The Town Hall will be closed on July 4th, an official holiday. As of July 1st Duluth Township is the proud owner of a "North Shore Community Center", which will be leased to our North Shore Community School, now a public charter school. Watch for the new sign on the school property on Ryan Road. The final version of our updated Land Use Plan was released June 27th and it will be presented to the Town Board for action at a public hearing on Wednesday, July 31st, 7:00pm in the Town Hall. The insert is our annual Township information update and map.

Thanks to contributors to this issue: Ann Cox, Helen Hendrickson, Sue Lawson, Todd Lindahl, Shawn Padden, Sherry Rovig, Rich Sill, Jerry Simmons, Phil Strom, and Mary Ann Sironen. Thanks to Marilynn Kessler for allowing us to again use her art for this month's masthead. Call the editor (525-0103) if you can volunteer to do the September Newsletter masthead!

NSCS ANNOUNCES STAFF HIRINGS
Phil Strom, President and Board Chairman

The North Shore Community School is pleased to report that most of the staff positions for our 2002-2003 opening have been filled. If you have one or more kids starting with us in the fall it may be useful to clip and save this list.

Director
Administrative Assistant
Curriculum Director
Kindergarten
Kindergarten
1st Grade
2nd Grade
3rd Grade
4th Grade
5th Grade
6th Grade
School Nurse
Food Service Director
Food Service Assistant
Library & Media Tech.

To be announced in the following week or two are the people filling the positions of Phys. Ed. Teacher, Music Teacher, and Teacher's Aides.

With deep regrets the Board announces the resignation of Pat Anderson as a Board of Directors member. Pat has served the Board, and certainly this community, as one of the founders. From the very beginning of our efforts to organize the Charter School, Pat courageously stepped forward as the only teacher from the Elementary School to offer her license to the charter effort. She has served tirelessly, with a passion for educational excellence and a love of this school. We understand Pat's personal reasons for resigning the board, and wish her continued success and happiness in her new teaching position. We urge those readers who know Pat to convey your affection and thanks for her many valued labors on behalf of the school. The Board has appointed Sheri Camper to fill the open position.

Our teachers are strengthening themselves as a team this summer with "In Service" workshops at Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center and at the CFL in St. Paul. We are tremendously excited about the entire staff that has been assembled. Please get to know them in the months ahead.

A formal conveyance of title for the school property was made on June 14th between ISD 381 and the Township of Duluth, effective July 1st of 2002. As George Sundstrom eloquently stated during the formality, "This is an historic occasion for our North Shore Community." Many people have given a total of thousands of hours of their personal time to bring all of this together. As we move forward that effort will broaden out to include many more of our community's citizens, making this truly a Community School of excellence, and a Community Center which we can all be proud of.

Duluth Township's "Come On Home Party"
The 16th annual Come On Home party will be held at the Duluth Town Hall on Saturday, August 10th from 1:00 to 4:00 pm. Everyone in our community is invited – newcomers, old-timers, young and old. Join the group for music, dancing and refreshments. NO CHARGE! For information call 525-4154

Mailed to 797 Duluth Township households. Extra copies are available at the Town Hall. Please send your comments and suggestions to volunteer newsletter editor Don McTavish at the Town Hall, 6092 Homestead Road, Duluth, MN 55804 or in the NewsBox on the Town Hall porch. The Newsletter is printed locally by BB&K Printing and mailed for us by UDAC.
Steve Peterson will become the third member of our peace officer team. They will share the current 160 hours per month of patrolling in the Township. Steve is a Township resident. His full-time job is as a 14-year member of the Duluth Police Department. Steve also has 8 years experience with K9 patrol. Welcome!

Clifton Volunteer Fire Department
Jerry Simmons, Fire Chief

Chief Simmons welcomed a new volunteer, Kurt Lagarde, to the Fire Department. Several recent volunteers will be going through fire training in the near future.

Burning permits are required and can be obtained from the Town Hall during business hours. Note that the permit user must sign the permit.

The Homesteaders
Helen Hendrickson

The Homesteader’s will meet Wednesday, July 10th at 12:30 at the Duluth Town Hall on Homestead Road. A catered picnic and bingo are planned.

The next meetings are August 7th and September 4th at 12:30pm, Town Hall. The programs will be announced. For information, call 525-4154.

