

# Duluth Township Newsletter

Duluth Township web site: [www.duluthtownship.org](http://www.duluthtownship.org)

November 2009

## What's Coming Up...

**Taxing Township Property** — a continuing issue is being addressed by the Board to reverse the State decision to impose a property tax on our Community Center property (*see article*).

**H1N1 Flue Precautions** — The CDC urges people to take time to get vaccinated; take preventive action such as washing hands, covering coughs, avoiding close contact with sick people, staying home if you have flu symptoms; and taking flu antiviral drugs if recommended.



*A Jim Munger photo*

## The Homesteaders

*Helen Hendrickson*

**November 4<sup>th</sup>**, Wednesday, 12:30pm, Town Hall.  
Annual Turkey Bingo and Coffee time.

**December 2<sup>nd</sup>**, Wednesday, 12:00, Town Hall.  
Annual Holiday Potluck with musical program by NSCS students.

**January 6<sup>th</sup>**, Wednesday, 12:30pm, Town Hall. New Year's Potluck and Bingo.

***Everybody is welcome.***

*For information call Helen Hendrickson at 525-4154.*

## 80th Anniversary of our Town Hall

Pictures, stories and information are wanted for the upcoming 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. Clover Valley area history especially concerning our Town Hall and school-day stories from Clover Valley, Bloomingdale, Alden, Normanna and other early schools are welcome along with past Township events.

Call or send information to Dwaine Madison (525-6450), email: [revmadison@juno.com](mailto:revmadison@juno.com) or 6132 McQuade Road, Duluth, MN 55804.

Sign up on our web site for Township email notices

## *Thanks to all contributors to this issue:*

Ann Cox, Brian Cox, Bob Engelson, Margaret France, George Hagglund, Helen Hendrickson, Janis Hooley, Sue Lawson, Janet McTavish, Dave Mount, Beth Mullan, Jim Munger, Shawn Padden, Sherry Rovig, Mary Ann Sironen, Molly Tillotsen and our Webmaster, Linda Holliday.

## Odyssey Development on Stoney Point

The Planning Commission approved (3-2) variances for clearing and erosion control for Odyssey Development's 8 single family home subdivision plan to be built on their Stoney Point property. A subdivision plan for 8 homes had been previously approved since it met Township zoning requirements. Subdivision plans are first approved by the Township but then handled by the St Louis Planning Commission.

Odyssey also applied for variances to allow them to cut the bluff back in front of each home, install stone erosion protection by the lake and replant native species on the gentler slope. This would allow them to move homes somewhat closer to the shore. There had been considerable discussion about the proper slope to avoid further slumping that might endanger homes, appropriate screening from the lake and neighbors, maintenance of erosion controls, etc. The plan that was presented included many suggestions from Township officials and residents. A public information session was held September 3<sup>rd</sup> and the public hearing was held September 24<sup>th</sup> where public concerns about timber cutting, erosion control, terms in the owner association agreement, etc. were also raised.

After the hearing, our Planning Commission deliberated and finally moved to grant the variance with many conditions spelled out. Actual passage of the motion occurred at their October meeting after the language of the motion was finalized. The full discussion and list of conditions can be found in the Planning Commission's minutes (summarized below and listed in full on our Township web site, [www.duluthtownship.org](http://www.duluthtownship.org)).

Once the subdivision plan is approved by St Louis County, the Township will have an opportunity to vote on the final plan with any conditions St Louis County includes. Future Township meetings will be posted.



Lydia Darsow helping Fireperson/cook/organizer Jody Anderson select a winning ticket for a door prize at the annual **Harvest Dinner**, a benefit for our *Clifton Volunteer Fire Department*. It was a very successful and fun evening.

Thanks to all the businesses and individuals who donated door prizes and to the wonderful cooks and entertainers.



