



Duluth Township Newsletter

Duluth Township web site: www.duluthtownship.org

May 2005

Thank you to all contributors to this issue:

Bob Abrahamson, Jeanne Anderson, Ann Cox, Malinda Granley, Helen Hendrickson, Janis Hooley, Barry Lampi, Shawn Padden, Todd Lindahl, Rich Sill, Mary Ann Sironen, George Sundstrom, and the anonymous masthead artist!

If you would be willing to provide a masthead drawing, call the editor (525-0103). Thank you.

Two new Township Supervisors were elected at the March election. **Wendy Anderson** and **Dan Tanner**. A total of 299 people voted. At the April organization meeting, Supervisor **Steve Dahl** was elected Board Chair.

Good News! ISO Fire Rating Update

Fire Chief Barry Lampi announced that our *Clifton Volunteer Fire Department* will have its ISO rating revised from 9 to **8**. The official paperwork should be here in 60 days. You should contact your insurance agent to see if this will lower your rates. Some insurance companies may not use our particular rating.

Township High Speed Internet Update

As many of you know by now, most of the south part of our Township is served by the Coop Light and Power wireless internet antenna on the Bergquist Road water tower. Thus far around 25 people have been connected and the internet response time is **FAST!** Some on Greenwood Road are in the shadow of a hill but CLP is investigating the possibility for a telephone pole-based antenna for that area.

Some 15 people in the north part of the Township will be served by an antenna on Molde Hill on Olson Road. This is slated to be installed by June from a pole antenna. If you are interested in high speed internet service you could call **Kevin Olson**, the Communications Director at CLP (834-2226). See their web site for more information and a coverage map: www.lakenet.com.

May 13th at 6:30pm -- *North Shore Community School Community Celebration*

Local history pictures and displays by students honoring **Howard Sivertson** and area elders from previous years, music by school choirs, snacks. Community residents are encouraged to attend. Plan to arrive early!

Duluth Township Community Center Events

Jeanne Anderson, Event Coordinator

Community Education Instructor Recruiting. The Duluth Township Community Center will soon be offering Community Education courses and would like to know if there are any community members who would be interested in being an instructor. If you have a special talent and/or training and would enjoy sharing your expertise with the community, please contact Jeanne Anderson at 525-0663 x208 or email me at janderson@northshorecommunityschool.org. I look forward to hearing from you.

Memorial Day Event – May 30th at 11am

Bob Abrahamson

Our Township's annual Memorial Day event honors those from our Township who have served our country. The event is held at our Township's *Palmer's Lake View Cemetery* on Old North Shore Road east of Homestead Road. Bob Abrahamson will lead the service. **Don Mattson**, Captain USNR retired, will be the keynote speaker. Our local Boy Scouts assist with the ceremony. Refreshments and music will be provided by French River Lutheran Church. **Mark May 30th on your calendar and plan to arrive by 11am.** In the past around 60 people attend. Children are welcome too.

Boy Scouts Serve Meals!

May 22nd Pancake Breakfast -- 8am to noon, NSCS

A fundraiser for Scout Pack #162 -- at North Shore Community School cafeteria. Tickets available from any Cub Scout and at the door. Cost: adults \$4.50, children 10 and under \$3.50. Menu features pancakes, sausages and beverages served by the Scouts. The Scouts are raising money to fund their educational programs and help them go to summer camp.

Cub Scouts meet every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month during the school year in the NSCS cafeteria. Interested boys, 1st through 5th grade, are invited to attend any pack meeting.

June 12th Chicken and Ribs Dinner -- 11:30 to 5pm,

A Scout fundraiser at the French River Lutheran Church, 5310 Ryan Road. Everyone welcome!

Clifton Volunteer Fire Department

Barry Lampi, Fire Chief

We have received information that our ISO rating has been dropped from 9 to 8, an improvement that will affect your homeowner's insurance rates. The official letter should be received this month.

Bids are being pursued for a used fire truck to replace one of our old trucks. Bids will be reviewed at the May 4th meeting (public welcomed). The decision to proceed was made at the Annual Town Meeting last March.

FIRE NUMBERS are important and even critical to locate your home or business in case of a fire, medical or police emergency. Please be sure to post the number in a very visible place. If you don't have a fire number, contact the Town Hall. It also helps to have your house number in big numbers on your mailbox. We have had some trouble locating the correct house because there is no number showing from the road.

The Department has applied for a \$94,000 FEMA grant for personal protection equipment (air packs, etc.).

Township Police Department

Shawn Padden, Chief.

85 police calls/events were recorded for March, in addition to regular patrolling. This included 38 home/business checks, 11 traffic violation warnings, 5 suspicious vehicle checks, 4 arrests, 2 traffic citations, a motorist assist, and a medical emergency. A residential burglary was reported on Ryan Road.

If anyone has information regarding drug activity, suspected "meth" labs or outdoor marijuana growing in the Township, contact Shawn Padden at [Duluth Police Department's Organized Crime Bureau](mailto:DuluthPoliceDepartment@DuluthTownship.org) at 218-730-5468. The [Lake Superior Drug Task Force](#) will pay cash for information received leading to the arrest and conviction of persons involved. You may remain anonymous.

To receive notices from our Police Department **email Crime Alert** service (also on our web site) send your email address to PoliceOffice@duluthtownship.org.

