

## President's Post

by Gary Wolkstein (2822 LFPR)

[president@lakeforestparkrd.org](mailto:president@lakeforestparkrd.org)

On this late September morning, I sit on my deck gazing at the sparkling, multi-colored lake. This has been a glorious month with day after day of perfect weather. The summer has come and gone quickly with many guests marveling at the little piece of paradise we call home.

I recall the days before retirement when my family would join the weekend rush to our cottage, and try to absorb and memorize the beauty that we would leave behind in a short time when we returned to Madison for jobs and school.



I feel enormously lucky, now that I am retired, to spend six months of the year here observing the changes in season and the daily variations of the lake. No two days are the same and the serenity of this place is even more treasured during these tumultuous times. Some days the lake is like a gentle pond and others a wild surf.

I want to express my deep appreciation to David Wood for graciously and capably taking over so many of the responsibilities of the presidency due to my ongoing health issues.

We are also fortunate to have other talented and resourceful volunteers in our association.

We all appreciate the hard work of Jon Krainak in managing information and organizing and publishing the Directory.

Annette Vincent does an excellent job as Association Treasurer and in distributing the directories.

### In this issue:

- President's Post pp. 1-2
- LFPRA Calendar of Events & Help Wanted! p. 3
- The Social Scene p. 4
- LFPRA Officers & Volunteers p. 5
- Changes pp. 6-7
- Propane Contract Update pp. 8-9
- Information for Voters p. 9
- Broadband Service Update p.10
- Town of Sturgeon Bay News pp. 11-12
- Door County Land Trust News pp. 13-14
- Third Thursday Book Group p. 15
- Local History pp.16-21
- Facebook & Pet of the Road p. 22

## President's Post (continued)

Our ongoing thanks to Rod Miller and Mike Johnston for effectively negotiating better terms for our group propane rates.

Kim Krueger writes and produces entertaining newsletters and, along with Paul Lutzke, co-moderates the Facebook page.

Our historian, John Vincent, offers well-documented historical articles in our newsletter.

Thanks to Paul Lutzke and Jeff Feuerstein for posting the monthly PiPP (Picnic in Portage Park) signs during the summer season.

We are grateful to Paul Lutzke and Bob and Eileen Brown for organizing the enjoyable annual Oktoberfest celebration.

Doug McGee arranges the Winter Dinner, which is a welcome social occasion during the quiet season.

Bonnie and Dennis Connolly, along with Jean Laundrie, offer a warm welcome to new owners. Finally, through their ongoing hard work, Jeff Feuerstein and David Wood have helped to finalize the next stage in the broadband expansion for the Town of Sturgeon Bay with AT&T. See page 10 for Broadband Expansion News.

These volunteers keep our community connected and organized.

If you would like to lend a hand and be a more active participant in our association, the opportunity is here! See the article on the next page titled "Do You Like Snacks?" We need you and your talents.

Please remember to join us and enjoy the Oktoberfest Dinner at the Sawyer Park Pavilion on Saturday, October 5, from 5-7 p.m.

Warm regards,

*Gary*

Gary Wolkstein  
President, Lake Forest Park Road Association



## LFPRA Calendar of Events

**Saturday, October 5:** Octoberfest Dinner, 5-7 pm, Sawyer Park Pavilion

**Tuesday, October 15:** Newsletter distribution via email (may be earlier)

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**Saturday, January 18, 2025:** Winter Dinner at the Nightingale Supper Club, 5 pm

**Tuesday, April 1, 2025:** Spring newsletter articles **DUE**

**Tuesday, April 15, 2025:** Newsletter distribution via email (may be earlier)

**Saturday, June 7, 2025:** Annual Road Association Meeting @ Crossroads

## Do You Like Snacks?

Don't we all? We need a **new** volunteer (or volunteers) to arrange the pre-meeting snacks for next year's Annual Meeting on Saturday, June 7, 2025.



Dennis and Bonnie Connolly have been masterminding this job for many years and MUST pass the ceremonial coffee cup to someone new.

It's a **one-day** commitment and it's not complicated. Coffee and some pastries and/or fruit. That's it! You can do more if you want to get fancy. The Road Association will cover the cost.

Please contact Gary Wolkstein ([president@lakeforestparkrd.org](mailto:president@lakeforestparkrd.org)) or David Wood ([vicepresident@lakeforestparkrd.org](mailto:vicepresident@lakeforestparkrd.org)) if you are willing to help out. Again - it's **one day!** And it's **snacks!**

**REMEMBER:** No volunteers = no snacks, and that would be very sad. :(

## The Social Scene



**Paul Lutzke (3301 LFPR)** and **Bob and Eileen Brown (3110 & 3122 LFPR)** have been working hard to plan another fun autumn event.

Please join us for Octoberfest on **Saturday, October 5** from **5-7 p.m.** at the **Sawyer Park Pavilion, 36 S. Neenah**. Dinner will be catered by Sonny's (Italian beef & chicken) and is sponsored by the road association. Drinks are BYOB; ice is provided. David Wood will also have a home-brewed keg of Mocktoberfest Ale to share.