The History Corner
Richard Sill

For several weeks I had thought about making a return visit to the site of the old Jacobson homestead. The last time I had spent much time there was fifteen years ago, shortly after an evening visit I had made with Ernie, and his sister Nellie in the small Central Hillside home they then shared. At that time I was gathering information about them, their brother Waino, and their parents, Matt and Minnie who, in 1907, had purchased a forty acre piece of cut-over land just below Abrahamson Hill. By 1910 the Jacobson family had moved onto their new land in French River and it was the place that Ernie and Nellie called home for all their early childhood years. I remember spending much of that evening listening to Ernie’s stories and paging through photo albums and old newspaper clippings with Nellie. The night was filled with tales of old days and old times, dances at the Nolte Store, fishing on the Little Knife River, the summer that Waino made a pet of an orphaned bear cub, and, of course, the Saturday night ritual of the smoke sauna.

When this morning broke cold and overcast, diminishing my enthusiasm for any gardening. I quickly grabbed some pictures of the homestead I had gotten from Ernie years earlier, started up the pickup and headed off to see what changes the last several years had brought to his and Nellie’s childhood home. Caleb, my son, climbed in with me. I was glad he wanted to go along.

We turned off the gravel road onto the muddy drive and parked next to the spot where the old barn used to stand. It, along with a number of other outbuildings, had been destroyed in a fire that had consumed several acres of land just prior to my first visit fifteen years earlier. I reached in the cab of the truck, retrieved the pictures from on top of the dash and showed them to Caleb. One photograph revealed Ernie, at a young age, standing in front of the barn; a long building that lay covered under a blanket of snow. In the background of the photograph the old homestead could clearly be seen. In the picture the original log hewn two-story house displayed the two additions that Ernie said had been added about 1920. On the north side the addition contained the families living room, and opposite it along the south, the dining area, constructed so it could gather as much light and sun as possible. The house had escaped the fire fifteen years ago and was at the time of my first visit, though sagging and unused, still standing. I remember then being able to walk through the house, of seeing the hump in the middle of the floor that Ernie had said become noticeable soon after construction and that gradually grew bigger as years passed. I can still recall climbing the narrow staircase to the three small upstairs rooms that served as bedrooms for Ernie, Nellie and Waino and of looking out through broken windows onto fields that had already begun to grow trees instead of oats and hay.

Those old fields and pastures had been laid out along the northern edge of the forty and as we turned away from the rubble of what remained of the house we worked our way out into the labyrinth of trees that now filled them. I pointed out to Caleb where the edges of the fields had been, still clearly marked by the long rows of stone piles that could be found all along the property lines. I thought of the years of sweat and backbreaking work that had cleared this land. I thought of how the Jacobson’s had picked these rocks, of Billy and Chub, their team of workhorses, dragging load after load, year after year, in an endless struggle to create enough cleared fields for planting. We followed the line of rock piles that led us along the edge of the field until once again we were heading back south. We crossed an open area of wetland and then climbed up a small hill where we came upon the remains of the old root cellar. The roof had collapsed and over the years a good portion of it had been filled with junk and garbage. I explained to Caleb how important root cellars were in the days before electricity and refrigeration. He listened for a while and then said, “Dad, it sure would make a great fort.”

As Caleb went off for further exploring I looked over the land that at one time had contained so much life and activity. It was not hard for me to imagine what it looked like then. I could envision the fields of potatoes Ernie planted, the large patch of strawberries Nellie tended, and the stacks of hay that provided winter feed for the animals. I thought of all the structures that once stood here, of smoke drifting from the sauna, the sounds of animals, of Ernie’s accordion music filling the air. To me all that richness wasn’t gone it had just slowly seeped back into this land.

Summary of Town Board Meetings
(Official minutes are available at the Town Hall)

May 9th meeting. All Board members attended and approved the minutes. The Clerk gave her report and the Treasurer reported deposits of $919.83 and expenses of $10,723.98 for an ending balance of $95,691.27. The
The Board approved Police Chief Shawn Padden’s request that a third officer be hired (sharing the current 160 hours/month). Contracts were approved for parking lot striping ($195), and for repairing and painting our Town Hall ($5200). The Board approved Cindy Hale for the Planning and Zoning Commission. This was the Commission’s recommendation after an application and interview process. A petition with 94 signatures requested that Bill Cox be appointed. The annual Supervisor inspection of Township roads was scheduled for June 1st.

