

The Breeze

OF PARK POINT

Vol. 37 issue 9

September 2008

Calendar

**Park Point Community
Club Meeting**
September 18th, 7PM
At Lafayette

Buoys & Gulls

Oct Mtg
Membership Luncheon
Barkers Island
Oct 7th @ 1PM
Call 279-3955

for details & to sign up
Everyone invited.

Bingo Every Thursday
@ 11AM @ Baypoint
Estates

Halloween Bingo on Oct
30th @ 11AM
followed by Potluck Dinner
(Costumes encouraged)>

Beach Sweep
September 20

Land Sale Saga Continues



**This strip of
land near the
recreation
area at the end
of Park Point
could be
transformed if
a proposed
sale goes
through**

So what's happened in the past month with the proposed sale of City land on Park Point? The answer is both "Plenty" and "Nothing". As expected, the issue came before the City Council on August 11th. After hearing input from the public, including several Park Point residents opposed to the sale, the council approved releasing the land for sale, with a recommendation that the DNR, or a conservation organization such as the Nature Conservancy, be given first option. Since the land is listed as recreational in the Duluth Comprehensive Plan, the next step was to take it before the Planning Commission, and ask them to amend the plan. This happened on August 12th. The commission, again taking public input, had a number of concerns, such as the inclusion of the land between 43rd and 45th Streets and the strip along the bay. And while acknowledging that changes will be made in the Comprehensive Plan as it is implemented, they were reluctant to do so this soon, and on such short notice. The commission voted **not** to recommend amending the plan to allow for the sale.

Never the less, the city administration brought the issue back to the City Council the following week. However, overriding the Planning Commission requires a two-thirds majority vote of the council, and the motion failed. Still, the issue is far from dead. Mayor Ness included expected proceeds from the sale in his proposed 2009 budget, and several "swing vote" councilors have told opponents of the sale that unless they can come up with a "white knight" soon, who will buy the land for preservation, they will have to allow it to be sold to a developer. The city's budget crisis is just too great. So once again I say, stay tuned. There are more acts to follow.

The mission of the Breeze is to
serve the community by:

- 1) Publishing the minutes
and financial statements
of the Park Point
Community Club
- 2) Informing the
community of upcoming
meetings, events,
happenings and projects
- 3) Providing a forum for
Park Point residents to
air their concerns
- 4) Sharing the history,
stories and anecdotes
that make Park Point a
unique place to live

The Breeze

Editor: Alan Dartanyan
726-0110

Submissions

The deadline is October 3rd for the October 2008 issue. Please send submissions to Alan Dartanyan at breezeditor@msn.com by e-mail or deliver to 1540 Minnesota Ave.

Park Point Community Club Officers:

President: Dave Poulin
3101 S. Lake Ave.
722-1511

Vice President: Liz Mackay
2233 Minnesota Ave
722-1834

Secretary: Dawn Buck
3105 Minnesota Ave.
525-1764

Treasurer: Chuck Flaig
1511 Minnesota Ave.
727-2814

Committees

ART FAIR

Carla Tamburro
727-2661

Rummage Sale

Charlene Shimmin
722-6828

ENVIRONMENTAL

Kinnan Stauber, 722-6255

HOSPITALITY

Diane Gould, 727-4067

LAFAYETTE SQUARE RENTALS

Barb Flaig 940-2613
barbaraflaig@yahoo.com

S-CURVE SIGN

Dave Johnson, 722-9764

SUNSHINE

Pam Griggs
727-2158

**Park Point Community Club
P.O. Box 16326**

Duluth, MN 55816-0326

www.

parkpointcommunityclub.org

Get your Pink On!

Please read the letter below originally sent by Marylou Owen and Pat Greene, parishioners at St. Andrews by the Lake and part-time Park Point residents. As you read it, you'll recognize this is a cause that is very near and dear to their hearts. Locally, we're going to hold a fundraiser at Carmody's pub on September 14th from 3:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. Many of you know the owners of Carmody's and fellow Park Pointers, Ed and Liz Gleeson. Liz is bravely battling breast cancer and enduring the ravaging side effects of chemo as we read this. Liz has been so enthusiastic about this event...even suggested featuring pink beer - what a hoot! Drew Truckey and his brother will be playing some incredible music!! We're in the process of amassing some cool gifts for silent auction, door prizes, and/or raffle. So far, a few of the items include an Alotti Biscotti gift basket, two nights at Comfort Suites in Canal Park, and merchandise from LHB Engineers and Architects. If you have any ideas for the silent auction, raffle, and door prizes, please give me a buzz and we'll make it work.

