

# ***Duluth Township Newsletter***

**November 2025**

*Township website: [www.duluthtownship.org](http://www.duluthtownship.org)*

## ***What's Coming Up.....***

- ◆ Town Board Minutes p. 3
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## ***Holiday Schedules***

The holiday season is upon us. And with that, there will be some holiday closures at the Recycling Center and the Town Clerk's Office, as well as, rescheduled Planning and Zoning meetings.

### ***The Recycling Center will be closed:***

- Thursday, November 27, 2025, for Thanksgiving Day
- Thursday, December 25, 2025, for Christmas Day
- Thursday, January 1, 2026, for New Year's Day.

### ***The Clerk's Office will be closed:***

- Tuesday, November 11, 2025, for Veteran's Day
- Thursday, November 27-28, 2025, for the Thanksgiving holiday
- Wednesday through Friday, December 24-26, 2025, for the Christmas holiday
- Wednesday through Friday, December 31, 2025 - January 2, 2026, for the New Year's holiday.

### ***Planning & Zoning Meetings:***

- There is no Planning & Zoning meeting scheduled for November.
- The December Planning & Zoning meeting will be held on Thursday December 4 at 6:30 pm.



**2026 Clifton Fire Department calendars are here!**

**Stop by the Duluth Town Hall during office and/or recycling hours to get your calendar!**

**Spread the word!**

## ***Homesteaders***

Dorothy Aho

November 5, 2025: Wednesday 12:30 pm, Town Hall. Harvest potluck.

December 3, 2025: Wednesday 12:30 pm, Town Hall. Potluck. The talented Jeremy Lepak, Comic Ventriloquist, will entertain us again.

January 7, 2026: Wednesday 12:30 pm, Town Hall. New Years Celebration with potluck.

**Everyone is welcome!**

\*To see color versions of the photos in this Newsletter, visit the Town's website: [www.duluthtownship.org](http://www.duluthtownship.org)

*Thanks to all of the contributors to this issue*

Dorothy Aho, Charlene Brown, Nicole Chatterson, Bob Engelson, Mark Haselow, Helene Hedlund, Aly Mark, Beth Mullan, Sherry Rovig, and Carol Surine



***Fire Department***  
 Bob Engelson, Chief  
 Sherry Rovig, Secretary



***Police Department***  
 Mark Haselow, Chief  
 Paul Johnson, Officer

Our annual Harvest Dinner was an even more special event this year as we celebrated a \$10,000 Good Neighbor Fire Safety Grant from State Farm Insurance and the National Volunteer Fire Council. Our department was 1 of 150 departments across the nation to receive the award and 1 of 10 to receive the extra prizes and giveaways! The grant will be used to help outfit the truck that was donated by a resident for a combination fast-attack and wildland response vehicle. Many thanks to State Farm Insurance and National Volunteer Fire Council.



Huge thanks to all who helped with the Harvest Dinner and to those who attended and support our department.

We will not be sponsoring a chipping event this fall but will have a Firewise Expo in the spring (date to be determined). The event will feature presentations on best Firewise practices, safe pile burning, evacuation planning, and a biochar demonstration, as well as other topics. A chipping event will be scheduled to follow on a subsequent date.

The department has responded to 120 calls this year as of mid-October. Along with responding to calls, we continue to train and maintain equipment and our halls.

If anyone is interested in joining the department, please contact our chief, Bob Engelson at (218)341-0707 or email [cliftonfiredepartment@gmail.com](mailto:cliftonfiredepartment@gmail.com)

We still install free smoke detectors and provide Firewise assessments on request. Please use the attached form for your request.

**For medical & police emergencies, call 911.**  
 Sign up for email police alerts and other urgent or informative notifications at the Township website:  
[www.duluthtownship.org](http://www.duluthtownship.org)

**Police Events:**  
**August and September 2025 Incident Summary Report Overview:** Police Department Monthly Activity Summary  
 Over the past two months, the Police Department responded to a variety of community calls and incidents. Officers handled **7 attempts to locate careless drivers, 12 medical emergencies, and 5 animal complaints.** They completed **5 civil processes, 4 public assists, and 5 health or welfare checks.** The department also responded to **2 burglar alarms** in the month of August and **2 fire alarms** in the month of September.

Traffic-related activity included **3 car-versus-deer crashes, 1 personal injury accident in the first month, and 4 traffic warnings or citations in the second.** Other responses included **4 disturbance complaints, 1 damage to property reports, 2 fraud complaints, and 3 assists to other agencies.** Officers also conducted **20 vacation home or business checks,** and maintained proactive patrols throughout the Township.

Overall, police activity remained steady, with a continued focus on community safety and service. No major crime trends were noted during this reporting period.

If you have any information about criminal activity in our community, please contact the Duluth Township Police Department at: 218-525-5705, on our mobile phone: 218-393-8407, or by email: [duluthwppolice@duluthtownship.org](mailto:duluthwppolice@duluthtownship.org).

**Note:** *If you need/want/expect a police squad to respond immediately, call 911.* Other than 911, the quickest way to get a response from the Township Police Department is to leave a message on our squad phone (218-393-8407).

**FREE SMOKE DETECTORS AND FIREWISE ASSESSMENTS**

The Red Cross has provided us with more free smoke detectors for our community. **If you lack working smoke alarms in your home or existing ones are out of date, you can sign up for our volunteers to do the installation.** (We do not provide them for the homeowner to install, per Red Cross direction, and there is also an educational component in the visit.)

We are also offering Firewise assessments for Township residents. This will include a site visit with specific recommendations for ways the property can be improved for fire safety and emergency access. You can send us this form to sign up, email us at [cliftonfiredepartment@gmail.com](mailto:cliftonfiredepartment@gmail.com), or leave a message at (218) 525-9240 with your contact information, including a phone number. We will get back to you to arrange a convenient time. Please check which service(s) you would like.

