



The Breeze

Of Park Point

Upcoming Events

**Park Point
Community Club -
Meeting Cancelled for
July, Hopeful for
August**

**Lafayette Edible
Garden
Monday, July 13th
Program on climate
change with Rachel
Wagner
Details are not yet set**

**Park Point Garden
Club
??? July 24th 2020???**
**The Garden is
Beautiful. Take a look
Contact: JoAnn
Ellison 722-5757
All are Welcome**

**High Summer on
Park Point
Enjoy it!**

New Sky Harbor Runway Opens



Photo courtesy of Minneapolis Star-Tribune

“Sky Harbor Airport in Duluth reopened on June 12 following a third phase of construction. The runway was relocated from its previous position in order to protect an old-growth forest of red and white pines, which were growing into the approach and departure surfaces.”

That simple announcement doesn't begin to convey what a long, hard struggle it has been to bring this project to its conclusion -or even its beginning. There have long been conflicts between Park Point residents and Sky Harbor Airport. In fact, the Park Point Community Club raised objections when Sky Harbor expanded from a seaplane base, and built its first runway – in 1950! – noting that it would “destroy the last stand of virgin timber in this area”. And the battle was on. The Park Point Community Club, often allied with various environmental groups, fought to protect what became known as the Old Pines Forest, while the airport, and later the Duluth Airport Authority, formed in 1969, sought to expand the airports footprint and claimed the right to cut whatever it deemed a hazard to aircraft. It got contentious – there were times when the parties refused to talk to each other. But there were successes. In 1997, the State of Minnesota passed the Minnesota Point Conservation Act, which reinforced protections not only for the Recreation Area but for the entire length of Park Point. And in 2002 118 acres of the land encompassing the pine forest was designated a State of Minnesota Scientific and Natural Area. Those protections helped, but they didn't end the controversy. Battles continued, but there was progress.

(continued on page 7)

The Breeze

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Submissions for the August issue are due by 7/27/20

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President's Report

Hi Neighbors,

I hope you are finding ways to connect with nature and each other in a meaningful way. A special note of gratitude to someone you may have seen everyday on Park Point-Jake Korkala has been delivering the newspaper since he was 12 and has had the Park Point route since 2003. The last day for DNT delivery is on July 7th. Thank you, Jake for tenaciously serving our community for all of these years.

Side note: My grandma Jean Jacobs Glass Fedo delivered the paper and had her tooth knocked out during the collection portion of the job, tough gig back then! She was born on Park Point in 1915.

For fun, I have been doing some sailing with the grandkids on the bay~ they love it! The Lafayette playground is open and that is a very good thing. The gardens at Lafayette are gorgeous due to the faithful tenders and waterers. We enjoy seeing the driftwood creations on the busy beach and seeing how many logs are left floating in the water after a perfect beach day.

With the nice weather and people seeking space to recreate, Park Point seems a great destination. After hearing from multiple irate and frustrated neighbors I sent a "Park Point is a busy place, please help" request to the Duluth Police Department & Parks and Recreation on June 4th. The DNT ran a story by Brady Slater on June 9th which spells it out in line one, "As sun and surf bring out crowds, Park Point residents say they're left to worry about safety and contend with messes left behind." (<https://www.duluthnewstribune.com/news/6523169-Inundated-with-beachgoers-Park-Pointers-call-for-help>) Park Pointer Jenny Peterson, who serves on the Parks and Recreation Commission, brought a list of concerns and reports from neighbors to the Commission's June 10th meeting and several needs were immediately addressed by the City- thank you!