Taxes and Land Protection Options

A free booklet is available for those who may wish to preserve some of the current rural character of their own land and perhaps lower the taxable assessment of their property. It's titled: ["Land Protection Options: A Handbook for Minnesota Landowners"](#), published collaboratively by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Nature Conservancy, Trust for Public Land, and Minnesota Land Trust..

It describes various options a property owner can use to protect open space such as forest, agricultural, or scenic land. It is a very informative booklet. Steps it describes might serve to preserve the character of your land and result in some tax savings. A free copy is available from Division of Ecological Services (phone 651-296-2835) *or write:* Attention LPO book, MN DNR, 500 Lafayette Road, Box 25, St Paul, MN 55155. It is also available on the internet at: www.greatplains.org/resource/1998/landprot/landprot.

Please Pick Up Your Fire Number

The following residents need to pick up their **9-1-1** address signs (fire number) at the Town Hall, 6092 Homestead Road, during regular business hours:

Russel & Wendy Krook, 1853 Pine Park Road
Susan Alumbaugh-Brenning, 1804 Pine Park Road
William Myers, 1531 Clover Valley Drive
Jon & Patti Rowray, 1826 Pine Park Road
John Scully, 2104 Old North Shore Road
Michelle Monstrom, 1689 Clover Valley Drive
David & Laurie Jackson, 5315 Greenwood Road
Alan & Lisa Nelson, 6240 Homestead Road
Barbara Voight, 6610 McQuade Road
Paul Johnson, 1644 W. Knife River Road
Thomas Wright, 5771 Bergquist Road
Dan Galyen, 1377 Lismore Road East

The Homesteaders

Helen Hendrickson

The *Homesteader's* is a long-standing organization of residents in or near Duluth Township. It meets at noon on the first Wednesday each month at the Town Hall. There is a light lunch (provided by members who sign up to volunteer something), plus an interesting program and a brief meeting. Dues are \$2.00/year (many put \$1 in the basket at lunch to help with coffee and paper expenses). There are over 100 members.

Many current members are long-time residents who have contributed to our community over many years. The group sponsors an annual community party in August (called the "Come on Home" party), they are a booster of our community school and contribute to various community causes. It is a friendly place to meet and discuss issues with some of your neighbors and get to know the Township. Homesteader's is open to everyone, regardless of age. Come, try it out!

The next meetings are:

May 4th, Wednesday, 12:30pm, Town Hall. Luncheon.

"*Fitness for Seniors*" by physical therapist, Amy Poe.

June 1st, Wednesday, 12:30pm, Town Hall. Luncheon, musical program by residents *Jody Anderson and Sherry Rovig*.

July 6th, Wednesday, 12:30pm, Town Hall. Potluck picnic and Bingo.

Everyone is welcome. For information, call Helen Hendrickson at 525-4154

Bloodmobile

If there is sufficient interest, Memorial Blood Center will schedule a **blood donation** stop in Duluth Township. To indicate your interest, call *Memorial Blood Center* staff at 723-8080 extension 109, and leave your name and say that you are from Duluth Township. You will be called once a schedule for the bloodmobile is set. Some have already called to sign up.

The Ice Age in Duluth Township

Todd Lindahl

The immense glaciers of the ice age erased all that had existed previously in northeast Minnesota. By 11,500 years ago the ice had retreated to a point outside of Minnesota and northward toward Hudson Bay. The climate, while still cooler overall, was gradually warming up. Vegetation began to advance close to the margins of the retreating ice sheet. This was a tundra environment with extensive open areas of grass sedges and scattered stands of black spruce, willow, and dwarf birch trees. The most interesting animal to reside in this early forest was the American Mastodon. While most of the other species of large mammals had become extinct by 8,000 years ago, there is some evidence that the Mastodon may have survived until about 6,000 years ago. It is difficult to imagine why a beast that ate spruce needles and lived in a swamp ever went extinct around here.

By 12,000 years ago the western end of the Lake Superior basin was ice free, but the eastern end of the lake was still covered by the ice of the Superior lobe. This resulted in an ice dam and the level of the lake behind it reached its highest level. During this period in time the shoreline of Glacial Lake Duluth (Lake Superior) would have been close to two and a half miles north of the Duluth Town Hall. On the Homestead Road this would be located just below the junction with the Aho Road. A little better than half of the area of Duluth Township would have been under water during this period. This high water condition persisted for perhaps a few thousand years. By roughly 9,000 years ago the lake was at the level where it is today. This however was not the end of the story since the lake level continued to drop until it was about 300 feet lower than today about 7,000 years ago. At this time it would have been possible to walk from the Homestead Road due south to the Brule River in Wisconsin without much difficulty. The climate at this time was warmer than today, but these conditions too would soon change. The land, which had been depressed by the weight of the glacial ice, was now on the rebound and rising. It is still rising very slowly to this day. The north shore from Hoveland south rises at a slower rate than from Hoveland north past Thunder Bay. This is because the ice sheet persisted on the east half of the lake longer than it did on the west half. Our rate of rebound here has decreased like the third bounce of a ball as opposed to the first bounce. The Canadians it seems are still only on the first or second bounce.

We always tend to take our surroundings for granted and generally assume that what we see today has always been that way. In reality where we live has been a radically different place at times in the past. One has to wonder what it will be like far in the future.

Stay At Home Pet Care Services

Robin Whaley provides safe, trustworthy care for your pets at your home anytime you need it.

