

The Breeze

Editor: Alan Dartanyan

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218-726-0110

Submissions for the March issue are due by 2/27/2026

Vol. 64 Issue 2

Of Park Point

February 2026

Upcoming Events

Lafayette Community Edible Garden Potluck
February 9th 6-8 PM at Lafayette

Park Point Community Club
February 17th
6:45 social.
7PM meeting at Lafayette

Rinkfest
February 28th,
1-4PM at Lafayette

Park Point Rummage Sale
June 12 & 13

Park Point Art Fair
June 27 & 28

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

Come in out of the cold!



February on Park Point always has a personality of its own, and this year is making its intentions clear early. The cold snap we felt a few weeks back was a reminder of what winter here is capable of. Those mornings when the air hurt your face tested furnaces, patience, and every winter jacket hanging by the door. Hawaii probably crossed a few minds during that stretch, and honestly, who could blame you.

As February settles in, the island finds its groove again. On calmer days, you can look out over the bay and spot someone carefully riding a bike across the ice or neighbors snowshoeing along the lakeside shoreline. Scenes like that feel completely normal here and almost impossible to explain to anyone who does not live on Park Point. After dark, the island tells a different story. The coyotes are active this time of year, often moving in pairs during mating season. Many of them are being caught on security cameras at night, quietly moving through yards and on ice like regulars making their rounds.

This is peak sauna season too. Cold air, hot steam, repeat. It is a simple routine, but one that makes winter feel manageable and even enjoyable.

Down at the harbor, the Soo Locks are closed and the big ships are settling into their winter pause until late March. One of the last reminders of our maritime roots was the departure of the American Spirit. At 1,004 feet long, built in 1978, with 7 cargo holds and 36 hatches, she pushed through the ice in the ship canal with quiet confidence.

This is the time of year when scarves, hats, and heavy coats hide familiar faces, and a nod becomes its own kind of greeting. Throw another log on the fire Pointers. February is here, and the slow countdown to melting has begun.

By: Vibe with Mike

President's Report

Dear Neighbors,

Please save Sat. 2/28 for some fun around the marshmallow fire at Lafayette! Planning for RinkFest 2026 is a go! The date is Saturday, February 28 from 1 - 4pm with food, fires and fun & hopefully some skating! We have collected and sharpened two bins of skates for you to use or bring your own. The Lafayette Community Edible Gardeners will be supplying delicious treats as in years past :) and we will cook hot dogs on the grill. Watch for updates on the S Curve sign, website and via email.

Please read the Minnesota Point 50 report for updates and additional opportunities to gather and connect as a community. An evening of Ojibwe Storytelling is scheduled for March 5 at Lafayette starting at 5pm, check Paul Treuer's report for more details in this Breeze. Additional opportunities to learn more about "Azhe-Manidoo Mino-Ishkodeng Zhagawaamikong-Neyaashi: Returning the Spirit of Good Fire to Minnesota Point" are in the planning stages. Community volunteers will be needed for this project funded by the US Fish and Wildlife Service Coastal Program.

Wonderful to have a full clubhouse for our membership celebration on January 20th and meet four of our newest neighbors! Special thank you to the hospitality committee led by Diane Gould and to Green Mill for their support again this year. Thank you to everyone who has joined or rejoined PPCC; an extra 1400 dollars in donations came in with the memberships as of Jan. 19 or so which is greatly appreciated. We celebrated, had updates from our community officer Jeremy O'Connor, greetings and information from Mayor Reinert; Pat Sterner of MP50 shared exciting updates on the grants and new board members; Natural Resources Coordinator Kate Kubiak gave a brief update on the still pending Section 111 Study; Adam Fornear from Parks and Recreation received a shout out for his assistance in supporting the Lafayette RinkTeam and skating on Park Point. Park Point parent Carolyn Kerns will facilitate Camp Lafayette again this summer; she gave a short presentation on plans for the nine- week Club sponsored summer Camp; sign up details will be available soon, check the website, www.parkpointcommunityclub.org for updates.

Club elections will be held in May with the nominating committee forming in March. Have questions on board member duties and how it all works? Contact any board member listed in The Breeze.

These PPCC board positions are available for the 2026-2028 term:

Officers:

President, Vice President: Tom Griggs and I have served on the board for many years. I am very grateful for this opportunity and for the willingness of Park Pointers to learn together, care about each other and work for the betterment of our community even when it's difficult, surprising and complicated. I have found Park Pointers to be a tenacious and resilient bunch and this seems essential when you live on and care for and about a very dynamic and barrier island between a large river estuary and a great lake in northern Minnesota! I found some old PPCC stationery with this motto across bottom of the letterhead "It Can Be Done - -That's The "Point" This is only true because of the Park Pointers who have stepped up in the past and those of you who will step up next.

