



# The Breeze

## OF PARK POINT

Vol. 41 issue 7

[www.parkpointcommunityclub.org](http://www.parkpointcommunityclub.org)

July 2012

### Calendar

**Park Point Community  
Club Meeting**  
July 19th, 7PM  
at Lafayette

**Lake Superior Days**  
July 12 –15  
At the Marine Museum

**Edible Garden Potluck**  
July 16<sup>th</sup>, 6-8 PM  
At Lafayette

**Park Point 5-miler**  
July 20<sup>th</sup>

**Nancy English Memorial 5k**  
July 28<sup>th</sup>

**Neighborhood Night Out**  
August 7th

## Decrying the Loss of Fire Hall #5



Following a one month reprieve, the fire hall on Park Point officially closed on the 1<sup>st</sup> of July. Park Point residents, along with Councilor Sharla Gardner, held a rally and press conference in front of the hall to protest its closing. Many people voiced their concerns, noting that while our one-man fire hall may not have been “cost effective”, public safety should be put ahead of budgetary considerations. Our voices have not been entirely unheard. Prior to the closing, the following communication was received from Fire Chief John Strongitharm:

*Over the last month, fire administration has reviewed Park Point residents concerns relating to the fire study recommendation of closing Station #5. After careful consideration we are moving forward with a modified version of the original study recommendation. The staffing plan has the following components:*

*The fire station will be closed July 1<sup>st</sup>.*

*During the month of July there will be a medical unit on Park Point from 10am-10pm. 7 days a week.*

*The fire fighter will be monitoring traffic, bridge impacts, recreational activities, and do routine patrols of the entire point.*

*The medical unit will be fully equipped for medical calls and water related incidents. Engine 1 will continue to respond to all Park Point calls as in the past.*

*On July 4th, there will be a fire engine on Park Point staffed with two fire fighters. The hours will be 7:00 am July 4th - 7:00 am July 5<sup>th</sup>.*

*We are using the month of July (a busier month) to determine future staffing hours. We hope to get some experience with the new staffing model before making permanent changes. If you run into the fire fighter, I encourage you to talk with him/her to help them learn about your community. "*

While far from allaying all our concerns, it is a start, and leaves open the possibility of future improvements.

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 August 3rd for the August 2012 issue. Please send submissions to Alan Dartanyan at [breezeditor@msn.com](mailto:breezeditor@msn.com) by e-mail or deliver to 1540 Minnesota Ave.

## **Park Point Community Club Officers:**

**President:** Dawn Buck  
[parkpointcc@gmail.com](mailto:parkpointcc@gmail.com)  
525-1764

**Vice President:** Jake Kapsner  
2810 Minnesota Ave.  
[jakekapsner@yahoo.com](mailto:jakekapsner@yahoo.com)

**Secretary:** Sheryl Robins  
722 Minnesota Ave.  
720-6518

**Treasurer:** Al Robins  
722 Minnesota Ave.  
720-6518

## **Committees**

### **ART FAIR**

Carla Tamburro  
218-428-1916  
[coordinator@parkpointartfair.org](mailto:coordinator@parkpointartfair.org)

### **Rummage Sale**

Charlene Shimmin 722-6828  
Dave Lavamaki 729-8925

### **ENVIRONMENTAL**

Kinnan Stauber, 722-6255

### **HOSPITALITY**

Diane Gould, 727-4067

### **LAFAYETTE SQUARE RENTALS**

Missy Steichen 218-208-9545  
[ppcdlh@gmail.com](mailto:ppcdlh@gmail.com)

### **THE POSTCARD**

Dave Johnson, 722-9764  
[amethyst@chartermi.net](mailto:amethyst@chartermi.net)

### **SUNSHINE**

Pam Griggs  
727-2158  
[peggriggs@clearwire.net](mailto:peggriggs@clearwire.net)

**Park Point Community Club**  
**P.O. Box 16326**  
**Duluth, MN 55816-0326**  
**www.**  
[parkpointcommunityclub.org](http://parkpointcommunityclub.org)

## **From The President**

At our last meeting, LeAne Rutherford had some great ideas about welcoming new families to Park Point and inviting them to get involved in our community. We have several new PPCC members, look for an updated roster soon. Please consider inviting any newcomers to our next meeting on Thursday 7/19 at 7pm.

The Art Fair was a fabulous success despite a soggy start. Many thanks to Carla and Jake and the crew of volunteers for a wonderful weekend!

