



The Breeze of Park Point

As the "August push" to establish Pontliana Woods as a city park moves into the home stretch, we thought readers would appreciate reading Jan Olson's profile of Tom and Ella Pontliana, first published in the Breeze in 1989. Whether you're remembering the Pontlianas fondly or just learning about them for the first time, please keep in mind how important it will be in the next few weeks for City and County officials to hear of your support. If you have additional questions, please call team member Dave Johnson @722-9764.



PARK POINT
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PARK POINT'S COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER
MAY - JUNE, 1989 Vol. 17, No. 11

POINTER PROFILE:
SEEDS OF CONTENTMENT

Spring. And it is said that a young man's fancy turns to thoughts of... seed catalogs? Perhaps only if the young man happened to be Tom Pontliana this would have been the case. Back in the earlier days when the city sponsored garden-growing contests for children Tom entered. He won a \$5 prize, a grand fortune at that time, for the garden that he carefully tended on his own.

Como "Tom" Pontliana, a well-known Park Point resident noted for his marvelous, home-grown vegetables and fruit,



The man with two green thumbs: Tom Pontliana has been "out standing in his field" for most of his 90 years.

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.

Lafayette Edible Garden

Monday, September 21st
6 to 8 p.m.
potluck dinner
Lafayette Community Center

Park Point Garden Club

Thursday August 27th
Contact: Harriet Meagher
722-6762

*Seeds of Contentment
continued on page 3*

**Park Point Community Club
Meeting**

Thursday, August 20th,
7 p.m.
Social at 6:30
Lafayette Community Center

The Breeze

Editor: Natalija Walbridge

Submissions for the September issue are due by Thursday, 8/27/15.

Send to: ppbreezeeditor@gmail.com

Park Point Community Club

Officers:

President: Dawn Buck

parkpointcc@gmail.com

525-1764

Vice President: John Sargent

3740 Minnesota Ave.

763-276-8556

Secretary: Open Position

Treasurer: Al Robins

722 Minnesota Ave.

720-6518

Committees:

Art Fair: Carla Tamburro

coordinator@parkpointartfair.org

218-428-1916

Rummage Sale:

Dave Lavamaki

pointer12@q.com

729-8925

Environmental: Dick Gould

727-4067

Hospitality:

Diane Gould

727-4067

Ted Buck

525-1764

Lafayette Square Rentals:

Missy Steichen

ppccdih@gmail.com

218-208-9545

The Postcard: Dawn Buck

parkpoincc@gmail.com

Sunshine: Pam Griggs

pamgriggs101@gmail.com

218-260-6032

Park Point Community Club

P.O. Box 16326

Duluth, MN 55816-0326

www.parkpointcommunityclub.org

Letter from the PPCC President

Hi Neighbors,

Hoping to see you at National Night Out on August 4th! My goal is to meet and speak with at least ten new people that evening.

Summer is short and so is the time I am spending interacting with electronic gadgetry on these glorious days; hence the brevity of my blurb. I hope that you are having a wonderful and memorable summer.

I recently heard from two bayside neighbors about many logs and wooden pieces coming down the river onto their properties. They were wondering if the Radio Tower Bay clean-up could possibly be the source of the wood. Thanks to Daryl Peterson, Director of Restoration Programs for the Minnesota Land Trust, for getting back to me immediately and requesting photos of the floating timbers and wood.

From Daryl, "We have a floating boom with a curtain to the bottom across the mouth of the bay to prevent derelict pieces of wood from leaving the bay. Also, we have not encountered any wood with spikes in it - all Radio Tower Bay wood is milled lumber of various dimensions, but none longer than 3 feet typically. They have been saturated on the bottom of the bay for more than 100 years and are waterlogged and hence negatively buoyant. They tend to sink in place when disturbed."

Daryl is looking over the photos and I will keep you in the loop. The high water of late may be dislodging upstream boating hazards that end up on the bay shores when the wind is right.

Dave Poulin, program committee chair, is working on putting together a candidates' forum to be held at Lafayette on October 13th. Would you be willing to start thinking of questions that you have for our city councilor candidates? The forum is in early planning stages now, so I will also keep you in the loop on how your questions will be presented. Good questions for the candidates may be quite revealing! Thank you in advance for pondering the qualities of good representation and questions about topics important to our community.

Last month, Tom and Gloria Lyle donated to our club a wonderful collection of Myra Southworth colorized photographs, along with the artist's comments. When the drizzly fall weather starts, I will be scanning and sharing these treasures with you. Thank you very much to Tom and Gloria!

