

Solway Section Lines

VOLUME 24 ISSUE 1

JANUARY 2018

Happy New Year

The Solway Town Board wishes each of you and yours a blessed and prosperous New Year! May you enjoy the love of family, support of friends, and an abundance of good health.

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## 2018 Citizen of the Year Award Nomination

Each year we welcome nominations for the Solway Citizen of the Year Award. Criteria for the award include the nominee being a township resident/property owner, 18 years of age or older and has donated considerable time and talent to the betterment of our community as a volunteer.

The winner of the award is honored for his/her contributions at the Township Annual Meeting in March. The recipient receives a personal plaque of recognition. In addition, the winner's name is added to the hall of fame plaque at the town hall which honors all previous winners of the award. Please submit your nominations to the town office by the first of February.

Past recipients of the award are: Axel Carlson 1992, Valeria Witte 1993, Katherine Miller 1994, Kenneth Hayes 1995, Walt Carlson 1996, Winifred Freed 1997, Centennial Committee 1998, Arnie Whiting 1999, Mary Bush 2000, Jim Miller 2001, Betty Everett 2002, Karen and Rick Flesvig 2003, Isabelle Callahan 2006, Wayne Sullin 2008, John Childers 2009, Joan Gajewski 2010, Larry Shelton 2011, Jeff Nelson 2013, Darlene Miller 2014, Kareen Nelson 2015, Shirley Nylund 2016 and Marcie Keppers 2017. Congratulations to all of them!

## Annual Meeting & Township Elections March 13, 2018

The Election polls will be open from NOON to 8:00 PM to election one Supervisor for a three-year term. The Annual Meeting will commence at 8:30 PM to conduct all necessary business as prescribed by law.

Some of the agenda items to be discussed at the Annual Meeting are as follows:

- 2018 Citizen of the Year
- Report of the 2017 Receipts and Disbursements
- Review of Town Hall rental fees and regulations
- Review of Cemetery regulations
- Fire Department Report
- Proposed Budget and Levy for 2019

In case of bad weather, the Annual Town Meeting and Election will be held at the same time and place on the third Tuesday of March.

## Filing for Township Election

Filing for Township Supervisor position will be held for a two week period beginning January 2, 2018. Filing will close on January 16, 2018 at 5:00 PM. The filing fee is \$2.00.

Affidavits of Candidacy shall be filed with the Town Clerk at Solway Town Hall, 4029 Munger Shaw Road, Cloquet, MN during this period of time. Township office hours are Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 9 AM to 3 PM. To file, come to the town office during office hours or contact the Town Clerk at 729-5134 to set an appointment.

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### SOLWAY TOWN BOARD

**Chairperson:** Clare R. Stromlund  
**Supervisors:** Scott Welsh and Ron Gajewski  
**Clerk:** Theresa Jensen  
**Deputy Clerk:** Regena Merritt  
**Treasurer:** Cindy Moe  
**Office Hours:** M, T, Th 9-3

**For Hall Rentals call 729-5134, leave your name, number and date wanted.**  
**Phone: 218-729-5134**  
**Fax: 218-729-5651**

**Township website:**  
[solwaytownship-MN.gov](http://solwaytownship-MN.gov)

**Email:**  
[solwayclerk@hotmail.com](mailto:solwayclerk@hotmail.com)

## 2017 Accomplishments

Looking to 2018, your Township Board reviews the accomplishments of 2017. Some of them are listed below:

- WLSSD grant in the amount of \$7,727.52 received for our recycling shed operations.
- Completed scheduled road improvements, dust control, roadside mowing, ditching and brushing.. St. Louis County requested turnaround improvements and contracts with adjoining property owners if their land is infringed upon.
- Developed an additional water resource for fighting fires at the Rogalla property on Morris Thomas Road.
- Hosted recognition dinner for current and former firefighters, Flamettes and employees.
- Special Events Committee: Winter Fun Day, Halloween Carnival, National Night Out.
- Hosted Bill Pelto's monthly Country Music Show.
- Continued maintenance of town hall and facilities for residents use. 395 events were scheduled in 2017.
- Completed benches and signs on the Witte hiking trail.

If you have suggestions for improvements you would like the Town Board to pursue, give us a call or bring your ideas to a board meeting.

### Road Maintenance Update

Roadside brushing, tree trimming, culvert replacement, ditching, grass cutting and grading are completed for the year.

St. Louis County has newer and larger snowplowing trucks with belly plows and side wings that require bigger turnaround areas on our dead end township roads. We thank our residents at the end of these roads for allowing St. Louis County and Township Road maintenance vehicles to spill over from our turnarounds onto their driveways and property when turning around. This is greatly appreciated.

We thank all our residents who have reported street light outages, failing culverts and other maintenance issues to the town office so we could address the problems.