Joy, Leslie and the kids are having a lot of fun at Lafayette. Stop in and check out the art work and crafts. The kids recently got rave reviews at the local DQ. The staff was impressed by their smiles and good manners.

Consider volunteering on a flood aftermath project. Check out the City of Duluth website for opportunities.

See you out and about, Dawn & Klaus  
PS Remember the extra bag for trash

Dawn Buck

Park Point Community Club President

"The purpose of the Club is to work for the betterment of the Community and the welfare of its residents."

## **Lafayette Rentals**

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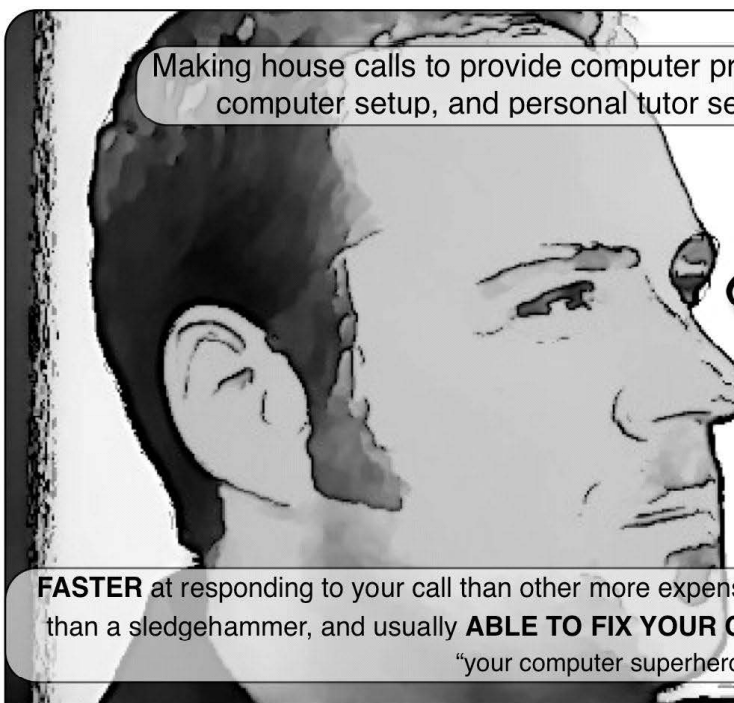
There is a Damage Deposit of \$100.00, which is refundable, after cleaning & inspection.

The hours available are from 8:00 am until 10:00 pm

Missy LePage is our rental agent. You can reach her by phone at 218-208-9545 or by e-mail at [ppcdlh@gmail.com](mailto:ppcdlh@gmail.com)



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**Come and See!**

**Our Lady of Mercy Catholic  
Church**

2002 Minnesota Ave  
**722-3078**

Fr. John Petrich,

---

**Center City Parish Picnic  
at**

**Our Lady of Mercy,  
Sunday, July 29<sup>th</sup>**

**Summer Fest 2012  
at  
St. Mary, Star of the Sea, Saturday,  
August 26th**

**Mass 8:00 AM every Sunday with  
confessions at 7:40**

# Is a Reverse Mortgage

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## Larry L. Leege Attorney At Law

Primary areas of practice include:  
**Real Estate, Estate Planning, & Business Planning**

Seller/Buyers  
Deeds/Contracts/Purchase Agreements  
Landlord/Tenant  
Wills/Trusts  
Power of Attorney  
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\*Real Property Law Specialist. MSBA certified  
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Larry L. Leege, P.A.  
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Park Point Resident  
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We're on Park Point, next to the public boat launch.

## **Park Point Community Club Minutes**

### **June 21, 2012**

Welcome and call to order at 7:00pm by club president, Dawn Buck.  
Dawn read the 'Civility Checklist.' a list of rules to be followed during the community club meeting.

Secretary's report from 5/17/2012 meeting was approved as written in the Breeze.

#### **Treasurer's report:**

\$39,442	Beginning Balance as of 1/1/2012
\$50,452	Beginning Balance as of May 1, 2012
\$3,675	Income for May, 2012D
\$4,117	Expenses for May, 2012
\$50,652	Ending balance May 31, 2012

**Deb & Paul Kellner and Tom Reistad from Park Point Properties, LLC** presented information in regards to their request for a shoreland variance for the property at 3129 Minnesota Ave.

