

The Breeze

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Submissions for the May issue are due by 4/27/2026

Vol. 64 Issue 4

Of Park Point

April 2026

Upcoming Events

Lafayette
Community
Edible Garden
Potluck April 13th
6-8 PM at
Lafayette

Park Point
Community Club
April 21st
6:45 social
7PM meeting
at Lafayette

Rec Lane
Chalking Event
May 2nd, 2-4PM
in front of
Lafayette

Smelt Parade
May 17th

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



April on the Point always feels like the moment everything wakes back up. After a long winter on the island, the return of ship traffic brings a kind of energy that is hard to describe unless you live here. This year, the James L. Oberstar marked the first departure of the season from Duluth, a welcome sight for anyone who loves watching the harbor come alive again.

The Oberstar has quite a story behind it. The vessel measures 806 feet in length and was built in 1959 by American Shipbuilding Company in Ohio. It has a capacity of 31,000 tons, runs on two diesel engines with 8,500 horsepower, and is owned by Interlake Steamship Company. It has one propeller and one rudder. In 1972, the ship was lengthened by 96 feet at Fraser Shipyards, and in 1981 it was converted to a self-unloader capable of discharging cargo at a rate of 6,000 tons per hour.

For those of us with views of the Bay or Lake, this is the time of year when we start looking up from whatever we are doing because the ships are moving again.

The closure of the SMET dock in Superior means fewer coal shipments, so traffic may be lighter in some ways. Even so, there is still hope for other cargoes and a mix of Great Lakes vessels and ocean ships. Add in the return of migrating birds, and April starts to feel like spring in every direction.

No matter how the season unfolds, maritime shipping remains part of this community's heartbeat, and on the Point, we are all lucky to witness it firsthand.

By: Vibe with Mike

Volunteers needed. No experience needed

The Park Point Community Club is looking for officer candidates:

President, vice president, numerous committee chairs.

Interested in becoming more involved in the community?

Contact Pat at 720-839-4238 or patsterner20@gmail.com.

President's Report

Hi Neighbors,

The next PPCC meeting is on Tuesday, April 21. There may be an opportunity to hear from Parks and Rec.'s Katie Bennett on the Recreation Area Draft Plan and how additional feedback might be used in the planning process. Members of the MP50/PPCC Housing and Community Working Group may present on the research they are doing and the survey data. Watch the website and the S Curve sign for updates on the agenda, thank you.

At the March meeting the membership approved funding for speed collecting and data sharing devices with the supporting services and funding for reusable display banners for the MMIWR Red Dress displays. The PPCC Nominating Committee was formed in March; thank you to volunteers Al Robins, Pat Sterner and Coral McDonnell. The election will take place at the May meeting on Tues. May 19.

Thank you to everyone who has taken the PP Housing and Community Survey, please participate before Friday April 24th if you haven't had a chance yet. Councilor Randorf met with members of the MP50/PPCC working group studying these issues on Tuesday, March 24. There is the link to the survey posted on the PPCC website.

The Smelt Parade workshops will be held in lower Lafayette again this year; here is the schedule from neighbor Jim Ouray. Stock up on silver makings and check it out. Jim can be reached at 218-370-8980 if you have questions on the upcoming smelt run:

Wednesdays May 6, 13 6:00-8:00pm

Fridays May 8, 15 6:00-8:00pm

Saturdays May 9, 16 3:00-6:00pm

We are adventuring this month and having a good time talking to neighbors state by state and it has been an enriching experience. We discovered a beautiful park south of St. Louis founded in the 1950's on land donated by Helen Hawn, a public school teacher in Ste. Genevieve, MO, who dreamed of creating a "little park" for the people of Missouri. She bought up 1500 acres beginning in 1932 and donated the land to the state in her will after she died in 1952. Hawn State Park is gorgeous and well tended with crisp and clear Pickle Creek meandering through the park.

Thank you for reading The Breeze which is hand delivered to everyone on Park Point; special note of gratitude to editor Alan, all of you contributors, advertisers, and intrepid volunteers who deliver The Breeze year- round, rain or shine and with no snowbank too high.