Concerns about reckless driving, speeding, distracted drivers, passing, swerving etc. continue and we are hoping to post a letter on the PPCC website that you can use to contact the City and ask for help. Here's my sad story from mid-June. On the 17th, while returning from a long walk with the granddaughter and the big dog to check out the kayak dock near the boat ramp, we were near Southworth Marsh when a black sedan came roaring by, probably at about 60mph, maybe faster, headed towards the bridge. I got a partial plate number and was fuming & trying to decide if I should call 911 and report when the car came back towards us so I could get the entire plate number and a description of the occupants. The car went down to the DTA turnaround and then came zooming by AGAIN. I called 911 and was hoping to hear back, never did. Several blocks later, another car heading south passed the car in front and rapidly accelerated. One block after that, a car full of young adults was heading towards the bridge and a young man hung out of the front passenger window and screamed at us, "Nice dog, hope he doesn't get hit by a car!" We finally make it safely back to our driveway and what do I see? The black sedan cruising back towards the end, now with the young lady in the driver's seat, thankfully at a safe speed. I wonder if anything happened? Granddaughter is 6 1/2 and had a lot of questions beginning with "Why?" on our not so relaxing excursion to the kayak dock.

On the 20th, I received a cc from a neighbor who was nearly struck while out walking her dogs near 28th. She sent a report including a detailed description of the car and the drivers to our community officer (most have been reassigned due to the virus) and has not heard back yet.

Be careful out there and I will let you know what I hear back from the police department on what to do when we see dangerous driving. Does calling 911 matter? What happens next? Are drivers contacted? Is it possible to send down a squad during prime cruising times as a "deterrent?" What about that sign that
(Continued next page)

(President's report, continued)

tells the speed? Does that make a difference? What else might we do? What can you do right now? **If you have hedges or trees that hinder visibility for drivers or pedestrians, please trim asap!**

Wishing you peace and the power to stay calm & connected on Park Point and beyond,

Dawn & Bruno, intrepid canine companion

PS Bruno has learned to ride in the double kayak! We are thrilled with the seaworthy schnauzer.

NEWS FROM THE PPCC EROSION AND HIGH WATER COMMITTEE

Flood Insurance: As promised in the last issue of the Breeze, the Erosion and High water Committee put together some valuable info on flood ins. for Park Point residents. We highly recommend that all Park Point residents go to the PPCC website @ parkpointcommunityclub.org and review this information, written by Paul Treuer from our committee, Melanie Perello from the Mn DNR with help from FEMA and our committee. We will add updates as they become available.

Recap of the Public Information virtual meeting hosted by the City of Duluth on 6-24-2020 on the proposed beach nourishment on Park Point:

For those of you who couldn't attend I will try to highlight important information from that meeting.

Speakers were: Jim Filby Williams, City of Duluth Public Administration and Melissa Bosman USACE Project Manager for the Duluth/Superior Harbor Dredge Project.

Melissa Bosman started the meeting with an explanation of the purpose of the meeting and a brief overview of the proposed project. She also gave a list of partners in this project and their role in it. USACE , MN. DNR , MPCA and the City of Duluth.

Jim Filby Williams then explained the City of Duluth's role in the securing of the beach nourishment project. He also gave thanks to the agencies and groups who helped push this along with a special shout out to the PPCC and the Erosion and High Water Committee.

Melissa Bosman then went into an explanation of the proposed dredge material placement for 2020 which Park Point is a part of.

The USACE, on a yearly bases, dredges appx. 120,000 cu. yds of material from the ship channel in the Duluth/ Superior Harbor. That material needs to find a home each year. The proposal for this year was to place 70,000 cu. yds. of that material on Interstate Island and the other 50,000 cu. yds. on the beach on Park Point. Starting at the Ship Canal and moving South, building up the beach out to the 4 Ft. water level, thus adding a buffer between the lake and the beach and homes in that area. There will be enough material to extend to somewhere between 10th and 12th St. this year.

Right now, the only hurdle left to conquer is the MPCA 's approval of the quality test done on the dredge core samples. These tests are done to ensure that the material is safe for the public and inhabited areas. Once this approval is obtained, work is scheduled to begin about Aug.1 and continue up to Sept. 30. The beach between the ship canal and the 12 St. parking lot will be closed to the public. There will be access to the beach at the parking lot but people will only be able to go South from there.

Dredge material, from a transfer box on the bayside, will be sent through a pipe along the South side of the ship canal to the beach on the Lakeside. The material will be then moved into place by a bulldozer on the beach. The contract calls this a 24/7 project so work may be done anytime. In the past the work proceeds for several days and then the crew takes a couple of days off.