If you'd like, bring your own comfy chairs to supplement the park benches in the pavilion. Volunteer clean-up help would be greatly appreciated!

Please let Paul (paullutzke@hotmail.com) or Bob (skybob70@yahoo.com) know if you're planning to attend.

Join us for some *Gemütlichkeit!*\*

(\*good times)

## Winter Dinner

by Doug McGee (3268 LFPR)



Let's be optimistic and hope that the weather is nice and clear this time around for our annual Winter Dinner on **Saturday, January 18, 2025** at the **Nightingale Supper Club**.

Cocktail time begins at **5:00**. We'll enjoy dinner from the menu at **6:00**.

**RSVP** to me at [dpmcgee1925@charter.net](mailto:dpmcgee1925@charter.net) or call (920) 743-8684 **by January 10**.

Hope to see you there!



<b>Lake Forest Park Road Association Officers</b>		
<b>President</b>	Gary Wolkstein	president@lakeforestparkrd.org
<b>Vice-President</b>	David Wood	vicepresident@lakeforestparkrd.org
<b>Treasurer</b>	Annette Vincent	treasurer@lakeforestparkrd.org
<b>Board Member</b>	Bob Brown	skybob70@yahoo.com
<b>Board Member</b>	Eileen Brown	ebrown3@aol.com
<b>Board Member</b>	Paul Lutzke	paullutzke@hotmail.com
<b>Board Member</b>	Pat Nell	patnell1914@gmail.com
<b>Committees and Volunteers</b>		
<b>Adopt-a-Road</b>	Dennis Connolly	dconnoll@charter.net
	Paul Lutzke	paullutzke@hotmail.com
	Gina Morgan	gina3@charter.net
<b>Broadband</b>	Jeff Feuerstein	jefffeuerstein@hotmail.com
	David Wood	vicepresident@lakeforestparkrd.org
<b>Directory/Database Manager</b>	Jon Krainak	jonathan.krainak@gmail.com
<b>Facebook Page Moderators</b>	Kim Krueger	805shiva@gmail.com
	Paul Lutzke	paullutzke@hotmail.com
<b>Historian</b>	John Vincent	jsvco@sbcglobal.net
<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	Kim Krueger	805shiva@gmail.com
<b>Oktoberfest</b>	Eileen and Bob Brown	skybob70@yahoo.com
	Paul Lutzke	paullutzke@hotmail.com
<b>PiPP Signs</b>	Jeff Feuerstein	jefffeuerstein@hotmail.com
	Paul Lutzke	paullutzke@hotmail.com
	Gary Wolkstein	president@lakeforestparkrd.org
<b>Propane Representatives</b>	Mike Johnston	mlj.mike.johnston@gmail.com
	Rod Miller	roderickemiller@aol.com
<b>Welcome Committee</b>	Bonnie and Dennis Connolly	dconnoll@charter.net
	Jean Laundrie	dlaundrie@charter.net
<b>Winter Dinner</b>	Doug McGee	dpmcgee1925@charter.net

## Changes

Many thanks to Jon Krainak, our Directory/Database Manager, for overseeing the data collection, typesetting, and printing of the 2024 Road Directory. This is a BIG job - kudos! Please report any further directory corrections to Jon at [jonathan.krainak@gmail.com](mailto:jonathan.krainak@gmail.com).

If you'd like an additional copy of the print directory, Annette Vincent has a few left for \$5 each. Please contact her at [treasurer@lakeforestparkrd.org](mailto:treasurer@lakeforestparkrd.org).

Other life changes and news may be sent to Kim Krueger, Newsletter Editor, at [805shiva@gmail.com](mailto:805shiva@gmail.com).

## Directory Corrections

- **Amy Bouche (3317 LFPR)** Email address is [Amybouche3@gmail.com](mailto:Amybouche3@gmail.com)
- **Marilyn Carolan (4607 CTH TT)** Email address is [carolan.marilyn@gmail.com](mailto:carolan.marilyn@gmail.com)
- **Barbara Kanzler (3456 NLM)** Email address is [lkmac224@comcast.net](mailto:lkmac224@comcast.net)
- **Scott Love (2786 LFPR)** Email address is [swlove@aol.com](mailto:swlove@aol.com)
- **Alison Marella (3306 LFPR)** Email address is [alison.marella1@gmail.com](mailto:alison.marella1@gmail.com)
- **Rick Murray (2904 LFPR)** Email address is [gem1920@aol.com](mailto:gem1920@aol.com)

## New Owners

**Anna Farrell** is now the owner of **2507 LFPR**, which formerly belonged to her mother, the late Catherine Farrell. Anna's email address is [annamfarrell@gmail.com](mailto:annamfarrell@gmail.com). Her husband is **Josh Lambrecht**. His email address is [josh.lambrecht@gmail.com](mailto:josh.lambrecht@gmail.com).

**Justin and Amanda Hooper** are the new owners of **3280 LFPR**. This will be a second home for them and their 2 daughters, Eliana and Adalyn, ages 10 and 8. They are primarily based in Chicago but will try to get up to their happy place in Door County as often as they can. They are looking forward to meeting everyone.

