

# Duluth Township Newsletter

September 2025

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

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

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## Harvest Dinner

Come out and support our Clifton Volunteer Fire Department and all our hard working volunteer fire fighters and medical first responders.



Saturday, October 11, 2025  
5-7 pm

Duluth Town Hall  
6092 Homestead Road  
\$10 Adults

Children 8-under eat for free  
**All are welcome!**

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

## SCHOOL BUS LIGHTS



YELLOW FLASHING LIGHTS  
THE BUS IS PREPARING TO STOP



RED FLASHING LIGHTS AND EXTENDED STOP ARMS



DRIVERS MUST STOP AND WAIT THE RED LIGHTS STOP

## Homesteaders

Dorothy Aho

September 3, 2025: Wednesday 12:30 pm, Town Hall. Sandwiches, salads, and bars. The great Two Harbors Ukulele Group.

October 1, 2025: Wednesday 12:30 pm, Town Hall. Sandwiches, salads, and bars. Entertainment to be announced.

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

**Everyone is welcome!**

*Thanks to all of the contributors to this issue*

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



**Fire Department**

Bob Engelson, Chief  
Sherry Rovig, Secretary



**Police Department**

Mark Haselow, Chief  
Paul Johnson, Officer

Our department had responded to 90 calls as of early August. We are fortunate to have a full roster of trained responders.

The search for a pumper/tender to replace our retired tanker continues. The FEMA grant we submitted over a year ago seems to be in limbo. On a positive note, the grant for a new skid unit for the donated military truck is proceeding with the award expected in late September. The outfitting of that truck became more feasible when an unexpected grant opportunity was brought to our attention by local State Farm agent, Dave Raimo. We received notice of the State Farm Insurance Good Neighbor Fire Safety Program award in August and will receive \$10,000 to help outfit the truck. The award is presented in conjunction with the National Volunteer Fire Council and will be presented at our annual Harvest Dinner.

We try to be diligent in applying for grants to help finance our efforts. The heart of our department is our trained members, but good equipment and community support is also vital. You can help with our effort by coming to our annual Harvest Dinner on Oct. 11. (see announcement on page one).

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

You can fill out the application in the newsletter if you are interested in a free Firewise assessment or smoke alarm installation.

**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:**

**June and July 2025 Incident Summary Report Overview:**

This report highlights key incidents and activities handled by law enforcement and emergency services over the past two months, categorized by type. During this period, officers responded to a variety of calls for service. The most frequent incidents included **vacation home and business checks (15), medical emergencies (14), and traffic-related warnings or citations (9)**. Officers also handled **attempts to locate careless drivers (9), car vs. deer crashes (7), and disturbance complaints (6)**. Other calls ranged from **civil processes (8) and fire alarms (5) to animal complaints (4) and property damage accidents (4)**. Several lower-frequency incidents included **vehicle theft complaints (2), fraud complaints (3), health/welfare checks (1), and warrant arrests (1)**.

A number of categories saw no reported incidents this month, such as **garbage dumping, child neglect, juvenile trouble, mental health crises, damage to property, motorist assists, and theft complaints**.

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	<input type="checkbox"/>	FIREWISE ASSESSMENT	<input type="checkbox"/>
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 Chatterson are available at the Town Hall and on our Township website: [www.duluthtownship.org](http://www.duluthtownship.org)

**June 26, 2025 Planning Commission Meeting.** Commission members present: Justin Osadjan, Tony Mancuso, Nate Nesgoda, Dave Meyer, Ken Peterson, and Andrew Aho. Also present: Liz Strohmayer, Planning Director; Beth Mullan, Planning Secretary and Laura Herzog, incoming Planning Secretary.

The proposed Zoning Ordinance updates are mostly done. The language regarding penalties and enforcement is still in progress. Currently after-the-fact permits are charged 4 times the fee. It has been problematic getting permit compliance on the part of some individuals. We are also waiting on input from the Township attorney.

The Town engaged a consulting firm to bring the Town up to date on its MS4 requirements and Liz is working with them on updating the Stormwater, Erosion, and Sediment Control Ordinance. She would like to have that ready for the review process at the same time as the Zoning Ordinance.

A variance hearing originally scheduled for the evening's meeting was postponed to July. The applicant did not yet have accurate measurements for their request.

There were two community members in the audience. One was following up on a submitted land use permit application and the other was interested in the hearing that had originally been scheduled.

