

The Breeze

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Submissions for the
January issue are due by
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Vol. 63 Issue 12

Of Park Point

December 2025

Upcoming Events

**Lafayette
Community
Edible Garden
Potluck and
Holiday Party
Dec 8th,
6-8 PM at
Lafayette**

**Park Point
Community
Club
No December
meeting.
Annual
Membership
Meeting and
Pizza Party
January 20th**

**Park Point
Flower
Garden Club
contact
Sue Solin
218-349-0682**

**Happy
Holidays**

MP50 Report

MP50 extends a note of gratitude this Thanksgiving. We are grateful for all of our partners and what they are doing to build resilience on Minnesota Point. The projects we are highlighting this month are Returning Fire to Minnesota Point and Traffic Safety.

Returning Fire. Representatives from the Department of Natural Resources, City of Duluth, Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Forestry and Fire Program, Tribal elders and knowledge holders, Park Point Community Club, MP50, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and several other supporting entities met at the Sky Harbor Airport on November 17 to galvanize their shared commitment to the return of beneficial fire to Minnesota Point's pine forest. The partnership is being led by Good Sky Guidance with project management by Dovetail Partners, supported by funding through a cost-share agreement between the US Fish and Wildlife Service's Coastal Program and MP50. The partnership will be meeting regularly to maintain a coordinated, inclusive, and transparent effort. We will continue to provide updates about the burn details in the Breeze and other avenues. Look forward to future invitations to public events, field trips, and community-based science opportunities! Direct any questions to Abby Andrus at abby@dovetailinc.org.

Traffic Safety. MP50 Board Member Brian Ruggle and community member Steve Vosefski attended a Vibrant Streets Duluth (VSD) meeting November 5th to meet some of their group and better understand their mission. We confirmed that both VSD and MP50 have the shared goal of improving traffic and pedestrian and cyclist safety. VSD voted to buy a device, a Telraam S2, to monitor traffic, and MP50 was selected as the first neighborhood in town to trial the technology in an effort to gain objective data regarding who (pedestrians, cyclists, vehicles) use our roadway and how fast they're going. The larger plan is to deploy many of these devices in different neighborhoods in town and funnel the data to a centralized website accessible to the general public to inform city leaders, Duluth Police Department, and Duluthians of the traffic burden and speeds in an effort build momentum for action resulting in safer streets (including Minnesota Avenue). The Park Point Community Club has expressed support for this project and selected neighbor Rory Strange to be the first user of Telraam S2. Thanks Rory! We have plans to ask the city for a corridor study as the next step to determine traffic calming options and costs. Ideas to calm traffic include speed humps (not bumps), bollards, narrowing the driving lanes, physically protecting the recreation lane, improving the sidewalks, and improving signage regarding road usage and parking. MP50 welcomes any suggestions and feedback regarding traffic calming measures (brian.ruggle@minnesotapoint50.org). We realize that efforts to calm (slow) traffic have been made for decades, and we hope that, through partnerships we're building and support from the Park Point Community Club, we'll make changes to effectively calm traffic and improve safety and increase enjoyment of our neighborhood.

MP50 is a non-profit organization leading efforts to ensure the ecological, cultural, and economic resilience of Minnesota Point. Visit MP50 at: <https://minnesotapoint50.org>

President's Report

Hi Neighbors,

Yet another busy time of year is arriving! Thank you for everything you are doing to be a kind, thoughtful and engaged community member. How lucky are we to live our lives in this extraordinary place?

Please mark your calendars for January 20, 630pm, for the 2026 PPCC membership drive pizza party. Also, please note that the regular December meeting is canceled per the members' vote in Nov. If you'd like to experience Park Point good cheer and holiday fun with tasty delights, check out the Edible Garden potluck on Monday, Dec. 8, 6-8pm, details here in the Breeze.