## Moving On

**Ramona and Jim Brorson** are no longer co-owners of **2734 LFPR** and are actively seeking another home on the road. Please reach out to them if you're considering selling.

**Steve Cain** of **3376 LFPR** listed his property for sale in August 2024.

**Chera Van Burg (3204 LFPR)** has moved on.

**Jeff and Lin Wienke**, formerly of **3280 LFPR**, have moved. They report that "instead of enjoying the sunrises, we will now be enjoying the sunsets."

## Changes (continued)

### Passings

**Jerry Hilgenberg (2836 LFPR)** passed away on January 14, 2024, at the age of 92. An Iowa native, Jerry was an All-American player for the University of Iowa Hawkeyes. He was drafted by the Cleveland Browns in 1954, but the Air Force called him up first. After his military service, Jerry coached Hawkeye football, did radio color commentary, had a career in real estate, served in philanthropic organizations, and was an instrument-rated pilot who took his family on many flying adventures. Jerry's LFPR neighbor Janet Farber (**2920 LFPR**) adds that one of Jerry's favorite things to do was to have an evening fire on the beach. "His fire ring was always ready to go and we often saw him tending it." Jerry leaves behind his wife JoAnn, four children, and many other family members. Memorial donations may be made to the University of Iowa Center for Advancement for the Baseball Stadium Renovation Fund, or to The Bird House - Hospice Home of Johnson County.

Thanks to Janet Farber for her contribution.

The Tide Rises, the Tide Falls  
by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

The tide rises, the tide falls,  
The twilight darkens, the curlew calls;  
Along the sea-sands damp and brown  
The traveller hastens toward the town,  
And the tide rises, the tide falls.

Darkness settles on roofs and walls,  
But the sea, the sea in the darkness calls;  
The little waves, with their soft, white hands,  
Efface the footprints in the sands,  
And the tide rises, the tide falls.

The morning breaks; the steeds in their stalls  
Stamp and neigh, as the hostler calls;  
The day returns, but nevermore  
Returns the traveller to the shore,  
And the tide rises, the tide falls

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



*Harvest Moon by Joe Wallner,  
September 2024*

## Propane Contract Updates

by David Wood (2810 LFPR)

[vicepresident@lakeforestparkrd.org](mailto:vicepresident@lakeforestparkrd.org)

The Lake Forest Park Road Association Board received proposals from three propane suppliers: AmeriGas, Ferrellgas, and Lakes Gas. After careful consideration, we have selected Ferrellgas as our recommended propane vendor. Ferrellgas has been serving our area for many years and has an outstanding reputation for service.

Participation in the group propane purchase program is **completely voluntary**. Please contact your preferred propane supplier **directly** to finalize your purchase agreement for the upcoming heating season. Below are the highlights of the three proposals.

### Ferrellgas

If you wish to contact Ferrellgas by email, use the address [greatlakessales@ferrellgas.com](mailto:greatlakessales@ferrellgas.com). Please use the subject line "Lake Forest Park Road Association – YOUR NAME" and include your name, address and contact information in the body of the message. Their sales team should contact you to set up your account.

*\*\*Please be sure that Ferrellgas honors our agreement.* We have already had one report of a sales team member wanting to charge for their monitoring service. Please check your email messages from [vicepresident@lakeforestparkrd.org](mailto:vicepresident@lakeforestparkrd.org) for a PDF of the signed negotiated agreement.

Sales rep: Don Steckman ([donaldsteckman@ferrellgas.com](mailto:donaldsteckman@ferrellgas.com)); 920-419-4292 / 800-530-0113.

- Term is 8/1/2024 thru 5/31/2025
- Fixed price is \$1.59 per gallon
- No delivery charge and no fuel surcharge
- Free lease of tanks owned by Ferrellgas; 1000 gallon tanks require 1200 gallons per year or lease is \$80
- Free system test upon change over and free change out of competitor's tank
- Pump over fee is \$99 (no charge if your existing tank is less than 50% full)
- Free tank monitors and free tank monitoring

**Lakes Gas** Contact: Eric Fairchild, [efairchild@lakesgas.com](mailto:efairchild@lakesgas.com) or 920-495-7630

Lakes Gas also offered a very competitive proposal. They have also been serving our area for many years and have an excellent reputation for service, as well as a fully staffed office in Sturgeon Bay. Lakes Gas does not require our Association to sign a purchase agreement. Our members may simply identify themselves as a member of the Lake Forest Park Road Association.

- Term is July 1, 2024 thru June 30, 2025
- Price is \$1.749 per gallon
- No delivery fees
- Free lease of tanks owned by Lakes Gas
- Tank swap and pump over fee is \$100 and includes the Gas System Safety Inspection
- Tank monitoring service is \$8.33 per month

## Propane Contract Updates (continued)

**AmeriGas** Contact: Jennifer Jackson; [jennifer.jackson@amerigas.com](mailto:jennifer.jackson@amerigas.com) or 919-631-4593  
This is the least competitive offer for the 2024-2025 heating season. The LFPR Board has elected not to sign the AmeriGas Agreement.