**Robin Whaley**  
834-3310

**Stay at Home**  
PET CARE SERVICES

**Dependable pet care in your home.**

*Paid Advertisement*

Community Services in Duluth Township  
**AA** meets Monday at 8pm at French River Lutheran Church on Ryan Road.  
**Clifton 4-H Club:** call Kate Edblom 525-1276  
**Cub Scouts:** call David Hooey 525-6617  
**Boy Scouts:** call Jim Atkinson 343-0119; or Email: jbatkinson@allete.com  
**Girl Scouts:** call Julie Igo 726-4710

*(Note: If other community service groups should be listed, please leave a note for the Editor at the Town Hall.)*

### Summary of Amendments to our Township Zoning Ordinance

On September 17<sup>th</sup>, after an open house meeting and a public hearing earlier this year, our Board of Supervisors adopted a number of amendments to our Zoning Ordinance. A summary of these amendments was published in the News Tribune. These amendments include:

- 1) defining long-term rental of dwellings and establishing it as an allowed land use in most zones. Permitted in all zones except light industrial use zone (LIU-3A). Defined as 30 days or longer and is not occupied by the owner during this time.
- 2) clarifying language addressing the removal of vegetation in the shoreland overlay. A permit is required except for certain situations such as removal of dead trees, pruning shrubs, etc.
- 3) permits are required prior to constructing a driveway entering a Town road.
- 4) clarifying the process for conditional use permits (spelling out the steps to a completed application and the start of the 60-day decision period).
- 5) clarifying roles in hiring Planning Commission staff (Planning Director and assistants are hired by the Town Board but the Planning Secretary is recruited and hired by the Planning Commission with Board approval).
- 6) clarifying the process for obtaining variances (applications are to the Planning Commission with the required fee and detailed drawings to scale; if the application is not complete it is not forwarded for consideration).
- 7) clarifying membership of the Planning Commission and amending conditions for removal of Planning Commission members (including not attending at least 2/3rds of the meetings, etc)
- 8) amending the appeal process for decisions by the Planning Director or Planning Commission, and establishing the Town Board as the body to hear various appeals (the old Board of Adjustment is eliminated and the Town Board hears appeals of Planning Commission decisions).
- 9) updating the Town's permit fee structure and publishing it as part of the Ordinance (generally raised, including a fee for appeals. following some resident suggestions at the Annual Town Meeting that the Planning Commission should be more self-supporting).

A printed copy of the entire ordinance is available for inspection at the Duluth Town Hall (6092 Homestead Road) during the Town Clerk's normal business hours and at the office of the North Shore Community School (5926 Ryan Road). The document is also available on the Township web site, [www.duluthtownship.org](http://www.duluthtownship.org)

**Land Use Permits are required before any construction or excavation is started.**  
 The *penalty* for failing to get the proper land use permit has been raised from twice the permit cost to four times the permit cost. Contact the Planning Commission for details.

Police Department  
Shawn Padden, Chief

Our Police Department logged 78 events plus regular patrols and paperwork in September. These included 8 traffic violation warnings, 7 animal complaints, 5 medical emergencies, 5 suspicious persons checked, 4 burglar alarms, and 26 vacation home/business checks.

**Vacation/Business Patrol** — If you are away or need extra police checking, there is a form you can use to request police checking. See the Town Hall or our Township web site.

Crime Alerts Sign up for email crime alerts on our Township web site: [www.duluthtownship.org](http://www.duluthtownship.org).

Clifton Volunteer Fire Department  
Bob Engelson, Chief

**Volunteer Fire Fighters Needed** — Our Clifton Volunteer Fire Department needs residents who would like to be a volunteer firefighter. It's a great way to serve your community. Call Fire Chief Bob Engelson, 525-6819.



Paid Advertisement



Open daily at 11am  
**Specials**

Wed. night: All you can eat Fish Fry

Sat: Prime Rib

Sat. & Sun. Breakfast 11am-2pm

Sun. Turkey Dinner

Mon. Kids 10 or under eat free

Irish music Tues Nov 10<sup>th</sup> & Dec 1<sup>st</sup> 6-8pm  
5730 Homestead Road • 525-4525

Paid Advertisement



*Township Recycling Center*

At the Town Hall, on Homestead Road

Staffing by Carolyn Marino, Al Anderson, Marlys Livingston, and Kathy Peer

**Nov-March: Tues. 7-11am, 2-6pm, Thurs. 2-6pm, Sat. 8-noon.**

April-October: Tues. 7-11am and 3-7pm, Thurs. 3-7pm, Sat. 8-noon.