Several motions were approved concerning the school (Chair Sundstrom abstained from the discussion and vote since he also serves on the volunteer interim charter school board). The Board approved Johnson Controls for maintenance and approved a motion to lease the school property (received as a community center) to our North Shore Community School when it is transferred to the Township by District 381. A special Board meeting was scheduled for June 11th to sign papers transferring the school property. Attorney Strom will conclude the Culas Road agreement. Liquor license requests by New Scenic Café and Shorecrest Supper Club were approved.

Audience concerns, a regular agenda item usually at the end of the meeting will be moved up in the future.

May 15th Special Meeting. Attending were Supervisors Sundstrom, Cook, West, Dahl, and Attorney Strom with Phil Strom and Merry Mattson from the school boards. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss matters related to the transfer of the school to the Township. Motions were made to open a safety deposit box, not to purchase title insurance, date the transfer on June 30th, hire Clerk Ann Cox to represent the Township as co-coordinator, set up a capital fund account for the school and designate charter school lease funds to go to this account for capital improvements, insurance, and reasonable administrative expenses including contracting for facility management. A motion was approved to authorize one supervisor to approve up to $10,000 from the Community Center Capital Expenditure Fund to correct emergency problems without prior Board approval.

June 11th Special Meeting. All Board members were present. The meeting was scheduled to coincide with School District 381 public hearing at which time the North Shore school property would be turned over to our Township. Bruce Aho made the motion to acquire the school property as a Town Community Center for a dollar. The Board unanimously approved the motion and the meeting was adjourned. Our North Shore Community School will lease the property.

June 13th meeting. All Board members were present. Minutes were approved and the Treasurer reported income of $9,308 and expenditures of $25,690.38 for an ending balance of $79,308.89. The next installment of our tax funds and State aid are due early July. Steve Peterson was introduced as our new (3rd) police officer. The Fire Department reported two fires. A special public hearing meeting was scheduled for Wed. July 31st to act on our updated Land Use Plan. Arrangements for insurance for our community center/school were discussed. Fees were set for potential rental of the North Shore Community School space (rental forms will be available at the Town Hall). A request for a liquor license by Lakeview Castle was approved. Our Town Sexton, Denise Connolly reported on cemetery record updating. Two items of future interest are the North Shore Management Board’s assessment of cell tower needs and federal storm water management effort that includes Duluth Township.

The Next Town Board meetings: (2nd Thursday) July 11th and August 8th at 7:30pm, Town Hall. Residents are invited to attend these public meetings.

Township Calendar

See updates on www.duluthtownship.org.

July 10, Wed, 12:30 Homesteader’s meeting Town Hall
July 3, Wed, 7:00pm Volunteer Fire Dept business meeting, Fire Hall #1, Ryan Road
July 9, Tue, 7-9am Duluth/North Shore Sanitary District meeting, French River Lutheran Church
July 11, Thu, 7:30pm TOWN BOARD, Town Hall
July 17, Wed, 7:00pm Volunteer Fire Dept work night
July 23, Tue, 6:30pm at NSE School, North Shore Community School Board meeting.
July 25, Thu, 6:30pm Fire Auxiliary meeting, Town Hall
July 25, Thu, 7:30pm Planning Commission, Town Hall

July 31, Wed, 7:00pm Public Hearing and Board action on the Updated Land Use Plan.

Aug 6, Tue, 7-9am Duluth/North Shore Sanitary District meeting, French River Lutheran Church
Aug 7, Wed, 12:30 Homesteader’s meeting Town Hall
Aug 7, Wed, 7:00pm Volunteer Fire Dept business meeting, Fire Hall #1, Ryan Road.

Aug 10, Sat. “Come on Home Party” for Duluth Township residents and friends, 1-4pm at our Town Hall. Free!

