting students to Bloomingdale School.)

The Greenwood Beach area was attractive to Swede-Finns (Norwegians chose to live in Knife River) because the topography was familiar, similar (the lake, pine forests, rocky shores, cold) to the areas of Finland they had left. Most importantly, the lake offered the opportunity to continue practicing their trade: commercial fishing. They began to settle in the area prior to its being platted.

Louis Mattson, a commercial fisherman, and his family were first to the area (late 1800’s). They settled on the west side of Schmidt’s Creek (the ravine just east of the French River’s entry into Lake Superior). His son Hjalmar dug the harbor there which he used for years. It is no longer navigable. (An aside: in 1856 the Lesure Lumber Company had headquarters near the river and an elaborate sleigh road from camps in Normanna Township to the lakeshore in that area.)

Commercial fishing opportunities led other Swede-Finn immigrants to build homes west of Schmidt’s Creek in the area between Bertle’s and Walter’s creeks. They included: Leander Johnson and sons Walter and Leander; John Sundstrom (arrived 1900); Adolph Sundstrom (1906); Victor Sundstrom (1910); John Gustafson (1900-1910); Andrew Carlson; and Ed Mattson.

The fishermen built concrete docks, boat slides, net reels, and fish houses on the Lake Superior shore across the road from their homes. Some of these men fished full-time, others part-time.

Adolph’s son George fished for herring and lake trout in the winter and also worked on the railroad. Besides fishing, Adolph and others worked at the fish hatchery just east of the French River.

Commercial fishing operations meant, in good times, a surplus of fish. While much of the catch was shipped to Duluth or further away, some was available for sale to Township residents (often bartered for eggs and milk) as well as tourists. North Shore Drive (Highway 61) was completed in 1924. Gust Dahlberg had a fish stand near Pine Tree Road. LeRoy Olson had a stand in the Greenwood Beach area, and Sam Goldish had a moveable fish stand. The Fish Fry at the McQuade Road/Hwy 61 junction featured fish and sold smoked fish.

Perhaps because of the way it was platted, Greenwood Beach is densely populated, an unusual development in the otherwise sparsely populated Township. There are approximately 880 homes in Duluth Township. In the platted area (less than half a square mile) there are 56 homes with Greenwood Road addresses and 41 with North Shore Drive addresses. 11% of the Township homes are in 2.2% of the Township’s 44 square miles area.

Greenwood Beach’s earliest settlers were attracted because the topography was familiar and the lake within walking distance. In addition there was “a largely unspoken agreement allowing each arriving family the fishing rights to an area of the lake directly adjacent to their homestead. The size of this area would vary, but usually included a section of shoreline with fishing rights extending two miles into the lake” (Roots in the Past - Seeds for the Future, p. 37). Highway 61 offered tourist access as well as a route to Duluth. In addition, the D&IRR line provided fishing families with a reliable means of transportation and shipping. There was a station at Ryan Road, and the train would stop when flagged at other locations. Supplies were available from several little stores in the area, one below the French River Lutheran Church, one each at the Ryan Road and McQuade Road railroad crossings.

Article continued on page 9.
American Red Cross Blood Drive
at
French River Lutheran Church

When: Wednesday, May 12, 2021 – Noon to 6 p.m.
Where: French River Lutheran Church, 5310 Ryan Road, Duluth, MN 55804

This community-wide blood drive is hosted by the French River Lutheran Church Outreach Committee. Thanks to your support, our last blood drives have been very successful. All members of the Duluth Township community are welcome and encouraged to donate blood, as the need for blood continues to be great. As an added incentive, all donors who give blood between May 1-15 will be given a $5 Amazon gift card via e-mail. Appointments are highly encouraged and may be made in one of these ways:

1. Going to RedCrossBlood.org and searching in our Zip Code for the French River Lutheran Church blood drive. First time donors will need to create a profile with a username and password (if you don’t already have one from donating previously).
2. Downloading the Blood Donor App by searching “Red Cross Blood” on the App Store℠ or Google Play™ store.
3. Contacting Beth Luikart (call 218-525-1596, or e-mail her at bluikart@outlook.com).

COVID-19 safety protocols will be followed during the blood drive. Donors and staff will have their temperatures checked before entering the Fellowship Hall; social distancing guidelines will be followed in all areas; and all donors, volunteers, and staff members will be required to wear a mask or face covering. You are encouraged to bring your own mask. If you do not have a mask, one will be provided.

Further information about the blood donation process can be found online at RedCrossBlood.org.
MDA Hosting Meeting on Proposed Gypsy Moth Treatments for Northeast Minnesota

Virtual meetings taking place May 5, 2021

The Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) is hosting two virtual meetings on May 5 to share information with residents about gypsy moth treatments proposed for Northeast Minnesota.