Here's to friendly, kind and gracious neighbors across the country,

Dawn and Zion, giant adventure "pup"

Help Assemble Solar Kits for Ukraine

Saturday, April 11 | 10 - Noon
St. Andrew's by the Lake

On Saturday morning, April 11, St. Andrew's is hosting a community work party to assemble solar panel kits for Ukrainians impacted by the war with Russia. We are collaborating with Two Harbors resident Dave Nonnemacher of New Horizons Foundation-USA to assemble the "Ray of Life" kits. These solar kits provide critical lighting, and serve as a power source to charge cell phones, for Ukrainians living without electricity. It takes about 20 minutes to assemble a kit and cost \$125 each. St. Andrew's has purchased 30 kits with our Shining Light Fund. Attendees can donate towards the purchase of additional kits to be assembled on Saturday.

Register with Wanda Copeland at vicar@standrewsbythelake.org or 612.810.3293. Due to space constraints, this event is limited to 40 people.



2802 Minnesota Ave | 218-727-1262
info@standrewsbythelake.org

Park Point Community Club meeting minutes

The March 2026 monthly meeting of the Park Point Community Club was called to order by Dawn Buck, President on March 17th, 2026, at 7:00 pm. Dawn welcomed everyone and also introduced Officer Jeremy O'Connor and his canine partner, Officer Kallie.

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

Treasurers Report -Dawn Buck reporting

Current balance – \$34,000 in the bank. Part of this is due to the membership increase. Finance report was approved by all in attendance.

Environmental Committee – Dick Gould. No report

Art Fair – Carla Tamburro

Preparations are on track and running smoothly. Remember, it's never too early to volunteer! If you'd like to be involved, contact Diane Gould. 727-0467

Watch Committee – That's us

It's been fairly quiet. Hopefully, there will be a speed trailer and a squad car to calm traffic this summer. Please continue to monitor activity that seems suspicious as well as traffic concerns and report to 911.

Sunshine Committee - Pam Griggs

No cards sent this month

High Water & Erosion – Hamilton Smith. No Report

Edible Garden - Coral McDonnell. No Report

Summer Youth Program – Carolyn Kerns

Program continues to fill up. Please view registration information on the PPCC website.

Rummage Sale - Deb Strange

Things are on track. 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

There will be a special event May 2nd – Chalking in the Rec lane is currently set for a 4- block area around Lafayette.

Placing large planters in the Rec lane proposal was not approved. There was a brief presentation to discuss the Telraam

Program and a request for funding for 3 cameras and a subscription for one year. Motion was made to fund this project for \$1500 and all in attendance voted aye. Please continue to report concerns. Email traffic safety issues to

ParkPointTrafficSafety@gmail.com.

MP50: Pat Sterner

Please check Pat and Paul's report in The Breeze for the up to date action step that MP50 is undertaking. For more detailed information, please see the MP50 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 requests people continue reporting issues in our neighborhood and reviewed that there should be additional tools available this summer to help calm traffic.

New Business:

Presentation by Lisa McKahnn. Update on MMIWR Red dress event to be held this summer. She requested funding to help print reusable banners to support the event. Motion made to fund this event for \$400. Motion passed. For more info on how to support this event, please look to the PPCC website and in The Breeze.

Adam Fornear gave a brief update on the Master Plan for the end of Park Point and encouraged people to submit additional ideas and information on the City website.

Scott Wolff presented a petition regarding the future of the Lester Park golf course. People were asked to sign the petition or go to the city website for more information.

Elections will be held in May for several officer positions within the Club, along with programs that will need leadership. A nominating committee is in place. If you or someone you know is interested, please contact either Al, Pat or Coral.

Please refer to the PPCC website for more information.

The housing survey is still open. There have been 65 responses to date.

Thanks to the hospitality committee for providing coffee and treats.

Motion was made and approved to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 pm

.Respectfully submitted,

Rory Strange

From Community Police Officer Jeremy O’Connor

Minnesota recently approved a pilot program allowing automated traffic safety cameras, marking a significant shift in how speeding laws are enforced across the state. The program, specifically launched in the cities of Minneapolis and Mendota Heights in late 2025 per the statute language, is designed to test whether cameras can reduce dangerous driving and improve road safety before any broader legalization. Early results suggest the technology is already having a measurable impact. By the end of 2025, speeding at camera locations in Minneapolis had dropped by over 40% overall, including a 51% reduction in drivers going 10+ mph over the limit and a 58% drop in the most extreme speeding cases. These numbers are drawing attention statewide as policymakers evaluate whether the program should expand.