Aug 8, Thu, 7:30pm TOWN BOARD, Town Hall 20
Aug 20, Tue, 6:30pm at NSE School, North Shore Community School Board meeting.
Aug 21, Wed, 7:00pm Volunteer Fire Dept work night
Aug 23, Deadline for news for the September Newsletter
Aug 22, Thu, 6:30pm Fire Auxiliary meeting, Town Hall
Aug 22, Thu, 7:30pm Planning Commission, Town Hall

Sept 3, First Day of School, North Shore Community School
Sept 3, Thu, 7-9am Duluth/North Shore Sanitary District meeting, French River Lutheran Church
Sept 4, Wed, 12:30 Homesteader’s meeting Town Hall
Sept 4, Wed, 7:00pm Volunteer Fire Dept business meeting, Fire Hall #1, Ryan Road

Sept 12, Thu, 7:30pm TOWN BOARD, Town Hall
Sept 26, Thu, 6:30pm, Fire Auxiliary meeting, Town Hall
Sept 26, Thu, 7:30pm Planning Commission, Town Hall
April 25th meeting. All commissioners were present. Reports were received on the “Save The Coast” conference, the status of the Planning Commission’s recommendation to the Board about Cindy Hale as a new member, and progress on cleaning up the old Clover Valley School property on Homestead road. The Land Use Planning process was reviewed and discussed and a schedule of meetings set. A liaison from the Town Board to the Planning Commission will be requested.

May 23rd meeting. Commissioners Gustofson, Edblom, Hale, Hendrickson, and McTavish attended. A public hearing was conducted on Jeff Bruckelmyer’s request for a variance to construct a storage building. The lot is small (1.5 acres) but existed prior to zoning. A neighbor’s attorney objected to the variance. After discussion, the Board approved under condition of no further building on the property, all storage must be inside the building, and the south exposure should be landscaped and seeded.

June 27th meeting. All members were present. The Board officially released the final version of our Land Use Plan. Copies will be available in the Town Hall, the south recycling center, and on the Township web site: www.duluthtownship.org. Supervisor Jeff Cook is liaison to the Planning Commission. The status of the contract with the consultants was reviewed. They have repeatedly assured us that they would complete the planning/zoning process with the Township for the specified contract charges. The Commission voted to add 5-7 people to the Steering Committee for the zoning phase of the process. Letters inviting people to join the Steering Committee will go to those who have shown an interest by attending Steering Committee or Public Hearings on the Plan. If more than 7 are interested, those who have attended more past meetings will be chosen. They will be invited to the next Planning Commission meeting, July 25th, to review the process thus far and provide information.

Next Planning Commission meetings: (4th Thursday)
July 25th and August 22nd at 7:30pm, Town Hall.
Residents are invited to attend these public meetings.

Duluth/North Shore Sanitary District
Mary Ann Sironen, DNSSD Secretary

Contracts for construction have been awarded and work has begun. S. J. Louis Construction of St. Cloud will build the main line that is the backbone of the sewer line running from 47th Ave E in Duluth up to Knife River for $8.2 million. Tjader & Highstrom of New Richmond, WI won the bidding for construction of the lateral lines that go into each property. For $4.3 million. The main line will be built starting this summer while the lateral work will begin next year working from the Duluth city limits up the shore towards the Lake County line. Construction is planned to be complete by 2005. The construction trailers will be parked near the McQuade Road on North Shore Drive.

Residents of the District have received information about funds available through either the City or St. Louis County’s Community Development Block Grant funding programs. Individuals meeting income guidelines can receive assistance with the cost of the sewer. Hope for additional funding that could have further reduced costs to property owners was lost with the governor’s veto of this year’s bonding bill that contained money for the Wastewater Infrastructure Fund.

Commercial customers and owners with more than one building on their property have been asked to meet with the DNSSD Rates and Charges work group to discuss their individual situations. Properties that produce more wastewater than the average single family dwelling will be asked to pay proportionately more for their use of the sewer.

Current cost, as published at the hearing on April 25, is $625 per year for 20 years that will appear on the tax statement of sewer users. In addition, a sewer treatment and maintenance charge of approximately $35 per month is expected, bringing the yearly cost estimates to $1,245 per year. Property owners will also be required to upgrade their homes electrical and plumbing systems to comply with requirements for hooking into the system. Buildings that do not have septic systems will not be required to hook up to the sewer but if such an action is planned for the future, the connection fee is anticipated to be $15,000.