Township Calendar

See updates on www.duluthtownship.org.

Official calendar is posted at the Town Hall.

May 2005

- 4, Wed, 12:30 **Homesteader's**, Town Hall
- 4, Wed, 7:00pm **Volunteer Fire Dept:** business meeting, Fire Hall #1, Ryan Road
- 4, Wed, 7am **Duluth/North Shore Sanitary District** meeting, French River Lutheran Church
- 11, Wed, 7:00pm **First Responder** meeting, Hall #2
- 12, Thu, 7:00pm **TOWN BOARD**, Town Hall
- 13, Fri, 6:30pm **NSCS Community Celebration**, at the school.
- 17, Tue, 6:30pm **North Shore Community School Board** meeting, NSCS Library.
- 18, Wed, 7:00pm **Volunteer Fire Dept:** training, Hall #1
- 22, Sun, 8am-noon, **Pancake Breakfast**, NSCS, A Scout Pack #162 Fundraiser
- 26, Thu, 7:00pm **Planning Commission**, Town Hall
- 30, Mon, 11am Township **Memorial Day** service, Palmer Cemetery on Old North Shore Road.

June 2005

- 1, Wed, 12:30 **Homesteader's**, Town Hall
- 1, Wed, 7:00pm **Volunteer Fire Dept:** business meeting, Fire Hall #1, Ryan Rd
- 4, Sat. 10-3 **Watershed Festival**, K-mart pkg. lot.
- 8, Wed, 7-9am **Duluth/North Shore Sanitary District** meeting, French River Lutheran Church
- 8, Wed, 7:00pm **First Responder's** meeting, Hall #2
- 9, Thu, 7:00pm **TOWN BOARD**, Town Hall
- 12, Sun, 11:30am to 5pm, Boy Scout **Chicken & Ribs Dinner**, a fund-raiser for the Scouts at French River Lutheran Church on Ryan.
- 15, Wed, 7:00pm **Volunteer Fire Dept:** training
- 21, Tue, 6:30pm, **North Shore Community School Board** meeting, NSCS Library
- 23, Thu, 7:00pm **Planning Commission**, Town Hall.

July 2005

- 6, Wed, 12:30 **Homesteader's** meet Town Hall
- 6, Wed, 7:00pm **Volunteer Fire Dept:** business meeting Fire Hall #1, Ryan Road
- 13, Wed, 7-9am **Duluth/North Shore Sanitary District** meeting, French River Lutheran Ch
- 13, Wed, 7:00pm **First Responder** meeting, Hall #2
- 14, Thu, 7:00pm **TOWN BOARD**, Town Hall.
- 19, Tue, 6:30pm, **North Shore Community School Board** meeting, NSCS Library.
- 20, Wed, 7:00pm **Volunteer Fire Dept:** Training Hall #1
- 23, Sat. **Deadline** for news for the Aug. **Newsletter**
- 28, Thu, 7:00pm **Planning Commission**, Town Hall

**PLEASE BE SURE YOUR FIRE NUMBER IS
POSTED AND VISIBLE.**

The History Corner
Rich Sill

In the last *History Corner* I talked about the development of Minnesota's school system and the thorny problem that revolved around the issue of whether or not schools should be forced to consolidate. In this issue I will focus on two specific pieces of legislation addressing school district reorganization, both passed in the 1960's, and how the enactment of those bills affected our local community.

For the first half of the twentieth century state legislators had attempted on numerous occasions to reduce the number of school districts that existed in Minnesota. Throughout those years, even as the number of districts crept past the 8,000 mark, the state legislature had always been reluctant to mandate school mergers, instead preferring to use tactics that "encouraged" districts to consolidate by providing them incentives to do so. But as the decade of the 1960's opened it was becoming clear that this method was not working and without some form of enforcement there was little hope that schools would merge voluntarily.

In 1963 the first piece of legislation mandating school reorganization was introduced. It was known as the Non-operating School District bill. It required any area or territory not maintaining its own school (districts having no educational facilities of their own) "to be attached to or consolidated with" an adjoining district that did operate either an elementary or secondary program. Four years later a second more comprehensive bill mandating that all operating Minnesota school districts must provide their students full k-12 educational opportunities was passed. Any school district not in compliance by July 1, 1971 would be dissolved.

At the time of the passage of these bills **Clover Valley High School** was less than 40 years old and **North Shore Elementary** was nearly new. Both were a part of the St. Louis County Unorganized school system, a large and expansive scattering of semi-independent schools located throughout the county -- just the type of schools the legislature was targeting for change. Because of that it didn't take long for the consolidation issue to become a local topic of conversation. First mention of the newly passed legislation appeared in the Clover Valley Community Council minutes of September 27, 1967. The Council voted immediately to form a committee to look into the matter. Jim Ulland, who at the time had purchased the old Jacobson farm and later would represent our area in the Minnesota House, volunteered to head the committee. Two months later at the November 9th Council meeting he presented his initial findings. At first, according to the minutes of that meeting, it seemed as if most of the evening's discussion focused on possible tax implications of the new legislation and what effects the impending changes may have on teachers. However, over the next few months the question of merger, and the implications of such action (the actual closing of schools), became more clearly the concern of Council members.

