

Solway Section Lines

VOLUME 26 ISSUE 4

OCTOBER 2020

In Recognition...

October is fire prevention month. It's a time to become aware of fire hazards that may lurk around our homes and to do something about correcting them. It's a time to teach our children how to get out of the house and where the family should gather outside in case a fire should occur. It's a time to check our fire alarms and fire extinguishers to ensure they're functioning properly. It's a time to be grateful for the men and women who daily serve the Solway community as firefighters and medical first responders.

It's easy to forget that these volunteers stand ready 24 hours a day seven days a week to come to your or my aid in case of a medical or fire tragedy. They not only respond to fires, accidents or medical emergencies but also put in hours for maintenance of equipment, planning/business meetings and training opportunities to acquire needed skills and to maintain certifications. Being a firefighter is a family commitment as well. Family members wait at home to hear from their loved one that may be in "harms way". Helping others takes time away from family members at home.

Solway Township is fortunate to have men and women willing to give of themselves and have the support of their families in providing these services to our families and community. Nationally, statewide and even more locally, communities are in crisis because as firefighters retire or for some reason resign from service, new recruits are not available to continue in their places. Consequently families, homes, businesses and forest resources are more endangered and fire insurance rates are escalating.

Let's not take our good fortune for granted, but be sure to thank our firefighters for their continued service. Our current firefighters are:

Nick Priolo - Chief
Mark Vogel - 1st Capt
Adam Ross
Martina Jeka
Tommy Jacobson

Bob Priolo - Asst Chief
Boo Hanson-Vice President
Mike Jeka-Secretary
Amber Porter
Colin Vogel
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Brandon Porter  
Veronica Priolo-Treasurer  
Lisa Vogel-Rescue Captain  
Kyle Vogel

Solway Township's facilities are the busiest in the county. Prior to COVID-19 there was seldom a weekend or weekday evening that cars weren't parked at the town hall for some event. People continue to compliment the clerk or other board members on how beautiful and well cared for are our town hall and facilities. This doesn't just happen but is due to the conscientiousness and ownership values of your township employees. We appreciate their keeping our Townsite grounds, buildings and the Solway Cemetery in good condition.

Leon Forstrom currently does our grounds keeping and building maintenance with the help of Butch Lund who also does our roadside mowing. Horst Blumerich supervises the recycling shed operation. We appreciate their consistent good work.

## Recognition Dinner in Jeopardy due to COVID-19

The Solway Electorate at the Annual Meeting in March authorized the Town Board to host a recognition dinner for our firefighters and their spouse/guest; retired firefighters and their spouse/guest; current and retired Flamettes and their spouse/guest and our employees and their spouse/guest. All of these individuals deserve our thanks and recognition for a job well done in service to the Solway Community.

Your Township Board will continue to monitor Federal and State regulations regarding social gatherings to determine if it will be possible to hold this event prior to the end of the calendar year.

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## SOLWAY TOWN BOARD

**Chairperson:** Clare R. Stromlund  
**Supervisors:** Ron Gajewski and Scott Welsh  
**Clerk:** Autumn Marquardt  
**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**

**Email:**  
**solwayclerk@hotmail.com**

## Snow Removal for 2020-2021

St. Louis County will be providing snow plowing on our Township roads again this year. Paved roads are plowed as snow accumulates but dirt roads won't be plowed unless four inches accumulate. It's very difficult to remove snow in early winter and early spring when gravel road surfaces are not frozen. The plows gouge into the gravel surface causing ruts and plowing the gravel into the ditches.

County plow operators try to leave as little snow as possible across driveways. County removal of this window is not feasible and is the property owners responsibility. A suggestion is when you plow your driveway, also plow the road driving lane closest to your property about 25 feet or so in the direction from which the plow comes. As the plow approaches and hits the plowed area the plows snow load will empty leaving very little to go across your driveway. We are reminded that it is unlawful to plow or blow snow onto or across County Roads.

Solway Township is not responsible for any property damage or clean up due to snow plowing.

Township Roads include:

|                   |                       |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Ayers—0.2         | Mettsa—0.25           |
| Bailey—0.2        | Peterson—0.3          |
| Berquist—0.9      | Sandberg North of Hwy |
| Birchway—0.25     | #2—0.65               |
| Cedarway—0.2      | Sandberg South—1.25   |
| Gaus—0.6          | Stonelake—0.4         |
| Hanson—0.9        | Strom—0.25            |
| Heine—0.5         | Tondryk—0.5           |
| Jeffrey—1.25      | VanGassler—1.25       |
| Jerry—2.15        | Wargin—0.5            |
| Lindrose—1.0      | Woodgate—0.6          |
| Mattson North—0.3 |                       |
| Mattson South—0.5 | Total Mileage 14.9    |

## Road Maintenance Update

Roadside brushing, tree trimming, culvert replacement and ditching is completed for the year. Roadside grass cutting and grading will continue as needed.