This is the first step, of hopefully many, to mitigate the detrimental effects of the erosion and high water issues we have been experiencing on Park Point in recent years. We would like to thank all of the residents of Park Point who have help and supplied input to our committee. The Erosion and High Water Committee is committed to diligently working to bring all possible agencies and levels of government to the table to find workable solutions to these issues.

Respectfully submitted by

Hamilton Smith, Chair

PPCC Erosion and High Water Committee

News from the Lafayette Community Edible Garden

The closure of Lafayette Community Center caused the cancellation of our June 8 potluck dinner meeting. Instead, Ellie Alspach has prepared a State-of-the-Garden report. There is lots of useful information here that may help gardeners in their home gardens. Come visit the community garden to get more ideas.

Ellie says, “As usual, most beds were rotated this year. This was done to alleviate diseases and insect larva that plague particular vegetables. Nutrient depletion is another reason, since vegetables have varying nutritional needs. Some plants require more and different nutrients than others. Some plants such as the legume family, add nitrogen to the soil, so having a heavy feeder like squash following peas the next year would add necessary nutrition. Cutting down the dead foliage in the legume beds, but leaving the root system intact in the ground to decompose over winter accomplishes this.

“In the fall of 2018, twelve beds were planted with winter rye as a green manure experiment. These were then planted with tomatoes, peppers, beets and arugula. We planted many beds with rye again in fall of 2019. Composted manure was purchased from Litchke Farms this spring and spread in the raised beds for added nutrition along with composted leaves and vegetable matter. “In Duluth, we have approximately 125 days of growing season. On average, the last frost occurs May 22 and first frost occurs September 24. This means we need to select vegetables in accordance with our season. Even though we have longer days in the summer with more sunlight, we need to consider how many days it takes from seeding or transplanting to maturity. Many vegetables are chosen with the fewest number of days from planting to harvest. It’s not as critical with vegetables like lettuce that can take 50 days until harvest, but some squash varieties can take 90-100 days, close to Duluth’s first average frost. With the microclimate at the Lafayette Community Edible Garden, we can hedge a bit on growing days. In 2018 we surprisingly picked arugula and mesclun lettuce mix at the end of October.

“We planted several beds May 13-14, 2020, as soon as the soil was workable and still cool. Cool weather vegetables planted were lettuce, peas, radish, kale, carrots, onions, Swiss chard, potatoes and spinach. (In our garden cool weather planting means planting around mid-May). Other beds can be planted later when temperatures are above 65 degrees. These include tomatoes, beans, cucumber, eggplant, peppers, pumpkin, & squash. These were planted on May 30. “Several folks in the [community] garden group started seeds indoors such as Yellow Pear, Earliana, Gold Dust, Amish Paste, and Federle tomatoes. Some of these seeds were saved from last year’s harvest and proved to be very healthy seedlings. For several years we have saved and replanted beans and tomatoes from heirloom varieties. It is possible to save peas and potatoes as well. This would go along with the movement to practice seed conservation in our own backyard and allows us to plant our favorite varieties year after year. “Ted Buck had success starting a number of different vegetables including peppers, basil, eggplant, broccoli and assorted tomatoes. Ellie saved tomato & Kuri squash seeds and started them indoors along with a pie pumpkin variety called Long Island cheese. “Soil and fertilizer are considerations for the raised beds in our garden. We have a sandy base, but the beds have good soil, compost and have been fertilized with blood meal and manure when needed. We have 49 beds with several perennial vegetables and herbs including rhubarb, raspberries, horseradish, asparagus, chives, and walking onions. Garlic was planted in October 2019 from saved bulbs along with some newly purchased ones. These won’t be picked until late summer. “We agreed to complete two seed trials in our garden this year. We chose basil and red leaf lettuce. Members have agreed to plant and monitor the outcomes.

“The 2020 garden includes a new bed of asparagus planted mid-May. Hopefully our depleted bed will be rejuvenated. Brooks Anderson planted four melon plants in the compost. It’s been a successful area for squash and melon in the past. The pea trellises made by Kathryn Mongan-Rollis last year were reused again and as of May 30 little shoots are making their way up to them. Beth Hall and Scott Wolff provided Brussels sprouts plants. Ted raised some broccoli seedlings which were planted in the oval Vegetable of the Year Bed near the garden entrance. All beds are identified and each marker should have the varieties posted.