Looking forward to seeing you on or in the water!
Dawn & Klaus (canine companion trying to stay cool)

P.S. Using that extra garbage bag on walks for trash pick-up is much appreciated !!

"Seeds of Contentment," continued...

was born January 2, 1899. His father was a gardener for Hunter's Park families, while his mother provided old "tried and true" home remedies for ailing neighbors while raising thirteen children.

Tom had high ambitions. He wanted to become a doctor, but lack of money forced him to rethink his goal. He was able to attend Tri-State College of Engineering in Fort Wayne, Indiana and graduated with a B.S. degree in aeronautical engineering. While visiting his sister in Chicago during a school recess, he went to a ballroom where he met a "tall, skinny young girl" by the name of Ella. She wasn't old enough to date, so she couldn't give him her phone number. But a year later he went back to the ballroom, met her again, and dated her whenever he visited Chicago.

Tom's professional career took him to all parts of the world. He worked in Texas for \$1000 a year, accepted a job as a carpenter foreman in Greenland, held a similar position in Alaska, spent some time in Guam and Ponape Island, and worked for a short time in Saudi Arabia.

While in Guam Tom corresponded with Ella, which resulted in a year of letter writing, one a day, at each end. His gardening interest resurged when Ella sent him some watermelon seeds that he requested. He planted them in the mountains and within several days they took root and "grew like mad." When they ripened, he brought them in to the cook, who gave him extra rations. According to Tom, "the entire mess hall had the wonderful aroma of watermelons."

During Tom's tour in Saudi Arabia he worked with a crew of Arabs, only one of whom spoke English. When he saw a picture of Ella and her friend Dorothy he told Tom he would like to buy the fat girl, not the skinny one. He offered an array of his worldly goods and pestered Tom about when she could come over to be one of his many wives. Tom sent a picture of his coworker to Ella and the two women agreed that he was really ugly! Dorothy still has the picture and it generates much laughter when Ella visits her.

When Tom returned from Saudi Arabia he and Ella married. He began to build upon their current home at 1629 Lake Ave. S. and they moved into it in 1950. By building up the sand with leaves Tom was able to plant trees on the barren property. He would get a hundred each year from George Cruikshank and before long the home was surrounded by beautiful pines.

At first Tom and Ella hauled leaves from everywhere to increase the fertility of their land. Later Tom's clients saved bagged leaves for them. By tilling the leaves into the sand and adding manure, the ground gradually became rich loam. When Ella was still a gardening novice Tom suggested that she spend some time weeding out the flower beds surrounding the house. When he returned from work, she proudly showed him the completed task. Much to his chagrin, Ella had pulled out all the small seedlings and left only tall weeds! Apples, cherries, grapes and raspberries abound in the yard. Many Park Pointers harvest their own raspberries thanks to the many bushes Tom has given away.

Tom's gardens have contained nearly every vegetable known. Tomato seeds from Germany that he received from a woman found their way to France with a family friend, Monique Dubar. There her father planted the seeds and became the "king of the province" when the plants produced immense, delicious tomatoes. Because Tom continues to save these seeds Ella is able to bring two dozen German tomato plants to the Minnesota State Horticultural Society each spring, where they are snapped up by eager buyers for one dollar each.

When the Pontianas' son Como attended kindergarten at the Park Point School, Tom gave each child in the class a marigold plant. The next year he gave each child a tomato plant because "you can't eat flowers!" After that, the children in the entire school received tomato plants each spring. The children were required to bring half gallon milk containers to school. Then Tom would arrive with two hundred tomato plants and transplanting would begin. Many Park Point adults still thank Tom for the garden gift received so many years ago.

Last summer Tom grew sweet potatoes, a tuber that most think can grow only where summers are long and hot. But by studying every book from the library on sweet potatoes and, with some trial and error, he was successful. This year he will have plants available from Georgia towns to sell to other avid gardeners.

Tom's gardens are grown organically. He carefully considers that what he is planting will eventually be eaten so he does not use chemicals. This spring Tom's "fancy" once again turned to packets of seeds, bulbs and tender shoots protruding from rich loam. At 90 years of age, he continues his work as Park Point's master gardener.

PPCC Meeting Minutes - 7/16/15

President Dawn Buck called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. Rules were suspended briefly to accommodate two guests:

Brian Madsen of Sky Harbor Airport reported on the progress of upcoming airport improvements. The apron project is about to commence, in addition to cleanup of the parking area where the water line was recently redone. Fencing from the utility building is about to be installed.