**(Drop off only during recycling hours)**

Please report theft of aluminum cans at recycling, to Police.

Curb recycling pickup service is available below the freeway.

Township Calendar

See updates on [www.duluthtownship.org](http://www.duluthtownship.org).

Our Official Calendar is posted at the Town Hall.

**NOVEMBER 2009**

- 4, Wed, 12:30 **Homesteader's** meet, Town Hall
- 4, Wed, 7pm **Volunteer Fire Dept:** business meeting, Fire Hall #1, Ryan Road
- 12, Thu, 7pm **TOWN BOARD**, Town Hall
- 17, Tue, 6:30pm **North Shore Community School Board** meeting, NSCS Library
- 17, Tue, 7am **Duluth/North Shore Sanitary District** meeting, French River Lutheran Church
- 18, Wed, 7pm **Volunteer Fire Dept:** training, Hall #1
- 19, Thu, 7pm **Planning Commission**, *cancelled*
- 22, Sun, 3pm Locavores meet, Town Hall

**DECEMBER 2009**

- 2, Wed, 12:00 **Homesteader's**, Town Hall
- 2, Wed, 7pm **Volunteer Fire Dept:** business meeting, Fire Hall #1, Ryan Rd
- 10, Thu, 7pm **TOWN BOARD**, Town Hall
- 15, Tue, 6:30pm, **North Shore Community School Board** meeting, NSCS Library
- 15, Tue, 7am **Duluth/North Shore Sanitary District** meeting, French River Lutheran Church
- 16, Wed, 7pm **Volunteer Fire Dept** training, Hall#1
- 17, Thu, 7pm **Planning Commission**, Town Hall
- 23, Wed, **Deadline for January Newsletter**

**JANUARY 2010**

- 6, Wed, 12:30 **Homesteader's** meet, Town Hall
- 6, Wed, 7pm **Volunteer Fire Dept:** business meeting Fire Hall #1, Ryan Road
- 14, Thu, 7pm **TOWN BOARD**, Town Hall.
- 19, Tue, 6:30pm, **North Shore Community School Board** meeting, NSCS Library.
- 19, Tue, 7am **Duluth/North Shore Sanitary District** meeting, French River Lutheran Church
- 20, Wed, 7pm **Volunteer Fire Dept** training Hall #1
- 24, Sun, 3pm Locavores meet, Town Hall
- 28, Thu, 7pm **Planning Commission**, Town Hall

**Call 911 for all emergencies**

To leave messages and non-emergency information:  
Duluth Township Police: 393-8407 or 525-5705,  
St Louis County 911 or their office: 727-8770

## Update on State-Proposed Tax on our Township Community Center Property

The September Newsletter explained the Minnesota Department of Revenue's intention to impose property taxes on our Township's Community Center (which is leased to our North Shore Community School, a public charter school). Our Community Center has been assessed and the proposed taxes would amount to about \$49,000 per year. Minnesota statutes state that "All public property exclusively used for any public purpose is exempt."

Our Township Supervisors have had extensive discussions of the issue with our Town Attorney, with the Minnesota Association of Townships, with other Townships affected by this new interpretation, and with our legislative representatives State Senator Tom Bakk and State Representative David Dill and Commissioner Peg Sweeney.

A petition was circulated and signed by some 211 residents (*and may still be available at the Town Hall for interested residents*), indicating their concern.

The Town Board met with Ms Peg Sweeney, our 5th District Commissioner. The Board drafted a letter to the St Louis County Commissioners requesting their support and assistance in appealing the matter to the Minnesota Department of Revenue. Supervisors also adopted a formal resolution requesting relief from property tax assessment on our Duluth Township Community Center. Town Board representatives planned to attend the October 27<sup>th</sup> County Board meeting where the request for assistance and resolution would be discussed.

Berry Picking  
George Hagglund

Nowadays, if we get an urge for strawberry jam on our pancakes and toast, or for some nice blueberries or raspberries, we go to our local supermarket and choose in the produce section or a Smucker's jar off the shelf. There was a time when it wasn't done that way, and believe it or not, the product was better and more flavorful. We did it the hard way, by going out on roadside, rock pile, or into the woods to pick them ourselves. Berry picking wasn't just a hobby, it was a way of life for those who preceded us on our little patches of land on Lake Superior's border.