SMOKE DETECTOR REQUEST  FIREWISE ASSESSMENT

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

PREFERRED TIME TO BE CONTACTED: \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL FORM TO: CLIFTON FIRE DEPT.  
 6092 HOMESTEAD RD., DULUTH, MN 55804



Planning Commission members: Ken Peterson (Vice-Chair), Justin Osadjan (Chair), Nate Nesgoda, Andrew Aho, Tony Mancuso, and Dave Meyer. (not pictured, Kit Grayson)



Town Board Supervisors: Saprina Matheny, Jim Ward, Rolf Carlson (Chair), Stacia Grayson, and ArMand Nelson (Vice-Chair).

### Summary of Planning Commission Meetings

Official minutes by Planning Secretary Laura Herzog are available on our Township website: [www.duluthtownship.org](http://www.duluthtownship.org)

### Summary of Town Board Minutes

Official minutes by Town Clerk Nicole Chatterton are available at the Town Hall and on our Township website: [www.duluthtownship.org](http://www.duluthtownship.org)

**August 28, 2025 Planning Commission Meeting.** Commission members present: Justin Osadjan, Ken Peterson, Tony Mancuso, Dave Meyer, Kit Grayson. Also present: Liz Strohmayer, Planning Director; ArMand Nelson, Town Board liaison to the Planning Commission; Beth Mullan, Planning Secretary and Laura Herzog, incoming Planning Secretary.

The Stupnik variance hearing, continued from the August 28th meeting, was opened but the applicant had been unable to get the requested survey completed in time for the meeting, so the hearing was recessed to the September 25th meeting. As requested by the Planning Director, the applicant moved the RV that did not meet setbacks, and started the driveway process with St Louis County.

The Planning Director reported receiving an inquiry from someone wanting to purchase a parcel in SC-1B to locate a commercial business on it. Table 5.3 of the Zoning Ordinance shows that the Land Use category of Commercial Use isn't allowed in that zone, but the definition for SC-1B includes that the zone is intended for locally based commercial development. In addition, Commercial Use is specified as being only allowed on certain roads in the Township, and that list does not include North Shore Drive. Discussion followed on whether a variance would then be needed to locate the use off of North Shore Drive. It was not clear if this combination of factors was intentional or an oversight in the Ordinance; it seemed that if the zone allowed for some commercial use, it should not be precluded by other parts of the Ordinance. The Commission agreed that under the current ordinance language, the use would require a variance. However, they agreed to recommend that Commercial Use be allowed in SC-1B in Table 5.3. They agreed to look into adding North Shore Drive to allowed roads for Commercial Uses.

The Commission asked what the difference was between SC-1A and SC-1B, and whether they could or should be combined into one zoning district. It was decided to look into the history of the two zones.

For the ongoing Zoning Ordinance update, the Commission discussed whether the Land Use categories of Commercial, Neighborhood & Accessory Structure, and Commercial, Highway & Accessory Structure should require a conditional use. Table 5.3 currently shows the uses being allowed under performance standards. It was agreed to leave them as is.

It was agreed to recommend requiring a conditional use in Table 5.3 for the Land Use category Health Center in SC-1A and SC-1B.

For the Overlays section of Table 5.3, it was noted that there does not seem to be a difference between the designations of A and D in the legend for the table. In addition, E is shown as a category in the legend but doesn't appear in the table. It was agreed to recommend changing all instances of D in the table to A and to then delete both D and E from the legend.

There was discussion of whether the language in the Ordinance allowing for selective removal of vegetation to allow for a view of Lake Superior was too open to interpretation. The Commission asked that staff look into what NSMB and DNR have on this as well as anything from the Congdon trust agreement that might apply.

The Planning Director reported that the MPCA is looking into a property on Shilhon Rd where activities on the property are contributing to sediment load in a nearby trout stream.

**September 25, 2025 Planning Commission Meeting.** Commission members present: Justin Osadjan, Nate Nesgoda, Ken Peterson, Tony Mancuso, Dave Meyer, Andrew Aho, and Kit Grayson. Also present: Liz Strohmayer, Planning Director and Laura Herzog, incoming Planning Secretary.

A Township resident had submitted a letter asking the Commission to consider a recommendation to increase the minimum lot size in zone RR-1 from the current 4.5 acres to a larger acreage. They stated that larger minimum lot sizes would help to preserve the rural nature of the Township, better align with

*(continued on page 4)*

**Town Board Meeting Summary – August 14, 2025:** The Duluth Town Board met on Thursday, August 14, 2025, at 6:31 p.m. Supervisors Rolf Carlson, ArMand Nelson, Saprina Matheny, and Jim Ward were present. Supervisor Stacia Grayson was absent. Also attending were Police Chief Mark Haselow, Fire Chief Bob Engelson, Fire President and 3rd Captain Ken Peterson, Deputy Clerk Hannah Jurek, and Clerk Nicole Chatterton.

**Finances:** Treasurer Melinda Peulen reported: Beginning Balance: \$491,461.35 Deposits: \$265,685.83 Expenses: \$48,257.43 Ending Balance: \$708,889.75 The Board approved the financial statement, payroll, and claims list unanimously.

**Public Comment:** Charlene Brown, Sue Lawson, and Ken Peterson presented updates on the Don McTavish Community Service Award, including a draft application and progress on the award plaque, which is expected to be ready by the Harvest Dinner. The Board plans to announce the award at the 2026 Annual Meeting, accept applications through the end of the calendar year, and review and select recipients in January, ensuring the plaque is ready for the next Annual Meeting.

**Police Department:** Squad Sale: Grand Lake Township has expressed interest in purchasing Clifton's retiring squad vehicle. Safety Incident: Chief Haselow reported responding to a call in Normanna Township where shots were fired at him. He requested the Board consider the purchase of a rifle for officer safety and will research pricing options. Road Issue: vehicles parked in the center of lower Alseth Road prevented chloride application this summer. The owners have since been contacted to resolve the issue.