District 3 City Council candidate Em Westerlund introduced herself to the group, asking members for their support in the upcoming elections. She indicated that as an active participant in such groups as PAVSA, Lincoln Park Food Access and other groups, she was approached to run by several friends and other members of those and other civic groups. Ms. Westerlund stayed on throughout the meeting in order to familiarize herself with various issues of the moment. As she lives in the Central Hillside area of the district, she indicated that she feels perhaps less familiar with the issues of Park Point than other areas of the city, and wishes to rectify this by becoming better acquainted with topics of concern to Park Pointers.

Communications received over the past month included letters from DeBora Bernick and Glenn Maxham, both of which can be viewed on the PPCC website.

Minutes from June - Signatore of last month's meeting notes in the Breeze was inadvertently omitted; Marie Margitan both took and compiled them for publication. Al Robins noted that the report incorrectly stated that the St. Louis County Auditor was in the process of auditing our treasury. He clarified that the County Auditor has nothing to do with this, but that our own paid auditor has accomplished this, and that all is OK. Motion made to approve the minutes, w/ corrections. All ayes, no opposition.

Treasurer's Report - Al Robins

Accounts are close to the same as last month's \$68,065; this month the entire fund comes to \$67,876. Next month's totals will reflect money spent on Artist Awards and other Art Fair expenses. Presently the general fund stands at \$43,531; the Art Fair account dropped substantially, as expected, due accounts come due. Sales from tunnel passes are going well, and the cost of production has been met. We paid for an initial printing of 1K passes, and have taken in \$1021 in total sales. Remaining proceeds are to be shared equally by the Duluth Rowing Club and the PPCC. Report approved unanimously.

Watch Committee - All of us

Reported that two huts made out of logs were observed along the beach; police came by on 4-wheeler and made the individual break them down. Lisa Berthel indicated she felt that no one was really patrolling that sort of activity, though no one had observed any untoward behavior. Lisa reiterated that she felt alcohol was most likely the issue, and that there is nonetheless some level of concern. Diane Gould clarified that such structures are not allowed, and that police will respond any time there is an indication of someone building or apparently living in any type of "permanent" or semi-permanent structure on the beach or in the Recreation Area or pine forest. Diane also noted that bicycle police have been doing some ticketing for parking on the east side side of street. Marie Margitan stated that she has some concerns about which laws are or are not being enforced, and that there appears to be a bit of serendipity with regard to looking the other way for such events as the rummage sale, fire rings and permits, etc. Dave Poulin pointed out that beach fires are very simply illegal, and that it is unfair to the many people who experience breathing problems for police to ignore those laws, as well as unfair to all of us to absorb the fire risk that is naturally associated with them.

Art Fair - Carla Tamburo/ Jake Kapsner

Dave Johnson spoke on behalf of Jake and Carla. He stated that at a time when many art fairs are closing down, ours is in a very good position due largely to their many updates and improvements. Changes that have been made can keep the art fair strong over a period of years to come. Ellen Dunlap added that the benefits of the MN Arts Board grant, especially capital improvements and marketing development, have become quite apparent. Development of social media and other online updates have resulted in a substantial increase in both the number and variety of artists. Forty-four per cent of our artists were new this year, a record. Diane Gould once again thanked the more than 70 volunteers who made this year's event possible: "It takes an army." Some discussion of the possibility of increasing fees for artists; some suggested that an increase in the fees for food vendors, which are low, ought to be discussed for 2016. Lisa Berthel noticed what she felt to be an increase in traffic this

PPCC Meeting Minutes - 7/16/15 continued

year, and that perhaps revisiting the provision of better community transportation would be a good idea. Dave Johnson & Diane Gould reported that we had visits from at least three coach buses this year, including tour buses from as far away as St. Croix Falls and Thunder Bay.

Sunshine - Pam Griggs

Two get-well cards sent this month. She also reminded people to inform LeAne Rutherford of any new neighbors they'd like to introduce to the community and she will take care of sending letters of welcome.

Lynn Bentfield reported that the Bayfront Market property has been sold and will most likely be torn down soon.

Rummage Sale - Dave Lavamakii

No report

Environmental - Dick Gould

Diane Gould reported that Dick has said this year's young plantings are doing well.