The MDA monitors for gypsy moth each year, watching for start-up infestations. When an infestation is found, the department conducts aerial treatments using an organic insecticide and targets the infestation before it can spread. Three treatment areas cover parts of Carlton, Lake, and St. Louis counties. These areas, labeled Esko, French River, and New Duluth, include portions of the cities of Duluth, Proctor, and Two Harbors. An interactive map can be found at www.mda.state.mn.us/gmmap.

The treatments will be conducted in June and July, depending on insect development and weather.

The MDA will host two virtual meetings to share information with citizens about the threat gypsy moths pose to the environment and how officials plan to protect the urban and natural forests.

Gypsy Moth Virtual Informational Meetings

Wednesday, May 5, 2021
10:30-11:30 a.m. or 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Attend the meeting by going to www.mda.state.mn.us/gmtreatments

Individuals with a disability who need a reasonable accommodation to participate in this event please contact Danielle DeVito at 507-384-1129 or through the Minnesota Relay Service at 711 as soon as possible.

Residents can also receive text updates about the proposed gypsy moth treatments by visiting www.mda.state.mn.us/gmtreatments. The website also has more information on the proposed treatment areas and products being used.

Gypsy moths are ranked among America’s most destructive tree pests. The insect has caused millions of dollars in damage to forests as it has spread from New England to Wisconsin in recent decades. Gypsy moth caterpillars can defoliate large sections of forest. The pests are common in Wisconsin and are now establishing themselves in Minnesota. Cook and Lake counties are under state and federal quarantine for gypsy moth.

Over the years, the MDA has successfully treated dozens of gypsy moth infestations across eastern Minnesota from Grand Portage to the Twin Cities to Houston County. These successful treatments help postpone the full-scale invasion of gypsy moth, saving local communities and homeowners money and protecting the health of the state’s urban and natural forests.

Prepared our homes and communities for wildfire resiliency is a shared responsibility. We all can play a role to lower our risks and build stronger community relationships. Content provided by Gloria Erickson, contracted St. Louis County Firewise Coordinator. You can contact Gloria at gloria@dovetailinc.org or (218) 365-0878.
Information is also on our website.

Town Office Hours: Tues 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Wed 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., Thurs 9 a.m. - 5 p.m, Fri 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Planning Office Hours: No posted hours
Call the Town Hall for an appointment: 525-5705

Supervisors: (See web site for email contacts)

Rolf Carlson (2020-2023) 525-0375 Board Chair
Primary contact: Personnel, Cemetery
Alternate: North Shore Mgmt. Board, Intergovernmental Relations

Penny Morton (2021-2024) 525-5443 Vice Chair
Primary contact: Business Mgt, North Shore Mgt Board, CC Liaison/NSCS Foundation Board
Alternate: Personnel, Intergovernmental Relations, Communications

Michael Kahl (2019-2022) 525-1594
Primary contact: Roads/Invasive Weeds, Planning
Alternate: Business Mgt, Intergovernmental Relations, Town Hall, North Shore Mgt Board

John Schifsky (2019-2022) 525-9363
Primary contact: Arts and Heritage, Communications, Public Safety
Alternate: Cemetery, Intergovernmental Relations, North Shore Mgt Board

Tim Strom (2021-2023) 525-5705
Primary contact: Materials Management, Town Hall
Alternate: Intergovernmental Relations, Planning, Roads/Invasive Weeds, North Shore Mgt Board

Town Clerk: Ann K. Cox 525-5705 (Town Hall)
Deputy Clerk: Nicole Chatterton 525-5705 (Town Hall)
Treasurer: Mel Peulen 525-5705 (Town Hall)
Attorney: Scott Witty 722-4766 (Office)
Cemetery Sexton: Molly Tillotson 525-6933
Planning Director: Sue Lawson 525-5705 (Message)
Planning Secretary: Beth Mullan 525-5705 (Message)

Planning Commission: Liz Strohmayer (Chair), Dave Edblom (Vice Chair), Dave Meyer, Justin Osadjan, Blane Tetreault, Pam West, and Angela Wilson

Peace Officers: Chief Shawn Padden, Officer Paul Johnson

Emergencies 911, Messages 525-5705 or (218) 393-8407

Clifton Volunteer Fire/EMS Department: Chief Bob Engelson, Assistant Chief Rob Peldo, President Jason Bruckelmayr, Secretary Sherry Rovig
Email: cliftonfiredepartment@gmail.com

Burning Permits are available online at: mndnr.gov/permits or at the Town Hall (office hours), or from Fire Wardens: Nicole Chatterton (525-5705), Jeff & Carolyn Marino (525-6431) or DNR Two Harbors 1568 Hwy 2 (834-1418)

Website Manager: Nicole Chatterton 525-5705 (Town Hall)
Community Center Rental Coordinator: Jim Salls 600-9015

To Email Township Officials and Departments
See Township website, www.duluthtownship.org/contacts for a dropdown list of personnel and departments you can use to send emails. Note that copies of all emails go to the Town Hall for Township records. If the person does not have email access, your communication is sent to the Town Hall to be picked up. Department information is also on our website.