Members also showed support for exploring and supporting a summer 2026 youth program, working collaboratively with Vibrant Streets Duluth and testing out a device that collects data on traffic & speed, and supporting the MP50 grant that aims to restore beneficial fire to the pine forest on MN Point. Also, planning for the Art Fair on June 27&28, 2026 is in full swing. Our meeting guests were Abby Andrus from Dovetail Partners who will be collecting contact information for volunteers and questions on the forest restoration project. abby@dovetailinc.org & Officer Jeremy O'Connor from DPD. Jeremy shared insights on recent crimes and told us about DPD's drone fleet and how they are used and possible future uses to deliver lifesaving equipment. Please watch for important updates on the next public meeting on the modeling study results and other critical data needed to proceed to the next phase of the stalled USACE Section 111 Study. Kate Kubiak with the City of Duluth is in communication with the USACE and will keep us posted on next steps.

The in person gathering and project launch of "Restoring Fire to Maintain Minnesota Point Pine Forest" was held on Nov. 17, 2025 Sky Harbor Airport. We had a full house on a beautiful & sunny Park Point day. Tristan Durfee and Natalie Baker with the Duluth Airport Authority (DAA) facilitated the opportunity to share the new terminal spaces for the partner meeting and group forest walk. Ryan Welch, also with DAA, was on site to help with hosting needs during the gathering, thank you!

Conversations included how much the forest means to so many people, how the forest has been cared for in the past, data collected, and much, much more; a wonderful opportunity to learn from partners plus a very productive meeting and informative walk into the pine forest with partners.

Here is a list of participants at the Nov, 17 gathering:

1. Vern Northrup (Fond Du Lac elder)
2. Ricky Defoe (Fond Du Lac elder)
3. Mark McConnell (Osaugie descendant and elder)
4. Mary McConnell (Tribal elder)
5. Deanna Erickson (Lake Superior Estuarine Reserve)
6. Eliza Meyer (Dovetail Partners)
7. Gloria Erickson (Dovetail)
8. Melonee Montano (Ethical Embers)
9. James Clark (DNR Tribal Liaison)
10. Jeremiah Rule (Fond Du Lac Forestry and Fire)
11. Pat Sterner (Minnesota Point 50 (MP50))
12. Jim Shoberg (City of Duluth)
13. Kevin Berens (DNR SNA)
14. Kate Kubiak (City of Duluth)
15. Lacey Hill (USFWS)
16. Lane Johnson (Cloquet Forestry Center)
17. Callie Grones (Friends of Lake Superior Estuarine Reserve)
18. Dawn Buck (Park Point Community Club)
19. Paul Treuer (MP50)
20. Phil Hass (Fond Du Lac Forestry and Fire)
21. Valerie Zhaawendaagozikwe (Ishkode research project)
22. Moka (Ishkode research project)
23. AmberBeth VanNingen (DNR SNA)
24. Arika McGraw (DNR SNA)
25. Abby Andrus (Dovetail)
26. Alex Mehne (Fond Du Lac Forestry)
27. Ashla Ojibway (Ishkode research project)
28. Bazile Minogiizhigaabo Panek (Good Sky Guidance)

Thank you to everyone who participated in this launch; and to everyone who continues to support learning and the resilient care of the precious pine forest and all things Minnesota Point. Link to photos is here.

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/ApQzWtN53VmRDSed7>

Warmest wishes for a meaningful and memorable holiday season; safe travels & a lot of fun!

Dawn & Zion, aspirational butter snatching XL canine companion

Park Point Community Club

The November 2025 meeting of the Park Point Community Club was called to order by Dawn Buck, President on November 18th, 2025, at 7:03 pm. Dawn welcomed members and guests to the meeting and thanked the hospitality committee for setting up coffee and supplying treats.

The rules were again suspended - Pat Sterner introduced Abby Andrus who will be the Project Coordinator for the Return of Fire project. This project will have many partners and the PPCC voted on a resolution to support the efforts of MP50 for Return of Fire to the SNA (Scientific and Natural Area) on Park Point for a controlled burn in the future.

Community service officer Jeremy O'Connor provided an update on the recent 900 block incident and reported that the perpetrator was apprehended. He also spoke about the latest initiative, that the DPD is considering using drones as their first responder. Projected start could be Spring of 2026.