Youth Committee - Liz Mackay

Forty children are registered, including 25 from Park Point and 15 from elsewhere throughout the city. [See breakdown of statistics on Page 13.] The annual sand modeling contest was held today...it was a Park Point sweep! Every entry in every category was won by a "Lafayette Kid."

Old Business

Street Ends - Chelly Townshend

Lisa Berthel reported for Chelly that there have been two City of Duluth Study Group meetings to "walk the street ends" that occurred over two nights, and that they have gone thru only 25% of the total. There was a process; Kinnan Stauber presented the environmental criteria, as juxtaposed against the City's criteria; the process of making them public vs. keeping them informal was also discussed. Members of the Working Group reiterated that we do not want this to be made a simplistic system of only 16 street ends. Dave Poulin, who serves as an alternate on the Study Group, asked if others could at least submit questions, as they are not allowed to participate directly. Chief Planner Keith Hamre and Councilor Gardner say "no." Just like the west end and waterfront projects, according to Dave, things appear to have been pre-set. President Buck reminded all that Park Pointer John Schmidt, as a Parks Commissioner, also represents us indirectly as a member of the Study Group.

Pontliana Woods - Dave Johnson

Dave reports that things are going very, very well, and that "we're on that last, final push." We now know that we have a majority of votes needed from the City Council. The issue of street ends and Pontliana Woods are not unrelated; the accessibility of the bay is key. If you ever wanted to write a letter to the Mayor, this is the time to do it, according to Dave. He reminded us that "Parcel 8," the southernmost section, was put up for auction in June, but did not sell. This presents intriguing possibilities, in that County Commissioners earlier indicated that any future dealings regarding Parcel 9 (the area proposed for Pontliana Woods) would be based on how much money they received for parcel 8.

Candidate Westerlund, who amazingly remained both present and awake, asked how it is that they are able to sell any of this land, in that it was previously designated as wetland?

Dave - "They can't read."

New business -

Possible candidate forum - Discussion regarding how, when and whom to invite for a candidate forum in the fall. Whether to include councilors-at-large, as well as District 3 discussed. Dave Poulin pointed out that one can keep apprised via links w/ the Duluth City Clerk's web page; candidates on deck for Mayor, Council, as well as School District 709 are updated daily.

National Night Out - Neighbors reminded of the upcoming August 4th date for this event. St. Andrew's by the Lake will be hosting, among other locales.

Emergency Services - Dennis Hoelscher reported once again that in 2012 the City ordered a review and study of fire service; the result was a nearly 8K-word report. "City Council ignored nearly all of the report, except the closing of Station #5"(Park Point.) Dennis stressed that the number of minutes' response is critical: EMS response is critical; Advanced Life Support is critical; police and fire response are critical. Two minutes, 45 seconds is our typical response, according to Dennis; the average time before brain damage begins is 4 minutes.

Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church

2002 Minnesota Ave

722-3078

Fr. Peter Muhich and Fr. Elias Gieski

Is your Heart Clean?

An ad in the Ellsworth (WI) American read, "Village Dry Cleaners has relocated to 14 High Street, right next door to St. Joseph's Church. After March 1st, cleanliness is next to godliness."

Cleanliness does not solely refer to a clean house or car. More significantly, it refers to a clean heart. A heart free of anger, bitterness and one that is humble and contrite. A humble heart that realizes it is always in need of God's grace; a contrite heart that is sorry for its sin. This summer, clean up your heart by going to mass and discovering a new the peace and joy the experience of God's forgiveness brings.

Heavenly Father, I open my heart to you despite my feeling of unworthiness. Through your son Jesus, cleanse me of my sin. May my heart belong to you alone. Amen

**Parish Picnic will be held at
Our Lady of Mercy on August 23, 2015.
Please mark your calendar to attend and
enjoy a meal. No charge for this event.**

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

Lafayette Rentals

Lafayette is a great place to hold weddings, reunions, parties, meetings, workshops, etc...

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Contact: Missy LePage at
218-208-9545 or by e-mail at
ppccdlh@gmail.com

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PPCC Meeting Minutes - 7/16/15 continued

The Lift Bridge goes up 4,513 times per season, each year, yet we have no provision to provide EMS service for this community of 1500 people. Dennis questioned the purpose of the report, in that its major recommendations appear to have been ignored. Additional discussion centered around our aging infrastructure; the presence of industry, motels, nursing homes and large apartment buildings; our aging population; and such obvious matters as the existence of rip tides and general water safety. The closure of the Fire Hall was a “net gain,” according to Dennis, in that they were able to bring their staff up to OSHA standards, as both state law and other professional standards demand that no fire fighter enter a building alone, and #5 was staffed by one person for many years prior to its closure.