In order to get a better feel for how the community viewed the impending merger of its two schools with another district the Council decided to put out a

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questionnaire to gather local opinion. On April 8, 1968 Ulland reported the results of the survey. Of the 425 questionnaires mailed, a total of 259 were returned with the results showing 41% of area residents favored merging with Duluth, while 59% favored a merger with Two Harbors. The Council continued to gather additional information on the issue including holding several meetings with various representatives of both the Duluth and Lake Superior School Districts. Issues of how the merger would affect tax levy structure, the possible addition of a Head Start program, expansion of kindergarten classes, and the effect on teacher seniority all played into the discussion. Some of the technical issues seemed to favor a consolidation with Duluth but clearly the overall sentiment of the community continued towards a merger with the schools of Lake County.

Many difficult adjustments would have to be faced for such a move to take place. Countless technical details would need to be worked out and numerous compromises would have to be reached, but as emotionally wrenching as the decision was, the community knew it had to move forward. The people had voiced their preference. The St. Louis County Board as well as the State Board of Education had approved of the plan. Clover Valley High School and North Shore Elementary would become a part of the Lake Superior School District. Our community had spoken. Now it was up to the residents of Lake County to have their say. That story in the next issue.

Duluth/North Shore Sanitary District

Mary Ann Sironen

Construction is beginning again on the DNSSD sewer project. Restoration of the properties that had their connection lines put in at the close of last year's work will be a priority as the ground dries up enough to allow that work to be done. Construction of the lateral collection lines will continue on buildings from the French River on east.

The portion of the sewer that was in place on the western end of the district, functioned well over the winter. Few problems were encountered and these were quickly and easily resolved. Full information and minutes of the D/NSSD Board meeting are on the website: www.dnssd.org. The next meeting of the Board has moved ahead a week to **May 4th** instead of May 11th as scheduled, but is at the regular time and place: 07:00 at French River Lutheran Church. The public is welcome to attend. The DNSSD Board of Manager's meets monthly, usually on the 2nd Wednesday.



Watershed Festival - June 4th

Malinda Granley

Living in Duluth Township, most of us see our local streams, rivers and lakes every day. Now you can join a celebration of regional waters at the first annual **Watershed Festival** on Saturday, June 4th. This fun, family-oriented festival will be held from 10:00am to 3:00 pm. in the Kmart parking lot (1734 Mall Drive), in Duluth.

Come to learn more about gardening, landscaping and home maintenance techniques that can benefit the health of the watershed. Learn about local efforts to promote water quality at interactive exhibits, such as using a computerized mapping program to find your own home on a watershed map. Local retailers and organizations will display products and demonstrate practices that can help protect your watershed.

Children's activities will be offered throughout the day, including performances by *Jack Golden*, a nationally-recognized comedian/entertainer. Visitors can take part in free workshops on topics such as landscaping, fly fishing and rain barrels.

The event is **free** and will be held in an enclosed tent, so plan on coming rain or shine! For more information: www.duluthstreams.org or call Betsy Larson (740-4786).

This project was funded in part under the Coastal Zone Management Act, by NOAA's Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, in cooperation with Minnesota's Lake Superior Coastal Program. The festival is hosted by the Regional Stormwater Protection Team (RSPT), whose mission is "to protect and enhance the region's shared water resources through stormwater pollution prevention, by providing coordinated educational programs and technical assistance".

Summary of Town Board Meetings

(Official minutes are available at the Town Hall and on our Township web site: www.duluthtownship.org).

February 1st special working meeting. Supervisors attending: Jeff Cook, Steve Dahl, George Sundstrom, and Corlis West. This meeting dealt with dwelling categories in the zoning ordinance and the St. Louis County restrictions on mineral exploration and evaluation was added. *See minutes on the Township web site for specific references and wording.*

February 10th meeting. Supervisors attending: Jeff Cook, Steve Dahl, George Sundstrom, and Corlis West. Minutes were approved. Results from the *Township Resident Feedback Survey* were reviewed (see our web site). A letter from resident Cindy Hale outlined the MS4 storm water mitigation requirements. Treasurer Janet Johansen reported our January ending balance was \$460,635.55 (receipts \$46,124.67 and expenses \$22,784.77). A \$20 charge was approved for bad checks paid to the Township.

Police: **Mike Peterson** was approved as a permanent 20-hour per month officer.

Community Center: A 5-year contract with Johnson Control was approved.

Community Center Event Coordinator, Jeanne Anderson, presented questions that the Board will discuss at the next meeting.

Legal: Offensive/hatred behavior issues were raised. There will be no display of disrespect at the Annual Town meeting. Robert's Rules of Order will be followed.

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Town Hall. The old fax machine will be replaced.
Planning and Zoning. An opening is to be filled. A proposed subdivision south of the freeway will go back to DNSSD for sewer approval. Zoning Administrator Wayne Dahlberg is willing to continue with an assistant. The issue will be considered at the April meeting.
Roads. There is quite a bit of garbage in ditches. The County was authorized to sand Wildwood Road any time they deem necessary.

Cemetery. Sealed bids for lawn care are to be posted in March and opened on at the April 14th meeting.

New Business. A motion to have McGladrey and Pullen audit our 2004 records was passed. Future Board meetings were scheduled and Township bills were paid.

February 22nd special working meeting. Supervisors attending: Cook, Dahl, Sundstrom, West. The February 1st minutes were approved with clarification. Minimum lot coverage was discussed and changes were made in the proposed zoning ordinance. *A motion to approve the Town of Duluth zoning ordinance dated July 2004 and printed July 29, 2004 including amendments passed by the Town Board from August 5th, 2004 to present. The zoning ordinance will go into effect when St Louis County approves. Motion passed.* The Board will review the ordinance prior to submission to the County.