A reminder that all in person, indoor events are canceled until further notice. The calendar is provided in case that fact changes. Check the website for further information.

May 2021

May 1: Recycling 8 a.m.-noon
May 4: Recycling 7-11 a.m.; 3-7 p.m.; Fire Business Mtg. Hall #1 7 p.m.
May 6: Recycling 3-7 p.m.
May 8: Recycling 8 a.m.–noon
May 11: Recycling 7-11 a.m.; 3-7 p.m.
May 13: Recycling 3-7 p.m.; Town Board Mtg. 6:30 p.m.
May 15: Recycling 8 a.m.-noon
May 18: Recycling 7-11 a.m.; 3-7 p.m.
May 20: Recycling 3-7 p.m.
May 22: Recycling 8 a.m.-noon
May 25: Recycling 7-11 a.m.; 3-7 p.m.; Planning Commission Ordinance Review 6:30 p.m.
May 27: Recycling 3-7 pm; Planning and Zoning Mtg. 7 p.m.
May 29: Recycling 8 a.m.-noon

Looking Ahead

June 1: Recycling 7-11 a.m.; Fire Business Meeting 7 p.m.
June 5: Recycling 8 a.m.-noon
June 8: Recycling 7-11 a.m.; 3-7 p.m.
June 10: Recycling 3-7 p.m.; Town Board Mtg. 6:30 p.m.
June 19: Recycling 8 a.m.-noon
June 22: Recycling 7-11 a.m.; 3-7 p.m.; Planning Commission Ordinance Review 6:30 p.m.
June 24th: Recycling 3-7 p.m.; Planning and Zoning Mtg. 7 p.m.
DULUTH TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER
MAY 2021

Sneak Peek
- Police Report
- What's Cooking?
- News from NSCS!
- Clover Valley Farmers Market
- Clover Valley Tractor Show
- Firewise

For a color version of this Newsletter visit the Township website: www.duluthtownship.org

If your name or address are in error or you know of someone who is not receiving a Newsletter, please send a note to the Newsletter editor by using the contact list on our website (www.duluthtownship.org). Extra copies are also available in the Town Hall.

1124 Newsletters is mailed to Duluth Township homes, businesses and on request. Copies are available at the Town Hall. Please send comments and suggestions to Newsletter editor, Nicole Chatterson at the Town Hall, 6092 Homestead Road, Duluth MN 55804 or use the white mailbox at the Town Hall or email on the website. Our Newsletter is printed locally by Bob Sundstrom, BBK Printing, and is mailed for us by the fine folks at Twin Ports Mailing.

Town Services During the Covid-19 Pandemic

Please check the website for any developments, updates, or changes to Town services during the pandemic.

Town Clerk’s Office: Open to the public during regular office hours. All COVID precautions issued by the Governor will be followed. We strongly urge you to conduct your business via email, phone, U.S. mail, or the drop box under the public posting at the Town Hall entrance.

Town Board Meetings: Open to the public, adhering to the Governor’s pandemic directives.

Planning and Zoning Department
- Land Use Permits: Submit applications and fees for Land Use Permits to the Town via email, U.S. mail, at the Clerk’s Office during office hours, or in the drop box under the public posting at the Town Hall entrance. On-site review for Land Use Permits will be conducted by the Planning Director following the Governor's directives.
- Variances and Conditional Use Permits: Submit applications and fees for permits to the Town via email, U.S. mail, at the Clerk’s Office during office hours, or put them in the drop box under the public posting at the Town Hall entrance. Hearings for the permits are open to the public, strictly adhering to the Governor's pandemic directives. Submit comments regarding applications to the Town via email or U.S. mail.
- Questions for the Planning Director: Contact the Town Clerk

Police Department: For emergencies call 911

Fire Department or Emergency Medical Responders: Call 911

Town Roads: See contact on Town website

Recycling: Open during regular hours. (posted on the Township website www.duluthtownship.org). Follow the Governor’s pandemic directives.

Town Hall Community Room: Closed to the public until further notice.

No Town Hall rentals until further notice.