Candidate Westerlund: “I want you to know that it is a real concern, and I am working hard to educate myself.” She suggested that, given that Park Point is “shared” by thousands of tourists as well as other Duluthians each year, one possibility to explore would be the allocation of some of the monies from the “tourism tax.”

Lisa Berthel asked Ms. Westerlund whether she had had an opportunity to review the Small Area Plan, which she believes appears to have been fast-tracked, with minimal public discussion. Emergency services, she noted, should be an essential part of that plan.

Working Group - Brief return to Street End discussion after the late arrival of Chelly Townsend, spokesperson for the WG and representative on the City’s Study Group. She expanded upon what had occurred during the “walk-about;” the Study Group began at 16th Street, continued as far as 19th. She felt that Kinnan Stauber’s demonstration of the expenses of properly designing/maintaining any “improved” public point of entry, including fences, a board walk, erosion that occurs when you don’t do things properly, etc., made an impression. Further discussion of the vandalism of the single existing “improved” Tier 2 public easement at 19th; a fence was removed, directional signage painted over and a sign indicating “no trespassing” on Sand Point Yacht Club property was relocated to the public access gate. Some present stated that perpetrators should be held legally accountable. This site was specifically set aside in the interest of the Duluth Audubon society, according to Dave Poulin.

Meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Ellen Dunlap

September Adopt-a-Beach™ Event

Take Part in the World’s Largest Shoreline Cleanup. The Alliance for the Great Lakes is excited to be in Duluth for its third year coordinating the September, 2015 Adopt-a-Beach™ (formerly known as “Beach Sweep”) event. We were invited in 2013 by the Great Lakes Aquarium to coordinate the program, which is part of the Ocean Conservancy’s International Coastal Cleanup.

What: Beach and shoreline cleanups involving thousands of volunteers to remove trash and collect data on their findings.

When: Sept. 26, 2015, 9:00 a.m. to noon. (Dates and times may vary by location.)

Where: Beaches and shorelines along Great Lakes coastal areas.

How: To find out more information contact Anna White, Minnesota Adopt-a-Beach™ Affiliate at awhite@greatlakes.org or call 218-740-2070.

Who: You! Cleanup volunteers are individuals, families, schools, and community, scouting religious and other groups.

Why: Have fun giving back to the places you care about. The Great Lakes shoreline and beaches are right in our back yards. The information gathered is used to make positive changes for our Great Lakes.

Volunteer the day of the event: Sign up for a designated location of your choice and come for a few hours of fun and community involvement.

Be a lead volunteer: Play a lead role in the cleanup by coordinating a cleanup in your area.

Thank you!!!

Anna White | Adopt-a-Beach Affiliate | awhite@greatlakes.org

Alliance for the Great Lakes | www.greatlakes.org

Great Lakes Aquarium 353 Harbor Dr. | Duluth, MN 55802 | 218.740.2070



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Contact: ppbreezeditor@gmail.com

Lafayette Community Edible Garden News

Tomatoes and beets and kale, oh my! Our community garden is now in its full splendor and members are happily harvesting its bounty. Who knew an old hockey rink could be so verdant? If you haven't visited the garden in a while, come sit a spell and take in its lushness. It's easy to spot at the Lafayette Community Center. Besides playing in the dirt, we garden members also like to socialize and learn a thing or two. At our July monthly potluck dinner and program, LeAne Rutherford lead us in a mind-expanding exercise that increased our knowledge of food- and ecology-related issues in a fun, interactive manner. At our next potluck dinner in September, we will be sharing our knowledge about different ways to preserve the vegetables we harvest from our gardens. This will include pesto-making experiments. All Park Point residents are welcome at our dinners. For more information, call Coral at 722-7862.

Lynn Clark Pegg's Dill Pesto

- 1/2 cup chopped and lightly packed fresh dill weed
- 1/3 cup olive oil
- 1/4 cup chopped walnuts
- 1/4 cup fresh lime juice
- 1 clove garlic
- 1 tablespoon Dijon mustard
- 1/2 cup shredded Parmesan cheese
- Salt and pepper, if desired

Place all ingredients in a food processor bowl with metal blade or in a blender. Cover and process until smooth, stopping once to scrape side of bowl. Adjust seasonings, as desired.