March 1st. Board of Audit meeting. (Town Board meets to certify treasurer records for 2004). Approved.

March 8th Annual Town Meeting. Town Clerk Ann Cox opened the meeting. Approximately 120 attended.

Resident Phil Strom was elected moderator. An extensive budget summary document was prepared by Clerk Ann Cox and distributed to those attending.

Minutes from the 2004 meeting were approved. It was moved and passed that the **official bank** of deposit remains *Lake Bank of Two Harbors*, and **official notices** will be continue to be published in *Duluth News Tribune*. **Official posting places** are the Town Hall, Scenic Café, Fire Hall #1 and North Shore Community School.

The outside auditor found our Township books to be in keeping with standard accounting practices. A second audit for our 2004 year has been authorized.

Department budgets for 2006 were reviewed, explained and adopted as presented (see the March Newsletter or Town web site: www.duluthtownship.org).

Residents approved having the Fire Department act to acquire a replacement fire truck this year. The down payment would come out of the Fire Department's current escrow and budget (the fire hall mortgage has been paid off). The overall budget was approved although the usual 5% contingency fund was dropped since the Township may have sufficient funds to use until property tax funds become available to the Township. **The total budget for 2006 is \$279,332.50** (\$272,028 was approved for 2005 at the 2004 meeting).

The Annual Town Meeting can be reconvened August 11th at 7pm if needed and posted.

Election results were announced: Dan Tanner (258), Wendy Anderson (194), George Sundstrom (115), plus 5 write-in votes.

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(Board, continued from page 5)

March 10th Board of Canvas meeting. (Town Board meets to certify Township vote outcomes). Approved.

April 14th organizational meeting. Supervisors attending: Wendy Anderson, Jeff Cook, Steve Dahl, Dan Tanner, and Corlis West. The two new Supervisors were welcomed. Supervisors elected Steve Dahl as Chair and Jeff Cook as Vice Chair. Dahl suggested a special meeting to look at reorganization within each department, discuss goals and possible objectives that might need to be accomplished within the coming year. The special meeting was scheduled for April 22nd.

Supervisor responsibilities were assigned for the year (see listing on page 8). A motion was approved to permit the chair to also make motions. Notice of a new road name "**Pine Park Road**" (a sub-division just before Homestead Rd along the shore). Several property owners along the Sucker River requested *their* property (some 455 contiguous acres) be zoned for 10acre minimum lot size rather than the current 4.5ac to better protect the river. This was tabled until the new zoning ordinance is adopted.

Bids to maintain the cemetery were opened. One bid for \$4,500 by Adam Wolffe of Knife River, was accepted.

Interviews were conducted for a new Planning Commission member. Bill Weckman, Dave Chura, Christopher Clay, and Michael Kahl were interviewed and Michael Kahl was elected.

Treasurer: \$38,292.97 received, \$29,091.65 spent, balance \$451,020.61.

Department Reports:

Police contract approved for 3% increase each year for two years.

Fire: ISO rating dropped to 8 with expected formal notice soon. FEMA grant for \$94,000 submitted for fire protective equipment. Working with Attorney Tim Strom on sealed bids for fire department. Fire Dept will make recommendation to the Board.

Legal: Lynn Williams road issue – Attorney Strom will contact Ken Butler. Tim and Anita Zagler drive access will be reviewed.

Community Center: We have a variance on the sprinkler system. It will be updated with a 20,000 reserve tank that can also be used for Fire Department water source. This will be paid by health and safety funds or possibly from capital improvement funds. Action was deferred to the May meeting. The lease will be reworked. Community Center rental agreement form will specify that no smoking is allowed on the grounds. Lowering rental fees was approved. There will be no town hall fee for community events.

Planning: It was approved to have Yvonne Rutherford work up the educational information brochure for the Planning Commission (about \$3,000). Production costs will be about \$2,300. Interview process for Zoning Assistant Administrator will be considered at the May Board meeting. Wayne Dahlberg will participate in the

interview process. A letter will be sent to the County to see what the procedure should be for them to consider our draft ordinance. The Board agreed to contribute \$300 to the new *Regional Storm Committee Team (RSPT)* of which we are a part. Jeff Cook is our

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representative.

Road and Bridge: Spring clean-up April 23d at 8am. A new road bid process needs to be initiated so bids can be opened at the May meeting. Hagglund Construction will continue road maintenance until the May meeting even though their contract goes through the end of April. Other: Garbage was dumped on the South Alseth Road. WLSSD is willing to get rid of it without charge.

Larry Nesgoda will discuss the Darrell Rajavouri residence at the May meeting. Bills were then paid.

April 22nd informal planning meeting. The Board of Supervisors with its two newly elected members, held an informal "brainstorming/program of work" meeting. Its purpose was to discuss department work, plans and future needs and to list items that should receive Board attention. The meeting was facilitated by resident Sue Lawson and attended by the Town Board and representatives of the various Town departments. The items that were discussed will be organized for Board consideration at their next meetings. This was a very helpful and informative new tradition.

April 27th Board of Appeal. A special required meeting to hear appeals by residents about their notice of St. Louis County property assessments.