- Term is June 1, 2024 thru June 1, 2025
- Contract price was \$1.85 per gallon, but Amerigas was not selected and may not honor this price
- Will charge a fuel recovery fee (delivery fee) of \$9.99 per delivery
- Free lease of tanks owned by AmeriGas
- Tank installation charge is \$194
- Please note, AmeriGas will charge current customers for tank removal

If you have any further questions or comments, please contact your LFPRA propane representatives:

**Rod Miller** at 972-679-6332 (voice/text) or email [roderickmiller@aol.com](mailto:roderickmiller@aol.com) or email **Mike Johnston** at [mlj.mike.johnston@gmail.com](mailto:mlj.mike.johnston@gmail.com).

**Many** thanks to Rod and Mike for their service in navigating this process.

## Your Voice MATTERS. Please Remember to Vote!

Please participate in our nation's democracy.

The General Election is **Tuesday, November 5, 2024**.

All Door County polling places are **open from 7 a.m until 8 p.m.**

Remember that Wisconsin requires a **photo ID** to vote.



Check your voter registration status or register to vote online at [myvote.wi.gov](https://myvote.wi.gov)

Learn more about voting from the [WI Elections Commissions website](#).

Learn more about [Voter Registration and Proof of Residence](#).

Printable registration forms can be found [HERE](#).

If you need a ride to the polls, please contact Pam Busch, Transportation Manager, at (920) 746-6944 or email [pbusch@co.door.wi.us](mailto:pbusch@co.door.wi.us).

Wheelchair transport help and curbside voting are also available. Contact your municipal clerk to set up a time for curbside voting. Municipal clerk information can be found at <https://www.co.door.wi.gov/241/County-Municipalities>

## Broadband Expansion News

by David Wood (2810 LFPR)

[vicepresident@lakeforestparkrd.org](mailto:vicepresident@lakeforestparkrd.org)

### Broadband expansion is (finally) happening!

Sitting on the beach or our deck, reading a book or just watching the waves, I usually equate “a quiet summer” with “a wonderful, relaxing summer.”

However, when the context is the planned broadband expansion, “a quiet summer” has a much less positive connotation....



Fortunately, despite little outward progress since last March, fireworks are finally in order as the town-wide broadband expansion is (finally) happening!

In September, the Town of Sturgeon Bay officially entered into a partnership agreement with AT&T, and AT&T officially accepted a \$552K grant from the Wisconsin Public Services Commission Capital Projects Fund (funded by the Federal American Rescue Plan Act). This grant reduces the town's share of the project by roughly 25%.

The project will kick off on October 8 and is expected to be completed over the next 24 months, bringing fiber-to-the-premises broadband service to each home and business within the Town of Sturgeon Bay.

This service is expected to be faster, cheaper, and more reliable than Charter/Spectrum's offerings due to the use of fiber optics all the way to the side of the building.

Learn more about AT&T Fiber at [fiber.att.com](http://fiber.att.com) and sign up to be notified when service will be available at your address at [att.com/notifyme](http://att.com/notifyme).

## **Town of Sturgeon Bay News**

**by Jeff Feuerstein (2500 Canal Road) -- Chair, Town of Sturgeon Bay Board**

Greetings, neighbors!

It's been a little over a year since I stepped into the Town Chair position after serving as the LFPRA President for 7 years. It has been fun, but there is so much to learn.

Thankfully, there is excellent training provided throughout the year. I've also gotten to know many other Town, County, and State officials.

Fortunately, two previous Board members—the Town Clerk and the Treasurer—agreed to stay on for one year and help the brand new Supervisors and Chair come up to speed.

I do have some helpful information to share.

### **Broadband**

The Board approved finalizing the contract with AT&T for fiber to the premises to all locations. Project completion is estimated at 24 months. Stay tuned!

### **Road Maintenance**

A map exists which indicates which governing body (County, Town, or private ownership) bears responsibility for various roads.

For all of the County roads in the Town (S, T, and TT), the County receives funding and maintains those roads. Other Town roads are the responsibility of the Town. The Town receives funding and usually contracts with the County for road maintenance and repairs.

The Town Board conducts road tours twice yearly to identify any issues and make plans. Obviously we are not on all roads every day. If you see something—a pothole, a downed tree, a dead deer, etc., please notify me or the Town Clerk, Nancy Anschutz, [clerk@townofsturgeonbay-wi.gov](mailto:clerk@townofsturgeonbay-wi.gov).

### **Meeting Agendas**

There are rules for posting meetings and when Town officials are able to discuss agenda items. The Town Board meets every 2nd Monday of the month, starting at 6:00 p.m. at the Arle Memorial Hall, 692 Tacoma Beach Road in Sturgeon Bay.

I'd like to suggest that all residents and property owners go to the Town website at <https://townofsturgeonbay-wi.gov> and sign up for meeting notices. They can be sent via email or text. Glance over the items to be discussed. Come to the meeting or contact one of the Board members if you have questions or want an issue addressed.