**July 24, 2025 Planning Commission Meeting.** Commission members present: Justin Osadjan, Tony Mancuso, Nate Nesgoda, Ken Peterson, Andrew Aho, and Kit Grayson. Also present: Liz Strohmayer, Planning Director; Beth Mullan, Planning Secretary and Laura Herzog, incoming Planning Secretary.

A public hearing for two variances was held for a property on the shore in the northeastern part of the Township. The required setback for the zone district, SUR-2, is 110 ft from the road, and 100 ft from Lake Superior. 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. On a site visit for the variance it was found that an RV set up as a temporary residence did not meet setback requirements, healthy vegetation had been removed from the site in excess of that allowed by the Ordinance, and a driveway had been put in without a permit from St Louis County. A deadline of August 15 was imposed to rectify the RV and driveway violations. The applicant said that only 4 or 5 live trees were removed and that the site was a mess with dead trees. He expressed willingness to alter his site plan if the Commission thought something else would be more appropriate. It was noted that the site is narrow with a quick drop towards the lake. The Commission felt the proposed structure was large for the shape and size of the lot. The applicant said the home would be about 2500 sq ft and impervious surface area would be about 8%. He would have liked to center the building on the lot but it drops off too quickly. He has historical photos and the shoreline has been stable.

A Commissioner was concerned with the 20 ft side yard setback to the northeast and wanted like to see a survey with the actual boundaries. Another noted that the realtor's listing said that the lot was non-conforming and not buildable at the time the applicant purchased it.

One email was received in support of the variances. One person was present to comment and said that the parcels had been created to be built on. He supported finding a plan that would work to build on the site.

The variance request had not been submitted to the DNR for review. The

*(continued on page 4)*

### **June 12, 2025, Town Board Meeting:**

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:32 pm Supervisors Carlson, Nelson, Matheny, and Ward were present along with key staff.

**Minutes & Agenda** – May meeting minutes were approved. Agenda was adopted with the addition of Duluth Area Township Association under Supervisor Reports.

**Finances** – Beginning balance: \$590,130.29; Deposits: \$56,526.76; Expenses: \$103,353.87; Ending balance: \$543,303.18. Financial statement, payroll, and claims list were approved.

#### **Public Comment** –

**Torgeson Road:** Concerns raised regarding erosion control, road compaction, and snowplowing. County plowed new section last winter; Town updated snowplowing request. **Community Service Award:** Plans moving forward for a Don McTavish Community Service Award display board. Up to \$4,000 approved for creation.

#### **Department Reports** –

**Police:** New squad purchased; operational in two months. Grand Lake interested in old squad. **Fire:** Chipper Days scheduled; grant awarded for brush skid unit; assisted in Brimson Complex Fires with expected \$20,000 reimbursement; discussion on wildfire response compensation for volunteers. **Planning & Zoning:** Busy season; variance hearing rescheduled to July; enforcing after-the-fact permit fees; MS4 updates underway. **Roads:** Grading nearly complete; dust control scheduled; major work planned for Shonberg and North Ryan Roads. **Town Hall:** Free CPR/AED classes set for Sept. 4; insurance review completed; population estimated at 2,085 with 817 households. **ARPA:** Dishwasher plumbing quotes coming in July. **Cemetery:** Memorial Day event well attended. **Communications:** Received .gov website update quotes.

**Emergency Management:** Planning tabletop exercise with surrounding jurisdictions.

**Supervisor Reports** – Congdon Trust MOU under city review; DAT meeting covered railroad crossing inventories; no DAT dues next year.

**New Business** – Letter of support signed for NOAA Coastal Program.

### **July 10, 2025, Town Board Meeting:**

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:31 pm Supervisors Carlson, Nelson, Matheny, Grayson, and Ward were present along with key staff.

**Minutes & Agenda** – June meeting minutes were approved. Agenda was approved.

**Finances** – Treasurer Melinda Peulen reported an ending balance of \$491,461.35 after expenses, with a minor correction made to the claims list. Payroll and claims were approved.

**Public Comment** – Discussion continued on the Don McTavish Community Service Award plaque. Ken Peterson confirmed the Township was incorporated on April 5, 1858, and the current Town Hall was built in 1938.

#### **Department Reports** –

**Police:** Ongoing land-use concerns at Stoney Point, tied to the Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Duluth regarding Congdon Trust Lands.