The Next Town Board meetings: (2nd Thursday) May. 12th and June. 9th at 7:00pm in the Town Hall.
Residents are invited to attend these public meetings.

Summary of Planning Commission Meetings

February 24th meeting. Commissioners attending: Tony Fladmark, Adam Hendrickson, Sue Lawson, Seth Levanen and Dave Miller. The Board gave overall approval to the draft zoning ordinance. Some changes will be incorporated before it goes to St Louis County.

The owner of the burned-out *Forest Inn* property sought direction on rebuilding. The State Fire Marshall determined it was arson. The current ordinance permits rebuilding on the footprint, a duplex is allowed, expansion of 25% is permitted, but any increase in height requires a variance. State mandates concerning the property will be discussed with Attorney Tim Strom.

Alseth Woods sub-division. No action will be taken until the plan is cleared through DNSSD sewer district. Mr. Stingle was sent a letter on this.

The fee for processing Private Unit Development applications was discussed. It needs to cover expenses.

Cindy Hale researched stormwater management plan requirements (MS4). A permit is required for the project. Landowners can get information at the MPCA web site.

Tony Fladmark was presented a plaque in great appreciation of her 6 years of service on the Planning Commission.

Four Township residents expressed interest in filling the vacancy on the Commission. They will be interviewed by the Town Board on April 14th.

Homestead Road will be resurfaced in 2009.

The Duluth/Superior Community Foundation grant for our educational brochure has extended the deadline.

Meeting times will be changed to 7pm.

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(Planning continued from page 6)

March 31st meeting. Members present: Adam Hendrickson, Seth Levanen, Janet McTavish, and Co-chair Dave Miller. Two public hearings were held:

1) Shoreline variance request by Marlin Nelson (1862 Shilhon Road). The 1910 home and porch are within 142 feet of the Sucker River (current river setback is 200'). A proposed 2-story addition would be where the porch is currently. An updated septic system has been approved. The variance was approved on condition of managing stormwater runoff down to the river. Silt fences are required during construction.

2) Conditional use permit by Lynne Compton (5708 North Shore Drive) for a 6x12 foot off-site advertising sign to be located by the parking lot on the Scenic Byway near the Sucker River, on her property. It would advertise a potential restaurant on Homestead Road below the freeway. Residents in attendance raised questions about setback and the sign being larger than any on-site sign permitted on this designated "All American Road". The request was tabled until the development project is further along and a design plan is submitted.

The Alseth Woods sub-division was discussed. The DNSSD sewer district doesn't have a procedure in place yet to process applications but they are obligated to provide sewer service up to a projected 2% growth rate per year for ten years. Since the County needs a letter from the Township to approve the sub-division, a letter was approved that would stipulate 66' right of way at Alseth Woods Drive, lot width changes to meet the 2 acre minimum, County wetlands and MPCA stormwater control issues are being addressed.

Yvonne Rutford, technical writer, introduced a proposal for the educational brochure (estimated 60 hrs at \$50/hr not to exceed 60 hours). The proposal was accepted. There is an August deadline on our Duluth/Superior Community Foundation grant for this project.

Since there seems to be some confusion about St Louis County's process of approving zoning ordinances, the Commission suggested that the Town Board write a letter asking the County for clarification.

Supervisor Anderson asked about the procedure for choosing a candidate for the Planning Commission vacancy. Interviews will take place at the April 14th Board meeting. Candidate bios will be sent to the Board.

Next Planning Commission meetings: (4th Thursday) May. 26th and June 23rd at 7:00pm, Town Hall.

Note time change!

Residents are invited to attend these meetings.



**If you're burning garbage,
you're making poison!**



Burning garbage such as packaging, plastic, food scraps or even newspapers and junk mail releases many pollutants including dioxins. These toxic chemicals settle on our fields, woods, water and soils. As a result, these substances accumulate in the foods we eat and eventually end up in our bodies. These toxins can cause serious health

concerns, including cancer.

Burn barrels release up to 80 times more pollution and up to 11 times more dioxin than a full-scale municipal incinerator, according to a study by the Environmental Protection Agency.

You're affecting your health and environment more than you know. Stop burning your trash and start disposing of it safely.

Bernie the Burn Barrel Says: It's Better Not to Burn!

For more information, contact the Western Lake Superior Sanitary District at 218-722-3336 or visit www.wlssd.com

From the Archive Files

Ann Cox

In about 1978, then Board Supervisor Bob Abrahamson, put together a list of notes on historic and current Township Roads. The notes include details of the road location and when they were established.

Some examples are:

Alseth Road. September 5th, 1939.

Anderson Road. May 4, 1908

Culas Road, July 1, 1916

Dammon Road (Halver Halverson Road), July 1, 1919.

East Lismore Road, May 7, 1927

Edwin Johnsen Road. July 1, 1913

Englund Road, June 6, 1921

Fire Tower Road, March 3, 1941.

Greenwood Road. October 2, 1939.

Hendrickson Road, April 28, 1910 (southern part down to the lake was vacated August 4, 1945)

Hill Road (Finn Road, now Shilhon Road). July 7, 1909

Jacobson Road, October 3, 1912

James Road. May 29, 1911

Nordling Road. August 7, 1916

Mace Road, July 1965

Olson Road (Young Road), August 4, 1919

Paul Road, May 3, 1920

Wildwood Road (Johnson Road), Sept 1, 1917.