**Fire Department:** Training Compliance: paperwork was completed allowing DNR Red Card entries for firefighters participating in wildland suppression. Legal Guidance: the Township attorney advised that firefighters cannot receive retroactive pay for the Greenwood Fire. Any future compensation should be structured as a per-call stipend to remain compliant with FLSA volunteer rules.

**Planning & Zoning:** The public hearing for the Stupnik variance requests was continued to next month. Numerous permit applications have been received. The Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) has been updated and submitted with recommendations.

**Roads:** St. Louis County invited participation in the Aggregate Crushing Program, though hauling costs from the Vermillion Pit may be too high. A culvert was replaced on Nordling Road. Work continues on Shonberg Road. Tree clearing was completed on Swanson and Pine Tree Roads. The winter snow contract with the County is being finalized.

**Town Hall:** Supervisor Grayson had provided a list of maintenance projects. Two urgent needs were identified: Water heater repair and sump pump replacement (after basement flooding during recent heavy rain). The Board approved up to \$1,200 for the repairs.

**ARPA Projects:** The Town Hall Kitchen Project is now complete. The new dishwasher has been installed and is fully operational.

**Materials Management:** All operations are running smoothly. Grant paperwork has been completed, and cardboard recycling from local businesses has improved.

**Cemetery:** Sexton Molly reported continued issues with the mowing contractor (Gruff's) — specifically, trimming around headstones and monuments.

**Communications:** Because Microsoft Publisher will be discontinued in 2026, the Clerk's Office is exploring new software options for the Township newsletter, such as Canva or Adobe. Deputy Clerk Hannah Jurek will research and report back with recommendations.

**Personnel:** Supervisor Matheny recommended partnering with the Minnesota Association of Townships to prepare for the upcoming Paid Family and Medical Leave Act. Payroll deductions for the program begin January 1, 2026.

**Additional Updates:** The City of Duluth is updating GIS maps related to the Congdon Trust. The Township will contact DNSSD to correct a parcel address listed in error on a storm utility notice. Don McTavish formally accepted the Township's new Community Service Award.

*(continued on page 4)*

Regular **Planning Commission meetings** are held on the fourth Thursday of the month at **6:30 pm** in the Town Hall

Regular **Town Board meetings** are held on the second Thursday of the month at **6:30 pm** in the Town Hall

## Summary of Planning Commission Meeting Minutes

- continued from page 3 -

the CLUP, and help keep properties from increasing in value to a point where long-time property owner may no longer be able to afford the resulting higher taxes on their properties.

Liz said that she has received a lot of comments on this subject in the last few years, with some residents wanting larger minimum lot sizes and some wanting smaller minimum lot sizes.

The Commission tabled the discussion until they could get historical information on lot size requirements in this area.

The Stupnik variance hearing that had been recessed from August was reconvened. The applicant was requesting a variance of 60 ft from the road and 47 ft from Lake Superior to build a home 50 ft from the road and 53 ft from the lake. The DNR provided feedback on the proposed variances, stating that further information was needed to fully evaluate the requests. They said that the entire lot is in the bluff impact zone and a variance would be required for that, as well. They asked for structure size and placement alternatives/minimization; a survey that includes structure footprint and layout; a site development plan; grading details that include cut/fill estimates; existing and proposed site drainage; vegetation removal and restoration/landscaping details; a sediment and erosion control plan; and a bluff management plan. The applicant agreed that they needed to develop a more detailed plan encompassing the DNR's requests. They chose to withdraw the current variance request and request a new variance at a later date.

### Recycling Reminder:

The Recycling Center winter hours (November-March):

Tuesday Morning: 7-11 am

Tuesday Afternoon: 2-6 pm

Thursday Afternoon: 2-6 pm

Saturday Morning: 8 am-noon

**NO flower pots or flower containers in the recycling bins!**



## Summary of Town Board Meeting Minutes

- continued from page 3 -

**Town Board Meeting – September 11, 2025:** The regular Town Board meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:30 p.m. All Supervisors were present. Clerk Nicole Chatterson and Treasurer Melinda Peulen were absent.

**Agenda and Minutes:** The agenda was approved with the addition of a CPR update under the Supervisor Report. August meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

**Finances:** Treasurer Melinda Peulen reported a beginning balance of **\$708,889.75**, deposits totaling **\$53,068.60**, and expenses of **\$62,691.47**, leaving an ending balance of **\$699,266.88**. The financial report, payroll, and claims list were approved and signed.

**Police:** Chief Haselow reported that the new squad car will be operational by early October. Grand Lake Fire Department plans to purchase the old squad, including equipment. A resident on lower Alseth Road was asked to move vehicles parked on the roadway to improve safety and allow for maintenance.

**Fire:** Chief Engelson announced that the **State Farm Grant** will be formally presented at the upcoming **Harvest Dinner** in October. He also discussed challenges related to compensating firefighters for out-of-area calls. Saprina will consult with the Town's attorney to explore options for proper compensation.

**Planning & Zoning:** Nothing major to report. A continued public hearing will be held at the next meeting. The MPCA has fined one lakeshore resident and is working with another along the river to ensure compliance.

**Roads:** Rodda Construction is finishing work on Shonberg Road. Preparations for winter road maintenance will begin soon. The Town will rebid for snow maintenance services.

**Town Hall:** Microsoft 365's annual subscription will increase to \$129.99. The kitchen project is complete, and bids will be sought for minor improvements.

**ARPA Funds:** Stacia will discuss remaining ARPA funds with Nicole.

**Materials Management:** The Town received its grant check.

**Cemetery:** Maintenance work has been completed, including resetting of headstones.

**Communications:** Work continues to transition the Town website and emails to a .gov domain. There have been delays and communication issues with AnySite, which the Deputy Clerk will address.