**Fire:** New agreement with MN DNR Forestry; compensation policies for fire responses under review. Annual truck testing completed; Fire Week planning underway. Skid grant approved; two chainsaws donated. Chipper Days event saw increased costs due to late and poorly stacked brush drop-offs—future changes under consideration. **Planning & Zoning:** Work continues on the Zurcher property; variance hearing planned. **Roads:** Shonberg Road project to be completed in two stages; roadside mowing underway. **Town Hall:** \$17.34 received from AmeriPride settlement. Winter plowing bids to be opened September 10 and reviewed September 11. **ARPA Projects:** Carlson Duluth selected to complete dishwasher and waterline installation for \$2,950.

*(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 -

Commission decided to recess the hearing to the August Planning Commission meeting to allow time for a survey, get input from the DNR, and allow the applicant time to respond to the violations.

In old business, Liz reported that the Town attorneys have moved forward with the lawsuit against the Stoney Point property. This property has stormwater violations and is operating an illegal high-frequency short-term rental. The MPCA has already imposed substantial fines for the stormwater violations but the landowner has not done anything to correct the situation.

There was a discussion about requiring a survey for all variance applications.

## Summary of Town Board Meeting Minutes

- continued from page 3 -

### Resolutions Passed –

**07102025A:** Establishes the Don McTavish Community Service Award and declares the second Saturday in August as Don McTavish Day.

**07102025B:** Accepts a \$5,000 donation from Duane Madison for matching grant funds.

Other areas, including Cemetery, Communications, and Emergency Management, had no significant updates. The meeting adjourned with no old or new business.

### Recycling Reminder:

The Recycling Center summer hours (April-October):

Tuesday Morning: 7-11 am

Tuesday Afternoon: 3-7 pm

Thursday Afternoon: 3-7 pm

Saturday Morning: 8 am-noon



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

## French River Book Club

Carol Surine

For September we have chosen another Book Club in a Bag offering, My Sister, the Serial Killer by Oyinkan Braithwaite. The meeting will be held September 18 at 7 PM in the Fireside Room of French River Lutheran Church, 5310 Ryan Rd. The books should be available by the 26, and they will be on the ledge to the right of the upper doors of the church. If you are having difficulty getting a copy you can contact Carol Surine at 218-525-4426 or [carolsurine@gmail.com](mailto:carolsurine@gmail.com).

**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 October 13, 2025. Call 525-5705 or email [deputyclerkduluthwp@gmail.com](mailto:deputyclerkduluthwp@gmail.com).

### BOOK EXCHANGE UPDATE



"Read a book. Grow your mind." — Anonymous

Maybe your garden hasn't lived up to your expectations this summer, but don't forget: You can harvest a variety of wonderful experiences just by reading.

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!



Help Wanted: Seeking motivated youth for assistance with gardening and some general yard work this fall. Some tasks include transplanting and weeding. Will pay by the hour. Contact Clerk's Office for more information.

# Our Neighbors to the North

## Alden News

Aly Mark

### Alden Township Board Meeting 6/10/25

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm. Supervisors Helene Hedlund, and Evan Sandretsky were present, along with Treasurer Meghan Cavallin and Deputy Pat Berger. No residents were present. **Approve minutes:** The minutes from the May meeting were approved. **Finances:** Treasurer Meghan Cavallin gave her report. The general fund had a total of \$49,516, the road fund had \$87,202, the town hall fund had \$6,731, the fire hall fund had \$13,187, for a grand total of \$156,636. The treasurer's report was approved. Bills were presented by Cavallin and Sandretsky for a total of \$2,798.17. A motion to pay all the bills was approved. **Correspondence :** Cavallin: St. Louis County Planning and Zoning, Thompson Gas/Como Safety Notice & Information. **Committee Reports: Town Hall:** Kelsey Rogers to use kitchen June 13-14 and June 19-20. **Fire Hall: None to report. Roads:** Road Tour May 17, 2025 1 pm Sandretsky and Peg Wagner toured. **New Business:** Sandretsky reported that JBL recommended: ditching and replacing culvert on Heleen Road estimate \$15,140, graveling \$18,560. A motion approved ditching and culvert replacement but no graveling at this time. **Old Business:** Early distribution of taxes needs to be responded to by May 31, 2025. Mark will respond to email and request early distribution. Concerns about product used to control road dust were brought up by Supervisor Haglin (GRIP project). Apparently the injected sodium chloride product breaks down to a flour-like consistency and can cause lung damage.