The summer was divided into three seasons – first came those gem-like strawberries, tiny and sweet, in June. Generally, it was Mom and the kids that went out into certain favorite spots, generally along roadsides and in open areas where the strawberries had put out their white blossoms, and by June, those sweet little red berries that we remember so well, and which put the California jumbo berries to shame, with their exquisite flavor, were available. The kids weren't always trustworthy – they put as many in their mouths as they did in their bowl. The product was taken home and made into sauce or jam, then canned, and brightened our lives all during the long Minnesota winters.

Next came raspberry picking season, and again, it was mainly the women and kids who went out to explore those hidden spots where wild raspberries grew in abundance. Our fields generally had a few rock piles that were favorite spots for raspberries. They were picked by the gallon and quart, taken back to the kitchen, and rendered into jam and jellies, then put away for the long cold season to come. Many, of course, were eaten fresh on the day they were picked.

During World War II, sugar was rationed, so a good deal of scheming went on to get hold of enough for canning up our summer delights. There was borrowing to and fro, but somehow we always seemed to find enough to preserve our harvest. No one had refrigerators or freezers then, so everything was canned with a pressure cooker.



The pinnacle of the summer came in August, when blueberries came ripe. They too were sweet and delectable, much better than the big ones we buy at the supermarket now. Every family had their own secret spots where they knew blueberries grew, generally in cutover or areas burned by forest fires in recent years. The families went out in strength with their buckets and containers, to forage with the black bears in the best patches. It was a favorite time of year – usually sunny and warm weather, but hints of the cold to come. The harvest on good years could be huge if a late spring frost didn't kill the blossoms. The pies, jams, and blueberry sauce that were made from the fruit of our labors tasted great during those snowbound winters.

It was a great time to be alive and out in the woods. We fondly remember those days, and wonder whether people still go out searching for those elusive berries. We couldn't afford store-bought sweets, so the summer harvest brightened our lives like nothing else could.



*Paid Advertisement*

## Summary of Town Board Meetings

(Official minutes by Town Clerk Ann Cox are available at the Town Hall and on our Township web site: [www.duluthtownship.org](http://www.duluthtownship.org)).

**August 13<sup>th</sup> regular meeting.** All Supervisors attended. Minutes were approved for the Community Center bid opening June 29<sup>th</sup>, regular Board meeting July 9<sup>th</sup> and Meyer Cartway hearing July 22<sup>nd</sup>. The Treasurer reported receipts of \$29,129.39, disbursements of \$85,918.20 for a July ending balance of \$782,095.60.

**Department reports:** Our Police were asked to patrol the safe harbor area. No Fire report. The Planning Director detailed activities. The Worden 5132 short term rental property was sold and their court case ended. There have been problems and warnings with the Worden 5149 short term rental property and a violation warning letter sent. The Worden's CUP for short term rental is up for review in January. It was suggested that we need some venue to help handle some neighborhood disputes as some communities have. **Legal:** Meyer cartway meeting tabled to Nov 12<sup>th</sup>. Work on the issue of MN Dept. of Revenue decision to tax on our Community Center property is continuing. Ordinance amendment wording is being reviewed. A prevailing wage agreement that had been suggested for the Township was discussed. The Board was uncomfortable with its applicability and implications for our small Township. No action was taken. **Roads:** Supervisor Tanner has been working with our contractor, Bob Rodda, on bringing our roads up to MNDOT standards while staying within our budget. **Community Center:** New roof received final inspection, septic system reviewed, a new sign needs to be added along the road for "Duluth Township Community Center and Recreational Fields". Up to \$3,500 was approved for a sign acknowledging work and donated time for the Community Center fields/pavilion/playground. Security and smoking bans were discussed. **Communication:** issues were discussed (e-mail, expectation that we respond as if we were full-time, etc.). **Correspondence:** St Louis County notified us that we need to update our voting machines. The Minnesota Department of Revenue sent a letter about our unallotment. Our Township will lose \$6,641 this year.