**Club Communications** were read aloud and distributed by club president.

#### **Committee Reports**

**Membership Committee:** As of 5/15/2012 - 350 members are listed as paid members.

**Sunshine Committee:** Pam Griggs nominated to head this committee.

**Hospitality Committee:** Diane Gould & Ted Buck nominated as co-chairs for this committee.

**Program Committee:** David Poulin nominated for this committee.

**Watch Committee:** This position is to note happenings on the point. There were no nominations for this position and the position is open.

**Art Fair Committee:** Art Fair is ready to take place. Volunteers are needed especially to set up on Friday @ 11:00am and tear down @ 4:00pm on Sunday.

**Breeze Committee:** Nothing new to report

**Youth Committee:** Need person to head this committee

**Environmental Committee:** Kinnan Stauber to head this committee

**Rummage Sale Committee:** Charlene Shimmin to head this committee

#### **Discussion and action on unfinished business:**

**Edible Community Garden update:** Coral thanked the community club for the stones.

**Congdon hockey update:** per information from Mike Fowler, they will not be using the Lafayette ice.

**Grant updates:** Carla Tamburo from the Park Point Art Fair has requested a grant be approved for the time from 1/2013 to 10/2013.

#### **Discussion and action on new business:**

Missy Steichen who coordinates the rental of Lafayette Square requesting the folding chairs be painted. She would provide the labor and the Park Point Community Club would supply the supplies. (Approximately \$120). Dick Gould made a motion to pay the \$120 for supplies to paint the chairs. Al Robins seconded the motion. Club vote - all ayes.

Postcard Committee Formation: Rory Strange indicated he would like to work on this committee. Dave Haavik also is willing to work on this committee. David Johnson said he was willing to help out when needed.

Reimbursement for three new tables for the rental business was discussed. \$257.32 was the amount of purchase. Diane Gould recommended the club reimburse \$257.32 to Dawn Buck for this purchase. Club vote - all ayes.

Tom Mackay brought up the fact the street repairs have never been finished to level the repairs with the surrounding street.

LeAne Rutherford offered to write welcome letters to new neighbors. She asked that people let her know when they get new neighbors.

Kerry Gauthier visited the meeting giving up up-to-date information on the flooding. He had met that day with Governor Dayton. He said there was a possible \$150 million for storm damage. One item he recommended was to take pictures and list all items that needed to be thrown away. He said there is a certain threshold that needs to be met before the government starts paying.

Dick Gould brought up the idea to install a camera at the eagle's nest to watch the baby eagles progress.

Tom Mackay reported that near Herding Island, he saw a 10x10 shed in the bay which had kayaks inside. This was the result of the flooding on the 20th.

Diane Gould made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:20pm.

### **News From the Lafayette Community Garden**

What are those strange creatures that now appear in the community garden at Lafayette Square? They are the artistic creations of the children involved in the Park Point Summer Youth Program. Lead by Miss Joy and members of the community garden, the children fabricated scarecrows out of driftwood, leftover clothes and props from the Park Point rummage sale, and a little straw. We hope the scarecrows will be as effective as they are whimsical.

**Fighting Pests with Cedar Oil** This year we are trying an experiment in the garden in an attempt to keep aphids at bay. Each week we are spraying the fruit trees with cedar oil. Using a cedar oil concentrate product called PCO Choice from CedarSide (cedarside.com), we apply it with a sprayer attached to a garden hose. Cedar oil has been gaining popularity in other parts of the country for its ability to repel mosquitoes and other garden pests. It is a non-toxic EPA approved "minimum risk pesticide," safe for kids and pets, as well as safe for all pollinators, beneficial insects, birds and fish. Plus, it smells good. The manufacturer says it will repel aphids, so we're giving it a try.

#### **Save the Dates:**

**Monday, July 16**, 6 to 8 pm, monthly potluck supper. Susan Peters will treat us to a demonstration of how to make paneer cheese. All Park Pointers are welcome, you don't have to be members of the community garden. For more information, contact Coral 727-6455.

**Saturday, July 21**, 7th Annual Respect Your Mother Earth Day Festival in Leif Erickson Park.

**Tuesday, August 7<sup>th</sup>**, 6 to 8 p.m. National Neighbors Night Out, an annual community event sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch. Again this year, the Lafayette Community Edible Garden members will host a potluck picnic for the Park Point community. Weather permitting, we'll have grills going, so feel free to bring something to grill.