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, downed trees and other maintenance issues to the town office so we could address the problems.

## Cemetery Reminder

Township Cemetery regulations require that all flowers and plants allowed in our cemetery must be removed by Sept. 30. Beginning Oct. 10, township personnel will remove all flowers and plants from the individual grave sites and assemble them inside the cemetery fence north of the Van Gassler Road entrance where they will stay until Oct. 24. After Oct. 24 all unclaimed flower pots, holders, etc. will be disposed of by township personnel. The Town Board as recommended by the electorate at the annual meeting allows solar lights at gravesites year round. Please claim all other items by Oct. 24. Our cemetery American Flag will be retired for the winter months to be re-flown next spring.

## General Election 2 Methods of Voting

### In Poll Voting:

Voting will occur at the Solway Town Hall polling place between 7AM and 8PM as usual. What will be different are COVID-19 protocols;

- Please wear a mask in and about the town hall.
- Hand sanitizer stations will be located inside entrances.
- Markings will be on the floor to facilitate social distancing both on the porch and inside the building.
- Voting booths will have every other stall closed.
- You can vote at set up tables if you prefer.
- Please maintain social distancing when moving from registration table to ballot judge table, to voting booths, to ballot counter.
- Please limit any visiting of friends to outside the building and not congregate inside the building.
- Disinfected pens will be given to you with your ballot; please put them in the drop off containers by the doors as you leave. They will be re-disinfected and used again.
- Voting booth shelves and tables will be disinfected between users. Please allow election workers time and space to do this. Thank you. Be well.

### Absentee Voting:

- You can apply for a ballot any time during the year, except the day of the election. Leave time for election officials to mail your ballot and for you to return it on or before Election Day.
- If you are a resident of St. Louis County and want to vote by absentee ballot, you must complete and submit an absentee ballot application to St. Louis County. Absentee ballots are available 46 days before an election.
- To apply online go to the Secretary of State website [www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting](http://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting). click on the link Online Absentee Ballot Application. To download a paper application click on Paper Absentee Ballot Application.
- Return applications to the County Auditor's Office. Mail applications to St. Louis County Auditor, 100 N 5th Ave. W., Room 214, Duluth, MN 55802; E-mail: [elections@stlouiscountymn.gov](mailto:elections@stlouiscountymn.gov); or Fax: 218-725-5060; Phone: 218-726-2385

## Community Club News...

### Solway Senior Citizens

Solway Senior Citizens meet every third Thursday of the month at 1:00pm at the Solway Town Hall. The object of this organization is to promote sociability among senior citizens. All senior citizens are invited to attend who live in the area. You don't need to be a resident of the Township. We have speakers, entertainment or play bingo at our meetings. Coffee and snacks are provided. Feel free to join us!

### 4-H Opportunities

Currently there's no 4-H Club in Solway Township as former members grew up and out of the program. If you have a child that would like to be involved in the 4-H experience contact the County 4-H Program coordinated by Tim Canines at 218-733-2873

### Monday Bunch

Crafters welcome! Come join us on Mondays from 12:30-4pm; except on Holidays. Bring your work and share your talents. We have a coffee and snack break. We will have our craft/rummage sale on Saturday Sept. 26th from 9AM -1PM. New Vendors. Some of the new items are sewn bags, walking sticks, yarn and patterns, old jewelry, toys, masks, refurbished items, crochet knit cards, decorative crafts and kitchen items. Masks/distancing required. Our spring sale will be April 24th.

### Lakehead Harvest Reunion

Hay rides at the show grounds in December are tentatively scheduled for the weekends of the 4th, 5th 6th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 18th, 19th and 20th. Pictures with Santa and food are available. The rides are handicapped accessible.

Our regular meetings are the 1st Monday of each month at 7:00pm downstairs at the Solway Town Hall. New members are always welcome!

### Munger Goodfellowship Club

With the pandemic our gatherings were put on hold. When things improve allowing our members to again gather we'll schedule meetings. In the meantime please be safe.

### South St. Louis County Fair-Proctor

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

The Annual Board meeting will be Tuesday Oct. 20th at Solway Town Hall. Social at 6PM; meeting at 7PM to elect Directors. Masks required. July 28th-August 1st 2021 will be fair dates.

We all hope to see you there.