Treasurer Mary Treuer and Secretary Rory Strange are willing to continue for 2026-2028

Committee Chairs Open, Election in May, two year terms:

Rummage Sale Committee will be open for the 2027 Sale, mentorship is available this year with Deb Strange who has volunteered for years plus is an election judge at Lafayette

Sunshine Committee: Pam Griggs has served over twenty years on the board

Environmental Committee: Dick Gould has been involved with the Club for years, several terms as president, led tree plantings for years, co-led the creation of MPPS which was jumpstarted as MP50

Watch Committee: We are all on this committee, a chairperson would be helpful

Program Committee: Dave Poulin would like to have assistance or be replaced, he has been volunteering with the Club for years, several years as president and has also been active on several non-profit boards from Marine Museum to DSSA for years

Youth Committee: Would be awesome to have parents who value the program to volunteer here

Diane Gould will continue leading the Hospitality Committee and the Art Fair Committee.

Alan Dartanyan will be staying on as the chair (and editor) of The Breeze which is delivered by volunteers to all Park Pointers, including businesses and Armed Forces

PPCC has been in existence since 1889. I spent the cold spell wondering exactly what it is that continues to bring and hold this organization and our community together? Are there common values that bring us together? How do those values translate into a way of life and actions in our community? Is it the people or the sense of place or both which drives and influences our values and our actions? Do people make Park Point special or does Park Point make people special?

I look forward to hearing your take on my wind chill derived questions and how you spent the cold snap. We also pulled out our turntable from the 1980s and the vintage vinyls for amusement **and** tried new recipes discovered on YouTube. See you on the beach and on the bay!

Dawn and Zion, grateful for his doggie booties and jacket

Park Point Community Club meeting minutes

The January 2026 monthly meeting of the Park Point Community Club was called to order by Dawn Buck, President on January 20th, 2026, at 7:05 pm. Dawn thanked all in attendance for their participation in community events. She introduced Mayor Reinert, Community service officer Jeremy O'Connor, our Park and Rec Rep Adam Fornear and additional city of Duluth staff working with MP50.

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

Treasurers Report -Mary Treuer

Overall, we broke even last year

Current balance – \$36,000 in the bank. There are 97 returning members and 76 new members. Thanks to everyone who joined the PPCC! Finance report was approved by all in attendance.

Environmental Committee – Dick Gould

No report

Art Fair – Carla Tamburro

There will be an Art Fair meeting coming up. We're looking for additional committee members to join and support this great event. Dates for the 2026 Art Fair will be June 27th and 28th. Tourism grant for 2026 was renewed. 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

2 get well cards were sent in December.

High Water & Erosion – Hamilton Smith

No Report

Edible Garden - Coral McDonnell

No report

Summer Youth Program – Carolyn Kerns

Great news! There will be a 2026 Summer Youth Program! The club will be contracting with Carolyn Kerns for another fun-filled summer and will be providing up to \$2500 in scholarship assistance funds.

Rummage Sale - Deb Strange

Dates for the 2026 Rummage Sale will be June 12th and 13th. Porta-potties have been ordered for both the Art Fair and the Rummage Sale. If anyone is interested in taking over as the Chairperson for the Sale or would like to work together on it this year with Deb, please reach out to 218-343-5370 for more information.

Program Committee – Dave Poulin

No report

Traffic Safety – Brian Ruggle

Please continue to report concerns. A brief update was given on the Telraam System which is currently set up in the 3600 block. Additional info and how to view the website traffic data is available on the PPCC website. Email traffic safety issues to ParkPointTrafficSafety@gmail.com.

MP50: Pat Sterner

Some exciting partnerships have been formed both locally and regionally and several new board members have been installed. For additional information, please see the MP 50 report in the Breeze. 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

Things are going well and please continue to submit items of interest.

Officer O'Connor gave a brief update on new technology being used by the City of Duluth to assist the DPD. Overall, it's been quiet this time of the year.

New Business:

Elections will be held in May for several officer positions with the Club, along with programs that will need leadership. A nominating committee will be set up. Please refer to the PPCC website for more information.

Thanks to Dianne, Ted, Dick and Green Mill Restaurant for providing the Membership Party pizza.