## **Town of Sturgeon Bay News (continued)**

### **Town Clerk and Treasurer Vacancies**

In the April 2023 election, the entire Town Board chose not to seek re-election. There were no major issues, but some of the folks had been serving in their positions for over 30 years and were ready to retire. Side note: The Town Chair in Clay Banks is coming up on 50 years of service! The Town of Sturgeon Bay Supervisor and Town Chair positions were filled by write-in candidates. The then-serving Town Clerk and Treasurer were not listed on the ballot, but received write-in votes, and so agreed to stay on for one more term.

Beginning in the Spring of 2025, we will need to find replacements for those positions. The Clerk's position will likely be the toughest to fill. The hours of service vary, but it's about 20 hours per week. You can work from home. The current Clerk is willing to train the new Clerk through the process for the first year. If anyone is interested, or knows of a potential candidate, please contact me.

### **See Something? Say Something!**

We all know what a great place this is to live, and we want to keep it that way. The Town contracts out for fire protection, has few local ordinances, and no Town Constable.

We rely on the Door County Sheriff's Department to enforce laws and ordinances. My experience with these folks is that they are professional and willing to help, but they cannot be everywhere at all times.

If you see someone doing something they shouldn't be doing (overnight camping, fires on the beach, and even driving on the beach, which happened at Portage Park a month ago), please report it to the authorities.

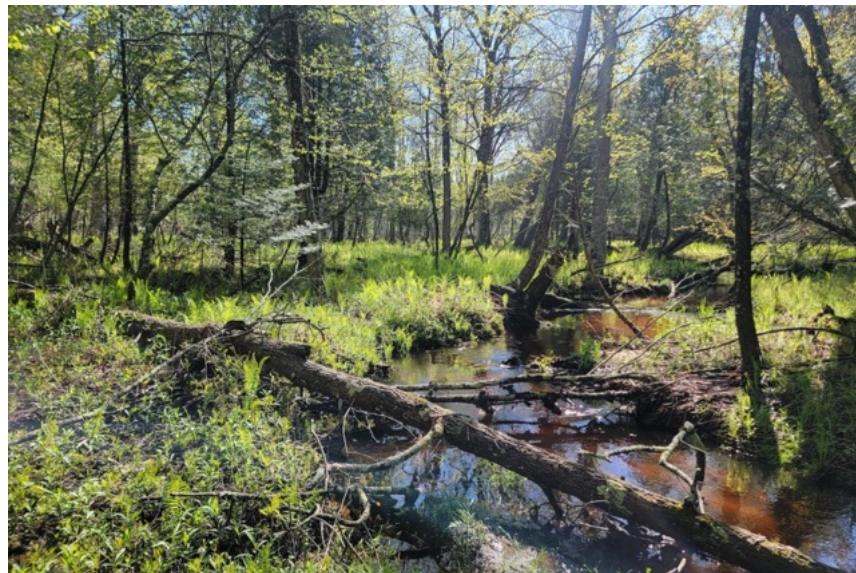
It is a pleasure serving you.

Let me know if you need more information or if I can help.

*Jeff*



## Door County Land Trust Acquires Local Property



*The Door County Pulse* reported that the Door County Land Trust recently acquired a 12-acre parcel on the corner of County Road TT and Lake Forest Park Road.

Many of our LFPR residents had seen the "for sale" sign posted on the property and had hoped and actively advocated for this outcome.

The parcel contains an unnamed creek, which flows from its source north of County Road TT to Lake Michigan, and very likely connects to the groundwater of Kellner Fen. According to Land Program Director Jesse Koyen, "the existence of the creek by itself would make the property worthy of conservation as a stand-alone project." This area is a significant addition to the Kellner Fen property already managed by the Land Trust.

The property's purchase was partially funded by grants from the Natural Resource Damage Assessment program and by the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Fund, which covered 50% of the cost. Other costs will be covered by donations through the Land Trust's 2024 Conservation and Stewardship Campaign. Keller Fen projects are also supported by a significant donation to the Land Acquisition Fund made by **Xan and John Fischer, 2840 LFPR**.

Many thanks to the Fischers, and to all of the LFPR residents who contacted the Land Trust in support of this purchase.

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This story is adapted from "Land Trust Adds New Property to Kellner Fen Natural Area", by Kay McKinley. *Door County Pulse*, August 1, 2024. The photograph is also reproduced from this article.

## More Road Residents in Land Trust News

Lake Forest Park Road residents are an involved and generous bunch, willing and eager to help protect our beautiful environment. Following are stories adapted from the Summer 2024 edition of *Landings*, a publication of the Door County Land Trust. I have included these articles for the information of those who do not receive Land Trust communications. --Kim Krueger, Newsletter Editor

LFPR residents **Eleanor Dean and John Gosney (3104 LFPR)** offered a \$25,000 matching gift challenge for donations to the Land Trust's Conservation and Stewardship Campaign through September 2024.

The Dean family property was purchased in 1972 by Eleanor's parents. Within the last decade, Eleanor and John remodeled the property to be a year-round home. They enjoy the ever-changing views of the Lake Michigan shoreline and the antics of resident wildlife.