**Supervisor Reports:** Supervisors reviewed a letter sent to Stoney Point residents regarding no trespassing signs on the lakeshore. The Town is awaiting a response from the City of Duluth's attorney about the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Residents with questions were advised to contact the City of Duluth directly. ArMand reported that the CPR training held on September 4 was well-attended, with **19 participants**—one of the largest groups among area sessions.

### French River Book Club

Carol Surine

For November we are collecting Board Books for the youngest readers in our community, to be distributed in time for Christmas! We are also reading James by Percival Everett, which is a continuation of our discussion of Huck Finn, but this time from the perspective of the slave, Jim. Our host will be Gail Johnson. The next meeting will be November 20 at 1 PM in the Fireside Room at French River Lutheran Church, 5310 Ryan Road. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Carol Surine at 218-525-4426 or [carolsurine@gmail.com](mailto:carolsurine@gmail.com).

### BOOK EXCHANGE UPDATE



“An author makes you notice, makes you pay attention and this is a great gift. My gratitude for good writing is unbounded; I'm grateful for it the way I'm grateful for the ocean.”

— Anne Lamott

Thanks to community donations, we have many fictional titles available in the Little Free Library located in the community room at our Town Hall. Feel free to explore and find your next read during Clerk's Office and recycling hours.

Thank you, and happy reading!

**For our Township youth:** Advertise for **FREE!** Any youth seeking work or **Township residents** needing help with various jobs suitable for youth (babysitting, lawn and garden maintenance, house cleaning, etc.) can submit an ad by email, by phone, or by dropping it off at the Town Hall to be published in the next edition of the Newsletter. We've had calls looking for workers!

The deadline for the next Newsletter is December 15, 2025. Call 525-5705 or email [deputyclerkduluthtp@gmail.com](mailto:deputyclerkduluthtp@gmail.com).

# Our Neighbors to the North

## Alden News

Aly Mark

### Alden Township Board Meeting 8/12/25

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm. Supervisors Heidi Haglin, Helene Hedlund, and Evan Sandretsky were present along with Treasurer Meghan Cavallin and Clerk Aly Mark. Resident Peg Wagner was present. **Approve minutes:** The minutes from the July meeting were approved. **Finances:** Treasurer Meghan Cavallin gave her report. The general fund had a total of \$53,131.91, the road fund had \$98,699.66, the Town Hall fund had \$7,930.68, the Fire Hall fund had \$17,395.80, for a grand total of \$177,158.05. The treasurer's report was approved. Bills were presented by Cavallin, Mark, and Hedlund for a total of \$4,603 and included cost of road grading and brush mowing (\$3,362.) Quarter 2 gravel taxes were received for \$2,978.31. A motion to pay bills was approved as well as three blank checks to pay locksmith and tax accountant. **Correspondence:** Nothing to report. **Committee Reports: Town Hall:** Reservation September 2-8 for garage sale — Laurie Anderson. Kelsey Rogers rented kitchen through August. Justin Osadjin repaired the lock on the front door of Town Hall. Peg Wagner noticed Alden Town Hall Sign is fading and recommends fixing, Hedlund will contact Osadjin for this work. **Fire Hall:** Nothing to report. **Roads:** JBL graded roads, leaving grader at Town Hall. Finished ditching on Heleen Rd. and replaced the culvert. Sandretsky will call Rick's Tree service or Wright's tree service to address some of the road repairs needed to uphold the snowplowing agreement with St. Louis County. **New Business:** Clerk Mark renewed the snowplowing agreement with St. Louis County and gave Sandretsky a list of requested road repairs to complete to maintain agreement. Mark will fill out and submit the final Town Levy form and mail to the county after the annual meeting is closed at the September Board meeting. Reminder: Board of supervisors needs to adjourn annual meeting 15 min prior to monthly board meeting September 9th, board meeting will start at 7:15 not 7:00 due to this. Mark will post notice in both North Shore Journal and Lake County Press as a special meeting to close the annual meeting. **Old Business:** Clerk Mark will include a notice about Chipper days guidelines to be published in Duluth Newsletter's Sept. print along with summary of June and July's minutes. The meeting was adjourned at 7:25.

### Alden Township Board Meeting 9/12/25

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm. Supervisors Helene Hedlund, Heidi Haglin, and Evan Sandretsky were present, along with Treasurer Meghan Cavallin and Clerk Aly Mark. No residents were present. **Approve minutes:** The minutes from the August meeting were approved. **Finances:** Treasurer Meghan Cavallin gave her report. The general fund had a total of \$55,097.89, the road fund had \$103,852.36, the town hall fund had \$8,395.32, the fire hall fund had \$18,998.72, for a grand total of \$186,344.29. The treasurer's report was approved. Bills were presented by Cavallin, Mark and Hedlund for a total of \$9,790 which included road improvements on Heleen road (\$9,340.) A motion to pay all the bills was approved. **Correspondence:** None to report. **Committee Reports: Town Hall:** Laurie Anderson hosted a garage sale. **Fire Hall:** Nothing to report. **Roads:** Nothing to report. **New Business:** Sandretsky talked to Wright's tree service and they quoted \$10,500 to complete all necessary road repairs necessary to stay in compliance with St. Louis County's snowplow contract. Motion to approve Wright's work was approved. **Old Business:** Mark will fill out Levy form and submit it to St. Louis County. Haglin noted that gravel truck traffic seems to be less than typical and drivers have been driving slower and more respectful. The meeting was adjourned at 7:18.

### Holiday Potluck Update, Alden Township

The Board is planning to host our annual holiday potluck in January this year, once the hustle and bustle of December winds down. It'll be a great chance to slow down, catch up with neighbors, and share some good food together. If anyone's feeling festive and would like to put on a community gathering sooner, you're more than welcome to reserve the Town Hall by contacting Helene Hedlund at (218) 834-4338 or emailing at [hhedlund.dl@gmail.com](mailto:hhedlund.dl@gmail.com). However we celebrate, we're looking forward to good company and small-town cheer this season.