Upcoming Events: Monday, September 21, 6 to 8 p.m., monthly potluck dinner with program about bumper crop preserving.
October, to be determined. Annual harvest dinner with the Duluth Community Garden Program.
Sunday, November 15, 5 to 7 p.m., monthly potluck dinner birthday celebration for our garden's 5th year of production.

Submitted by Susan Peters

Park Point Garden Club Listens to Duluth Symphonic Winds

For its July meeting, the Park Point Garden Club met at Valentini's for an early supper and then brought their chairs, hats and sunglasses to the Rose Garden. There, they listened to a concert by Duluth Symphonic Winds (Community Band) for over an hour. Everyone was bearing the hot sun, high humidity and one helicopter interruption. One of the PPGC's very own was playing the French horn.



Every week two members of the Garden Club have the task of watering, weeding and fertilizing the Lafayette Flower Garden. They've done a great job and we hear that everyone is enjoying the flowers. The next meeting is scheduled for August 27th at 7 p.m. Visitors and new members are welcome.

Please contact President Harriet Meagher at 722-6762 for more information.

Submitted by Kristelle Miller

Park Point Rowing Club Report



The Duluth Rowing Club won six events at the 57th annual Duluth International Regatta, which was held on Saturday, July 11th. The DRC took first place in the Jr. Men's 8, Women's Single, Jr. Men's 4, Master Mixed Quad, Master Men's Double, and Master Women's 4. They also picked up second place finishes in the Jr. Men's 4, Jr. Women's 4, Jr. Women's 8, and Jr. Men's Quad. There were 29 races in total, with 250 rowers participating from Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, Ontario, and Kansas.

Many thanks to Park Point residents for the hospitality shown to both in-state and out-of-state competitors, spectators, and families. The sunny, warm day finished with a BBQ and picnic for all attending. There are a few regatta t-shirts still available; feel free to stop down and purchase them when the Boathouse is open. Don't forget, too, that Park Point Tunnel Passes help support both the DRC and the PPCC.

The dumpster for shiny paper collection is alive and well; thanks to those who deposit their stash, which makes some nice earnings for Club equipment and supplies. Upcoming regattas include Tops and Bottoms in Kenora, Northwest Championships in Regina, Death Row here in Duluth, and some river head races in Minneapolis, Boston and Philadelphia. Stay tuned for updates on the new boathouse.

Tom Rauschenfels





Few would dispute the consensus of Point residents today that this is one of the finest places to live in Duluth. After coming upon a Sunday, October 30, 1938 feature in the News-Tribune, I wondered what the public perception of this highly valued property would have been. Then, as now, the news account would not have been one to read at the Sunday morning breakfast table—or at any other time for that matter!

The news story was headlined: DRINKING WATER ENDANGERED; LAKE POLLUTION HELD MENACE TO CITY HEALTH. After decades volunteering with the Save Lake Superior Association, and professionally during time as a television anchorman, I had heard rumors about the practice of allowing raw sewage to find its way into the “big lake.” After the shock elicited by the revelation of the story, however, reality set in when the details and sickening immensity of the situation were explained.

As the newspaper tells it, “Thousands upon thousands of gallons of raw sewage are dumped into Lake Superior daily--and within a few (eight) miles of the city’s water intake in Lakewood.” The open-ended pipe most affecting Point dwellers emptied into the lake where our peninsula connects to the mainland. There were a dozen more pipes discharging their untreated flow between that site and 60th Avenue East!

No doubt, there were days when residents of the upscale lakefront along London Road, like everyone else who lived on the Point, had to close their windows and stay indoors to avoid the foul odor. We can only imagine the disgust of swimmers arriving at the beach after waves and wind distributed the human and industrial waste for miles along our shore.

The need for Duluth to install a sanitary treatment system for sewage was apparent for years, but delayed for a time by the lack of funding during the Great Depression. Due more to good luck than preventive measures, there was no recurrence of typhoid. Years earlier the deadly disease had struck Duluth...thousands became ill and more than a hundred died. It was believed the epidemic originated in the heavily polluted water in St Louis Bay. Several slaughterhouses on the waterfront found it “convenient” to flush their worthless trimmings into an area near the location of the water intake pipe.

While public health protection was neglected, causing constant fear of an epidemic from the ugly sewage problem, the city was doing a great job of protecting swimmers at our public beaches... better than exists today!