For communities like Park Point, these early results are especially relevant. Park Point experiences seasonal congestion and long-standing concerns about speeding, particularly during the busy summer months when pedestrian and bicycle traffic increases. The success seen in Minneapolis suggests that cameras could potentially help calm traffic in areas where police enforcement can be difficult on a 24/7 basis. At the same time, the data also shows the program is still evolving—nearly 34,000 violations were recorded early on, the majority being warnings rather than tickets, reflecting an emphasis on changing driver behavior rather than generating revenue. As the pilot continues, communities like Park Point may eventually have the option to adopt similar tools if the program is expanded statewide.

Because the pilot program is still underway, now is a critical time for residents to weigh in on how—or whether—speed cameras should be used in their own community. Lawmakers are already debating whether to expand or make the program permanent, and those decisions will depend heavily on public feedback. Park Point residents who support the use of speed cameras as a way to improve safety should make their voices heard. Reaching out to state legislators is an effective way to influence future policy. The early data shows that speed cameras can change driver behavior—but whether they become a long-term part of Minnesota’s law changes will depend in large part on community input from places like Park Point.

Officer Jeremy O’Connor
joconnor@duluthmn.gov



Red for MMIWR :: Park Point An Avenue of Allies, May 1 - 5

Help honor, educate others, and support
Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Relatives
leading up to national MMIWR Awareness Day, May 5.

Last year, we counted 100 households in a 2-mile stretch of Park Point displaying red dresses and shirts. An indelible impression!

Our goals: 5 garments per block along Lake/Minnesota Aves! and \$3,000 to Duluth’s ‘They Will Be Remembered Forever’ Reward Fund!
(use smart-phone’s camera to scan QR code below)

We also need:

- Volunteers to take flyers to neighbors along Lake/Minnesota Aves. (It’s fun! Promise.)
- Thrifters to shop for red garments
- Other help as yet unspecified!

Use QR code for info about MMIWR; local May 5 events; Reward Fund donations



Visit the give-and-take garment box at
3205 Minnesota Ave
(on the front porch)

Thank you!
Migwech!



Read More: www.parkpointcommunityclub.org
Email Lisa: lulu@cpinternet.com

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Reach out & let's set it up!

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Park Point

Residents/ Musicians

You're going to like

what you see and

hear

St. Andrew's by the Lake Holy Week Schedule

Maundy Thursday

April 2 at 5:30 p.m.

Good Friday

No service at St. Andrew's
Join us at St. Paul's at Noon

Easter Vigil

April 4 at 5:30 p.m.

Hors d'oeuvres following service

Easter Sunday

April 5 at 9:45 a.m.

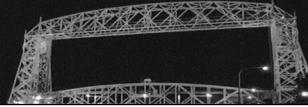


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LYNN BENTFIELD



News from the Lafayette Community Edible Garden

We gathered March 9 for our monthly potluck dinner meeting and welcomed Julie Allen and her partner Bill (community garden member Beth Hall's son) from Sörestad Farms in Clover Valley. Since 2020, these folks cultivate all types of vegetables in tandem with the Clover Valley Farm Trail. Their farm focuses on heirloom apples, fresh vegetables, eggs, and cider. They sell their food at their farm stand on Homestead Road and on the Clover Valley Farm Trail. They also participate in the Northshore Farmers Collective subscription boxes. They brought fresh eggs from their farm to our meeting so we could check out their wares.