For future reference, Coral McDonnell is the contact person for folks interested in our community garden and potluck dinners. She can be contacted at 218- 727-6455, coraljean@charter.net. Our monthly potluck dinners are FREE and open to all Park Pointers. They usually take place at the Lafayette Community Club. Please bring your own plates, silverware, beverage and a dish to share.

(continued next page)

(Edible Garden, continued)

NEW SAFETY PROCEDURES IN OUR COMMUNITY GARDEN:

The city still requires us to use pandemic practices so wear your masks, gloves, and keep a physical distance from others. Please bring your own tools, if possible. Plan on sanitizing all tools after each use. Use hand sanitizer. We need to keep track of groups gathered in the garden. So, there is a signup to sign when you come and go.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Monday, July 13, 6 to 8 p.m. Program on climate change with Rachel Wagner. Details are not set yet.

Monday, September 14, 6 to 8 p.m. Program to be determined.

-Susan Peters

**Park Point Community Club
Executive Board Meeting
June 18, 2020**

These are not formal meeting minutes, as this was not a formal meeting, just a group of us sitting in a socially distanced circle outside Lafayette. First order of business, such as it was, was election of officers. By our bylaws, this was to have taken place during the PPCC's regular May meeting. Of course that meeting never occurred. We had not even completed our nominations process before the pandemic shut us down. Although we are hopeful of an August meeting, it is far from guaranteed. So, rather than continuing to push things forward into an uncertain future, it was decided that all current officers would hold onto their offices for another year. Elections will be held again in May of 2021.

In a jaded political atmosphere, this could be seen as elected officials using a crisis to cling to power. In the reality of the PPCC, it's pretty much the opposite. All of our officers expressed a willingness to relinquish their "power" if any community members want to step up and assume it. In fact, our "power couple" of Al and Sheryl Robins, Treasurer and Secretary respectively, have made it clear that this will be their last term in office. And our long serving President, Dawn Buck, has reached such a state of exhaustion that she is soliciting help from anyone willing to share her duties. We have many new residents of Park Point, and quite a few new Community Club members (our newest dues paying members are listed below). And the need for "new blood" on our executive board has never been greater.

Aside from that, there was discussion of the heavy use of Park Point, and lack of city services. There has been some improvement there, but with the opening of the beach house scheduled for July 1st, we can expect even heavier usage.

There was discussion of the on-line meeting on beach enhancement on June 24th (covered and reported on in this issue by our Erosion and High Water Committee), the reopening of the runway at Sky Harbor (front page story) and lamentations on the end of daily deliveries of the Duluth News-Tribune and its effect on our long time delivery guy, Jake Korkala.

The need was expressed to recognize our newest PPCC members, especially since membership dues and donations are pretty much our only source of income this year. So thank you new Members:

David and Beverly Wickstrom

Ann and Bob Feyen

Pat Sterner

Jim Brownell

Bill Brownell and Lynn Brownell

Submitted by Alan Dartanyan,
Breeze Editor and Breeze Committee Chair

Need music? Call: (218) 606-1670



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*We are a people on the Way to
knowing, loving, and serving God
and neighbor!*

An Evening Prayer

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those
who work, or watch, or weep this night, and
give your angels charge over those who sleep.
Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the
weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering,
pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for
your love's sake. Amen

St. Andrew's by the Lake will continue offering on-line
worship services Sundays at 9:45. If you'd like to join us,
or submit a prayer request, please email
<standrewsbythelakeduluth@gmail.com>.