To encourage others to donate to the Land Trust, Eleanor was quoted as saying: "I would ask, 'What do you think Door County will be like in 20 years if we don't preserve as much of the land as we can? Once land is gone for another use, we're not going to get it back."

Thanks to Eleanor and John for their generosity and stewardship!

LFPR resident **Bill Sauve (3062 LFPR)** was featured in the article "*A Fen in Need has a Friend Indeed.*" Bill is the Preserve Steward for the Kellner Fen Natural Area.

He has been helping protect this rare resource, a short walk from his home, for 15 years. Bill keeps the trail clear from fallen branches and other debris, and even mows the trail with his own riding mower. He has seen many species of wildlife during his stewardship, including red fox, badger, bobcats, reptiles, and a variety of birds. He has even seen bear tracks!

Bill was quoted as saying: "I love the outdoors and being the eyes and ears for the Land Trust. ... It's a lot of fun to be part of the process. ... Fresh air and exercise make you feel better about life. It's the best way to handle stress."

Thanks to Bill for his ongoing dedication and service!

## LFPRA Third Thursday Women's Book Group

by Kim Krueger (3364 LFPR)

The women's book group founded in 2023 By **Donna Janning (2680 LFPR)** continues to enjoy reading and discussing a wide variety of literary works. We meet on the **third Thursday of the month at Fifth and Jefferson Coffeehouse at 10:00 a.m.** If you are a female resident of the road and would like to join us, please email Donna at [dwjanning@gmail.com](mailto:dwjanning@gmail.com) and she will add you to the contact list. Here's our book report.



**April:** This is How it Always Is by Laurie Frankel. Fiction. A family faces challenges when their youngest child decides they are in the wrong body. Gender dysphoria and family dynamics are treated with great sensitivity.

**May:** Wandering Stars by Tommy Orange. Fiction. Gorgeously written but intense tale about a Native American family traumatized by violence and institutionalized racism. This is the companion book to There, There.

**June:** The Women by Kristin Hannah. Fiction. About a young combat nurse's experience during the Vietnam War. Her war experience is riveting; the coincidence-filled romantic plot line is less so.

**July:** The Postcard by Anne Berest. Memoir. A postcard discovered by a contemporary French-Jewish woman leads her to explore the legacy of relatives murdered by the Nazis at Auschwitz during World War II. A deeply moving and cautionary true story.

**August:** The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store by James McBride. Fiction. A story of small town secrets and the uneasy alliance between Black and Jewish residents in the 1920s-30s. The group thought there were too many loose ends in the tale, and preferred McBride's Deacon King Kong.

**September:** The Personal Librarian by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray. Historical fiction about Belle da Costa Greene, the Black librarian forced to "pass" as white, who transformed the private collection of financier J.P. Morgan into a renowned research center and museum. We thought she was brave and impressive. The book made us want to visit the Morgan Library in NYC!

**Coming up:**

**October:** Absolution by Alice McDermott. Historical fiction.

**November:** This Time Tomorrow by Emma Straub. Speculative fiction.

## Local History: The Lake Forest Park Fire of 1930

by John Vincent, Historian (2794 LFPR)

### The Fire

The summer of 1930 was a hot one in Door County. Temperatures well above 80 degrees were common throughout June and July and rainfall was sparse. These were favorable conditions for the tourist industry, with local lodges and resorts booked to capacity, but not so for farmers, whose crops began to wither in the mid-summer drought.<sup>1</sup> Even dairy herd production was adversely impacted by the heat and lack of feed.<sup>2</sup> Fire restrictions were implemented up and down the peninsula as both vegetation and the ground became exceedingly dry.

On Thursday, August 7, a fire broke out on the Gunnarson property along the northeast bank of the ship canal near the Bay end.<sup>3</sup> Local volunteers joined the Sturgeon Bay Fire Department in an attempt to quench the fire, but to no avail as it ignited “underbrush, slashings and second growth timber”.<sup>4</sup> On Friday, the flames spread to the southeast along the canal, destroying several old buildings on the property of Captain John Olander of the U.S. Coast Guard.<sup>5</sup> The map in **Exhibit 1** (below) shows the origin and path of the fire. Over the weekend, the fire turned inland, burning in a northeasterly direction through the Scudder and Bavry properties before reaching the Ernest Long acreage not far from Lake Forest Park.<sup>6</sup> Ernest Long purchased this land in 1921 and was an original Lake Forest Park resident, with a cottage just north of the Winnebago public access.<sup>7</sup> Remember that in 1930, the development of Lake Forest Park had only reached as far south as Winnebago Drive.



### **Exhibit 1**

The origin and path of the August 1930 fire and the surrounding vicinity, superimposed upon the current Door County Address and Parcel Locator Map

## Local History (continued)

Local residents from the canal station and surrounding area worked through the weekend to contain the fire between the old canal road (today's Buffalo Ridge Road) and the lakeshore. The township chair, Jacob Miller, hired men to stand watch through the night to ensure that the blaze did not cross the old canal road and spread to the vulnerable dry forest to the north.<sup>8</sup> Unique to this fire was the fact that it burned primarily underground. The fire spread slowly below the surface, consuming roots and toppling trees in tangled masses.<sup>9</sup> Though slow, the fire was insidious and by late Monday had burned through nearly 200 acres of remote forested land.