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the October meeting. Motion was approved to accept the minutes. All in attendance voted aye.

Treasurers Report -Mary Treuer

Current balance – \$34,900 in the bank – Finance report was approved. Additional discussion regarding a more comprehensive financial report which will be available for the next meeting in January 2026.

Environmental Committee – Dick Gould

No report

Art Fair – Carla Tamburro

Dates for the 2026 Art Fair will be June 28th and 29th. Application was made for the City of Duluth tourism grant. Dawn mentioned it's never too early to call Diane and volunteer! If you'd like to be involved, contact Diane Gould. 727-0467

Watch Committee – That's us

Please continue to monitor activity that seems suspicious as well as traffic concerns and report to 911.

Sunshine Committee - Pam Griggs

No cards were sent

High Water & Erosion – Hamilton Smith

No Report

Edible Garden - Coral McDonnell

Please visit the PPCC website for more information on the holiday potluck date and time.

Summer Youth Program – Carolyn Kerns

A resolution passed that the PPCC would support continuing a Summer Youth Program in 2026.

Rummage Sale - Deb Strange

No report.

Program Committee – Dave Poulin

No report

Traffic Safety – Brian Ruggle

Brian did a brief presentation on the Vibrant Steet Initiative utilizing the Telraam network to provide additional traffic safety data to both the DPD and the PPCC. Motion was made and the resolution was approved. Email issues to

ParkPointTrafficSafety@gmail.com.

MP50: Paul Treuer & Pat Sterner

For additional information, please see the MP 50 report in the Breeze. Additional information on the updated section 111 study will also be available on the MP50 website. To stay up to date on MP50, please go to Minnesota Point 50 (MP50) If you have any questions, please contact Pat or Paul directly at paul.treuer@gmail.com

The Breeze - Alan Dartanyan

Please continue to submit items of interest.

There was a motion made to forego the December meeting and start the new year with the membership drive and Pizza party in January 2026. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion was made and approved to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Rory Strange

News from the Lafayette Community Edible Garden

We were still harvesting the community garden in November! Some crops are better after cold weather sets in. Horseradish actually needs a frost before it can be harvested. That, along with winter squash, brussels sprouts, chard, kale and peppers were some of the autumn bounties this year. Planting was still being done, too, such as garlic and cover crops. Fall is also time to tidy up the garden, so we spread wood chips on the garden paths.

Once the actual gardening work was done, we could look forward to the upcoming holidays. At the November 10 potluck dinner meeting, everyone was abuzz with discussions about how to celebrate the season at our December 8 holiday party. The steering committee will work on final details and email everyone. In the meantime, start your recipe hunt for a spectacular dish to bring to the party.

Want more information about the gardening fun? Missy King is the contact person for folks interested in membership in the community garden and potluck dinner info. She can be contacted at 515-991-7280, mjking@siu.edu. Our monthly potluck dinners are FREE and open to all Park Pointers. They take place at the Lafayette Community Club. Please bring your own plates, silverware, beverage and a dish to share. We will continue to have our monthly potluck dinner meetings on the second Monday of the month from 6 to 8 p.m.

Compost Update:

Keep bringing kitchen scraps to the compost piles. Please smash the egg shells and chop up large pieces of produce. The compost bins in the garden are inside the fenced area.

Upcoming Potluck Dinner Meetings:

December 8, 6 to 8 p.m, holiday party

-Susan Peters

Park Point Community Club Membership Form

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

e-mail address: _____

Check this box for email subscription

Number of Memberships _____ X \$10.00 _____

Please mail checks to:

Park Point Community Club
PO Box 16326
Duluth MN 55816-0326

The Park Point Community Club publishes a list of member names (w/o contact details.)

Check here ___ if you agree to be included on the list.

Check here ___ if you prefer to remain anonymous.

Here's an early opportunity to get your Park Point Community Club membership in! Just fill out this form, mail it in, or bring it to the Annual Membership Meeting and Pizza Party on January 20th at Lafayette

It's not just a bath, it's an experience!