**September 10<sup>th</sup> regular meeting.** Supervisors Dahl, Meierhoff, Mount and Sironen were present. Minutes were approved for the April 15<sup>th</sup> Bieraugel vs Town of Duluth closed meeting and the Aug. 13<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. **Audience concerns:** A request was made by the Hansons to rent the Town Hall every Sunday (tabled to October). The claims list was reviewed and bills paid. Our August ending balance was \$786,250.53 (which includes the Community Center capital improvement fund).

**Department reports:** Police: dog issues on West Knife River Road, the squad vehicle computer was received. A computer for the police office will be available in 2010. **Planning:** Mr. Fischer questioned whether the Pine Park Road Home Owner's Association was legally valid. Criteria for hardship and practical difficulty in zoning considerations were discussed. **Roads:** We need to hire a professional to provide expert advice on some road maintenance issues. **Community Center:** Discussion of how we

should approach the issue of property tax on this Township property (tax is projected to be \$49,000).. Tom Bakk, the Department of Revenue Attorney, the State Auditor and other Townships have been contacted. A petition for residents to sign and a Board resolution summarizing our arguments against this new tax will be written. **Communications:** Our web site has been updated (calendar and forms are being added). Forty people are now on the e-notification list. The Newsletter mailing list has been updated. **Correspondence:** A letter was received from the State Department of Revenue explaining our unallotment. Discussion of ordinance amendments was tabled to Oct.

**September 17<sup>th</sup> Tax Petition/Ordinance meeting.** All Supervisors attended. There was a discussion of the petition for residents to sign indicating their concern about taxing our Community Center property. The petition wording was adopted and copies will be made available for residents to sign if they wish. A resolution will be drafted. Tim Strom will continue checking legal issues and Commissioner Peg Sweeney will be contacted.

Proposed changes to our Zoning Ordinance were discussed and a summary for publication was approved. (Information meetings and a public hearing had been held earlier this year). A summary of the changes appears in an article in this Newsletter and details are available at the Town Hall and on our Township web site.

**October 8<sup>th</sup> regular meeting.** Supervisors Dahl, Meierhoff, Sironen and Tanner attended. Commissioner Peg Sweeney participated in a discussion of the Community Center property tax assessment issue. Commissioner Sweeney will take our presentation (signed petitions and resolution, etc.) to the County Board's Oct. 27<sup>th</sup> meeting. A Town Board member will be present as well. The resolution requesting that the MN Dept of Revenue reverse its position on property tax on our Community Center was discussed and adopted.

George Sundstrom and Mr. Craig Olson discussed their proposed project labor agreement. The discussion raised the point that we are not big enough and we cannot dictate how NSCS manages its money. We did go with prevailing wages on the Community Center roof. The Board felt that it was not ready to step into an agreement at this time but would plan project by project in managing this issue.

The Treasurer reported the Sept. ending balance was \$756,614.31. **Department reports:** Police: Kids are being reckless on the soccer field after school. Officers were asked to circle through the area. **Planning:** The Board and Planning Commission will have a joint meeting on the 22<sup>nd</sup> to discuss short term rental issues. **Roads:** Ditch work on East Wildwood Road has been completed. The next project is grading and drainage work at the top of Olson Road. **Town Hall:** The well ran dry and tripped a breaker. **Recycling:** Light has been broken again. **Old business:** The Board decided against renting the Town Hall for repetitive meetings such as regular church meetings. **New business:** Meetings have been long and there was a proposal to reserve an "overflow meeting" time each month. It was decided that this would be too expensive and other ways to streamline the meetings were proposed.

(continued on page 6)

(Board continued from page 5)

**October 22<sup>nd</sup> joint meeting on Short Term Rental:**

(Town Board and Planning Commission). Attending Supervisors Mount, Sironen, Commission members Kahl, Chura, Green, Rutford, Crow, Director Lawson, Assistant Director Kessler, Secretary Mullan and Clerk Ann Cox. Short term rentals could be defined as permitted in certain geographical areas or conditions can be a part of the currently required conditional use permit. We have two short term rental conditional use permits in the Township under our current Ordinance. One is working and one is not. A moratorium on short term rentals ended mid-August. Earlier the Planning Commission recommended not permitting short term rentals. The Board took no action on this issue in the recent Ordinance update.