*It was so much more than just an  
Art Fair*



Sure, most people came to browse through the booths of fine artwork for sale



But if you chose, you could make some art of your own at the "Make and Take" tent



Or find a partner, and dance to the music of Michael Monroe



Or sit in with a jug band, and make a little music of your own!

In quieter times, I would have made the Art Fair the front page and centerpiece of this month's Breeze. It's such a wonderful event. But these are far from quiet times. Between Floods and Fire Stations, there's just so much going on that needs to be included. So I'll have to settle for this little photographic review.

### **Park Point Summer Youth Program**

Zooooooooommm....and we're off! We've started our engines and have been going full speed since June 11th. We have Dillied Up at Dairy Queen a few times, needing a pit stop to recharge and just because we have such awesome kids! Shining in the summer sun, adorned in our uniquely decorated visors, we have traveled via DTA to the Library for our Tuesday Fieldtrips checking out more books than we can carry, playing computer and board games, admiring the doll house and just having fun. We have pounded the pavement, putting many miles on our feet walking the skywalk, pausing in awe to watch the traffic underneath and the side walkers walk. We have mastered the rock wall at Playfront, climbed the mountain through the hoops, reached the peak on the climbing bars and have sung while swinging. We have sailed on the Titanic, dining and dancing on the lower deck and wiggle waggled the caterpillar. We have cheered for our friends at Incline while bowling and bumping the bumpers.

We have stuffed the friendly scarecrows in the Garden and given them new outfits for summer. Our Garden friends have treated us to fresh strawberries and we have learned about lettuce. We have done an official lettuce taste test, voting it to get the Blue Ribbon. We will be very busy Monday mornings with our Garden friends, scavengering on a scavenger hunt, decorating, painting, the list is endless and full of fun!

The builders have started Legoville, constructing incredible monuments and creations. The many crafters have been busy glueing, taping, tissue papering, beading, popsicle sticking, magic wanding, doll housing....the list is endless. We have slipped and slid on the Slip & Slide and made the worlds BEST waterslide on the playground. We have warmed up the microwave while popping popcorn and Do Re Me'ed with The Sound of Music between dodging rain drops.

If your in need of a tennis lesson, stop down.....we have many young Olympians willing to give lessons as well as our professional soccer and kick ball players. If you feel like going on a bike ride, bring your helmet and we will gladly take you on the path we have worn into the basketball court and ball field. Feel like playing Foose Ball? Come early, there is always a line. It's a very popular game.

If you see emergency vehicles in the ball field, no need to worry, its safety day. We apologize for the sirens we will be testing. When you see us wearing our clothing backwards, don't think too much about it, its backwards day which means we will be having dessert before lunch at Dairy Queen. Want to see the artists creating? Come down and make posters with us for Neighborhood Night Out (date to be announced). Bring your appetite, we will be serving beautifully decorated boiled eggs for the event.

If you are in need of something to do, stop down and see us, we are there Monday thru Thursday 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Think sunshine and warm beach weather,  
Joy

### **PARK POINT RUMMAGE SALE**

The 2012 Park Point Rummage Sale was a real success. Thanks to All that took part. Approx count was made of 150 yards of bargains. The buyers were very happy. It is never too early to get ready for next year's sale, which will be on June 14 and 15.

Charlene Shimmin



## Park Point.....Naturally!

Its 4:45 am, June 6th the and I should still be asleep... and would be if an old man's nature call had not dictated otherwise. But this was daybreak time on the bay and I knew I had to open the drapes of my west-facing window to check on the arrival of morning to see if any creatures were stirring. Lost sleep, for a retiree, can always be regained. The scene that enthralled me could not.

Darkness was retreating but a full moon, hanging over the now barely lit Blatnik Bridge, laid down a wide swath of light on the totally calm water below me; its golden path interrupted here and there by small gaggles of geese. The city had not yet awakened and was wonderfully quiet as were the dozens of swimmers paddling north toward their feeding grounds...the fetching acres of grass on and around Bayfront Park.

A lone crow flew over from its roosting tree on Hearding Island and rudely shattered the silence with its less than musical five note declaration that it, too, was now up and about.

Yesterday's gloomy weather, my hassle (and expense) in getting a new car battery after imposing on good neighbors for a jump start, aware that, in a few weeks, I would be tacking on another addition to my 81 years....these thoughts seemed almost trivial as I drank in the exquisite pleasures of the scene laid out before me.