### New Solway Residents?

If you have new neighbors in the Township that aren't getting the Solway Section Lines Newsletter, please let them know to call the town office at 218-729-5134 to be put on the mailing list.

### Street Lights.....

If you've noticed a street light at one of our intersections being out or going off and on at night, please call the town office at 218-729-5134 to report it.

## Winter Fun Day: "Free for all"

Our winter fun day is scheduled for Saturday, January 27, 1:00 to 5:00 PM. This FREE event is sponsored by Solway Township's Special Events Committee for all township residents/property owners so remind your friends and neighbors.

Activities planned at the writing of this article include hayrides, skating, sliding, bonfire, bingo and free food: coffee, hot chocolate, hot dogs, chips, cookies, bars and smores. Food is served all afternoon so come for lunch and stay for supper. The Special Events Committee is picking up the tab with proceeds earned from our Halloween Carnival.

Free bingo will run 2:00 to 5:00 PM. Each player may play up to four free cards at a time to vie for a \$10 winner's pot.

A Special Events Committee Meeting is being held Monday, January 15th at 6:30 PM to complete planning for the day. New faces and ideas are always welcome so if you'd like to help, come to this meeting at the Town Hall.

### Country Music 1st Saturday of Each Month

Bill Pelto and his entourage of singers and musicians continue their country music shows at the town hall. First quarter dates of 2018 are January 6th, February 3rd and March 3rd. The music starts at 6:00 PM and runs till about 9:15 PM. A potluck (bring a food dish to share) starts at 5:00 PM prior to the music show for those wishing to participate.

None of the performers are paid as they volunteer their time and talent. A free will offering is appreciate to cover show production expenses. Let's all support the show so we can keep live music performances at the town hall. Bring your dancing shoes and be sure to thank Bill and the other entertainers.

### Skating Fun

At the writing of this newsletter, plans are made for getting our rink flooded. Our firefighters will continue working to get usable ice laid. Hopefully the weather will cooperate. When the rink is ready to open, it will be posted on the township sign. Feel free to use the rink anytime at your family's convenience. The rink is lighted from dusk to 10:00 PM everyday.

For your comfort the warming house will be open on Saturdays and Sundays from 1:00 PM to 6:00 PM. During this time a township staff member will be available to distribute hot chocolate. Staff will be manning the counter and not be in a position to provide supervision on the rink. If your children are of an age needing supervision, you or another adult must be present. If we have bad weather, the warming shed will be closed.

## Community Club News...

### Solway Senior Citizens

Any Senior Citizens from the surrounding area welcome to join us. We meet monthly on the third Thursday at 1:00 PM. The next meeting is Feb 15, 2018.

### Maple Grove 4-H

We meet once a month at the Solway Town Hall. New members are welcome at any time. If interested in jointing, contact Amy Johnson at 218-729-0503.

### Monday Bunch

We meet every Monday at 12:30 PM-4:00PM. We share Ideas in crafts, knit and crochet. We have two craft sales a year. The last Saturday in April and the last Saturday in September from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. There is a \$10 charge for a table. Call Bonnie at 218-792-8382 to reserve a spot. We do crafts in the spring, and crafts and rummage in the fall. The money we get from tables is used for kitchen supplies in the town hall, special events at the town hall, Proctor Food Shelf, flowers at the town hall and advertising our sales. We divide up money at the end of the year for these projects.

### Lakehead Harvest Reunion

The Lakehead Harvest Reunion meets the first Monday of each month at Solway Town Hall at 7:00 PM. Our annual meeting and potluck will be held Feb 10, 2018. We meet in the downstairs of the town hall.

### South St. Louis County Fair-Proctor

The website is proctorduluthfair.com. Our fair dates will be July 11th to the 15th for 2018. Tuesday July 10th from 1:00 PM to 7:30 PM is entry day! For Industrial Building/Creative Arts and 4-H go to the website for premium list.

In case you are a new exhibitor, the prices listed next to the exhibit is your prize NOT an entry fee. So start getting your exhibits ready and we will see you in July!

We will have more information in the March Newsletter. If you have any questions or ideas, please contact Mary Korich at 218-348-1453 or Frank Siiro at 218-591-6274.

### Flamettes

Thank you to all you came out to the SVFD's Bingo at Thanksgiving. We did very well. The next one will be Saturday, March 24, 2018. Hope to see you then!

We will also be having the pancake breakfast on Sunday April 29th 8:00 AM to Noon.

Come join us, we meet the first Monday of the month at 7:00 PM at the town hall. Thank you again for your support.

### 2017 Halloween Carnival—Review

Ninja Turtles, pirates, princesses, haunted maze-we had all this and more at the Carnival held October 27th. People of all ages-kids to seniors-enjoyed the fun and excitement of skill games, cake walk, bingo and winning raffle prizes. There was good food, conversations and fellowship for all who came. It was your coming that made the carnival successful once again.