There was an extensive discussion of pros and cons and possible ways of handling short term rentals. A small group of Commission members will review points that were made and bring their findings to the Commission.

**The Next Town Board meetings: (2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday)  
Nov. 12<sup>th</sup> and Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the Town Hall.  
Residents are urged to attend these public meetings**



Summary of Planning Commission Meetings  
(Official minutes by Planning Secretary Beth Mullan are available at the  
Town Hall and on our Township web site: [www.duluthtownship.org](http://www.duluthtownship.org))

**July 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting.** Present: Chura, Crow, Kahl, Levanen, Rutford. Minutes from the June 25<sup>th</sup> meeting and the agenda were approved. There was an extensive discussion of the short term rental issue. Planning Director Lawson suggested that some sort of neighborhood mediation option as in some communities would help handle recurring issues with dogs, rentals, road use, etc. Research is being done on how other townships handle variances and hardship issues.

There was a discussion of agricultural sales and information about how other communities handled this was circulated. The issue arose from a resident question about whether seasonal roadside agricultural product sales were specifically allowed in our Ordinance. The Planning Director will draft language for Commission consideration.

John Kessler noted that survey problems affect many of the properties along the shore and suggested that a current survey be required for Land Use Permits in that area. Apparently we can not require this but property owners should be aware of the potential for problems. In audience comments, Wayne Dahlberg indicated he will be bringing a variance request for a side-yard setback for an existing home next to Nokomis.

**August 27<sup>th</sup> meeting.** Present: Chairman Chura, Crow, Green, Lannon, Levanen, Rutford. Greg Schendel from Odyssey Development presented their new plan for the Stoney Point subdivision and submitted a variance request. Two variances were needed: 1) clearing and grading for slope stability and toe placement, and 2) setting the homes within 125 ft of the shoreline. An Open House is scheduled for Sept 3<sup>rd</sup> and Public Hearing Sept. 24<sup>th</sup>.

Variance criteria were discussed along with case law examples in a handout. Realtors who call about non-conforming lots are informed about what can be done with a piece of property before it is bought.

The Community Center pavilion and restroom facilities are done and will be dedicated on Sept 18<sup>th</sup>.

To date there have been 22 land use permits in 2009. There were 22 in 2008 and 18 in 2007.

A subgroup (Commissioners Rutford, Crow and Kahl plus resident Stephan Gorney) presented proposed new ordinance language to cover new energy technology production. Initially they researched wind generation and suggestions for ordinance performance standards (decibel levels, etc.). It was suggested that systems meeting zoning height limits and producing no more than 30kw not require a permit. Commercial-sized systems exceeding 35' and generating more than 30kw would require a permit and variance. The topic will be addressed again at a future meeting.

Two Public Hearings: Piersons submitted a request for a side-yard setback variance of 22 ft (*Ordinance is 35 ft*). After discussion and no public comment, the request was granted. Hastings requested a setback variance for a garage. A neighbor had no objection. After discussing difficulties presented by slopes and drainage, a 12 foot variance from standard was granted.

**September 24<sup>th</sup> meeting.** Present: Crow, Green, Kahl, Lannon, Levanen, Rutford. A public hearing on the Stoney Point Cottages Odyssey Development was held. The Planning Director reviewed its history, the relevant Ordinance and criteria for decisions on the variances. The new site plat and changes from the earlier public hearing were presented by Bob Ryan and Greg Schendel of Odyssey. Two variances are requested, one for removal of vegetation and grading the slope and the other for placement of homes nearer the shore. Property traded between the Congon Trust Land and a 3.5 acre permanent public lake access at the mouth of the Little Sucker River left an 18.83 acre subdivision building site for 8 homes. Main concerns were about slumping and erosion control. A motion to approve the variances with conditions was presented but action was deferred to the October meeting (*see article in this Newsletter*).

