www.LookAtLakeside.com April/May 2026

LOOK at LAKESIDE

LAL is in color online.

Lakeside—Lester Park
bi-monthly newsletter since 2012

Interview with a Beekeeper

Danny Kraft grew up in the suburbs of Minneapolis and spent most weekends on the family farm in Pine County. He and his family moved to Lakeside in 2023. When he's not beekeeping or at his day job he enjoys fishing, hiking, and walks in the neighborhood.

He attributes being a beekeeper to growing up around agriculture and wanting to be a food producer.

A family member recommended Danny look into beekeeping many years ago and so he did. He has been raising honeybees for 10 years and runs 20-25 bee colonies.

He likes beekeeping and refers to it as "the perfect blend of blue collar work, science and agricultural." He also is pleased to produce a food product that people (most people) love.

There are challenges to being a beekeeper. Beekeeping is farming, and issues with weather, livestock and pests play a role. In the Northland, challenges are a shorter season, bears and skunks!

Continued on Page 7

Match the word to what the person loves.

1. Ailurophile
2. Opacarophile
3. Anthophile
4. Nephophile
5. Cynophile

A. Dogs
B. Cats
C. Flowers
D. Sunsets
E. Clouds

Answers on page 6.

Join LAL editor on **roadside clean-ups**—sections of Glenwood St and Central Entrance. Send email to be on helper list. Or just bring a bag to collect litter where you go.

RAISED GARDEN BEDS

A Simple Way to G r OW More in Less Space

Raised garden beds have become increasingly popular with home gardeners, and for good reason. Whether you are working with heavy clay soil, limited space, or uneven ground, raised beds can make growing vegetables and flowers easier and more productive.

A raised bed is simply a planting area where soil is elevated above the surrounding ground, often contained by wood, metal, or other materials. One advantage is that raised beds allow gardeners to create a well-structured growing environment for plants. Filling beds with a mix of topsoil and compost helps provide good drainage, aeration, and nutrient availability—conditions

Continued on Page 4

This fun birdhouse in a yard on 40th Ave. E. has had chickadees nesting in it the past few summers. The family brought the birdhouse north from their Indiana home when they moved to Duluth/Lakeside a few years ago. There also had a been a teapot turned into a birdhouse but that has since been broken.

The EPA Water Lab —since early 2025

[LAL sent questions to the EPA press. Here are the responses:]

What is the current name for the EPA lab in Duluth?

Over the past year, EPA has undertaken a strategic restructuring grounded in an unwavering commitment to gold-standard science. This transformation ensures that rigorous, evidence-based science continues to guide every decision we make to best fulfill our statutory obligations to protect human health and the environment, Power the Great American Comeback, and serve as exceptional stewards of taxpayer dollars. At the core of this restructuring is the integration of scientific expertise directly into EPA's offices. EPA is ensuring that gold-standard science continues to be infused into every rulemaking, technical assistance to states, and programmatic decision. This approach positions scientific rigor at the forefront of our mission, strengthening our capacity to meet statutory requirements with

Continued on Page 6

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& Events / Announcements

+ more…

Next Deadline *May 12

LOOK AT LAKESIDE
is a bi-monthly newsletter on people, places, happenings and history of Lakeside-Lester Park, Duluth, MN
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Full Moon
4/1 5/1 5/31

wendyupnorth day trips are listed on back page and online. Local trips will be added.

McCulloch Street Musings
from the Editor

SIGNS OF SPRING will appear- more and more. Puddles and mud, too. Wasn't it wild to be in the upper 40s °F in February? We were up at the Winter Fest in Ely looking at the wonderful snow sculptures that were melting away. Jane Goodall's head fell over. We also skied on a lake—nice and level compared to some trails that are a bit too hilly for my level. We enjoyed skiing in Duluth and Superior—by day and night. We had an expensive winter—car needing new tires, other car issues, and our furnace deciding to quit on a cold winter night needing nighttime attention by a specialist. 50°F indoor temp and going lower was chilly.

—I attended the St. Louis River Summit at UWS. Many presenters spoke about the health of the river. It's a process to improve the river, learn more about what is there, and expand growing wild rice—and keeping it from the Canada Geese who also like to eat it. Field trips, posters, and workshops were also part of the conference.