I'll email you later as more details develop.

Please pass the word along to your friends and plan to come to the fundraiser. Let's try to get a bunch of people there to have a blast while supporting a wonderful cause!!

Thanks

Di Marshall

Help Marylou and Pat "G.O. the Distance"

Because Everyone Deserves a Lifetime – Breast Cancer 3-Day Walk

Dear Friends,

Every day, oceans of tears are shed by women, their families, friends and co-workers because of breast cancer. Your life may have already been touched by this awful disease so we think you'll understand why we're asking for your support. As many of you already know, both Pat and I have lost a loved one to breast cancer – Pat's mom and my sister – we understand the crushing pain and sadness it brings. But even amidst all the misery and loss, we know there's reason to be hopeful. M The fight against breast cancer *can be won* – another sister of mine is now a cancer survivor! That's why Pat and I are involved in the Breast Cancer 3-Day Walk for the Cure.

September 19th, we'll start a 60 mile journey to help end this devastating disease. We're walking in honor of those we've lost, in celebration of those who have survived and with confidence that the cure for breast cancer will be found in our lifetimes. But it takes more than just our sore muscles, blistered feet and sunburned noses to stop breast cancer – it takes money.

Please contribute as much as you can. The money we raise goes to the Susan G. Komen for the Cure to support breast cancer research, treatment, education and prevention, and to the National Philanthropic Trust Breast Cancer Fund. Both Pat and I made a personal commitment to raise funds and we need your help to reach our goal. Your support will help make the cure a reality. Please send the most generous gift you can, as soon as possible. Donate online at <http://gofresh-precut.com/news.html> or make a check out to Breast Cancer 3-Day and mail it to us at 2521 Hennepin Ave E, Mpls, MN 55413

With our sincere thanks, Marylou Owen & Pat Greene

A representative of the Minnesota Environmental Partnership will (hopefully) be at the September Park Point Community Club meeting to explain the Clean Water, Wildlife, Cultural Heritage and Natural Areas Amendment, which will be on the ballot November 4th. If the representative is unable to make it, there is a short video on the subject, which will be shown. Please try to attend.



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References available

Call now, Dave. 218-340-3426

1602 St. Louis Ave. Duluth

Don't take legal issues into your own hands!

Consult Leege Law!

Park Point's own legal counsel

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218-727-7635

1901 Minnesota Avenue

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Dr. Stephanie West

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Thai Chicken with Sesame Dressing

Due to the overwhelming responses to Eating Fit!, it is now going to stay on the main menu! Enjoy the flavors of Green Mill and be true to your commitment to eat healthy. Counting fats, calories or even dietary fiber? The Green Mill Eating Fit menu features healthier alternatives – many that meet the requirements of today's most popular diets.



340 Lake Ave ★ Duluth ★ 218-727-7000

Park Point Community Club Meeting Minutes 8/21/2008

Ice cream social before the meeting. Thank you to all who purchased and set up the treats.

Last month's minutes were approved with no corrections.

Report from Chad Rindal, firefighter. 15 more calls than last year during this time period. Think spring when wondering about the new fire hall. More input will be accepted before construction begins. This street end could be closed as an entry point to the beach due to large driveway for new larger rig. Stay tuned....

Presentation of the I & I (Inflow and Infiltration) Program's progress to keep Lake Superior free of sewer overflows. Chris and Todd from the City came with an informative presentation on this important issue. Park Point is in sanitary basin 15. I & I inspections will begin during the next 12-18 mos. Inspections will take only a few minutes and grant money will be available for those residents whose homes need sump pumps etc. Large sewage storage tanks are only part of the solution. The long-term goal is zero overflow into Lake Superior. FYI : Here is a link to WLSSD's page on sewer overflows and inflow and infiltration.
www.wlssd.com/wastewater_sewer.php

Report from police officer, Mike Tinsley given by Diane Gould. 59 incidents this July vs. 140 last July. Relative quiet attributed to ticketing of cars and enforcement of laws at the S-Curve.