Nothing just happens and it took dozens of individuals-adults and students alike-to organize, prepare and work the carnival. We thank each and everyone of you for sharing your time and talents. The Solway Special Events Committee would like to thank the businesses, organizations and individuals who contributed to the 2017 Munger Halloween Carnival. Without their support the event would not be possible.

### Motion is Lotion Class

Designed to focus on breathing techniques, stress reduction, agility, balance, muscle tone and cardiovascular stamina. Karen Rathe Ruona is the instructor and classes are held at the Solway Town Hall Mondays and Wednesdays 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM. Classes starts January 8, 2018 and is free.

### Bookmobile Schedule

The Bookmobile comes every three weeks on Thursday afternoons at 3:00 PM. They're in the parking lot 45 minutes before moving on to their next location. The next scheduled visits are January 11; February 1st and 22nd and March 15th.

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### Culvert Permits

Access to private properties off township roads require a township permit for the installation of property entrance culverts. Obtaining a permit requires a \$100 fee of which \$50 is returned to the property owner after the final inspection and the culvert is found to be properly installed.

An initial inspection of the proposed site for installation of the culvert is done with the applicant. At the inspection, the length and diameter of the culvert as well as the grade and ditching requirements for the installation are determined. The applicant can make arrangements for the installation.

After the completion of the installation, a final inspection occurs prior to getting the \$50 returned.

A permit may be picked up during office hours or mailed to the applicant as well.

## Broadband—Update

In June of this year, we started a broadband committee to help jumpstart the expansion of high-speed internet access in the township. Our goal in starting the committee was to make sure that high-speed internet was available to every resident in the township.

After two meetings of the committee and a number of exploratory phone calls, we discovered that Centurylink plans to bring high-speed internet access to about 95% of the township, with no cost to the township for this upgrade.

Starting in late Spring of 2018, Centurylink will hopefully begin the process of upgrading the lines along the roads to facilitate the high-speed internet connections. What will be available is a minimum of 10 megabits download speed, 1 megabit upload speed. This is on average 10 times faster than what is currently available to most residents.

The upgrades will take some time, but we have been told that everyone should be able to upgrade to high-speed internet (if they so choose) by 2020. This is made possible because Centurylink accepted federal funds through the Connect America project.

There are a few things of which people should be aware. The monthly rates for the upgraded service are not yet known, but will likely be an increase from what people are paying now.

We do not have an exact timeline for when the service will become available to each residence, but I have been told that signs will be put up in areas that will indicate that people can call and upgrade.

If anyone has any specific questions, feel free to contact me at any time. Thank you! Chris Eillian, Broadband Committee Chairperson, 218-590-2413.

## ANNUAL MEETING and TOWN BOARD ELECTION

Tuesday, March 13, 2018

Solway Town Hall

Polls open: 12 Noon—8:00 PM

Annual Meeting: 8:30 PM

To vote absentee contact the town office  
218-729-5134

## Minnesota Association of Townships Scholarship

The Minnesota Association of Townships is a nonprofit corporation representing Minnesota townships while being a voice for its roughly 9,000 officers. It regularly conducts research and educational programs designed to foster efficient and economical town governmental services and acts as a liaison between state government officials to encourage sustained cooperation.

The Minnesota Association of Townships is awarding \$1,000 scholarships to six juniors currently attending a Minnesota public, private or parochial high school, or home study program that plan to further their education at a college, university, or vocational school. Applicants must complete an application form and submit it along with a written essay discussing this year's topic:

**New energy developments are everywhere. Wind and solar farms dot the landscape. Transmission lines and pipelines traverse the countryside. Township officials are on the front line needing to respond to residents' concerns of placement of energy projects and possible adverse health and safety issues. How can townships balance the required needs of residents for safe, reliable energy sources while responding to the health, safety, economic and environmental concerns of their community?**

Essays must be between 450 and 500 words, and must be typed with double spacing. Applicants should not name themselves, their school, their town or city, or their local officials in the essay. Each essay will be judged by an independent panel based upon originality, knowledge of subject matter in relationship to the title, and supporting statements, as well as correct spelling and punctuation. **The judging will be completed by October 1, 2018.**

Along with the completed application and written essay, students must submit a current high school transcript and a letter of recommendation from a high school teacher or counselor. **All items must be submitted in one envelope and mailed to: Minnesota Association of Townships Scholarship Program, P.O. Box 267, St. Michael, MN 55376, postmarked by May 1, 2018. Incomplete applications or applications postmarked after May 1, 2018 will not be accepted.**

Winners will be notified in writing by mid October and will be invited to attend the Minnesota Association of Townships Annual Meeting to be held November 15-17, 2018 at the Duluth Entertainment Conference Center. Scholarships awards will be paid to the appropriate financial aid office upon receipt of verification of enrollment at a college or technical school. Applications can be obtained at the MAT website: [www.mntownships.org](http://www.mntownships.org).