On Monday afternoon local county officials met to determine what steps could be taken to stem this mounting emergency. A crew of over 100 men was recruited from local orchards, docks, businesses, public utilities, and the City of Sturgeon Bay.<sup>10</sup> On Tuesday and Wednesday, this crew, armed with shovels and axes, dug three miles of trenches<sup>11</sup> between the canal and the lakeshore to contain the fire. Trenches were dug deep enough to prevent the spread of the fire underground and had the earth piled up on the side of the fire to prevent its further spread above the ground.<sup>12</sup> By the end of the day on Wednesday, the fire was deemed to be under control. Had a strong wind picked up from the south at any point during the course of this week-long fire, the extent of the damage could have been far-reaching.

### **Remnants**

In the heart of the fire zone is an 80-acre parcel currently owned by Karl and Carmen Schroeder. This parcel is outlined in yellow on **Exhibit 1**. Karl's grandfather, Wilmer Schroeder, acquired the lower 40 acres from Bavry family in 1943, just 13 years after the fire.<sup>13</sup> The upper 40 acres was purchased by Karl's father, Roger, in 1967.<sup>14</sup> Over three generations, the family has used the acreage for recreation, constructing a hunting shack on the lower 40 acres during the 1960s.

Years ago, Karl discovered a burnt area in a remote section of the property. What caught his attention was a charred tree stump that appeared to have been preserved in that state for quite some time. Photos of this stump from different angles appear in **Exhibits 2A** and **2B** (next page) and its location in the far northeast corner of the parcel is indicated by a red "X" on **Exhibit 1**. The fact that the interior of the stump is burnt while the exterior bark appears intact is consistent with a fire that spread through the tree roots. This observation, coupled with the family not recalling any other fires on the property during their long tenure, lends credence that the stump is a remnant of the 1930 fire.

## Local History (continued)



**Exhibit 2A** (at left)

The charred interior of the burnt tree stump located in the far northeast corner of the Schroeder property.



**Exhibit 2B** (at right)

The unburned bark exterior of the same burnt tree stump shown in Exhibit 2A. This photo was taken from the direct opposite side

In the southwest corner of the parcel lies another likely remnant of the 1930 fire. Dug into a small rise in the land is a man-made trench that runs the length of the rise in a northeasterly direction. Karl's father noticed this trench years ago and wondered about its purpose and origin. If it is part of the three miles of trenches dug in 1930 to contain the fire, then its purpose would have been to protect the many dwellings at or near the canal station, including the District #4 Schoolhouse. The photo in **Exhibit 3** (next page) shows Karl standing in this man-made cut in the low dune and its location is indicated by a blue "X" on **Exhibit 1**. A trench dug from the canal right-of-way to the lakeshore, passing through this location, would have measured approximately  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile. By 1930, the "new" canal road, which ran parallel to the canal right-of-way (see **Exhibit 1**), was only partially complete. The final stretch from the Olander property to the canal station (approximately  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile) was an impassable sand track<sup>15</sup> that isolated the canal community and made it difficult to access the fire zone.

## Local History (continued)



### Exhibit 3

Karl Schroeder standing in the hand-dug “fire trench” located in the far southwest corner of his property.

### Aftermath

It’s no accident that you’ve probably never heard of the fire of 1930. The fact that it was successfully contained in a thinly populated area of the township, and not a full-blown disaster, relegated it to a footnote in the local lore. That said, the fire’s impact upon the local landscape was felt for years to come. **Exhibit 4** (below) shows a 1938 aerial photograph that corresponds with the area shown in **Exhibit 1**. Taken just eight years after the fire, note the lack of trees along the northeast bank of the canal and to the southeast of the old canal road (today’s Buffalo Ridge Road.).

**Exhibit 4** (at right)  
A 1938 aerial photograph of the same fire zone and surrounding vicinity as in **Exhibit 1**. This is how the landscape appeared eight years after the fire. Note the northeasterly burn path, just south of the old canal road that terminates at the E.W. Long property.



## Local History (continued)

Previously, I had attributed this to clear-cut logging, but the timing is wrong because the lumber boom in this vicinity occurred between 1870 and 1900. I'm now convinced that this 1938 landscape reflects the effects of the 1930 fire, particularly the barren swath southeast of the old canal road, which corresponds to the reported path of the fire and also shows where the fire line was contained at the road. The site of the burnt stump (red "X") aligns with the easterly reach of the fire toward the lakeshore. The site of the trench (blue "X") is at the edge of a white road-like feature that runs northeast toward the lake, consistent with the description of the fire trench excavation.<sup>16</sup>

In May of 1932, the *Door County Advocate* reported (**Exhibit 5** below) that Ernest Long, who owned the property at the northernmost reach of the 1930 fire, planted 1,500 white spruce saplings and a comparable number of white pines on his property along the old canal road.<sup>17</sup>

I now understand why.