### Notice to Alden Residents: Chipper Days Guidelines

In order to continue offering Chipper Days at the Alden Town Hall, all residents must follow the established guidelines. Brush may only be dropped off during the designated dates and times and all materials must be stacked neatly with the base of each branch facing the road. Failure to comply with these rules will result in the discontinuation of Chipper Days in the future.

### Alden Township Board Meeting 7/08/25

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm. Supervisors Heidi Haglin, Helene Hedlund, and Evan Sandretsky were present along with Treasurer Meghan Cavallin and Clerk Aly Mark. No residents were present. **Approve minutes:** The minutes from the June meeting were approved. **Finances:** Treasurer Meghan Cavallin gave her report. The general fund had a total of \$54,342, the road fund had \$95,392, the town hall fund had \$7,594, the fire hall fund had \$16,118, for a grand total of \$173,446. The treasurer's report was approved. Bills were presented by Cavallin, Mark, and Sandretsky for a total of \$2,059, \$55.90 was received for quarter 1 gravel taxes. A motion to pay bills and to approve three blank checks were approved. **Correspondence:** Nothing to report. **Committee Reports: Town Hall:** Kelsey Christiansen has reserved the Town Hall every weekend through August, could possibly be used by request. **Fire Hall:** Nothing to report. **Roads:** Roads were sprayed for dust control by the City of Silver Creek. **New Business:** Notice of Vacancy "Community Development Block Grant" citizen advisory committee for St. Louis county. Persons interested in being considered for this appointment should submit an application by July 18th to Phil Chapman. Sherry Rovig from Clifton Fire Department notified Clerk Aly Mark that Alden residents were piling brush sideways (not stacking neatly with base towards drive) and dumping after the event ended. This will likely cost extra for the paid contractor. Rovig stated that if chipper days is to be hosted at Alden Town Hall in the future, more cooperation and monitoring of the site is necessary or Alden loses this service. Mark replied that this will be addressed at the next Board meeting and will try to come up with a solution for future events. Mark will put notice in the next Duluth Newsletter about this issue and respond to Rovig. All members received new MAT membership cards for officers. **Old Business:** Clerk Aly Mark signed all necessary paperwork to sign checks.

### Alden Town Hall Update

Greetings Alden Residents: The Board would like to remind and encourage you to contact Helene Hedlund to reserve the Town Hall. Even though a few residents have taken advantage of the updated kitchen, it remains underutilized. Some of the activities that the hall has been reserved for include: baking (personal and cottage products,) wedding showers, family get-togethers, garage sale set up and sale, and potlucks. These are just a few ideas. At the present time, there is no charge to reserve the Town Hall. Check it out... it might be perfect for your next creative activity. Helene Hedlund contact information: phone number (218) 834-4338, email: [hedlund.dl@gmail.com](mailto:hedlund.dl@gmail.com)."



**Carriage for sale:** Our last driving horse has passed. We need to sell our four seater white Surrey with green pin striping detail and green velvet seats. It comes with a removable fringe top, single and team shaves. It's in like new condition. We'd first like to see if we can keep it in our neighborhood, if possible, before putting it on Marketplace.

\$3,500 obo, open to discussion.

Call or message at: 218-348-2588

# Community Events



## Stampin' Up Greeting Cards Craft Class Friday, October 10, 2025

Time: 6:00 pm

French River Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall  
Leader: Anne Hokenstad, Stampin' Up Demonstrator  
Maximum number of students: 12 to 15– Cost is \$25

Join us as we create nine different greeting cards, with all supplies included in the class fee of \$25 (payable by cash, check, or VENMO). Additional kits will be available for purchase.

Register by Friday, September 19, 2025, by contacting Sue Baker via email at [drjockmock@gmail.com](mailto:drjockmock@gmail.com) or text/call 218-341-4181.

## Lefse-Making Class Saturday, November 1, 2025

Time: 12:30 pm to whenever we run out of dough  
French River Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall  
Instructors: Sandy Grumdahl & Cheryl Carlson  
Maximum of 12 students – Cost is \$15

Learn the art of making the traditional Norwegian flat bread known as lefse. What doesn't get eaten will be taken home by participants. Let's learn and laugh together!