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Park Point
Residents/ Musicians
You're going to like
what you see and
hear



St. Andrew's by the Lake Christmas Services

Blue Christmas Service
Sunday, December 14, 2 PM

Christmas Lessons & Carols
Sunday, December 21, 9:45 AM

Christmas Eve Service
Wednesday, December 24
Music, 4 PM
Service, 4:30 PM

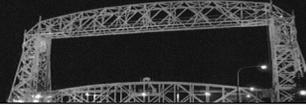
Our doors are open to all.



2802 Minnesota Ave | 218-727-1262
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Feel free to contact Lynn for
any Real Estate questions

218-464-3790
LYNN BENTFIELD  GRADUATE
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Park Point Flower Garden Club

During this holiday season I am thankful for so many things associated with our Park Point Garden Flower Club.

For those who offered hospitality and opened their homes for gathering.

For those who volunteered for watering, planting, weeding, planning, purchasing, and fundraising to make our piece of the world a little brighter.

For those who supplied nourishment for our minds, our bodies and our souls,

For those who were willing to share their expertise, not only about flowers, but about life.

And for those who endured difficult times this year, but continued on, showing unbelievable strength.

This year in particular, I am thankful for the amazing speakers, field trips and help that we had. In May we were awarded a compost grant from WLSSD (now rebranded as Resource Renew). This got us off to an amazing growing year! We also made the trip to Hauser's Superior View Farm to learn more about "bare root" planting and purchase perennials, annuals, herbs, vegetables and bushes at great prices.

In June, many of our club members traveled to the Sax-Zim Bog where we met Head Naturalist, Clinton Dexter-Nienhaus. He led our group on a four-hour tour of some of the 300+ square miles of this unique habitat.

We journeyed to Proctor to visit the gardens of Justin Chumich in July. It is always fun to see award winning gardens in our area, especially when the owner provided us with fresh cookies and lemonade! We always leave inspired to try new things.

Dan Schutte, from Shoreview Natives of Two Harbors, spoke to our group in August. He had so much information regarding native plants that will improve our Lafayette gardens. He also stopped by during our October work day to offer specific suggestions for our gardens and helped us to remove some Buckthorn and Japanese Mayberry bushes!

Dan Grover, of Litman Construction, spoke at our September meeting. He taught us about "hardscaping," which is the non-living elements in your garden. He showed us beautiful examples of pathways, retaining walls, and outdoor living spaces that got us all dreaming about updating and improving our gardens.

Being a part of our Garden Flower Club has been an amazing way to catch up with neighbors, learn new gardening tricks and techniques and become inspired over our long winter months, and for this, I am truly thankful!

If you are interested in learning more about our club please contact Sue Solin at (218) 349-0682

We usually meet on the 4th Thursday of the month at various group member homes.

Let me know if you would like to join us!

Sue Solin



A Blue Christmas Service, also known as a Service of Loss and Remembrance, will be held at **St. Andrew's by the Lake, 2802 Minnesota Avenue, on Sunday, December 14, at 2 pm.**

The Christmas season is not always happy. If you have lost someone you love, a job, your good health, a special relationship, or anything else recently and are grieving and struggling to find joy in the midst of the Christmas merriment, this service is for you. This service will speak to your hurt and offer hope for the future.

Join us as we gather together to acknowledge our losses and find comfort through readings, music, and candle lighting. You're invited to bring whatever is weighing on your heart, mind, and spirit into this service and to know that God sees you and stands with you this Christmas season.

Volunteers wanted for a fun community event

June 27th and 28th will be the 55th Park Point Art Fair.

Please consider joining our committee to help with the planning.

Call Carla for details. 218-348-7338

Hand tools to sell?

Park Pointer Brian Ruggle is looking to buy used hand tools from neighbors such as chisels and an axe. Call 641 521 2720 or email brian.ruggle@gmail.com.

Thanks!

From Community Police Officer Jeremy O'Conner

A big hello to Park Point community members! To those who have yet to meet me, my name is Jeremy O'Connor and I am your community police officer. I thought it'd be a good idea to start having a column in The Breeze to help keep you informed of need-to-know things and present new topics each month. Since this is my first time writing for The Breeze, this month's topic will be about introducing myself so you can get to know me. If anyone wants to request a specific topic for me to dive into or you have something else to reach out about, feel free to send me an email. You can always find my email address under the community contacts part of The Breeze. I look forward to meeting you all.