We went to the Coppertop Church in late Feb to watch a 1925 silent film while guest organist played music. The Austin pipe organ at the church has 3,318 pipes! It was given as a memorial to Chester and Clara Congdon by their children and grandchildren. The event was organized by the Arrowhead Chapter of the American Guild of Organists.

A chilly mid-March morning barely above 0°F. Swans make feathered bundles on the St. Louis River. In May go see if you can spot the pelicans by Chambers Grove

—The train will be coming through again. Don't you love the whistle? **May 9-National Train Day**.

—People don't wait until summer to wear shorts. Haven't you seen plenty of people wearing short sleeves and shorts even with snow on the ground? I may have shoveled snow wearing sandals. The new sled shovel purchased at Marshall Hardware added ease to pushing the snow away from the sidewalks. No snow blower—just muscle power. Spring yard work workouts ahead. Welcome spring? Temps >60°F? Enjoy the sunrises & moonrises. Do what you love.

Your neighbor, *Wendy*

Did you walk on the lake this winter?

There were times the ice was strong enough and even had the brilliant blue color on the stacked ice piles. The ice caves on the south shore were open for a short time. I visited them years ago. Ice fisherman were keeping warm in their tents. It was fun to ski in Superior on the frozen bays. Will you go for a swim this summer?

Thank you Deluxe Insurance Group!

A Look at Lakeside rack has been outside their office since covid time in 2020. When clinic waiting rooms wouldn't allow magazines, etc. the outdoor rack became a way to pick up a hard copy. The rack has had to be replaced multiple times as it gets damaged with plowed snow piles. The rack may have a new location soon.

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Put Name and Address here.

Thank you!

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A Handful of Events

>>April 4 EGGstravaganza.
Lake Superior Zoo.

>>April 7 Roundabout Construction update.
Duluth East. 5PM. Info presented will be posted on MNDOT website.

>>April 12 Trail Running Film Fest The West Theatre. Silent auction begins at 5:30. Films at 6:30PM. $25 in advance. $30 after 4/5 thewesttheatre.com

>>April 18 Climate Through the Eons: Lake Sediment Cores and the Tales They Tell 2PM. Duluth Main Library.

April 21 Marshmallow Catapults 3PM Mt Royal Branch Library. **Stories in Stone: Geology 101 for kids.** Main Library 4:30PM.

April 26-May 3 Duluth Homegrown Music Fest
Some concerts at Spirit of the Lake. Duluthhomegrown.org

>>May 12 Orchestra. Spring Concert
Duluth East. 7 PM

>>**May 7 Lion's Club Pancake Day**.
DECC
7AM-7PM

May 7-9
The Little Prince. Duluth East Auditorium. Student production. 7PM
Tickets $12, students $8.

>>**May 9 Native Music Festival.** Sacred Heart. 5PM-9PM.

>>**May 16 Northland 5K for Food Allergy** Starts in Canal Park. Kids Fun Run and 5K Walk/Run.

>>May 17-24 Duluth Dylan Fest

HAPPY EARTH DAY.

A bunch of events ranging from concert on the lawn of his former homes, singer-songwriter contest. Happy 85th Bob. Duluthdylanfest.com

>>May 19 Band Pops Concert Duluth East Auditorium 7pm

>>May 25
Duluth East Band will be in the Memorial Day Parade in West Duluth.

>>June 2 Choir Pop Concert. Duluth East. 7PM

Northland Garden Talks

… Online 6:30PM
April 9 *Growing Perennials*
May 14 *Gardening for Life*
More talks scheduled through fall.
FMI webmail@duluthMN.gov
218 730-4200
@ Mt Royal Library
4/13 From Soil to Seed 6:30PM

Hartley Sustainability Series- 3rd Thursdays

4/16 Forest Health
5/21 Native Plants & Pollinators
6/1818 Hands-On Skills
7/16 Community Action
5 PM-7PM Free.
hartleynature.org

One Book Northland 2026
Where They Last Saw Her by Marci R. Rendon.

Recommend a book. Where is your favorite Little Free Library in Lakeside?