The DNSSD Board of Managers meets the first Tuesday of each month (with exceptions for July, September and November) at 7 a.m. at French River Lutheran Church. The public is welcome at all meetings. The website, www.dnssd.org, is also updated regularly and provides a source of current information.

The First North Shore Road
Todd Lindahl

Long before Europeans ventured into the Great Lakes region Native Americans established a trail along the north shore. Early travel was accomplished on foot, by snowshoe, or dog sled. The easiest and most preferred method was by canoe via the lake, but this option was not always available. The north shore trail connected with a network of other trails leading to access points on inland waterways or seasonal camps. The western end of the trail merged with the important portage at Fond Du Lac. This portage was the link between Lake Superior and the Mississippi River system. The fur trade companies were quick to realize the importance of the portage. In 1817 John Jacob Astor’s American Fur Company established a fort at the foot of the portage. By 1832 the American Fur Company was comprised of many scattered posts including the one at Grand Portage in Cook County. The north shore trail served as a connection between these two posts. In 1854 the Ojibway tribe ceded northeastern Minnesota to the United States government in the Treaty of La Pointe. This opened the north shore to white settlement and commerce. The first significant settlement was at Beaver Bay in 1856. Other north shore residents were sparsely scattered and made up of mostly fishermen, explorers, or prospectors. Two U.S. Post Offices were established on the north shore in 1856. One was at Beaver Bay and the other at French River in Duluth Township. Legendary Ojibway mailman John Beargrease traveled the north shore trail by dogsled starting in 1879. During the summer months the trip was made using a rowboat. Each round trip from Beaver Bay to Grand

Continued on page 5
Marais to Duluth and back took two weeks. By 1873 the trail had become what could be loosely described as a road. In 1879 when John Beargrease started carrying the mail the road was reported to be wide enough for a horse team. Some improvements were made over the years with the last 20 miles between Duluth and Grand Portage completed in 1887. In 1883 the Duluth & Iron Range Railroad began building a rail line from Two Harbors to Lake Vermilion. The north shore road now became known as the stage road with three different stage companies competing for the winter mail and passenger business. During the summer months passenger ships that ran on fixed timetables provided these same services. Before long there was only one stage company left. Barney Lynch who had built the Half Way House stage stop half way between Duluth and Two Harbors ran it. The exact location of this facility is unknown, but it may have been in the vicinity of the Sucker River. Each morning on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday the stage stopped at all of the primary hotels in Duluth. At 8:30 AM it left the city headed up the shore. At the Half Way House the horse teams were changed and passengers could buy a meal while they waited. The return trip on the alternate days began as soon as the train arrived from Tower. The stage arrived back in Duluth at 5:30 PM. with each round trip taking two days. On December 20, 1886 the D&IR ran its first train over the Lake Division track between Duluth and Two Harbors. As a result, the stage line and half way house disappeared over night. The importance of the road was greatly diminished for a time, but in the end, the popularity of automobiles and improvements in the roads displaced the trains. Today the road is still king.
Inside this Issue:

- Township Calendar
- Town Board meetings
- Planning Commission meetings
- Community School news
- Update on Land Use Planning
- The First North Shore Road
- History Corner
- DNSDD sewer line update
- Reference Information on the Township, including a Map

Duluth Township Newsletter
6092 Homestead Road
Duluth, MN 55804

If your name and address are in error or you know of someone who is not receiving a Newsletter, please send a note to the Newsletter Editor at the Town Hall (News box on the Town Hall porch). Extra copies are also available in the Town Hall.

Duluth Township Information for 2002
Duluth Town Hall, 6092 Homestead Road, Duluth, MN 55804
Phone (218) 525-5705 (voice message), fax (218) 525-3845,
web site: www.duluthtownship.org, or email: TownHall@duluthtownship.org

Town Office Hours: Tues. and Wed. 12:30-3:30
Thursday 9:00-12:00 and 4:30-7:30

Supervisors:
- Bruce Aho 525-4033 or email: BruceAho@duluthtownship.org (Roads, NSCS)
- Jeff Cook 525-4010 or email: JeffCook@duluthtownship.org (Zoning)
- Stephen Dahl 525-4679 or email: SteveDahl@duluthtownship.org (Town hall, NSCS building and grounds)
- George Sundstrom 525-5655 or email: GeorgeSundstrom@duluthtownship.org (Chair, cemetery)
- Corlis West 525-7719 or email: CorlisWest@duluthtownship.org (Fire and Police)