### Exhibit 5

*Door County Advocate* article on tree planting two years after the fire.

<b>PLANTS 2,000 P.7</b>
<b>TREES ON LAND ON CANAL ROAD</b>
<p>The largest piece of individual tree planting this year in this vicinity took place last week on the E. W. Long property along the old canal road running about parallel with Lake Michigan. Under state instructions and through County Agent B. F. Rusy, Mr. Long obtained the trees for carrying out the reforestation project after a Mr. Trench of the state forestry department looked over the site and gave his approval on the fitness of the soil.</p> <p>The allotment of trees consists of 1,500 white spruce trees four years old and 1,500 white pine trees. A thousand of the latter were set out in nursery rows to be transplanted later to their permanent site. <b>DCA 5/13/32</b></p>

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### Acknowledgements and Thanks

Instrumental in researching this article was Karl Schroeder, who gave me a tour of his 80-acre parcel, pointing out remnants from the fire and sharing his family's history. Also helpful were Dennis Garrity and Paul Mickelson, for providing access to their land within the fire zone. The Office of the Door County Register of Deeds was very obliging in providing the resources to identify and locate properties impacted by the fire.

## Local History (continued) - Notes

<sup>1</sup> *Door County Advocate (DCA)* 8/22/1930, p. 2, under "Good Tourist Business"; and *DCA* 8/8/1930, p. 6, under "More Hot Weather."

<sup>2</sup> *DCA* 8/8/1930, p. 9, under "Bits of Farm News."

<sup>3</sup> *Door County News (DCN)* 8/14/1930, p. 1, under "Brush Fire is Under Control – More Than 100 Men Employed to Stop the Blaze"; and Warranty Deed & Indenture dated 8/3/2025, Doc. #203092A, Vol. 39, Page 597, recorded 8/10/1925 at Door Co. Register of Deeds.

<sup>4</sup> *DCA* 8/15/1930, p. 1, under "Fire Burns Over 200 A. at Canal – Nears Summer Home Sites; Volunteers Organize."

<sup>5</sup> *DCA* 8/15/1930, p. 1; and Warranty Deed & Indenture dated 2/11/1926, Doc. #206677, Vol. 43, Page 82, recorded on 6/15/1927 at Door Co. Register of Deeds.

<sup>6</sup> *DCA* 8/15/1930, p. 1.

<sup>7</sup> Quit Claim Deed & Indenture dated and recorded on 2/2/1921, Doc. #192863A, Vol. 10, p. 27, at Door Co. Register of Deeds; and *DCA* 9/18/1931, p. 1, "Speed Boat Runs on Beach in Fog."

<sup>8</sup> *DCA* 8/15/1930, p. 14, under "Fire Burns Over 200 A. at Canal."

<sup>9</sup> *DCN* 8/14/1930, p. 1.

<sup>10</sup> *DCA* 8/15/1930, pp. 1 & 14.

<sup>11</sup> *DCA* 8/15/1930, p. 14.

<sup>12</sup> *DCN* 8/14/1930, p. 1.

<sup>13</sup> Warranty Deed & Indenture dated 10/12/1943, Doc. #243484, Vol. 21 (Misc.), Page 464, recorded on 11/3/1944 at Door Co. Register of Deeds.

<sup>14</sup> Warranty Deed & Indenture dated 11/27/1967, Doc. #336067, Vol. 186, Page 434, recorded on 11/28/1967 at the Door Co. Register of Deeds.

<sup>15</sup> *DCA* 8/8/1930, p. 2, under "The Canal Road."

<sup>16</sup> *DCN* 8/14/1930, p. 1.

<sup>17</sup> *DCA* 5/13/1932, p. 7, under "Plants 2,000 Trees on Land on Canal Road."



## LFPRA Facebook Page

by Kim Krueger (3364 LFPR)



Are you on our LFPRA Facebook Page page? If not, you're really missing out! Here's how to get involved.

First, if you don't already have one, create a Facebook account. Then, search for "Lake Forest Park Road Association".

Our profile picture currently looks like the above photo; we do change it periodically.

To gain admittance to the page, please **read and agree** to the rules of conduct, and **answer** a few simple questions. Admission is open to owners, extended family, and friends.

Once you've been admitted, you are free to post pictures, comments, and inquiries related to the Road and our environs.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Paul Lutzke, co-moderators of the group page.

Members have shared beautiful nature photographs, put the word out about errant pets, found lost rafts, sought and received local vendor recommendations, and generally kept in touch.

It's a fun way build our community.

## Featured Pet of the Road



Feared by deer, beloved by humans, guardian of the hearth at **2794 LFPR...**

Meet **Ziva Vincent!**

She is 11 years old this October and is a Havapoo (Havanese/Poodle mix).

Her humans are our Association Treasurer Annette and Road Historian John Vincent.

She loves toys, playing fetch and likes to go camping at National Parks with mom & dad. She is "crate trained" and is a good traveler.

She has a biweekly play date with **Kefir Lemke (2798 LFPR)** for fetch. At press time, they were hanging out, doing their favorite thing!