Email wendyupnorth@gmail.com Do you know about the **Orphan Trains**? In the 1850s to about 1930 orphaned children from cities in the East were brought to the Mid-West including MN to be adopted mostly by farm families. Read about that piece of history at the Library, e.g. novel by Christina Baker Kline.

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Hello from above, Several pigeons made a home in a tree cavity above Lombard St. Mature trees can make perfect nesting sites (and insect food supply for some birds). The iridescent feathers on the pigeon light up in the sun.

Continued from Front page, garden

that support healthy root development and plant growth.

When building a raised bed, a few simple design choices can make gardening easier. Beds are often built about four feet wide so gardeners can comfortably reach the center from either side without stepping in. Bed height can vary, but even a structure 8–12 inches tall can provide noticeable benefits for many crops.

Material choice also matters. Untreated, rot-resistant wood such as cedar is commonly used. It is generally not recommended to line the bottom of beds with plastic, since this blocks drainage and limits root growth. Treated lumber is also typically avoided for food gardens.

St. Louis County Extension staff are here to help with your gardening questions. Feel welcome to email us directly at Extension@stlouiscountymn.gov

Raised beds can be used to grow vegetables, herbs, and flowers, and they can be adapted to many spaces, from backyard gardens to small urban yards.

To learn more about planning, building, and filling raised beds, visit the University of Minnesota Extension guide: https://extension.umn.edu/planting-and-growing-guides/raised-bed-gardens

— Freya Thurmer, University of MN Extension

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The Roundabout is Coming—April through June

- The end of the traffic light at 40th Ave. E./London Rd

Houses have been removed, trees/vegetation has been removed and next comes the road work at 40th Ave. E. and London Rd. Late April- mid-June is the planned project time—and detours. **Other project features will be:** rectangular rapid-flashing beacons for pedestrian crossing, boulevard tree removal and replacement, drainage improvements, pavement resurfacing, roadway lighting improvements, decreased number of parking spaces between 40th Ave E and 60th Ave. E to accommodate left turn lanes, replace all sidewalks to meet ADA standards, replace all driveway aprons. See calendar for the April 7 meeting announcement. Weekly public update meetings will be held once construction begins.

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In Historic Dewitt-Seitz Marketplace In Canal Park

^ ^ Lakeside BIZ/COM BITS ^ ^

***** New Clinic, 60th Ave. E.**

Amity Creek Primary Care, 5931 E. Superior St, opens April 15. Dr Spears and Dr. Lusian Saline have practiced in the area for the past 15+ years. Direct Primary Care models do not bill health insurance, rather patients pay a direct fee to their doctor and received comprehensive primary care with their chosen physician. Appointments when needed by phone, text, video or in person. Amitycreekclinic.com

*****Lakeside Thrift on 45th** is open on Saturdays from 9AM to 4PM at 516 N. 45th Ave. E. The store is run by Sue Moore and Dekotah Miska. The basement level shop has mostly women's clothing from casual to dressy, and some jewelry. Seasonal and household ware are also for sale. A small man cave with men's clothing is by the front door. Explore the 4 little rooms plus nooks. The owners chose Lakeside because they like the feel of the Lakeside business district and they live nearby. Jack Pine Vintage formerly in the space has relocated to a larger location at 2027 W. Superior St.

***** A Pack—Helping, Having Fun, and Learning**

On Thursday nights at Lakeside Presbyterian Church boys and girls gather for a program or go on outings. Covid took a hit on membership but after Boy Scouts became Scouts (girls can join) the pack has grown. The pack has doubled since a few years ago. Two scouts earned Arrow of Light—highest rank in Cub scouts. Pack 15 has been involved in many activities this year : service project for Union Gospel—making drawstring bags with personal care items and first aid kits, derby time with built cars (some parents showed their 30 year old car they had made) and went on a bunch of field trips—touring the main library, Duluth police HQ and the Lakeside fire hall. World of Wheels for fun and last year stayed overnight at the Aquarium. A spring cleanup will be done at a local park and Resource Renew will be another tour. The young campers do a fall and spring campout. During summer the pack will overnight at Wade Stadium after a Husky game. lakesidepack15@gmail.com

*** Duluth East students will have a **Plant Sale in May**. Date TBA. Succulents, tomato plants, herbs, and more grown in the rooftop greenhouse. The School Forest is used often. Superior Goats came to do a goat grazing demo in a patch this last year.