Clerk: Ann Cox 525-5705 (Town Hall)
or email: AnnCox@duluthtownship.org
Treasurer: Janet Johansen 525-5705 (Town Hall)
or email: JanetJohansen@duluthtownship.org
Attorney: Tim Strom 722-4766 (office)
or email: TimStrom@duluthtownship.org
Cemetery: Denise Connolly 525-7161 or 392-8511
or email: Cemetery@duluthtownship.org

Planning and Zoning Administrator: Wayne Dahlberg
728-4293 (office) or email: WayneDahlberg@duluthtownship.org
Planning and Zoning Secretary: Carolyn Marino
email: CarolynMarino@duluthtownship.org
Planning and Zoning Committee: Sue Lawson (chair),
David Edblom, Toni Fladmark, Wendy Gustofson,
Cindy Halle, Adam Hendrickson, Janet McTavish
email: PlanningZoning@duluthtownship.org

Peace Officers: Chief Shawn Padden
Paul Johnson, Steve Peterson
email: PoliceOffice@duluthtownship.org

Fire Department: Chief Jerry Simmons
Assistant Chief Bill Cox
email: FireHall@duluthtownship.org

Note: Where possible, email is forwarded to the person, otherwise it is sent to the Town Hall where it is picked up.

Township Recycling Centers

North site — Town Hall, Bob Abrahamson staffs the
center Tuesday 2-6pm and Saturday 8-12noon.

South site — McQuade & Scenic Hwy, Caroline Marino
staffs the center Tues 7:00-11:00, Thurs 3:00-7:00,
and Sat 8:00-noon (phone: 525-4592).

(Leave items only when Recycling Centers are open.)
Local Jurisdictions: There are different governance jurisdictions that apply to some or all areas of Duluth Township. Our Town Board of Supervisors is the main local governing body. Duluth Township is represented on the North Shore Management Board that deals with broader issues along the shore to Canada. The Duluth/North Shore Sanitary District (DNSSD) manages the new sewer line that runs along the shore from Duluth to Knife River. Lake Superior School District 381 is the school taxing district that includes Duluth Township. Duluth Township is in State Senate District 6 and Legislative District 6A, County Commissioner District 5, US Congressional District 8, and Independent School District 381. The Town Hall is used as the voting place.

Goverance Procedures and Regulations that apply to all Minnesota Townships are summarized on the website: www.mntownships.org. Duluth Township has its own Land Use Plan and Zoning Ordinances that can be reviewed in the Town Hall. These are being updated and revised during 2002-2003.

North Shore Community School, 5926 Ryan Road, is a public charter school. It does not charge tuition and cannot levy taxes. It is our Township's Community Center.

Your Fire Insurance Rates: Our Clifton Fire Department now has a level 9 rating.

Annual Township Meeting is held in mid-March. The Township election held during the day and the Annual Meeting starts in the evening. All Township residents are urged to vote and attend the meeting. It is held in our Town Hall on Homestead Road. The meeting approves the Township budget for the next year (2004 voted on in 2003). Information about the meeting will appear in posted official notices and in the Township Newsletter.

Township Legal notices (meetings, hearings, etc.) are posted at the Town Hall and published in the Duluth News Tribune. They are also posted at our South Recycling Center, the Scenic Café, our North Shore Community School and Clifton Volunteer Fire Department, Station #1 on Ryan Road. You are invited to attend Township Board and Planning Commission meetings.

Township Website: www.duluthtownship.org contains information about the Township, special events, a calendar, Board minutes, map, links, etc. Resident Linda Holliday maintains the site and local business LightingPharos, donates the site.

Newsletter: Published every other month (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sept, Nov) and mailed without cost to all 797 households in the Township. Back issues are on the Township web site. Resident Don McTavish is editor.

Two Recycling Centers
Email: Recycling@duluthtownship.org (leave items only when they are open)

North site – Town Hall, Bob Abramson will staff the center Tuesday 2-6pm and Saturday 8-12noon.

South site – McQuade & Scenic Hwy, Caroline Marino staffs the center Tues 7:00-11:00, Thurs 3:00-7:00, and Sat 8:00-noon (phone: 525-4592).