I now understood better than ever why Pointers embrace life on our unique little sandbar graced on all sides by the waters of the greatest of the Great Lakes.....now if we could only get a properly staffed and outfitted, new fire hall! (incidentally, by letting my video camera run from the moment the gates dropped down at the bridge until they were opened again, I timed one boat at 21:30 and another at 16:00 minutes...factual material that will go to the fire chief)

From life-long resident Tom Mackay I learned a great deal more about our eagle pair. He lives 300 feet from the southeast tip of Hearding Island and has kept a close eye on their lives since they built their nest two years ago. He saw it under construction, a process that began in October and, after many stick-gathering flights, was finished two months later. It's likely they will expand it every year. Last year he noted two eaglets were hatched...but believes only one survived and that the second one, probably the smallest of the pair, may have been kicked out of the aerie by the dominant sibling. This spring only one fledged.

Tom also has an issue with the predatory crows and gulls that have reduced the duckling population to near zero. No doubt some of the blame must be attributed to fox families. Two duck nests were built in the community garden but the hen disappeared and left unhatched eggs in both.

**Flood aftermath:** Until a few days ago I was under the impression that no one on the Point had storm-related problems. I was wrong. The sewage pumping station just over the bridge, I was told, took a hit from a lightning bolt and was knocked out of service. This, in turn, caused a ton of misery for nearby residents. Keely Youngbloom was one of them and this was the fourth time in 26 years she had to clean up after sewage seeped into her place.

The deadline for submitting this column is upon me, I have only to look out of my window to see the lingering evidence of the monsoon-like event. The east side of the bay is still littered with debris from the flushing action of the St. Louis River. As it expanded over its banks it floated tons of old stumps, dead tree trunks, fallen branches, discarded tires and even a storage shed holding kayaks. It beached itself on the eastern tip of Hearding Island and rested there for days.

The deadheads are unsightly and a menace for operators of pleasure boats, but in keeping area-wide flood damage in perspective, we have very little to complain about. The geese, ducks and shorebirds don't mind it at all. I've been watching them probing for food among the tree roots.

Glenn Maxham

## **Celebrate Lake Superior Days July 12 through 15**

The Lake Superior Marine Museum Association (LSMMA), joining with Lake Superior Maritime Visitor Center, will take part in the regional celebration of Lake Superior Days on Thursday, July 12 through Sunday, July 15. A variety of interactive exhibits, presentations and free history pier walking tours (weather permitting) will be featured from 10am to 4pm daily. Exhibits with experts from Lake Superior Magazine, MN DNR, MN Environmental Partnership, MN Lake Superior Coastal Program, MN Pollution Control Agency, MN Sea Grant, Save Lake Superior Association and St. Louis River Alliance will be available at the Visitor Center. Presentations from US Army Corps of Engineers, Duluth Seaway Port Authority, MN Environmental Partnership, MN Sea Grant, as well as hikers and authors Mike Link and Kate Crowley will be held Thursday through Sunday in the Visitor Center's lower level lecture hall. (Specific presentation times found at [www.lsmma.com](http://www.lsmma.com).)

On Saturday and Sunday, July 14 and 15, look for the LSMMA information tent on the front lawn of the Visitor Center. Kids of all ages can enjoy the nautical knot tying stations, obtain MN Sea Grant aquatic invasive species temporary tattoos and cards. Adults will have the opportunity to learn more about upcoming LSMMA events and a chance to purchase Cruise of a Lifetime raffle tickets.

LSMMA is a nonprofit organization established in 1973 to preserve the region's maritime history. It also helps support the Marine Museum at the Army Corps of Engineers' Lake Superior Maritime Visitors Center. The association sponsors maritime-related educational and promotional programs and assists in the maintenance and purchase of museum displays. For more information, call LSMMA at 218 727-2497 or visit [www.lsmma.com](http://www.lsmma.com).

## **Elections**

The Primary Election will be held on August 14 7 AM to 8 PM. Please note the Primary is now held in August.

General Election is scheduled for November 6.

The election is being held upstairs of Lafayette. 30th Street and Minnesota Ave. If you are not able to get into vote you have to choices:

1. Have someone come into the polling place and ask for the a ballot be brought to the car (please park as close as you can to the building). It is required that 2 Judges come to the car and help with the paper work.

2. Or you may call City Clerks Office. They will send out the proper papers to you. I would suggest calling at lease 10 days or more before the election.

3. You may also go to City Clerk's Office on the 3rd floor. It is wise to call to make sure the ballot is available, if you plan to go and vote at the City Clerk's Office.