### Obtaining an Address

Where do I obtain my address number and sign? The assignment of addresses is handled differently in rural St. Louis County than it is in municipalities:

Addresses are assigned to primary structures by the St. Louis County 911 Communications Department. You can reach the addressing division at 218-726-2920. When requesting an address be prepared to provide the following information:

- Owner Name/Taxpayer Name
- Possible neighbors name(s) & each of their respective 911 address numbers.

Addresses will be assigned to raw land only if an application for a building or septic permit has been initiated. A copy of the permit should be sent to the addressing unit in the Duluth Communications Center.

St. Louis County 911 Communications Dept.  
2030 N. Arlington Avenue Duluth, MN 55811  
Phone: 218-726-2920 Fax: 218-726-2923  
E-mail: [addressing@co.st-louis.mn.us](mailto:addressing@co.st-louis.mn.us)

St. Louis County has rules for posting assigned rural addresses so emergency vehicles can easily locate the property. Some of the rules include:

- New signs installed after March, 2003 must be installed perpendicular to the roadway surface.
- It is your responsibility to maintain the address sign so it is visible year round.
- Placement regulations are defined in the "Rural Address Sign Placement Guide"

A copy of both the Ordinance #41 and the placement guidelines may be obtained at:  
[www.co-st-louis.mn.us/departments/sheriff911communications](http://www.co-st-louis.mn.us/departments/sheriff911communications)

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### New Cemetery Sign

### YOUR POLITICAL CONTACTS

US Sen Amy Klobuchar—302 Hart Senate Office Bldg  
Washington DC 1-202-224-3244  
Virginia, MN Office 1-888-224-9043

US Sen Tina Smith —320 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington DC 1-202-224-5641  
Duluth, MN 722-2390

US Rep Rick Nolan—2447 Rayburn House Office Bldg  
Washington DC 1-202-225-6211  
Duluth, MN 218-464-5094

Minnesota Governor Mark Dayton—130 State Capitol  
St. Paul, MN 1-651-201-3400 or 800-657-3717

MN Sen Tom Bakk-State Capitol room 226  
1-651-296-8881

MN Rep Mary Murphy-443 State Office Building  
1-651-296-2676 or 800-890-5428

County Commissioner Pete Stauber  
Duluth Court House  
726-2450

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### Recycling Information

#### The Truth About Styrofoam

Styrofoam: In order for a product to be recycled, there has to be a buyer on the other end that wants to make something out of that product. Unfortunately, there is no market for Styrofoam. This means that Styrofoam has to go in the trash. Your best option is to avoid it in the first place whenever possible. Use your own coffee mug, choose reusable plates, and pack items in newspaper instead of packing peanuts whenever possible.

#### Solway Township Recycling Shed

Location: 4029 Munger Shaw Road  
Hours: Wed. 3:30PM—6:30PM  
Sat. 7:00AM—Noon

Questions??  
Call WLSSD Hotline

### Online Burning Permit System

The online burning permit system will now allow the public to hear the current status and restrictions for any county that is in the system as an electronic county. Follow the steps below to get the most up to date information regarding burning restrictions: Call Phone No. 866-533-2876, push option 7 followed by the # sign, the county number (69 for St. Louis) followed by the # sign. DNR Forestry No.: 218-878-5642



**Town Office**  
**4029 Munger Shaw Road**  
**Cloquet, MN 55720**

**Phone: 218-729-5134**  
**Fax: 218-729-5651**  
**Email: solwayclerk@hotmail.com**

PRSR STD  
U.S. Postage  
Paid  
Permit No. 665  
Duluth, MN

Change Service Requested

## *Solway Section Lines*

### **Township Events Calendar**

Jan. 6 .....Country Music Show and Potluck 5:00 PM  
Jan. 9.....Town Board Meeting 6:30 PM  
Jan. 11 .....Bookmobile 3:00—3:45 PM  
Jan. 15 ..... Special Events Committee Meeting 6:30 PM  
Jan. 27..... Winter Fun Day 1:00—5:00 PM  
Feb. 1.....Bookmobile 3:00—3:45 PM  
Feb. 3 .....Country Music Show and Potluck 5:00 PM  
Feb 13 .....Town Board Meeting -6:30 PM  
Feb 22 .....Bookmobile 3:00-3:45 PM  
Mar 3 .....Country Music Show and Potluck-5:00 PM  
Mar 13 .....Township Elections noon to 8:00PM  
Mar 13 ..... Annual Meeting 8:30 PM  
Mar 15 .....Bookmobile 3:00-3:34 PM  
April 10 .....Town Board Meeting 6:30 PM  
April 28 .....Monday Bunch Craft Sale 9:00-1:00 PM  
April 29.....Pancake Breakfast 8AM—Noon