I have been a Duluth Police Officer for 11 years. I'm from Duluth and have been a resident my entire life. I am a graduate of the University of Minnesota Duluth and Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College. Due to staffing challenges, I currently wear a few hats within the DPD. Besides being made your community officer a little over a year ago, I cover other neighborhoods on the east side of the city, am the liaison officer to the Duluth Transit Authority, oversee the bike patrol unit and have been partnered with K9 Kallie, an explosives detection K9, since 2019. Don't worry, Kallie will be the topic in a future edition so you can learn more. Outside of work I enjoy spending time with family, watching UMD hockey, volunteering for Special Olympics Minnesota and Mentor North, hiking, biking, playing pickleball, soccer and hockey.

I've mentioned it at previous community meetings, and I'll mention it here- the Park Point community is one of the most engaged neighborhoods in the entire city. Your community club helps set Park Point apart from other neighborhoods that don't show the same involvement. I encourage everyone reading this to get to know your neighbors and attend community club meetings. I try to make every meeting, where I end up sharing a lot of interesting and beneficial information. I am also always in awe of all the other cool information shared. Be safe and I hope to see you at the next meeting.

-Jeremy

Holiday Giving Tree Donations

It is once again that time of year when we can make the lives of others a little brighter with our generosity. From November 22- December 7, outside, in front of St. Andrew's by the Lake Episcopal Church, is a giving tree with tags for items to be donated to youth at the Arrowhead Regional Juvenile Center, a treatment and detention center for youth in Northeastern Minnesota and Life House, a center for homeless youth in Duluth.

Items that are being requested are: chapsticks, hair brush, comb, socks, gloves, scarves, hats, Large T-shirts, playing cards, crossword puzzles, games for 4 players as well as \$20 gift cards to Walmart, Target, Super One or Walgreens.

We are hoping that not only St. Andrew's members, but those from the Park Point community, will stop by, take a tag and purchase that item for the youth. **Please do not wrap.**

Donations may be dropped off at St. Andrew's, Friday, December 5 from 9 AM-1 PM or Sunday, December 7 from 9 AM-Noon.

Deacon Mary Anderson
St. Andrew's by the Lake

Park Point Community Club Officers:

President: Dawn Buck parkpointcc@gmail.com 218-525-1764 **Vice President:** Tom Griggs Thom0313@gmail.com
Secretary: Rory Strange rstrange3@icloud.com 218-340-7220 **Treasurer:** Mary Treuer mbtreuer@gmail.com
Art Fair coordinator: Carla Tamburro coordinator@parkpointartfair.org 218-348-7338
Rummage Sale committee: Deb Strange debstrange2008@icloud.com
Hospitality committee: Diane Gould 218- 727-4067 **Ted Buck** 218- 525-1764
The Postcard (S-curve sign): Dawn Buck parkpointcc@gmail.com
Sunshine committee: Pam Griggs pamgriggs101@gmail.com
Website: www.parkpointcommunityclub.org
Lafayette Square Rentals: Chris Seversen, **Parks Permit Coordinator** 218-730-4305
www.duluthmn.gov/parks/registration
The Breeze editor: Alan Dartanyan 218 726-0110 breezeditor@msn.com

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 Jeremy O'Connor JOconnor@duluthmn.gov

PP water Quality issues: Chris Kleist, ckleist@duluthmn.gov, office 218-730-4063 and 218-355-0598

Parking Services 218-730-5470

Parks & Rec: aformear@duluthmn.gov

Animal Control 218-730-4846

City Councilor Roz Randorf rrandorf@duluthmn.gov 218-443-8364

City of Duluth/home 218-730-5000

duluthmn.gov/contact



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**Park Point
Community Club
No December Meeting
Next Meeting is
January 20th, 2026
Annual Membership
Meeting and Pizza
Party**