### Did you know?

Carbon monoxide is an odorless, tasteless and invisible gas.

Signs of CO poisoning include headache, nausea, fatigue, vomiting and disorientation.

Cooking and heating units that burn fuel and are not properly ventilated or malfunction can be a source of CO in the home.

### WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT:

## CO ALARMS

- Carbon monoxide alarms should be installed within 10 feet of each sleeping room or inside each sleeping room.
- Test CO alarms monthly.
- If a CO alarm sounds and you feel ill, call 911 immediately. If you feel fine, open windows and doors and your utility company.
- Clear snow and debris from furnace, dryer, fireplace or oven vents around your home to prevent a CO buildup.

CO alarms have a life expectancy of around 7 years.

# FALL

## WORD SEARCH

W	Z	A	U	T	U	M	N	D	W	Y	U	S	S	W	N	S	R
U	W	O	A	G	W	G	L	O	U	M	P	E	U	R	E	R	J
A	O	Y	F	N	Z	J	R	R	C	E	W	K	O	V	A	T	C
Y	Q	T	I	J	S	C	D	Z	R	Y	W	C	A	A	Q	A	C
E	L	P	D	Q	E	B	M	I	L	Q	A	E	A	F	Q	F	I
R	X	B	X	R	N	S	F	C	C	O	L	O	R	F	U	L	J
G	Z	E	A	O	I	N	E	G	U	A	W	A	J	D	A	F	C
Y	C	C	V	K	O	K	S	M	O	M	P	T	B	L	P	L	X
A	S	H	R	B	P	V	T	Y	P	U	Q	K	P	X	V	Q	L
J	H	J	R	V	Z	O	I	H	L	M	R	M	A	U	K	K	S
Q	P	B	G	V	P	N	V	A	F	S	U	D	M	N	K	F	W
Q	U	D	L	K	K	E	A	R	N	A	C	H	I	L	L	Y	E
Z	M	F	R	A	L	G	L	V	G	H	X	M	C	Z	A	T	A
C	P	A	E	U	N	K	N	E	C	Q	K	J	O	T	A	W	T
L	K	Q	U	F	Y	K	I	S	T	G	E	N	R	E	E	I	E
W	I	Z	A	P	L	E	T	W	T	F	Y	N	K	Y	D	R	
B	N	O	Q	I	H	S	U	T	X	D	N	T	A	B	Z	I	J
G	L	V	C	I	D	E	R	G	H	A	Y	R	I	D	E	U	S

ACORN	BONFIRE	CORN	HARVEST	PUMPKIN
APPLE	CHILLY	FALL	HAYRIDE	RAKE
AUTUMN	CIDER	FESTIVAL	LEAVES	SCARECROW
BLANKET	COLORFUL	GOURD	MUMS	SWEATER

# Community Events

Greetings Duluth and Alden Township Residents:

It's that time of year again! **JULEBYEN 2025** will be here before you know it — December 6 and 7 in Knife River, Minnesota

Most of your favorite activities will be back

- Santa of course!!
- Troll Train
- Outdoor Market Huts filled with local artisan wares ... jewelry, pottery, candles, meats, canned goods/granola, Lake Superior stones and much more
- Gnome Dome — Children Crafts (free), entertainment
- Bakeri — home baked goods of all kinds and the ever popular Krumkake and Lefse demonstrations
- Indoor Market filled with upscale crafts including a Children's Corner with affordable items for youth shopping
- Entertainment throughout the day
- Two Harbors Farmers Market located in Troll Village
- Live Nativity — Oh my! Camels, goats, JOYFUL choir helping tell the story of Jesus' birth
- And Food trucks — What is a festival without food!!

## What's new?

**Hobby Horse races. Races will run at 10, 11, 1 and 2. There will be 12 Hobby Horses in the stable. Pick the one that you think will take you across the finish line first. Check our web site for more information.**

Thank you to all local and surrounding area volunteers... from planning, to grounds preparation and tear down, bakers, crafters and weekend warriors. Thank you also to the many sponsors... both monetary and in-kind. We are always looking for additional volunteers. Let me know if you are interested.

Julebyen is the primary fund raiser for the Knife River Recreation Council. Proceeds are used to maintain and support many community activities, including the beach, tennis/pickle ball courts, the July 4<sup>th</sup> parade, community picnics, the Huldefolk Trail and the much larger ice skating rink.

**A special shout out to Lovin' Lakes County for their sponsorship and to the KRRC Board for their continued support of this event.**

**Check our website at [julebyen.org](http://julebyen.org) for scheduling details, in-kind sponsors and a link for train purchases.**

**See you there ...**

Helene Hedlund, Event Chair



**French River Lutheran Church**  
*Cocoa & Carols*  
Wed, Dec 10th  
5:30-6:30pm  
@ the Timber Frame

# Scandinavian Christmas on the Shore

## Olde World Baked Goods



**FRENCH RIVER**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

5310 RYAN RD  
SATURDAY  
DECEMBER 13TH  
9 AM – 2 PM



**FANCY BAKED GOODS**

**LEFSE ☆ BREADS**

☆ **ARTISANS & CRAFTERS** ☆

**Fika Café**

Soup choices: Chicken Wild Rice or  
Beef Barley – \$8.00

Sandwich choices: Ham & Cheese or  
Chicken Salad on a Croissant – \$8.00

Dessert choices: White Christmas Pie or  
Cranberry Cake with Butter Sauce – \$5.00

Beverage included with each food purchase



Välkommen



**QUESTIONS? CALL 218.525.5659**

# What's in the Kitchen?

Nicole Chatterson

As the days get shorter and the air turns crisp, there's nothing better than coming home to the comforting aroma of dinner already done. These cozy crock pot recipes are simple, hearty, and full of fall flavor — perfect for busy weeknights! Each of these recipes can be prepped in 15 minutes or less — then your slow cooker does the rest. Perfect for those cozy evenings when you want a homemade meal without the hassle!