**The Next Planning Committee meetings (usually the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday at 7pm in the Town Hall): No meeting on Nov. 19<sup>th</sup>, NOTE: the December meeting is on the 17<sup>th</sup>.**  
Special hearings are posted at the Town Hall.  
Residents are urged to attend these public meetings.



Great Blue Heron inspecting the Cox home roof this fall!

(Picture by Brian Cox)

North Shore Locavores  
Sherry Rovig

The next meeting will be Sunday, Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup>, (4<sup>th</sup> Sun.) at our Town Hall. An educational hour starts at 3pm, followed by 4pm meeting with a pot luck meal following.

**Upcoming Education sessions:**

- Nov 22<sup>nd</sup> — bee keeping
  - Dec. (no meeting)
  - Jan 24<sup>th</sup> — foraging discussion
  - Feb 28<sup>th</sup> — multi-cropping & soil management
  - Mar 28<sup>th</sup> — *to be determined*
  - Apr 25<sup>th</sup> — sheep shearing
  - May 23<sup>rd</sup> — drip irrigation
- (check the web site for updates)

For more information, see our Township web site: [www.duluthtownship.org/locavore](http://www.duluthtownship.org/locavore), or call: Sherry at 525-0489 or Georganne at 525-4679.

**Meetings are free and open to the public.**



Jim Munger photo

Duluth Township Information — 2009

Duluth Town Hall, 6092 Homestead Road, Duluth, MN 55804  
Phone (218) 525-5705 (voice message),  
fax (218) 525-3845, web site: [www.duluthtownship.org](http://www.duluthtownship.org).  
or Email: [TownHall@duluthtownship.org](mailto:TownHall@duluthtownship.org)

**Town Office Hours:** Tues. and Wed. 8:30am-12am  
Thursday 9am-12 and 4-6pm

**Planning Office Hours:** No posted hours, call the  
Assistant Director for an appointment (393-8500)

Supervisors:

**Stephen Dahl**, (2007-2010) 525-4679 or  
Email: [SteveDahl@duluthtownship.org](mailto:SteveDahl@duluthtownship.org)  
(Responsibilities: Shares Roads, Community Center,  
Recreation Facilities (JOC) )

**Wendy Meierhoff** (2008-2011) 525-0263  
or Email: [Wendy@duluthtownship.org](mailto:Wendy@duluthtownship.org)  
(Responsibilities: Community Education/Recreation  
Coordinator, Police, Alternate on Planning, Shares:  
Recreation Facilities (JOC) and Community Center)

**Dave Mount** (2007-2010) **Board Chair** 525-7961  
or Email: [DaveMount@duluthtownship.org](mailto:DaveMount@duluthtownship.org)  
(Responsibilities:, Board Chair, Planning &  
Zoning, North Shore Mgmt Bd, Shares Town Hall, )

**Mary Ann Sironen**, (2009-2012) **Vice Chair** 525-2010  
or Email: [MaryAnnSironen@duluthtownship.org](mailto:MaryAnnSironen@duluthtownship.org)  
(Responsibilities: Personnel, Newsletter/web site,  
Duluth/County Assn of Twps, Senior Housing, Board  
of Adjustment, Duluth/North Shore Sanitary District,  
Alternate: North Shore Management, Board Chair)

**Dan Tanner** (2008-2011) 525-4087  
or Email: [DanTanner@duluthtownship.org](mailto:DanTanner@duluthtownship.org)  
(Responsibilities: Cemetery, Fire Dept, RSPT,  
MPCA, SWPPP, Shares Town Hall and Roads)

Town Clerk: **Ann K. Cox** 525-5705 (Town Hall)  
or Email: [TownClerk@duluthtownship.org](mailto:TownClerk@duluthtownship.org)

Treasurer: **Janet Johansen** 525-5705 (Town Hall)  
or Email: [TownTreasurer@duluthtownship.org](mailto:TownTreasurer@duluthtownship.org)

Attorney: **Tim Strom** 722-4766 (office)  
or Email: [TownAttorney@duluthtownship.org](mailto:TownAttorney@duluthtownship.org)

Cemetery: **Denise Connolly** 525-7161 or 525-1902  
or Email: [Cemetery@duluthtownship.org](mailto:Cemetery@duluthtownship.org)