Register by Saturday, October 18, 2025, by contacting Sue Baker via email at [drjockmock@gmail.com](mailto:drjockmock@gmail.com) or text/call 218-341-4181.

## Weekly Game Groups at French River Lutheran Church You are Welcome to Join Us! (please enter at the Lower Lakeside door)



**Cribbage**  
Every Wednesday  
from 10 am to noon,  
beginning on October 1  
and continuing until end of  
April. All experience levels  
are welcome. Come when  
you can. Contact Scott  
Polzin at 218-213-2952 for  
more information.

**American Mah Jongg**  
Every Friday  
from 10 am to noon,  
beginning on September 5.  
Come join us as we learn and  
play in a relaxed  
atmosphere. Contact  
instructor Elda Hein  
(218-730-7329) or Beth  
Luikart (218-464-8605) for  
more information.







**Come & join us for an evening of  
easy listening music under our Timber Frame!**

## **Jake Pernsteiner in Concert**

**Saturday, September 27, 2025, at 6:30 pm**

**French River Lutheran Church  
5310 Ryan Road, Duluth, MN**

**Concert is free!**

**Bring a comfortable lawn chair and your favorite beverage.**

### *Don McTavish to be Honored*

As the inaugural recipient of the Town of Duluth Community Service Award, Don McTavish will be honored during the Harvest Dinner fundraiser for our Clifton Fire Department. The traditional spaghetti dinner will be served on Saturday, October 11, from 5 to 7 pm.

In order to recognize individuals who have made outstanding contributions of time and energy to Duluth Township, the Town Board will confer the new Community Service Award after nomination by Township residents.

Sue Lawson and Charlene Brown nominated Don to receive the honor this year for his “active and innovative volunteer work with the Township.”

A plaque to be unveiled at the Harvest Dinner will bear Don’s name with the following inscription: “In appreciation of his work as a builder of community connections, creating loving and caring communities. He initiated the Township website and contributed to the development of the Community Library, Township Newsletter, and Emergency Management Plan. He was a dedicated member of the Clifton Volunteer Fire Department.”

As an example of his work as reporter, editor, and publisher of the newsletter for many years, Don attended numerous Town Board meetings, Planning Commission meetings, Fire Department meetings, and other public meetings in order to report on them.

The Fire Department credits Don with keeping meticulous records of truck maintenance, among other contributions. Don’s work has been a great benefit to the Town of Duluth, and he has gone above and beyond in service to our Township. Please join us in celebrating him at the Harvest Dinner.

#### **North Shore Community School News Shelly Pierson Evans, Executive Director**

**School is just around the corner!** This is an exciting time for students, parents, and staff. We welcome K-6 grade students back on Wednesday, September 3rd. Preschool begins on September 9th. Please watch for buses and students as they make their way back to school.

**Playground:** We have had some playground changes over the summer: New mulch has been spread on both playgrounds, providing for a softer landing. NSCS and the PTA are in the planning process to add a few new pieces of equipment for each playground. Stay tuned for more information and ways to offer feedback.

**Ice Cream Social:** We would like to invite the community to join us for an ice cream social on Thursday, September 18 from 4-6 pm.

**Wondering how North Shore is doing?** You can access our authorizer’s annual evaluations here:

<https://northshorecommunityschool.org/key-documents/>

**New Strategic Plan:** With our new strategic plan, grade levels will begin the process of identifying community partnerships aligned with their grade level focus. We will be sharing more about partnerships and ways the community can be involved through this year. You can also view our current Strategic Plan on our website at:

<https://northshorecommunityschool.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/Strategic-Plan-2024-2027.pdf>

# What's in the Kitchen?

Nicole Chatterson

Summer is drawing to a close. Gardens are full. School bells ring in the distance. We are enjoying the last of the summer weather as we prepare ourselves for what is to come—new routines, packed lunches, and the ever-shifting rhythm of fall.

This time of year, I find myself reaching for recipes that are both comforting and practical—dishes that ease the transition, celebrate the season's bounty, and help streamline our busy days.

One of our favorites is baked feta pasta, with its creamy, savory sauce and bright bursts of cherry tomatoes. It's a weeknight hero—simple, satisfying, and endlessly versatile. We often pair it with baked boneless, skinless chicken breast that can cook alongside the pasta for a well-rounded dinner that feels far more indulgent than the effort it requires. Best of all, it comes together with just a handful of ingredients—perfect for those evenings when time (and energy) is short.