### Notary Service

Your Town Clerk is a State Licensed Notary. If you have documents that need your signature notarized call the town office and arrange a time to meet. This service is free of charge. Remember that it's necessary that you sign your document in the notary's presence as they are testifying to and certifying that it is your signature.

### It's Cub Scout time

Looking for something to do—there's still Cub Scouts. The new season starts Sunday September 27th. We're meeting in the downstairs of Solway Town Hall at 4PM every other Sunday for 1 1/2 hours. The Town Hall 4029 Munger Shaw Rd, Cloquet is located on the corner of Hwy #2 and Munger Shaw Rd. Use the downstairs entrance under the front porch.

Cub Scouts are for boys and girls Kindergarten through 5th grade. New members are always welcome, come and learn life skills while having fun doing so. On the 27th we're having a "rain gutter regatta." Just bring yourselves, a good attitude and find out all about scouts and participate in the regatta.

All gatherings are Covid-19 compliant.

Contact Jenny 218-380-8412 for more information.

### Fire Numbers

**We cannot find you if we cannot see your fire number!**

Please remove obstructions blocking your number:  
tree branches, brush, weeds, etc.

Thank you, SVFD Firefighters/ First Responders

### You! You! You!

Not the other guy. Not the other gal. But you. Solway Volunteer Fire Department needs you to step up and be available to help your family, friends, neighborhood and community. You can make a difference. You can save a life. you can help save someone's home.

If you're graduating from school and are 18 years old being a 1st responder/firefighter can be the outlet for serving others. If your job doesn't always provide a sense of belonging you could join our fire team. You can meet new friends. You can feel the joy of accomplishment when a life is saved or a house is still available to be "home" to a family. Whatever your current circumstances are open the door to a new life venture.

We just need you to say "I'm available to serve" and we'll do the rest. We'll provide the knowledge through training and actual experience at fire and medical scenes to get you to the point of certification and self confidence of your contribution to the team.

Please step up and call 729-6304.

**The Fire Departments bingo and pancake breakfast fundraisers are on hold and will be rescheduled once social gatherings can take place safely.**

## Bookmobile Service

The Arrowhead Library System provides a variety of library materials to the people of northeastern Minnesota. Books and other materials are checked out for three weeks and are due back the next date the Bookmobile will stop at your location.

Books taken from the Bookmobile may be returned at any Bookmobile stop or member library. Your Arrowhead Library System borrower's card may be used on the bookmobile, or at the 29 member public libraries.

In case of bad weather, or breakdown, library materials are automatically renewed for three weeks.

Available on your Bookmobile are:

- Adult and Children's Books
- Large Print Books
- DVDs and Blu-rays
- Audio Books
- Music CD's
- Video games
- Interlibrary Loans

During the next calendar quarter the bookmobile will be at the town hall Thursday Oct 15th, Nov 5th and Dec 17th— 3:00 to 3:45pm.

**Mail-A-Book** service is also available to Bookmobile patrons. The Mail-A-Book catalog is a collection of paperback books, DVDs, audio books, which are lent free of charge by mail. New catalogs are produced twice a year. This tax-supported service is available to most rural and homebound residents of Carlton, Cook, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake, Lake of the Woods, and St. Louis Counties in northern Minnesota.

For further information, contact the:

Arrowhead Library System  
5528 Emerald Ave.  
Mt. Iron, MN 55768  
218-741-3840 or 1-800-257-1442  
[www.alslib.info](http://www.alslib.info)

## Solway's Park Facilities

During the COVID period it's important to have opportunities for outdoor fun and activities. Our park facilities are open every day and spread out enough as to accommodate many people at a given time. While fields and courts are available bring your own sporting equipment such as basketballs, baseball bats and balls, horseshoes, volleyballs, soccer balls, tennis rackets and balls, etc. Please share areas so all can enjoy the day.

Four legged family members are always welcome but please keep them leashed so as not to disrupt others. We don't provide droppings bags so please bring your own.

## The Flamettes

When you tell people you are a member of the Flamettes they have grand images of majorette costumes and flaming batons being hurled through the air. What we actually are is an auxiliary for the Solway Volunteer Fire Department. We hold several events throughout the year to raise money to help purchase equipment needed by these volunteers to ensure their safety, and also to provide supplies needed to help the members of our township and surrounding townships. These family friendly events bring our township together as a community. So go ahead and step outside your door for our next event! You'll be able to talk to neighbors, catch up with old friends and perhaps meet new people!

Our members consist of four officers: Lori Johnson, President; Stacy Stuber, Vice President; Stacie Oakland, Secretary; and Kristi Modich-Treasurer.