***** Trees removed.** From University Park—London Rd and 60th Ave. E. And all the trees around 40th Ave E. and London Road for road work changes. Mounds of wood chips sat on the sites.

***** The Arrowhead Native Plant Explorers Club** collected, pressed, dried and then mounted **230 plant species from Hawk Ridge**. The finely prepared specimens will go to the herbarium at UMD.

Duluth East Club helps save lives

ABO Hounds organizes blood drives at the school. At the Feb 4 drive 65 units were collected. About twenty-five students are active in the club. Some may become future health care workers. Some are involved because of health situations with their family members or because they themselves are not eligible to donate.

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Rinks Closed 'Til Next Winter

Portman "Lake" appeared in February during the 'heat wave" but then ice returned and lasted several more weeks. The rinks are enjoyed by many. On to baseball season after the area dries up.

Answers from Front Page:
1B, 2D, 3C, 4E, 5A

Continued from Front Page, EPA

complete this science-centered transformation, EPA is moving forward to reassign remaining ORD employees to EPA offices where their expertise will directly support statutory and mission-essential functions. The EPA lab in Duluth is still called the "Great Lakes Toxicology and Ecology Division Laboratory." However, this name will change in the future as EPA considers new names for several laboratory locations to reflect the changed organizational structure.

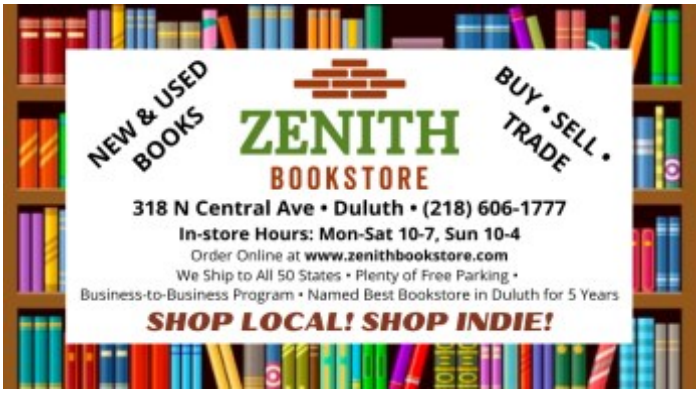
Duluth Lab is now home to the Great Lakes Coastal Science Branch within the newly formed Office of Applied Science and Environmental Solutions

How many fewer people work at the EPA in Duluth compared to early 2025?

The Duluth lab has experienced some losses in staff due to voluntary retirements, acceptance of the Trump administration's deferred resignation program, the discontinuation of some contracts and fellowship mechanisms, and reassignments. However, many federal staff have been reassigned from ORD to other EPA program offices but remain working in the facility. EPA is moving forward to reassign any remaining ORD employees to EPA offices where their expertise will directly support statutory and mission-essential functions.

Has the focus of the lab changed? What is the 'new' direction?

The research in the Duluth facility continues to support the EPA's core mission and statutory obligations to protect human health and the environment. In the wake of the Agency's recent reorganization, the Duluth Lab is now home to the Great Lakes Coastal Science Branch within the newly formed Office of Applied Science and Environmental Solutions (OASES). It is also home to scientists working in the EPA's program offices, including the **Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention** and the **Office of Water**, who conduct ecotoxicological research in support of the Toxic Substances Control Act and the Clean Water Act. The focus of the work done by EPA staff in the Duluth lab has not changed substantively and continues in a collaborative manner by OASES and EPA's program offices to protect human health and the environment.



Continued from front page, Beekeeper

Beekeeping is also demanding physically with a lot of heavy lifting. Danny describes it as a labor of love.

Danny's business is called *Nectar Pig* and is on Facebook and on the web. Examples of products for sale include raw honey, creamed honey, and honey-based skin and lip care items.

When asked **how people can help bees** he recommends promoting and planting pollinator habitat, eliminating the use of chemical applications on lawns and gardens, and advocating for regenerative agricultural and sustainable practices in parks, etc.