I am always looking for new recipes to test in my kitchen. If you have a recipe you would like to share with the community, email the Town Clerk, [townclerk@lakenet.com](mailto:townclerk@lakenet.com). Happy cooking!

## Chicken Wild Rice Soup

A Minnesota classic! Tender chicken, wild rice, and vegetables in a creamy, flavorful broth.

### Ingredients:

- 1 lb boneless, skinless chicken breasts or thighs
- 1 cup uncooked wild rice (rinsed)
- 3 carrots, peeled and diced
- 2 celery stalks, chopped
- 1 small onion, chopped
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 tsp salt
- ½ tsp black pepper
- ½ tsp dried thyme
- 4 cups low-sodium chicken broth
- 1 cup milk or half-and-half
- 2 tbsp butter
- 2 tbsp flour

### Instructions:

1. Add chicken, wild rice, vegetables, garlic, and seasonings to slow cooker with chicken broth.
2. Cover and cook on low for 6–7 hours or high for 3–4 hours.
3. In a small saucepan, melt butter, stir in flour, and whisk in milk until thickened.
4. Stir the creamy mixture into the slow cooker and heat through before serving.

**Tip:** If the soup thickens too much, stir in a little extra milk or broth before serving.

## Harvest Fall Chili

Hearty, colorful, and packed with fall vegetables — this vegetarian chili is perfect for cozy nights in.

### Ingredients:

- 1 can (15 oz) black beans, drained and rinsed
- 1 can (15 oz) kidney beans, drained and rinsed
- 1 can (15 oz) diced tomatoes
- 1 cup corn (frozen or canned)
- 2 cups diced butternut squash (or sweet potato)
- 1 red bell pepper, chopped
- 1 small onion, diced
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 tbsp chili powder
- 1 tsp cumin
- ½ tsp smoked paprika
- Salt & pepper to taste
- 2 cups vegetable broth

### Instructions:

1. Add all ingredients to the slow cooker and stir to combine.
2. Cover and cook on low for 6–7 hours or high for 3–4 hours, until vegetables are tender.
3. Taste and adjust seasonings before serving.

**Tip:** Top with shredded cheese, avocado, or sour cream. Leftovers freeze beautifully!

## Maple Dijon Pork Tenderloin

Sweet, savory, and melt-in-your-mouth tender — a fall favorite made effortless.

### Ingredients:

- 1½–2 lbs pork tenderloin (or pork loin)
- ¼ cup pure maple syrup
- 3 tbsp Dijon mustard
- 2 tbsp apple cider vinegar
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 tsp salt
- ½ tsp black pepper
- ½ tsp dried thyme (optional)

### Instructions:

1. In a small bowl, whisk together maple syrup, Dijon mustard, vinegar, garlic, salt, pepper, and thyme.
2. Place pork in slow cooker and pour sauce over the top.
3. Cover and cook on low for 4–5 hours, until tender.
4. Remove pork, slice, and drizzle with the sauce before serving.

**Tip:** Add baby carrots or apples around the pork for a complete one-pot meal.

## Apple Cider Pulled Pork Sandwiches

Tender, juicy pulled pork with a hint of apple and spice — fall comfort food at its best.

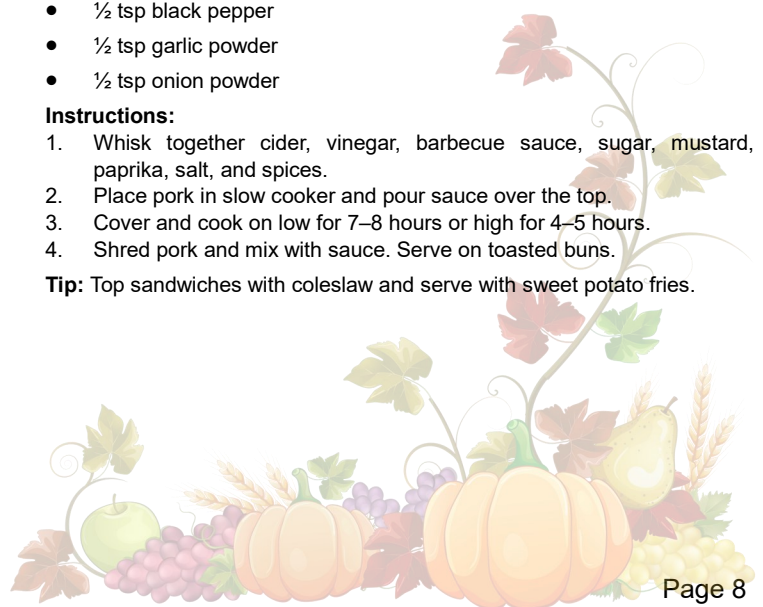
### Ingredients:

- 3–4 lbs pork shoulder (pork butt)
- 1 cup apple cider (not vinegar)
- ¼ cup apple cider vinegar
- ½ cup barbecue sauce (plus more for serving)
- 1 tbsp brown sugar
- 1 tbsp Dijon mustard
- 1 tsp smoked paprika
- 1 tsp salt
- ½ tsp black pepper
- ½ tsp garlic powder
- ½ tsp onion powder

### Instructions:

1. Whisk together cider, vinegar, barbecue sauce, sugar, mustard, paprika, salt, and spices.
2. Place pork in slow cooker and pour sauce over the top.
3. Cover and cook on low for 7–8 hours or high for 4–5 hours.
4. Shred pork and mix with sauce. Serve on toasted buns.