In 1937, would you believe, Duluth had five designated beaches? A dozen men were recruited to staff them and classified as “guards” rather than as lifeguards. The expansion of outdoor recreational facilities was due in part to the WPA, a federal public works agency that grew out of the decade-long Great Depression. The News-Tribune, in wording that is a bit confusing today, said, “They will be located at Oatka Beach, Park Point; Ninth Street and Minnesota Ave, Park Point; Riverside Sixtieth Avenue West and bay front and at New Duluth on the St Louis River.”

At least in my viewing area of the harbor, out from 19th, it has been a disappointing spring and summer for wildlife...both birds and mammals have been scarce or failed to appear. I saw only one female mallard with ducklings and there have not been many drakes either. I did learn something new about the molting of mallards (they actually have two of them.) In the second phase, the molt is incomplete, involving only body feathers, not the wings. For about a month the plumage of the male is very drab, and looks nearly the same as the female; it’s difficult to tell them apart.

If the tiny pelican flock came, I missed them...no signs of the loons, herons, kingfishers, otter or beaver. Even gull and goose numbers appear to be reduced (so it’s not all bad news.)

Lafayette Summer Youth Program: An Adventure Every Day



Stop by Lafayette to join the fun, Monday - Thursday, 8 - 4. If the door is open, we are there!
Joy Fouts

SUMMER TIME



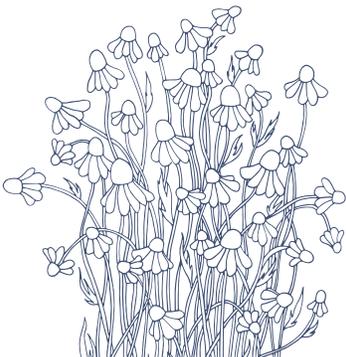
Lafayette Youth Program Overview

As of mid-July, forty children had registered for the Lafayette Summer Youth Program, including eighteen girls and twenty-two boys. Nearly 70% (27) of those children returned after experiencing a previous summer in the program, including eighteen Park Pointers and nine children from off the Point. Of the total group, twenty-five children either live on or are otherwise related by family to someone who lives on Park Point; fifteen children have no direct Park Point connections. These numbers fall well within City Parks Department goals for serving the entire community of Duluth, as well as local neighbors.

The children are well distributed among age groups, as well, and include:

Age	Girls	Boys	Total
6	2	1	3
7	3	1	4
8	3	7	10
9	1	4	5
10	4	3	7
11	2	5	7
12	3	1	4
		Total:	40

Statistics compiled by Joy Fouts, Director



Duluth Woman's Club OPEN HOUSE for prospective members

Come to enjoy refreshments while learning about our history, our programs, our bridge and game opportunities, our special events and the many advantages of membership, including no dues for September and October 2015.

Thursday, September 10, 2015

2400 East Superior Street

4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

cost is free

218-724-3168

www.duluthwomansclub.com

Park Point Art Fair



Thanks to the weather for cooperating this time. See ya next year!



Great crowds!



Cool iron pour!



The Duluth Fiber and Handcrafters Guild are becoming regulars at the fair!



Awesome music by the Clover Street Cronies; too bad the rain cut it short!



Yummy Love Creamery!



Partnering with the DSSO to raise money for Miller Dwan and draw attention to our organizations.



Demonstrations by Elliot Silberman; always a crowd pleaser!

Thanks to our brawny and clever volunteers.



Photos by Carole Lent and Jake Kaspner

Letters to the Editor

In response to Glenn Maxham view of the Park Point Rummage Sale.

Just a reminder that the Park Point Rummage Sale came into being because otherwise people were holding their rummage sales on Park Point Art Fair day.

So yes, it does help the community and our art fair by getting the artists for the Park Point Art Fair. If the artists sales are down due to rummage sales along the way, we are not going to be making a profit for the community on the Art Fair. I do think that the community should advertise the rummage sale better as we are not getting the numbers we once received and we don't want people to start thinking they may get better rummage sale dollars if they have their sale on art fair day.

Sincerely,
DeBora Bernick

Another Rummage Sale Grump Defends the Event

I, like the author of last month's Letter to the Editor, am a Rummage Sale Grump. Just ask my newest neighbors, who sadly first encountered me during a verbal brawl I had with some idiot who didn't seem to notice he'd completely blocked my driveway. And who had the nerve to be unrepentant, even angry that I'd challenged him. The annual decision to stay or not to stay, as no reasonable person expects to leave the island more than once daily during the PPRS. Forget about ordering sod, hiring a plumber or taking the DTA bus; all are futile. All those crazy people who somehow harbor the ridiculous notion that standing around on asphalt all day long is their dog's idea of a good time. Good grief!