LEARN MORE ABOUT BEEKEEPING

The **University of Minnesota Bee lab** has great resources, and offers an annual class for beginners. Beelab.umn.edu

- local bee club, the **Northeast Minnesota Beekeepers Association** (NEMNBA), is a great option to meet others, learn, and to connect with a mentor. Nemnba.org

BEAUTIFUL WOOD CARVED TABLE IN THE LOBBY AT ECUMEN LAKESHORE. THE TABLE MADE ITS WAY TO LAKESIDE FROM GERMANY. GO SEE THE FULL SCENES.

…..1,000+ Pipes….

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd has a Möller organ made in Maryland with 1,174 pipes, 20 stops, and 2 manuals. Year 1991. The organ is used for Sunday services supporting a strong singing congregation and is used often as a teaching instrument for young musicians and budding organists. Students, esp. those with ADHD and autism, are fascinated by the instrument. Cantor Parker teaches lessons using the organ.

Lester Park Golf Course
Public Land vs Private Land
lpgcstudy.com Submit comments

On March 2 a community meeting was held at Lester Park Elementary School about the land's future.
A **Land Use Study** for the site is on-line. Bolton and Menk are leading … public open houses, an online survey, and technical analysis.
Objective: increase housing supply for residents across all income levels, i.d. locations for preservation of open space, incorporate complementary neighborhood amenities, such as commercial development.
Articles relating to the future of the land are linked on LAL website. 270-acres. Lester Park Golf Course was established in early 1930s' -~10 years after Enger Park, the other Duluth municipal golf course. LPGC closed in 2020.

Lakeside Presbyterian Church
4430 McCulloch Street, Duluth, MN 55804
218-525-1967

Worship - Sundays at 10:30 a.m.
Maundy Thursday Worship - April 2nd, 6:30 p.m.
Easter Worship - April 5th @ 10:30 a.m.
Rummage Sale, May 2nd
VBS June 8 - 12

Check website to stream worship each week:
www.lakesidepreschurch.org
to YouTube for live stream.

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What Fish are in Lester River?

Can you name 5 species that live there?

What species is stocked?

Lester River

(Data Compiled from 2001 & 2016 Surveys)

Species List

Blacknose Shiner
Brook Stickleback
Brook Trout
Brown Trout
Central Mudminnow
Creek Chub
Fathead Minnow
Finescale Dace
Iowa Darter
Longnose Dace
Northern Redbelly Dace
Rainbow Trout
Sculpin
Western Blacknose Dace
White Sucker
Yellow Perch

Amity Creek

(Data from 2025 survey)

Species List

Brook Stickleback
Brook Trout
Central Mudminnow
Creek Chub
Fathead Minnow
Northern Pearl Dace
Northern Redbelly Dace
Rainbow Trout
Sculpin
Western Blacknose Dace
White Sucker
Yellow Perch

Lester River is stocked with 60,000 Rainbow Trout (Steelhead strain) by MN DNR on an annual basis. Amity Creek is not currently stocked. *Source: MN DNR*

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I enjoy sharing news about Lakeside —past, present, and future.

LAL's 13th anniversary is coming up already—next issue.

If you have historic photos of Lakeside or stories please share.

Arts, music, history, nature in the Northland.

Day Trips

Follow on Facebook Up North Excursions
Get on Email Announcement List.
More trips may be added.

April TBA - LOCAL. Carnegie Library and American Indian Art.

May TBA LOCAL—Seeking spotting sturgeon hike.

May 30 (Sat) ***Guys & Dolls***
Chanhassen Dinner Theater Reserve by 4/20

June 18 (Thurs) ***Nobody's Perfect***
Day Trippers buffet and show.
Stroll at Walter Art Center Sculpture Garden

July TBA —*Come From Away*
Red Barn Theatre. Rice Lake, WI

Aug 27 - MN State Fair

Sept TBA MN Renaissance Fest

Oct TBA *Sound of Music*
Historic Orpheum Theatre, Minneapolis

Coach bus. Convenient pick-up - Perkins, W. Duluth
PLEASE REGISTER EARLY

***SPECIAL:* Go on 3 trips in 2026 -> get $10 back.**

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