**Tip:** Top sandwiches with coleslaw and serve with sweet potato fries.



# INVEST IN YOUR COMMUNITY

The NSCS Endowment Fund is a special fund that provides money for projects or programs at our school. The fund is managed by the Duluth-Superior Area Community Foundation, which manages and invests all donations. Each year, the NSCS Endowment Advisory Board awards money (from the interest earned on the principal investment) to selected school programs or projects. Only the interest earned on the principal is used each year. The donations remain invested for the future. Awards are granted to projects that focus on strengthening our children's education and furthering our mission:

**North Shore Community School excels in connecting our students' academics and learning with their natural and social environments in a nurturing community setting.**

## Examples Below:

### MAPLE SAP EVAPORATOR

Mr. Dover purchased a maple sap evaporator with funds from the endowment. Collecting maple sap continues to be a long-running tradition at NSCS. The students now get to experience the whole process from collecting the sap & boiling it...to enjoying it on their pancakes in the lunchroom.

### APPLE PIE TOOLS

Ms. Markon, Ms. Cassidy & Ms. Helgesen purchased kid-safe tools for Apple Pie Day in Kindergarten classes. This project is part of their Apple Unit and covers important standards in both Science & Social Studies.



### BINOCULARS

Ms. Urban purchased a set of life-time-warranty binoculars for her 2nd-6th grade environmental education classes.

### LOON OPERA

Ms. Giddings uses funds from the endowment to invite the Lyric Opera Of the North to visit our school in the Spring. LOON spends the day at the school putting on performances for NSCS students. They even select students from all grades to participate in the opera! This is a great way to bring Fine Arts to school for our students to enjoy!

**DONATIONS OF ANY AMOUNT ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED!**

-----Detach Here and Return-----

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Donation Amount

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

- \$500
- \$100
- \$50
- Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check here if you'd like to remain anonymous.

Please send your tax deductible gift to:

NSCS Endowment Fund  
5926 Ryan Rd.  
Duluth MN 55804

**(checks payable to NSCS Endowment Fund-leave memo blank)**

## Hall Rental

The Town Hall is now available for rental. Contact the Clerk's Office to make reservations.

The Community Room is also available for public use during office and recycling hours. The hours are posted on the Town's website: [www.duluthtownship.org](http://www.duluthtownship.org) and on page 11 of this Newsletter.



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TWO HARBORS AREA  
**shelf**

### Two Harbors Area Food Shelf

*Our Mission: To reduce hunger and improve the health of those in need.*

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Food Distribution on Tuesdays from 10:00 am to 3:45 pm.

Call 218-391-8191 with any questions.

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[solfedfarm@gmail.com](mailto:solfedfarm@gmail.com)

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### Duane Madison

218-525-5645

North Shore Historian-Genealogist  
[revmadison@lakeconnections.net](mailto:revmadison@lakeconnections.net)

All absolute truths have an ambiguous margin of error.



### Duluth Township Information 2025

Duluth Town Hall  
6092 Homestead Road  
Duluth, MN 55804  
Phone (218) 525-5705  
(Voice message)

Email: See note below on using our  
Township website.

[www.duluthtownship.org](http://www.duluthtownship.org)

**Town Office Hours:** Tues. 9 am-12 pm, Wed. 9 am-4 pm,  
Thurs. 9 am-5 pm, Fri. 9 am-12 pm

**Planning Office Hours:** No posted hours  
Call the Town Hall for an appointment: 525-5705

**Supervisors:** (See website for email contacts)

**Rolf Carlson** (2023-2026) 525-0375 **Board Chair**  
Primary contact: Personnel, Cemetery  
Alternate: Intergovernmental Relations, Town Hall

**ArMand Nelson** (2023-2026) (612) 247-7197 **Vice-Chair**  
Primary contact: Planning  
Alternate: Intergovernmental Relations, Business Mgt, Roads/  
Invasive Weeds, Materials Mgt, Public Safety

**Jim Ward** (2022-2025) (218) 260-5689  
Primary contact: Roads/Invasive Weeds, Public Safety, Arts &  
Heritage, North Shore Mgt Board  
Alternate: Intergovernmental Relations, CC Liaison/NSCS  
Foundation Board, Materials Mgt

**Stacia Grayson** (2022-2025) (612) 239-2292 or 525-5705  
Primary contact: Communications, Materials Mgt, Town Hall  
Alternate: Arts & Heritage, Cemetery, Intergovernmental Relations,  
Planning

**Saprina Matheny** (2024-2027) (715) 296-9429  
Primary contact: Business Mgt, CC Liaison/NSCS Foundation Board  
Alternate: Personnel, Intergovernmental Relations, North Shore Mgt  
Board, Communications

**Town Clerk:** Nicole Chatterson 525-5705 (Town Hall)  
**Deputy Clerk:** Hannah Jurek 525-5705 (Town Hall)  
**Treasurer:** Mel Peulen 525-5705 (Town Hall)  
**Attorney:** Scott Witty 722-4766 (Office)  
**Cemetery Sexton:** Molly Tillotson 218-626-7005  
**Planning Director:** Liz Strohmayer 525-5705 (Message)  
**Planning Secretary:** Beth Mullan/Laura Herzog 525-5705 (Message)

**Planning Commission:** Dave Meyer, Justin Osadjan, Tony Mancuso,  
Nathan Nesgoda, Ken Peterson, Andrew Aho, and Kit Grayson

**Peace Officers:** Chief Mark Haselow, Officer Paul Johnson  
**Emergencies 911**, Messages 525-5705 or (218) 393-8407

**Clifton Volunteer Fire/EMS Department:** Chief Bob Engelson,  
Assistant Chief Mark Herman, President Ken Peterson,  
Secretary Sherry Rovig  
Email: [cliftonfiredepartment@gmail.com](mailto:cliftonfiredepartment@gmail.com)

**Emergency Operations Department:** ArMand Nelson

**Burning Permits** are available online at: [mndnr.gov/permits](http://mndnr.gov/permits) or at  
the Clerk's Office at Town Hall (office hours), or from **Fire Wardens:**  
**Jeff & Carolyn Marino** (525-6431) or **DNR Two Harbors**, 568 Hwy 2  
(834-1418)

**Website Manager:** Hannah Jurek 525-5705 (Town Hall)

**Community Center Rental Coordinator:** Jim Salls 600-9015

**Township Historian:** Duane Madison 525-5645

#### To Email Township Officials and Departments

See Township website, [www.duluthtownship.org/contacts](http://www.duluthtownship.org/contacts) for a dropdown list of personnel and depart-  
ments you can use to send emails. Note that copies of all emails go to the Town Hall for Township rec-  
ords. If the person does not have email access, your communication is sent to the Town Hall to be picked  
up. Department information is also on our website.