And then there's the venture of actually holding a sale...something smart friends have discouraged me from doing, over the years. A natural salesperson I am not; I should never have a sale of my own. "What don't you understand about 'I'm not set up yet'?" I snarl sarcastically, if silently (well, most of the time), and they wander off muttering "Not much here..." "What's that? You want to knock me down from 50 cents to 25 for an item I purchased for \$28.95? Take it! Just take it!"

I repeat: I am not built for the annual Park Point Rummage Sale.

Except that I love it...at least in the years when I'm smart enough to spend the day pedaling about and chatting with my neighbors. Here are the benefits I see to the community:

* Far from fostering hoarding instincts, the PPRS celebrates the opposite. Hate that junk stashed behind your neighbor's garage, hidden from his view but not yours? Offer to help him w/ next year's sale.

* The enormous potential for recycling. Thousands of pounds of "junk" leave the Point each year, headed for someone else's garage, kitchen or linen closet, rather than a landfill.

* The very real service such bargain goods provide for our community, as families on extremely limited budgets stock up on children's clothing, furniture and other household goods they could not afford at retail prices. [Each year, I think of organizing a small coterie to be called, "Shopping for CHUM" or some such thing. Interested? Let's talk next spring...]

* Likewise, the boon to various church groups, sports boosters and other philanthropic organizations the PPRS provides, as Pointers generously offer their driveways to folks who're willing to do the real work. [Think Rutherfords and the PP Edible Garden, btw.] Whether or not such groups hail from Park Point is irrelevant; the fact that they're able to add real money to their coffers is what's important.

* The overall "carnival" effect: Face it, folks; this annual event marking the true beginning of summer is just plain fun. If the traffic makes you crazy, perhaps you should take a vacation day, throw in the towel, and just try and enjoy the party.

* Finally - a one-time, 2015 special: The joy of watching six-year-old Willie Kapsner destroy with a hammer the unsold toilet at the end of my driveway...one of several up and down the Point that ended up "in the free pile" by residents who'd tried foolishly to grab 2 or 3 bucks for them just hours earlier. Priceless. Sure, we look pretty awful on Sunday morning, with our forlorn piles of detritus begging for takers. Except that most of it miraculously does get taken, by Round Three of the "shoppers." See you at next year's sale...but please leave Fido at home.

Ellen Dunlap

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 are some helpful contacts:

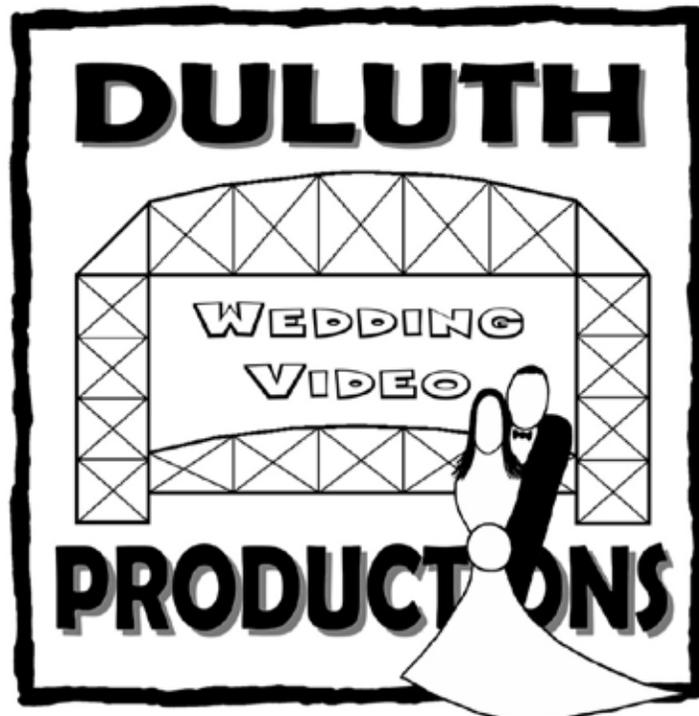
Lift Bridge Supervisor 728-3387

Community Police Officer: Craig Lindberg 730-5727 clindberg@duluthmn.gov

Parks Maintenance Division: 730-4491 (after hours 730-4150)

Dog issues: clane@duluthmn.gov

City Councilor Sharla Gardner: 724-4701 sharla.gardner@gmail.com



WWW.DULUTHWVP.COM