Motion was made and approved to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Rory Strange

From Community Police Officer Jeremy O’Conner

Law enforcement agencies across the country play a long-standing and highly visible role in supporting Special Olympics, built around the shared values of service, inclusion, and community connection. Officers participate year-round in fundraising and awareness efforts such as the Law Enforcement Torch Run, Polar Plunge events, and other local challenges, often volunteering their time while engaging directly with athletes and families. This partnership is about more than fundraising—it’s about building trust, breaking down barriers, and showing athletes with intellectual disabilities that their communities are behind them.

Funds raised through law enforcement–led Special Olympics events go directly toward supporting athletes and programs. This includes covering the cost of sports training and competitions, providing uniforms and equipment, funding health and wellness screenings, and ensuring athletes can participate regardless of their family’s ability to pay. Special Olympics programming emphasizes not only athletic development but also confidence, leadership, and social inclusion, making the impact of these funds far-reaching and deeply personal for participants.

The Duluth Police Department is an active part of this effort, regularly supporting Special Olympics Minnesota through events like the Polar Plunge and the Law Enforcement Torch Run. DPD officers fundraise, volunteer, and often participate alongside community members, reinforcing strong ties between the department and the people it serves.

This is also my time to pitch the Duluth Polar Plunge, which will be taking place on Saturday, February 21st. Registration/pre-plunge get-together will take place at Pub 310 with the Polar Plunge happening at the Park Point boat launch at 1pm. Please consider plunging, donating to a participant or team, or simply just coming out to cheer those on taking that plunge. Look up the Duluth Polar Plunge online to sign up, donate or look for further information. It will be my 6th time plunging! Also, June 16th will be the Torch Run, beginning on Park Point and ending at City Hall with a ceremony. I’ll have more information on this as we get closer.

-Officer Jeremy O’Connor
joconnor@duluthmn.gov

The Park Point Community Club wants thank GREENMILL PIZZA for the great pizza provide for our membership meeting.



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The Beginning of our Lenten Journey

Wednesday, February 18

12:00 noon—1:00 pm

Scripture, Reflection,

Ashes, Communion



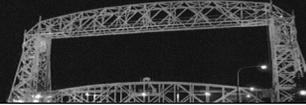
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Feel free to contact Lynn for
any Real Estate questions

218-464-3790
LYNN BENTFIELD



News from the Lafayette Community Edible Garden

At our January potluck dinner meeting, we focused on the local nonprofit organization CHUM. According to its website, “Chum is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization whose programs serve more than 8,000 low-income, homeless, hungry, isolated, or otherwise marginalized community members each year in Duluth, MN. Chum was founded in 1973 when 10 churches in Duluth’s Central Hillside neighborhood pooled their resources to meet the needs of the neighborhood’s many low-income residents more effectively.”

Val Kennedy reports, “Our [CHUM] speaker was April LeDoux, Director of CHUM’s Food Shelf. She gave an excellent overview of CHUM’s program & how it operates. One thing I learned is that if we give a monetary donation to CHUM, we need to specify where we would like the money to go within CHUM (like the Food Shelf). April had grandparents who lived on Park Point so she had spent quite a bit of time here as a child.”

Val mentioned one of CHUM’s four outreach programs, the Food Shelf. From two emergency food shelves in Duluth, CHUM distributes food to needy households and provides assistance for people transitioning from shelters to permanent housing. Our community garden participates in donating food to the food shelf and the CHUM kitchen that prepares nutritious meals for the CHUM drop-in center for homeless people, another one of CHUM’s programs. Other CHUM programs include housing services and faith-based outreach and advocacy programs. They are always looking for volunteers and donations. Check out the CHUM website to discover opportunities to help this cause. ChumDuluth.org. Again this year, our garden was blessed to be the recipient of a \$1,500 grant from St. Andrews By The Lake Episcopal Church. This is the third installment of funds to us as part of the church’s community support giving. We thank them whole-heartedly. This money will be used to help maintain the garden structures and to purchase needed supplies. Our garden is open to all visitors and is a lovely place to sit a spell in the warmer months and take in nature’s beauty and bounties. We remind visitors that harvesting food from the garden is a benefit of being a working member in the garden. 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:

If you are brave enough to face the cold, keep bringing kitchen scraps to the compost piles at the community garden at Lafayette Square. 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, 6:00-7:30 – Save the Dates.

February 9: Walking the Camino de Santiago- Missy King

March 9: TBD

April 13: Planning for the 2026 Garden Season

-Susan Peters

Jessica Boehland made a batch of these cookies and brought them to the January community garden potluck dinner. There were many requests for the recipe. It is from the book *Sister Pie*, by Lisa Ludwinski.