### Township Recycling Center

Carolyn Marino

**November-March:** Tues. 7-11 am & 2-6 pm

Thurs. 2-6 pm

Sat. 8 am-noon

**April-October:** Tues. 7-11 am & 3-7 pm

Thurs. 3-7 pm, Sat. 8 am-noon

**Located at the Town Hall, on Homestead Road**

**Household plastic bags accepted in ORANGE bin ONLY.**

**Please do not put black plastic bags, tarps, or plastic feed bags  
in the plastic bag recycle bin.**

Aluminum cans should be recycled with plastics/metal cans. Curbside  
recycling pickup service is available south of the freeway.

Surveillance cameras have been installed around the Town Hall because  
of vandalism and dumping of household garbage.



### Township Calendar

See calendar updates on [www.duluthtownship.org](http://www.duluthtownship.org)

Our Official Calendar is posted at the Town Hall

#### November 2025

**November 1:** Recycling 8 am-noon

**November 4:** Recycling 7-11 am, 2-6 pm; Fire Business Meeting 7 pm

**November 5:** Homesteaders 12:30 pm

**November 6:** Recycling 2-6 pm

**November 8:** Recycling 8 am-noon

**November 11: Veteran's Day. Office and Recycling closed**

**November 13:** Recycling 2-6 pm; Town Board Meeting 6:30 pm

**November 15:** Recycling 8 am-noon

**November 18:** Recycling 7-11 am, 2-6 pm; Fire Training Meeting 7 pm

**November 19:** D/NSSD Volunteer Board Meeting at French River Lutheran Church 7 am

**November 20:** Recycling 2-6 pm

**November 22:** Recycling 8 am-noon

**November 25:** Recycling 7-11 am, 2-6 pm

**November 27: Thanksgiving Day. Office and Recycling closed**

**November 29:** Recycling 8 am-noon

#### December 2025

**December 3:** Homesteaders 12:30 pm

**December 4:** Recycling 2-6 pm; Planning and Zoning meeting at 6:30 pm

**December 6:** Recycling 8 am-noon

**December 9:** Recycling 7-11 am, 2-6 pm; Fire Business Meeting 7 pm

**December 11:** Recycling 2-6 pm; Town Board Meeting 6:30 pm

**December 13:** Recycling 8 am-noon

**December 16:** Recycling 7-11 am, 2-6 pm; Fire Training Meeting 7 pm

**December 17:** D/NSSD Volunteer Board Meeting at French River Lutheran Church 7 am

**December 18:** Recycling 2-6 pm

**December 20:** Recycling 8 am-noon

**December 23:** Recycling 7-11 am, 2-6 pm

**December 24: Christmas Eve. Office closed**

**December 25: Christmas Day. Office and Recycling  
closed**

**December 27:** Recycling 3-7 pm

**December 30:** Recycling 7-11 am, 3-7 pm



# DULUTH TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

November 2025

**1074** Newsletters are mailed to Duluth Township homes, businesses, and on request. Copies are available at the Town Hall. Please send comments and suggestions to Newsletter editor, Hannah Jurek, at the Town Hall, 6092 Homestead Road, Duluth MN 55804, or use the white mailbox at the Town Hall or email on the website. Our *Newsletter* is printed and mailed locally by ProPrint.

## Inside This Issue

- Homesteaders
- Police Report
- Calendar
- Word Find
- Endowment Fund Info



Duluth Township Newsletter  
6092 Homestead Road  
Duluth, MN 55804

For a color version of this Newsletter, visit the Township website: [www.duluthtownship.org](http://www.duluthtownship.org)

If your name or address is in error or you know of someone who is not receiving a Newsletter, please send a note to the Newsletter editor by using the contact list on our website ([www.duluthtownship.org](http://www.duluthtownship.org)). Extra copies are also available in the Town Hall.

## Town Services

Please check the website for any developments, updates, or changes to Town services.

**Town Clerk's Office:** Open to the public during regular office hours. If you would like, you can conduct your business via email, phone, U.S. mail, or the drop box under the public posting at the Town Hall entrance.

**Town Board Meetings:** Open to the public.

### Planning and Zoning Department;

**Land Use and other Permits:** Submit applications and fees for Land Use Permits to the Town via email, U.S. mail, at the Clerk's Office during office hours, or in the drop box under the public posting board at the Town Hall entrance. On-site review for Land Use Permits will be conducted by the Planning Director.

**Variations and Conditional Use Permits:** Submit applications and fees for permits to the Town via email, U.S. mail, at the Clerk's Office during office hours, or put them in the drop box under the public posting at the Town Hall entrance. Hearings for the permits are open to the public, following state guidelines. Submit comments regarding applications to the Town via email or U.S. mail.

**Questions for the Planning Director:** Contact the Town Clerk.

**Police Department:** For emergencies call 911.

**Fire Department or Emergency Medical Responders:** Call 911.

**Town Roads:** See contact on Town website.

**Recycling:** Open during regular hours (posted on the Township website [www.duluthtownship.org](http://www.duluthtownship.org)).

**Town Hall Community Room:** Open to the public during office and recycling hours.

**Town Hall Rentals:** Contact Clerk's Office to reserve Town Hall facilities.

**Palmers Lakeview Cemetery:** Contact Molly Tillotson, Cemetery Sexton, at 218-626-7005 or the Town Clerk for more information.