The Rev. Marta Maddy
Sunday Eucharist Service: 9:45 a.m.
standrewsbythelake.org
2802 Minnesota Ave 218-727-1262
standrewsbythelakeduluth@gmail.com
We are on Facebook

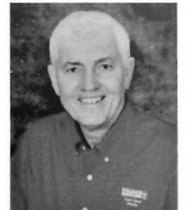
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**Able Bodied teen
will do yard work and
mowing. References.**

Ethan

218-461-7898

(sky Harbor, continued)

In 2008, the Airport Authority sought FAA permission to temporarily shorten the runway, avoiding the need for tree “trimming”, and formed a committee to seek a permanent solution to the problem. Yes, that was 12 years ago, but this was the beginning of the end. Studies were done, options were presented, and eventually the decision was made, to “tilt” the runway out into the bay, so the old pines were no longer in the flight path. Even that brought more challenges. How much to tilt it, how much fill would be needed, how would it be brought in, environmental assessments of the different options were needed. And the number of local, state and federal agencies involved continued to grow. The simply named Preliminary Preferred Alternative 5a Short option was finally chosen in 2015. Then it was the issuing of permits, the awarding of contracts, and construction beginning in August of 2017. Now, finally, its completion in June of 2020.

So, a 70 year conflict comes to an end, and I think we can call it a victory – for **Everyone!** All the Park Pointers who put their time and effort into this over the years, literally too many to name. As well as the current management of the DAA and Sky Harbor Airport, who helped bring this project to fruition. Take a breath, take a bow, enjoy the moment.

Environmental Report

I have heard complaints about people who leave their cats out all night. There are owls, fox, cars all a threat to them, and it is against the law. If you know whose cat it is call the Police. I found cat remains under the Eagle nest on Hearing island last year. Cats are also a great threat for the birds that have young in their nests now.

Trees are doing well but we could use more rain.

Dick Gould

Bodies on the Beach

Recently the body of a small deer washed up on the beach near 35th Street, and the question was asked, who do we contact to get it removed? The contact person is Jessica Schoonover, Administrative Clerical Specialist, City of Duluth – Parks and Recreation. She can be contacted at 218-221-6638, or a message can be left at parks@duluthmn.gov.

Think of Jake

For those of us for whom reading a (physical) newspaper with our morning coffee has long been a pleasure, the end of the Duluth News-Tribune daily printing and delivery on July 7th will be a loss. But our loss will be minor compared to that of our “paper guy”, Jake Korkala. Starting as a “paper boy” at age 12, Jake took over delivery on Park Point – all 3 routes – in 2003. That’s 17 years of delivering, 7 days a week, and he could rarely take a day off, as that required finding 3 people to replace him. He usually did the route at a dead run, racing back and forth across the street from his car. I actually ran into him on my bicycle once, while I was riding to work in the pre-dawn hours. And he was at it through the winter darkness, climbing the steps and walks long before anyone had risen to shovel them.

And now, as of July 7th, he will no longer have the job. It’s not a layoff, or a furlough. Newspaper deliverers are considered independent contractors. And the contract is no more. So think of Jake, and his long years of service. Leave him a thank you, and perhaps a gift, a check or a gift card. I can read my paper on line, but electronic delivery systems don’t have a heart, or bills to pay.

The Breeze Editor (still printing on paper, still delivered by hand)

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

Public Works and Utilities 24 hr. emergency contact numbers:

Natural Gas 730-4100, Streets, Water & Sewer 730-4000

Lift Bridge Supervisor Dave Campbell 723-3387

Community Police Officer Ethan Roe 218-730- 5747 eroe@duluthmn.gov

Dog issues: clane@duluthmn.gov

City Councilor Roz Randorf rrandorf@duluthmn.gov

Quotations from The Farmer's Mother's
Almanac, 2020 by Janne Goldbeck and
Paula Jull

July

July brings clear
nights and soft gold
days. At dawn, light breezes
will carry slivers of cloud from
the horizon, becoming calm by
midmorning. Late in the month,
occasional heavy rain will cool the
afternoons. Shafts of light will
break the clouds at sunset.

Confessions of a Beach Butt-Picker

**Every morning I like to start my day
with a therapeutic walk
on the beach,
The sunrise, lapping of the waves, the
sounds of nature are
very healing.
But then there are all these butts,
wrappers, bits and pieces
of flotsam and jetsam. Things that
surely do not belong.
And they've got to go.
Some people leave a mark.
Others leave a stain.
Please get on the Mark**

Anonymous