Planning Director: **Sue Lawson**  
Assistant Director: **John Kessler** 393-8500,  
Email: [JohnKessler@duluthtownship.org](mailto:JohnKessler@duluthtownship.org)

Planning and Zoning Secretary: **Beth Mullan**  
Email: [PlanningZoning@duluthtownship.org](mailto:PlanningZoning@duluthtownship.org)

Planning and Zoning Commission: **Dave Chura** (Chair),  
**Barbara Crow, Jan Green, Michael Kahl,**  
**Bill Lannon, Seth Levanen, Yvonne Rutford**  
Email: [PlanningZonng@duluthtownship.org](mailto:PlanningZonng@duluthtownship.org)

Peace Officers: **Chief Shawn Padden,**  
**Officers: Mike Peterson and Steve Peterson.**  
Emergencies 9-1-1, Messages 525-5705 or 393-8407  
Email: [DuluthTwpPolice@duluthtownship.org](mailto:DuluthTwpPolice@duluthtownship.org)

Fire Department: **Chief Bob Engelson, Assistant Chief**  
**Keith Darsow, President Bill Cox**  
Email: [FireHall@duluthtownship.org](mailto:FireHall@duluthtownship.org)

Burning Permits are available from the **Town Hall** during office  
hours, and from **Fire Wardens:** Jay Zink (525-5589),  
Jeff and Caroline Marino (525-6431), or the **DNR**  
office in Two Harbors (1568 Hwy 2, 834-6609).

Community Education Coordinator: Supervisor Meierhoff  
Email: [EducCoordinator@duluthtownship.org](mailto:EducCoordinator@duluthtownship.org)

**Note:** Where possible, email is forwarded to the person, other-  
wise it is sent to the Town Hall where it is picked up.

# DULUTH TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2009

## Inside this Issue:

- Odyssey Development report
- Update on taxing Township property
- Township **Calendar**
- What's Coming Up
- Town Board & Planning Meetings
- Police and Fire Information
- Zoning amendments summary
- Berry picking
- NSCS News insert

*How about contributing to the Newsletter! — short articles about our history, poetry, pictures, masthead drawing or picture, etc. of interest to Township residents, leave a note for the editor at the Town Hall or email: [Editor@duluthtownship.org](mailto:Editor@duluthtownship.org).*

Duluth Township Newsletter  
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Duluth, MN 55804

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*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 at the Town Hall (email: [Editor@duluthtownship.org](mailto:Editor@duluthtownship.org)). Extra copies are also available in the Town Hall.*

## Reminders

Please do not drive vehicles on our *Community Center* recreation fields.

Also, no motorized vehicles on the *Korkki Nordic* ski trails.

Power lines are private property. Get permission to use them for trails.

*A Jim Munger photo*



## Home Care Resources That Serve Duluth Township

*Margaret France*

**Medical Services:** *Nursing and therapy services; Medicaid/insurances may cover cost; need a physician order for services, and must be homebound.*

Gentiva Health Services: 723-8999

Interim Healthcare: 722-0053

*(if they have staff available in the area)*

Regency Home Health Care: 727-0296

St. Luke's Home Care: 249-6111

St. Mary's Home Health: 786-4004

Senior Friend Home Care: 727-1111

Superiorhealth Community Care: 834-7205

**Non-Medical Services:** *Light housekeeping, meal prep, shopping, med. Reminders; most insurance does not cover costs; no physician order needed.*

Caring Companions/Touching Hearts at Home: 724-4743

Home Instead Senior Care: 727-8810

**Other:** *Home healthcare and special transportation services.*

Pathways to Achievement, Inc.: 721-4732

or [www.pathwaystoachievementinc.com](http://www.pathwaystoachievementinc.com)

**Senior Linkage Line: 1-800-333-2433**

927 are mailed to Duluth Township homes, businesses and on request. Copies are available at the Town Hall. Please send your comments and suggestions to the volunteer *Newsletter* editor, Don McTavish at the Town Hall, 6092 Homestead Road, Duluth, MN 55804 or use the *NewsBox* on the Town Hall porch.