Park Point Land Sale

Discussion on the Planning Commission's vote to uphold the 2006 Duluth Comprehensive Land Use Plan maintaining Parcel 4 and adjacent land as recreational land. The City of Duluth Administration was seeking to amend the Comp. Plan to recategorize this property from recreational to traditional neighborhood so the land could be sold for development. The City Council will vote on this issue again on Monday night. Discussion about why this land is important wildlife habitat, preserving authentic shoreline, preventing the fragmentation of habitat. Discussion on why not another block of houses down there, the hypocrisy of advertising Duluth as an ecotourism destination when developing parkland is being considered to solve operation budget woes. Comments, ideas and suggestions from the surveys will be tabulated.

Land Sale Survey results. Approx. 20 % of the surveys were returned for tally. Approx. 75% of residents who filled out survey were opposed to the sale of Parcel 4 for residential development. Approx. 25 % were in favor of this sale.

A motion was made and passed unanimously that club president Dave Poulin present the results of the Park Point Property Resident Survey at the council meeting on Monday.

Dave Wiesen shared his ideas on the city's grim financial status re. recreational facilities across the city. Employees and services will be cut. He urged residents to call city councilors with their opinions and ideas.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm.



With all negative stories about the city in the news lately, it's important to note that some good things still do happen. Anyone going down to the Park Point Recreation Area will notice the new playground, built by a combination of volunteers and city workers, and paid for by a grant from the Duluth Superior Area Community Foundation. Very nice.

**Great Lakes Aquarium Beach
Sweep Day
Saturday, September 20th, 2008**

Cigarette butts, lighters, plastic bags, pop cans, and tires are the majority of the trash cleaned up off Duluth's beaches and creeks. Join Great Lakes Aquarium for the 16th annual Beach Sweep Day on Saturday, September 20th, as we clean area waterways. Volunteers from the Duluth area gather each September to clean up our beautiful beaches and help collect data on aquatic debris for Ocean Conservancy.

Beach Sweep is part of International Coastal Cleanup, and this September millions of people in over 120 countries will be on the coasts picking up trash.

Various sites around Duluth will be cleaner and greener thanks to helpful Duluthians like you!

On Park Point, the Beach sweep will be worked out of Lafayette Square from 10 AM to 12 Noon

St. Andrew's by the Lake Episcopal Church

Temporarily at 45th and Glenwood
www.standrewsbythelake.org

September has always seemed to me a time of beginnings. The summer weather begins to crack at some point and cool, dry evenings announce that a season is about to change. That change is filled with memories of school beginnings, football and soccer games and all the possibilities new adventures bring.

Our renovation is well underway and going well. If you'd like to see pictures of what's going on inside, go to our blog site and click on the pictures at *Flicker*.

We're deeply involved in outreach ministries. Early September has us celebrating an in-gathering of *100 Gifts for 100 Years*. To recognize our 100 years of presence in Duluth and on the Point, we gathered 100 gifts for the Women in Transition Shelter. These items will help them set up future homes of their own. Next we go into *Soles4Souls*, which is a collecting of new or gently used shoes to be given away around the world to those who go without. Do you know there are as many people without shoes as there are shoes that sit in our landfills? Our teens will be participating in the *Sleepout for the Homeless* in September. Each will be gathering \$50 in pledges to go toward CHUM's work with those who are homeless. In October we'll begin an outreach project of providing bag lunches on Sundays at CHUM four to six times a year - on a day when no other food is offered. And on December 6th, we have our annual 5K Walk/Run to raise money to sustain village schools in Pakistan - by providing teacher salaries, scholarships and school supplies. We will be trying to raise \$20,000 over the next two years to provide this assistance. This project is part of the Millennium Development Goals, whose overall goal is to cut extreme poverty in the world in half by the year 2015.

I hope this Autumn season is filled with God's grace and blessings for all of you. Cindy Peterson-Wlosinski +, Vicar, SABTL

**OUR LADY OF MERCY
CATHOLIC CHURCH**

2004 Minnesota Ave.

Sunday Mass 9 AM
2nd Sunday Coffee & Rolls
after mass

Religious Education Classes
Begin Sunday September 21
10:10 AM - 11:15 AM

All classes are held at:
St. Mary's Star of the Sea Church
for more information call Shirley Baker

CHURCH OFFICE 722-3078

Editor's Corner

After a beautiful, almost hot, Labor Day weekend, it didn't take long for fall to set in. I just hope the frost holds off long enough for my tomatoes to ripen.