On the sweeter side, we've also been making a batch of no-bake granola bars nearly every week. With school days approaching, they make a perfect after-school snack, breakfast-on-the-go, or lunchbox treat. Sweetened naturally with honey or maple syrup and bound together with nut butter, these bars are endlessly customizable. My favorite version includes oats, puffed rice cereal, a handful of mini chocolate chips, and freeze-dried strawberries. They're just chewy enough, a little crunchy, and completely satisfying.

Whether you're soaking up the last lazy afternoons or gearing up for new schedules, I hope these two recipes bring some ease—and a little joy—to your kitchen this season.

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!

## Baked Feta Pasta

### Ingredients

- 1 pound cherry tomatoes or grape tomatoes
- 1 block feta cheese (8 ounces)
- 4-6 cloves garlic (whole, peeled)
- 1 shallot quartered (optional)
- ½ cup olive oil divided
- 12-16 ounces pasta: Choose your favorite shape like cavatappi, rigatoni, rotini, linguini, or penne
- Fresh sprigs of thyme or oregano
- Salt and black pepper to taste
- Pinch red pepper flakes for a touch of heat (optional)
- Reserved pasta water, to adjust the sauce consistency
- Fresh basil to finish
- Lemon zest to finish (optional)

### Instructions

1. Preheat oven to 400°F (200°C).
2. Rinse and add cherry tomatoes to a 9x13" baking dish with garlic and optional quartered shallots. Pro tip: Smash the garlic cloves with the flat side of a chef's knife to help infuse the garlic flavor while roasting.
3. Cover with olive oil and toss to coat, making sure garlic and shallots are evenly distributed.
4. Place the block of feta cheese in the center of the baking dish, nestled among the tomatoes.
5. Sprinkle with salt and pepper (and red pepper flakes if using) and top with fresh sprigs of thyme and/or oregano. Drizzle the block of feta cheese with olive oil.
6. Bake for 40-45 minutes or until the tomatoes are bursting and the feta is softened and slightly browned.
7. While the feta and tomatoes are baking, cook the pasta according to package directions in salted boiling water until al dente.
8. Increase Oven Temperature (Optional): For a more caramelized finish, remove the baking dish after 30 minutes, increase the oven temperature to 450°F (232°C), and return the dish to the oven for another 10 minutes.
9. Prepare Sauce. Remove the baking dish from the oven. Using a fork, smash the baked feta and tomatoes together to create a creamy sauce.
10. Add the cooked pasta to the baking dish and stir to combine. If desired, add some of the reserved pasta water to adjust consistency of the sauce.
11. Garnish: Top with fresh, thinly sliced basil, lemon zest and a sprinkle of salt to taste.

### Tips and variations

- Add other vegetables: Consider adding vegetables like asparagus or spinach for extra flavor and nutrients.
- Spicy kick: Include a fresh chile pepper or more red pepper flakes for a spicier version.
- Herb power: Fresh rosemary or parsley can enhance the flavor profile.
- Cheese substitutes: If you're not a fan of feta, or can't find it, consider using goat cheese, brie, or even a vegan cheese alternative like Spero's goat cheese-style substitute.
- Garnish: A drizzle of honey, a sprinkle of Parmesan cheese, or a drizzle of a balsamic glaze can add a lovely finishing touch.

## No-Bake Granola Bar Recipe

### Ingredients (Makes ~10 bars)

- 1 1/2 cups of rolled oats
- 1 cup rice crispies style cereal
- 1 cup mix-ins (nuts, seeds, dried fruit, chocolate chips, etc.)
- ½ cup nut butter (peanut, almond, cashew, sunflower seed, etc.)
- ⅓ cup honey or maple syrup
- 1 tsp vanilla extract (optional)
- ¼ tsp salt (omit if nut butter is salted)

### Instructions

1. Prepare pan: Line an 8x8 inch pan with parchment paper.
2. Mix wet Ingredients: In a small saucepan over low heat, warm the nut butter and honey/maple syrup just until melted. Stir in vanilla if using.
3. Combine dry ingredients: In a large bowl, mix oats, salt, and your choice of mix-ins.
4. Mix together: Pour the wet mixture over the dry ingredients. Stir until fully coated.
5. Press into pan: Firmly press the mixture into the prepared pan (use the back of a spoon or press with parchment paper).
6. Chill: Refrigerate for at least 1-2 hours, or until firm.
7. Cut and Store: Lift out and slice into bars. Store in the fridge for up to 1 week, or freeze for longer storage.