Suurenen Road. July 1, 1916

Torgesen Road. May 3, 1909

Pine Tree Road, March 6, 1928

Swanson Road, March 2, 1917

More details of location and changes in Township roads are available but too extensive to print. A future

Newsletter will provide details of interest and a listing will be put on the Township web site:

www.duluthtownship.org.

DULUTH TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

M A Y 2 0 0 5

Inside this Issue:

- **Annual Town Meeting** information
- Township **Calendar**
- *Town Board* meetings
- *Planning Commission* meetings
- *The History Corner*
- *D/NSSD report*
- NS Community School news
- Police & Fire Reports
- *Ice Age in Duluth Township*



Duluth Township Newsletter
6092 Homestead Road
Duluth, MN 55804

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DULUTH, MINN.

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 2005

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 4:00-7:00

Supervisors:

Wendy Anderson (2005-2008) 525-0263
(responsibilities: Community Center, Board of Adjustment, NSCS endowment)

Jeff Cook, Board Vice Chair 525-4010 or Email:
JeffCook@duluthtownship.org
(responsibilities: Personnel, Police Dept, DNSSD, Zoning, N Shore Mgmt Board, RSPT stormwater team, McQuade Harbor)

Stephen Dahl, Board Chair 525-4679 or Email:
SteveDahl@duluthtownship.org
(responsibilities: Community Center, Town Hall)

Dan Tanner (2005-2008) 525-4087
(responsibilities: Roads, Cemetery, outside mtgs.)

Corlis West, 525-7719 or email:
CorlisWest@duluthtownship.org
(responsibilities: Roads, Fire Dept, Zoning)

Town 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), and Dave Miller (Vice Chair), Cindy Hale, Adam Hendrickson, Michael Kahl, Seth Levanen, and Jan McTavish –: PlanningZoning@duluthtownship.org

Peace Officers: Chief Shawn Padden, Mike Peterson, Steve Peterson, Tom Wick
Email: PoliceOffice@duluthtownship.org

Fire Department: Chief Barry Lampi Assistant Chief Bob Engleson
Email: FireHall@duluthtownship.org

Community Center Event Coordinator: Jeanne Anderson 525-0663 x208
Email: janderson@northshorecommunityschool.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 – at the Town Hall, on Homestead Road

Bob Abrahamson and Caroline Marino now share staffing the center **Tuesday 7-11am, 2-6pm, Thursday 3-7pm, and Saturday 8-12 noon.**

South site – Closed due to McQuade Harbor construction
(Leave items only when Recycling Centers are open.)

Calendar of Events:

- ♦ May 2 PTA Meeting
Social time 6:15 p.m.
Meeting 6:30 p.m.
NSCS Alumni respond to student's questions about school in Two Harbors.
- ♦ May 12 Summer Reading Parent Presentation, NSCS Cafeteria, 6 p.m.
- ♦ May 13 NSCS Community Celebration, 6:30 p.m., Auditorium
- ♦ May 22 Cub Scout #162 Pancake Breakfast, Cafeteria 8 a.m.—Noon
- ♦ June 4 NSCS Auction
Silent Noon—2 p.m.
Live 2:30 p.m.—?

NSCS Community Celebration set for May 13

Mark your calendars! May 13 is the date of this year's Community Celebration at North Shore Community School.

The Community Celebration has become an annual event. Each spring, one or more elders are recognized for their contribution to the North Shore community. Fourth, fifth and sixth grade students begin preparing months in advance for the big night. They learn about the elder, conduct interviews, write a narrative, and finally, prepare a presentation. Then, on the night of the celebration, the honored elder takes the stage to receive tribute.

This year, we are very excited to have Howard Sivertson as our guest elder. Sivertson has spent his life on the North Shore. He grew up as part of a commercial fishing family, and spent the summers of his youth working and

playing on Isle Royale.

Sivertson is probably best known for documenting the stories of his childhood, and the lives fishing families on Isle Royale in his beautiful oil paintings. In all, he has published four books of paintings and stories depicting the history of the North Shore, [Once Upon an Isle](#), [The Illustrated Voyageur](#), [Tales of the Old North Shore](#), and [Schooners, Skiffs and Steamships](#). Sivertson also has a very special connection to North Shore Community School – he is the grandfather of fifth-grader Ann Sivertson!

So join us on May 13 as we celebrate our community and its heritage. Doors open with prelude music and photo displays at 6 p.m. The program begins at 6:30 p.m.

- Cathy Hartman

NSCS student enrollment process continues

The enrollment process for the 2005-2006 school year continues at North Shore Community School.

Current families have committed to attend NSCS next year, and the Kindergarten classes are nearly full with siblings and Duluth and Alden Township residents. New families with

Kindergarten aged children are encouraged to apply soon, so waiting lists can be established.

NSCS has openings at all grade levels! Please let your friends and neighbors know that interested families can call the school at 525-0663 and arrange a visit and tour, or request an information packet.

Director's Corner:

Reflections on the Red Lake tragedy, call for connection with kids

It is very hard to think of what to say to your own community following the tragic events in the Red Lake community on March 21, 2005.

Many of my seminars and workshops have taught me that the single most important thing to prevent a person from taking this type of extreme action, is to have connections—with peers, with adults and with family members.

Here at NSCS we are always forging connections for our students. Our morning greetings are designed to make everyone feel connected and special in the classroom, our reading bud-

dies create bonds between students in two different grade levels, and our multi-age home-rooms and electives facilitate activities across grade levels and with community members other than teachers.