As Head Election Judge on Park Point I have made several request that the election be moved to a location easier for those that have difficult time getting into Lafayette to vote. Reasons for moving to another location. 1. Very Long Ramp into Lafayette 2. No Proper Handrail. 3. Stairs the other entrance. 4. Poorly lit on the outside.

City Clerk Jeff Cox, wants to hear from you, the voters on Park Point about moving the Polling Place. There are 2 locations, that have been talked about that would make it much easier for the voters on Park Point.

If you feel there should be an easier location to get into, I would encourage you to call Jeff Cox, City Clerk or send him an email or note saying you like to have the election moved to a place that would be easier to access. Jeff can be reach at 730-5500 or 330 City Hall, 411 West 1st. Street, Duluth, Mn. 55802. Please let Jeff Cox know if you have a problem getting into Lafayette.

Charlene Shimmin  
Head Election Judge in what is now Precinct 18.

### Editor's Corner

Another big, packed issue of the Breeze. And I have so much more that I could have included. Like a picture of the new medical/rescue truck that's now stationed (part-time) on the Point. And the flood debris that's washed up on both sides of the Point. I even have a picture of that wayward shed that washed down the St. Louis River. With the warm weather drawing so many people to the beach, and so much available material, the many driftwood structures and sculptures that are popping up are worthy of an Art Fair of their own.

But there are limits to how much I can fit in, and much I can justify printing. Besides, it's hot in this room, the beach is calling - and there's another piece of cool driftwood I've got my eye on! Enjoy the warm weather, and enjoy the lake, but be careful out there! If you get into trouble, there may be no one there to rescue you....but You!

### WANTED TO RENT

1 or 2 BR on the Point after Aug. Must see ASAP as I need to give 2mos notice to leave. Have loved the Point since I first visited Duluth in 1950. In 1997 I found Washington Studios Artist Co-op & moved in to write my book, exhibit my photos. Now I seek quiet: 726 0341 (10 rings to message) [susoj@yahoo.com](mailto:susoj@yahoo.com)  
[www.susojourner.com](http://www.susojourner.com)

Editor:

As a resident of Park Point for 35 years, I am opposed to the closing of Fire Station #5. It would be a tremendous detriment to the 1,300 citizens who live on Park Point, and in fact to the entire city of Duluth and all it's visitors.

For 82 years the whole purpose of the station being located there was because of the bridge and the boats. At a mile and a half from the bridge there is a point of no return. The inter lake ocean vessels come through the channel. The time frame is 20-25 minutes minimum. There have been times when we are double bridged. Meaning one boat coming in from the lake and the bridge operator held the bridge up so another boat from the bay could go out. 40 to 45 minutes-----not including the traffic delays.

I think we all know there are varied degrees and time lines for Fire and that seconds and minutes count in a fire emergency. After a heart attack when the heart stops the brain dies in 6 minutes. Right now our firefighter response time is 3 to 4 minutes, regardless of the bridge position.

I feel that our fully equipped fire truck responding to a fire is much better than nothing when the bridge is up. The firefighter on Park Point is the eyes and ears on the ground regardless of the bridge position.

**THEY ARE COMMAND CENTER!**

They can update incoming firefighters to what they have it is and tell them what they are doing to mitigate the emergency ---- making sure there is enough incoming resources to solve the problem. Also giving information about potential lives to save.

Mayor Ness has a study that says it is too dangerous to have a single fire fighter responding to a fire. I disagree as that is all we have ever had, but it is not too dangerous to leave an entire community without life safety. This fire station has been operating since 1929 and no fire fighter on engine #5 has been injured fighting a fire or any EMT work.

The study seems to think that our fire fighter is going to run into a burning building regardless of their own safety. I think our fire fighters have enough training and common sense that does guide them to decide whether there is a viable life worth risking their own safety for.

This is a vulnerable unique community, we do not need a tragedy waiting to happen.

**HELP US SAVE OUR FIREHALL, THE LIFE YOU SAVE MAY BE YOUR OWN**

Kathy Sahlberg



## ***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: Community Police Officer Nick Lukovsky 730-5646. [Nlukovsky@duluth.mn.gov](mailto:Nlukovsky@duluth.mn.gov).

Parks Maintenance Division: 730-4491 (after hours 730-4150) Fire station #5 (Park Point): 723-3215

City Councilor Sharla Gardner: 724-4701 [sharla.gardner@gmail.com](mailto:sharla.gardner@gmail.com)



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