Fennel Seed Snickerdoodles

Ingredients:

2.5 cups all-purpose flour

2 teaspoons cream of tartar

1 teaspoon baking soda

¼ teaspoon kosher salt

¼ cup fennel seeds, toasted until fragrant (dry skillet over medium heat)

½ cup sesame seeds, toasted until fragrant (dry skillet over medium heat)

1 cup (2 sticks) unsalted butter, at room temperature

¾ cup packed light brown sugar

1 cup granulated sugar

2 large eggs, at room temperature

½ teaspoon ground cinnamon

½ cup "Sugar-Sugar" (equal parts turbinado and granulated sugars)

¼ teaspoon flaky sea salt (continued next page)

Snickerdoodle Recipe continued

Directions:

In a medium bowl, gently whisk together the flour, cream of tartar, baking soda, kosher salt, and fennel and sesame seeds. Place the butter and light brown and granulated sugars in a large bowl and use a stand mixer or hand mixer to cream on medium speed until homogeneous and paste-like, about 4 minutes. You will see the mixture change from grainy and wet to fluffy and voluminous.

Next, add the eggs and mix until fully combined, about 2 minutes. Scrape the bowl thoroughly using a spatula or bowl scraper. Add the flour mixture slowly and mix on low speed until the flour is completely incorporated.

Scrape the cookie dough from the bowl onto a big sheet of plastic wrap. Wrap the dough tightly and transfer to your refrigerator, where it should rest for at least 24 hours and up to 3 days. Alternatively, you may freeze the dough for up to 3 months, then let it thaw in the refrigerator overnight before proceeding with the recipe.

Preheat your oven to 350°F. Line two baking sheets with parchment paper.

In a small bowl, mix together the cinnamon, Sugar-Sugar, and sea salt. Take the dough out of the refrigerator 2 to 3 hours before baking. Once it's pretty darn soft, use a 1.5 tablespoon measure to portion the dough into 1-inch balls, and roll them in the cinnamon-sugar mixture. Place on the baking sheets. Transfer the baking sheets to the oven and bake for 12-14 minutes, until the tops of the cookies begin to crack. (For cookies that are a bit chewy, remove from the oven about as soon as they will hang together. Remove the baking sheets from the oven and transfer the cookies to wire racks to cool. Store in an airtight container for up to 5 days.

MP50 Breeze Report
January 27, 2026

MP50 Starts out the New Year meeting with Partners.

MP50 started the new year by hosting a meeting with 25 partners at the Great Lakes Aquarium. Participating partners included folks from PPCC, Arrowhead Regional Development Commission, City of Duluth, Cloquet Forestry Center, Department of Natural Resources, Lake Superior Coastal Program, Lake Superior Tribal representatives, Minnesota Scientific and Natural Areas, University of Minnesota Duluth, and US Army Corp of Engineers. These partners met at the Great Lakes Aquarium to discuss the Minnesota Point 2026 Resilience Action Plan and offer suggestions on current and new actions. We are thrilled with this input and eagerly look forward to implementing changes to the evolving Resilience Action Plan.



Manidoo Ishkodeng - Spirit of Good Fire project is strongly supported by MP50 because good fire is known to rejuvenate ecosystems; it is anticipated it will restore life and vitality to the Pine Forest. Plans are progressing to introduce prescribed burns to Minnesota Point this year. Details are being worked out with partners to conduct a number of educational forums, guided trips, volunteer opportunities and site visits before the burns are done. All events will be listed starting in February on the Good Fire Project web page on the [MP50 website](#).

Good Fire Project - Upcoming Event: Mino-Ishkodeng Exhibit

When: Friday, March 27, 2026

Time: Open House 5:00 - 6:30 PM | Celebration and Panel from 6:30 - 7:30 PM.

Location: Lake Superior Estuarium (3 Marina Drive | Superior, WI)

- Featuring projects to restore fire on Wisconsin and Minnesota Points. This event is free and open to the public.

MP50 Organizational Effectiveness. MP50 is happy to announce the addition of a new team member. MP50 has contracted with a consultant, Park Pointer, Alyssa Dindorf, to be an administrative assistant to the MP50 board and committees. Alyssa is a marketing and communications strategist with over 10 years of experience spanning healthcare, non-profit and media sectors. Alyssa wasted no time meeting board members and undertaking tasks previously done by board members. In addition to filling this position, MP50 launched a Seed Grant Project to secure funds with which to hire an executive director.

MP50 is a non-profit organization leading efforts to ensure the ecological, cultural, and

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: afornear@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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To the Park Point Community,

Thank you to all who contributed to the St. Andrew's Giving Tree in December.

You helped make the season a little brighter for the youth at Life House and Arrowhead juvenile Center. The gift cards and other items were much appreciated.

Rev. Mary Anderson
St. Andrew's by the Lake