Other members include Mary Bush, Karen Hildre, Barbara Mattson, Shirley Nylund, Bonnie Siiro, Clare Stromlund, Sharen VanDenHeuvel and April Vogel.

Over the past years, the Flamettes have given the Solway Volunteer Fire Department about \$17,000. None of this would be possible without our town coming together and supporting our events. So come to our bingos and try to snatch one of Karen Hildre's amazing Special K bars! Support our pancake breakfast and get some sausage from Clare who looks so debonair wearing his frilly apron, or join our group and support our community and our hard-working department. We meet the first Monday of each month at 7pm at the Town Hall.

Future events are on hold due to the pandemic. When safe, the bingos and pancake breakfast will be scheduled for your enjoyment.

## Current Community Ed Class Offered at Solway Town Hall

Martial Arts—American Tae Kwon Do  
Weds 6:00 PM—8:00 PM beginning Oct. 7th - Dec. 23rd  
Ongoing sign ups available  
Contact Proctor Hermantown Community Ed at [www.ceconnects.com](http://www.ceconnects.com) or 218-628-6293

Martial Arts is designed to teach focus, concentration, muscle development, balance and gross motor coordination. The instructor uses a traditional and contemporary approach to training in Tae Kwon Do, Kickboxing, and some Kung Fu.

Proctor Hermantown Community Education offers many classes at other area locations. If you have not received their Fall 2020 Community Education brochure please contact them to request one at 218-729-9313.. Covid-19 protocols will be followed.

## Country Music Show

Our monthly Country Music Show remains hostage to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

It's hard to social distance while enjoying a meal with friends or kicking up your heels on the dance floor. While Keith and Sharon Olson are ready and willing to reconvene the monthly show we must wait for social interaction protocols to allow us to do so. COVID finds too many victims as it is. We don't need to provide any additional opportunities for it to spread.

Hopefully we'll have encouraging information in the January Section Lines as to when the show can be reinstated. Any changes before then will be put on the Township sign and website.

## Halloween Carnival Cancelled

Our Annual Halloween Carnival is another victim of COVID this year. Those of you who have attended past carnivals rightly know there's no chance of social distancing at the event. Our hall has been packed with kids and families enjoying the evenings fun and games. Our volunteer staff will miss enjoying the evening with you. Hope to see you next year,. Thanks for your past support.

## Online Burning Permits

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is pleased to offer citizens the option to purchase annual open burning permits online. Permits obtained through this system are valid for the calendar year in which they are purchased, but must be activated each day burning occurs by calling 866-533-2876. The fee for this annual open burning permit is five dollars (\$5.00). For more information visit the website: [www.dnr.state.mn.us](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us)

You may also get your permit at the local DNR office at 1604 Hwy 33 South, Cloquet. Phone: 218-878-5640.

## You Have a Place: Solway Town Hall

Did you know the town hall is available to residents/property owners of the township for your family events? The hall is used for weddings, receptions, funerals, luncheons, birthday parties, graduation parties, family reunions, family gatherings to celebrate Baptisms or Confirmations, family rummage sales, craft sales, etc. If you have an upcoming event and your home is too small or you can't trust the weather for an outdoor gathering think "town hall".

The hall is available to each family once per year free of charge unless you serve alcohol. If you have a gathering where alcoholic beverages are served a security officer is hired by the township at \$35 per hour paid by the renter plus a \$100 non-refundable clean up charge must be paid. There is also a \$600 damage deposit that is refunded if the hall is left in good condition. A \$25 reservation fee is necessary to reserve the hall for all rentals, but refundable after the event. Call the town hall at 729-5134.

## Recycling Shed News

### HOURS:

Wednesdays 3PM-6PM

Saturdays 8AM-1PM

### Current recyclables accepted:

**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*

### **Broadband Speed Test**

**Minnesota Employment and Economic Development is asking the public to report the type and speed of internet available at their residence. If the internet is not available at your residence, you can report that as well.**

**To report go to  
[https://mn.gov/deed/  
programs-services/  
broadband/  
checkspeedmn/](https://mn.gov/deed/programs-services/broadband/checkspeedmn/)**

### **Township Events Calendar**

September 26..... Craft and Rummage sale 9:00AM-1:00 PM  
October 13.....Town Board Meeting 6:30PM  
October 15.....Bookmobile 3:00-3:45  
NOVEMBER 3.....GENERAL ELECTION POLL OPEN 7AM-8PM  
November 5.....Bookmobile 3:00-3:45  
November 10.....Town Board Meeting 6:30PM  
December 8.....Town Board Meeting 6:30PM  
December 17.....Bookmobile 3:00-3:45