Al Kennedy reports, "I will start by saying that the food was exceptional that night. The food is always good but last night was over the top amazing! Our speaker Julie Allen was also amazing! She started off by explaining why "gardening is resistance!". Resistance against the conglomerate crops laden with cancer-causing pesticides and genetically modified seeds, [whose business are also] litigating against farmers who dare to save seeds instead of using the conglomerate's GMO seeds. She discussed the positive effects of gardening together. The sense of community we share: growing & eating nutritious, organic fruits and vegetables; improving our immune systems and mental health by working with soil and being outside, which also increases Vitamin D levels. Julie also spent time discussing her path to owning and operating their own family farm. I'll say her presentation was very well received & very motivating!" For more information: www.sorestadfarm.com

The community garden steering committee met on March 13 and they discussed these topics:

Ellie shared the planting calendar and map of the garden. Many members volunteered to coordinate the plantings of many of the plants and start those before planting that need a head start.

The Duluth Community Garden Program has announced this year's Vegetable of the Year" cucumbers. So, we will plant 6 different varieties in our garden.

We decided not to buy manure this year.

Garden bed repairs need to be done and Dan O'Neil has agreed to coordinate this and plans to do the work before planting starts (likely in April). If you would like to volunteer to help with this project, reach out to Missy: 515-991-7280, mjking@siu.edu.

A special thanks is made to Susan Halvorson, who will be replacing Beryl Peyton as our new treasurer; and to the volunteers who arrange for our program speakers and follow up with thank-you notes after the programs.

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.

Upcoming Potluck Dinner Meetings – Save the Dates.

April 13: Garden Updates and Introductions

May 11: Ted Buck and Tom Chrisfield have ideas to share about automated watering systems for the garden.

June 8: Garden blessing

-Susan Peters

St. Andrew's would like to invite the Park Point Community to the opening of an art exhibit featuring the digitized photographs of Henry Roberts. Henry was a prolific artist and traveler who captured his adventures through the lens of his camera. The beauty of everyday life deepened his appreciation of nature. The opening reception will be held in the afternoon of Saturday,

May 16, 2026 from 2:00 until 4:00

MP50 Breeze Report
March 26, 2026



MP50 is active on a number of projects, three of which are featured below with brief summaries. Please take time to look at the [MP50 website](#) where photos, videos, news and more details are provided about these and other activities.

Manidoo Ishkodeng - The Return of Fire to Minnesota Point. March has been a busy month for the burn project! On March 5th and 7th around 80 individuals from the Park Point and broader Twin Ports community participated in one of the three public events - Ojibwe storytelling about fire, a field trip to the burn unit, and a panel discussion with representatives across all involved entities. We had excellent questions and constructive dialogue. In addition, the first press release about the project was sent out, resulting in news stories in the Duluth News Tribune and Star Tribune. Student groups from University of Wisconsin-Platteville and Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College were in the pine forest on March 27th learning about Ishkode dendrochronology research and helping prepare the forest and the old mature pine trees for fire by clearing built up debris from around old trees. We are beginning to plan scientific monitoring including one or more community science events later this summer.

Housing Policy. One of MP50's goals is to ensure that Park Point's community character grows in uniqueness, inclusiveness, and cohesion. Toward that end, we advocate for policies that promote housing availability and affordability. We have a great opportunity this year to engage on this topic. In late 2025 the City of Duluth instituted a one-year moratorium on new permits for Vacation Dwelling Units, including those offered through Airbnb and VRBO, so City staff can study the impacts of vacation rentals on housing availability and community character in order to recommend improvements to the permitting system. A group of MP50 and Park Point Community Club members is working to develop a set of recommendations for the City to consider as it revises its approach to vacation rentals. To inform these recommendations, the group is researching what works and what doesn't work about the current policies as well as what is working well for other communities that have experienced rapid growth in vacation rentals. The MP50 Housing Team is meeting with City Council members Roz Randorf (District 3) and Lynn Marie Nephew (at-large and President), who are interested in input from Park Point residents. Share your experiences and ideas through the survey linked on the PPCC website.

Traffic Safety. MP50 traffic safety members have submitted the permit for our May 2nd Chalking Event, and all are invited for the 10 am to 2 pm event outside Lafayette for chalk art fun on the rec lane. The city has declined our proposal to calm traffic and protect the rec lane using planters. We are continuing our communications with city engineering to move forward on other approaches to calming traffic. In addition to this, we have received PPCC funds to buy 2 Telraam S2 traffic monitoring devices to monitor speeding; we plan to install them in time to gather data of the summer traffic.

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>

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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