* * * * *

I attended the Duluth Planning Commission meeting on August 12th, and I have to say, I was impressed. These commissions, boards, and committees tend to be denigrated either as rubber stamps for the city, or busybodies sticking their noses in things they don't understand. But this group came to the meeting having done their homework, in some cases better than the city officials, and asked pertinent questions of both the city and citizens. That doesn't mean I'm always going to agree with the decisions they make, but I do feel that any issue that comes before them will receive thoughtful consideration.

* * * * *

You may have seen the "Get Your Pink On" posters down at Bayside, or at other places around town, advertising the Breast Cancer fundraiser at Carmody on September 14th. This is a disease that seems to have touched all our lives in some way. You can find more information on this on page 2 of this issue. It should be a good time for a good cause.

* * * * *

I hate to start thinking about winter already, but with the recent cutbacks in city services it seems extremely unlikely that the skating rink at Lafayette will be staffed this year. So it's time to consider whether we have the need, the desire, or the volunteer labor to flood and staff it ourselves, and if so, at what level? Bring your thoughts to the next Park Point Community Club meeting.

The following is a response to a letter that appeared in last month's Breeze:

Michael Walsburg, if that is your name, you are not listed in the phone book and it seems no one I have talked to here on the point knows you. If you do exist I would like to put your needless concerns to rest.

I have been going to Hearing Island for about 25 years in all seasons. The dogs I take there are professionally trained English Setters neither of which has ever harmed a bird or animal while owned by me. Their soul mission in life is to find and point game birds. They have no interest in any animals including Deer and do not chase anything other than Giant Canada Geese which I have taught them to do for a reason.

What you apparently witnessed was a female Mallard feigning injury to try to attract myself or the dogs away from her nest or young. They do it all the time, as do most, "puddle Duck" hens. The dogs are trained to defecate and urinate in their yard immediately after feeding. I always carry bags and pick up after them if necessary. Just this AM I used my doggie bag to pick up waste and waste paper left by a human animal.

A little background for you. For the last 25 years I have been planting at least 50 trees, shrubs, berry plants, etc. each year for a total somewhere around 1500. I also prune the Pines to help them avoid the Blister Rust disease. I have picked up many boatloads of garbage. I have built and put up Wood Duck boxes, Swallow houses, Wren and Chickadee boxes and even a Martin house, which was burned in a campfire. I have reported some of the most blatant violations of the island to the DNR. After speaking with three DNR reps. this past week they have assured me that the only activities forbidden on the island are hunting and trapping, people and dogs are welcome. I share your concern for the wildlife on the island. The Ducks have had a bad year, not only from a virus that is not yet understood but an abundance of predators such as Coyotes, (a mom and two pups this spring) Fox, Crows, (the worst) Raccoons, Mink, Great Blue Herons, Gulls, etc.. Also this spring we had low water which has come up rapidly to flood many nests. Also the ducks are rapidly being pushed out by the Geese.

I have had 23 people call or address me in person all very unhappy with what you wrote with your obviously very limited knowledge of the situation. I also have had two Attorneys assure me that there is a definite liability on the part of the Breeze editor who did not review the facts before publishing the letter, and also on the Park Point Community Club who sponsors the Breeze.

To all of you who have supported me in this unfortunate situation,
Thanks,

Dick Gould

KUDOS TO DICK GOULD FOR TAKING THE INITIATIVE AND MOWING THE LAWN ON THE S-TURN!!! WE NEED MORE CIVIC MINDED PEOPLE LIKE HIM ON THE POINT WHO ACTUALLY WALK THE WALK!!

Liz Mackay

The Breeze

Park Point Community Club
P.O. Box 16326
Duluth, MN 55816-0326



Park Point Resident

Numbers you can use

Got (non-emergency) issues you'd like to discuss, but don't know whom to call? Here's some numbers you can use: Parks Maintenance Division: 723-3425 (after hours 723-33330)
Fire station #5 (Park Point): 723-3215
Community Police Officer Mike Tinsley: 390-2863

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The logo for Bayshore, featuring a stylized wave above the word "Bayshore" in a serif font. Below "Bayshore" is the tagline "A Commitment to Care" in a smaller, sans-serif font.

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Bayshore is a member of the Ecumen Family.