### Variations to Try

#### Chocolate Chip Peanut Butter

Nut butter: Peanut butter

Mix-ins: Mini chocolate chips, chopped peanuts

Tip: Let the mixture cool slightly before adding chocolate chips so they don't melt

#### Trail Mix Style

Nut butter: Almond butter

Mix-ins: Chopped almonds, dried cranberries, pumpkin seeds, sunflower seeds

#### Banana Nut

Nut butter: Cashew butter

Add: ¼ cup mashed banana to the wet mix

Mix-ins: Walnuts, dried banana chips

#### Coconut Cashew

Nut butter: Cashew butter

Mix-ins: Shredded coconut, cashews, white chocolate chips

#### Sweet & Salty

Nut butter: Peanut butter

Mix-ins: Pretzel pieces, peanuts, dark chocolate chunks

Sprinkle with flaky sea salt on top before chilling

#### Dessert Bar

Nut butter: Almond butter

Mix-ins: Mini marshmallows, crushed graham crackers, mini chocolate chips (s'mores-style)

### Additional Tips

Add protein: Stir in a scoop of protein powder (reduce oats slightly to keep balance).

Make it vegan: Use maple syrup and dairy-free chocolate.


Make it gluten-free: Use certified gluten-free oats.



# BACK TO SCHOOL

## WORD SEARCH

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



ALARM CLOCK  
BACKPACK  
BOOKS  
BUS  
CLASS

COMPUTER  
CRAYONS  
DESK  
ERASER  
FRIENDS

LEARN  
LUNCH BOX  
NOTEBOOK  
PAPER  
PENCIL

PLAYGROUND  
RECESS  
SCHOOL  
SUPPLIES  
TEACHER



## 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.



### CONDO & HOME ADVISORS LLC

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[www.overomlaw.com](http://www.overomlaw.com)

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### Two Harbors Area Food Shelf



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

Serving Lake & St. Louis County residents.

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

Call 218-391-8191 with any questions.

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## WAGGIN' Tails

Boarding Kennels  
Long & short term boarding



Reservations Required  
218-525-4842  
7002 App Rd.  
Two Harbors



## SolFed Farm

Support local food production and get to know where your food is grown! Seasonal farm stand. For more information check out our website or follow us on Facebook.

[www.solfedfarm.com](http://www.solfedfarm.com)

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

*Paid Advertisement*



### 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

### September 2025

**September 2:** Recycling 7-11 am, 3-7 pm; Fire Business Meeting 7 pm

**September 3:** Homesteaders 12:30 pm

**September 4:** Recycling 3-7 pm

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

**September 9:** Recycling 7-11 am, 3-7 pm

**September 11:** Recycling 3-7 pm; Town Board Meeting 6:30 pm

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

**September 16:** Recycling 7-11 am, 3-7 pm; Fire Training Meeting 7 pm

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

**September 18:** Recycling 3-7 pm

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

**September 23:** Recycling 7-11 am, 3-7 pm

**September 25:** Recycling 3-7 pm; Planning Commission Meeting 6:30 pm

**September 27:** Recycling 8 am-noon

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

### October 2025

**October 1:** Homesteaders 12:30 pm

**October 2:** Recycling 3-7 pm

**October 4:** Recycling 8 am-noon

**October 7:** Recycling 7-11 am, 3-7 pm; Fire Business Meeting 7 pm

**October 9:** Recycling 3-7 pm; Town Board Meeting 6:30 pm

**October 11:** Recycling 8 am-noon

**October 14:** Recycling 7-11 am, 3-7 pm; Fire Training Meeting 7 pm

**October 15:** D/NSSD Volunteer Board Meeting at French River Lutheran Church 7 am

**October 16:** Recycling 3-7 pm

**October 18:** Recycling 8 am-noon

**October 21:** Recycling 7-11 am, 3-7 pm

**October 23:** Recycling 3-7 pm; Planning Commission meeting 6:30 pm

**October 25:** Recycling 8 am-noon

**October 28:** Recycling 7-11 am, 3-7 pm

**October 30:** Recycling 3-7 pm



# DULUTH TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

September 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**

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.