There are two other things I believe will help prevent these disasters—keeping guns away from our youth (unless close parental supervision is in place) and taking the warning signs seriously.

In almost all school shooting cases, someone

(Continued on page 2)



5926 Ryan Road, Duluth, MN 55804

Sheri Camper, Director
B.J. Kohlstedt, Curriculum Coord.
Machelle Lampela, Ass't Busi. Mgr
Heidi Horoshak, Admin. Assistant

NSCS Board Members:

Phil Strom, chair
B.J. Kohlstedt
Cathy Hartman
Uwe Kausch
Amy Giddings
David Sundberg
Kristi Lounsberry

The public is invited to attend North Shore Community School Board Meetings scheduled for 6:30 p.m. the third Tuesday of the month in the NSCS Library.

We invite your questions and concerns. For more information, call 525-0663 or visit www.northshorecommunityschool.org

Chairman’s Report: NSCS invests capital in improving school environment, efficiency

By the end of this fiscal year (June 30), North Shore Community School will have completed some \$375,000 of capital improvements since the Duluth Township assumed responsibility for the facility from ISD 381. Add to that the installation of the four portable classrooms, and the number is closer to one half million dollars.

Some of these projects, such as the new parking lot, are quite obvious. Others were necessary to bring the building up to the high standards of a healthy and secure school environment. Asbestos removal, water and mold abatement, and a high tech security system are some of the more significant projects in that category,

In an effort to improve the energy efficiency of the facility, the heating system has been recalibrated and streamlined and efficient lighting has been installed feasible. Other improvement projects have included painting and remodeling of bathrooms. In the hallways and other areas in need, new ceilings have been installed.

One of this summer’s major projects will be the remodeling of the kitchen. A new custom-made hood with fire suppression capability will be installed over the grill and cooking area. The kitchen will also have a new dividing wall behind the grill and oven area, as well as a new floor. As the school’s enrollment continues to expand, and with the addition this year of a breakfast offering for those requesting it, the kitchen and cafeteria are being used more intensely, and the upgrade is over-due.

Another project needed, which will probably be phased in over

two years, will be a new domestic water system to be followed by the installation of a sprinkler system throughout the entire facility. Currently, a 45-year-old water storage tank of about 3,500 gallons serves as a fire reservoir. It is inadequate for the current facility, not to mention the addition that the Board anticipates beginning in four or five years.

The current water storage tank will be removed and a new fiber-glass tank will be installed in the unused underground former coal storage bin. The new tank will have a capacity of around 20,000 gallons to adequately serve the new sprinkler system. The school will coordinate with the Duluth Township Fire Department to make that reservoir available for fire emergencies in the area.

With all of the new classroom furniture, as well as the updated technology suite, it’s fair to say that NSCS is nearly at a par with one that might have been built much more recently. The active building and grounds committee deserve much praise, with special thanks to Bob Engelson for his tireless devotion to the facility. Steve Dahl has served ably as the township representative to the committee, and we are grateful for his service.

The NSCS Board is interested in any feedback as to how we may make this facility even better, in the interests of serving as a school and a community center. Please feel free to share your thoughts and ideas with the board members through the school office, at our building and grounds committee meetings, or through the Township meetings and Township representatives.

-Phil Strom, Board Chair

Going once, twice, SOLD!! Donations still sought for NSCS Auction on June 4

North Shore Community School is conducting an auction to support curriculum related field trips. This effort will have a direct benefit for NSCS students as they benefit greatly from hands-on experiences in our local region.

The auction is scheduled for June 4 in the building and on the grounds at the Community Center, 5926 Ryan Rd.

Silent Auction	Noon — 2:00 p.m.
Live Auction	2:30 p.m. — ?

Food items (hot dogs, snacks, beverages) will be available for purchase throughout the afternoon.

How can you help? One, donate something! Two, come to the auction. NSCS families and fiends have already committed the following items: custom wall stencil design and installation, a father's day gift basket, 5 signed and numbered prints (farm and bird),

3 hours of house cleaning, premier jewelry items, gas/charcoal grill, 1/2 day guided fishing trip, chainsaw carving, Little Tykes small climber, building blocks, baby items, 2 children bikes, lawnmower, 1 horse shoeing or 3 trimmings, 2 kids to Twins game, charter trip for 2, jari (mower).

Businesses in and around Duluth Township have donated the following: 4 certificates for pet physical and vaccinations, 1 certificate for deer processing, 1 certificate for merchandise at Architectural Antiques, Sonicare toothbrush, 1 certificate for professional services (hair, skin, nails), 1 nights lodging at Cape Superior Inn. If you know a business owner in our area, encourage them to donate a produce or service.

**** We are especially looking for larger items such as old tractors, and also power tools, etc. Please call the school at 525-0663 for a donation form or more information.**

- Robbie Tietge

(Continued from page 1)
has known about the future actions of the shooter. We must teach our children to report these warning signs and the information must be investigated by appropriate staff.

We do have policy and procedures to deal with traumatic events at NSCS and staff members review them each year. We have never had a “drill” for an intruder, but we will sometime before the year is over. We don’t ever plan to have to use it, but Red Lake probably didn’t either.

Hug your children every day and as adults in our community, let’s be sure all our kids are strongly connected to someone.

- Sheri Camper, Director