

Second-Wednesday Pizza get-togethers at Bill Van Druten's home have been discontinued. Fourth-Saturday Pavilion Parties continue.



DULUTHINK

NEWSLETTER OF THE LAKE SUPERIOR FREETHINKERS

Join us Sunday June 4th at 10am at the One Roof Central Hillside Community Center, 12 East 4th St., for a presentation by Minnesota Senator Jen McEwen who will give us a

Legislative Update

And a brief on the Legislature's Secular Caucus

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In response to the rise in Christian Nationalism, where some people and politicians feel they have a license to impose their personal religious beliefs upon others, a group of Minnesota Legislators are creating a new Secular Government Caucus, a coalition of nonbelievers and religious people to uphold our constitutional separation of church and state.

Caucus members include members of various faith communities as well as non-believers, agnostics, and humanists. All of them are committed to preserving the freedom of conscience that is guaranteed in the first amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

Jennifer A. McEwen is a member of the Minnesota Senate, and a member of the Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party, and also a member of the Legislature's Secular Caucus. She represents Senate District 8, which includes the city of Duluth in St. Louis County.



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LSF founder Bill Van Druten accepts a check from Mount Royal Fine Foods for \$1,692.22 for LSF's \$ "Round-up" during the month of March.

JOIN US FOR HAPPY HOUR

4:00-6:00 pm Thursday, June 1st at Mexico Lindo, Fitgers Brewery Complex

Mexico Lindo will validate your parking and we will validate your skepticism about religion. See you there!



JUNE SOCIAL DINNER

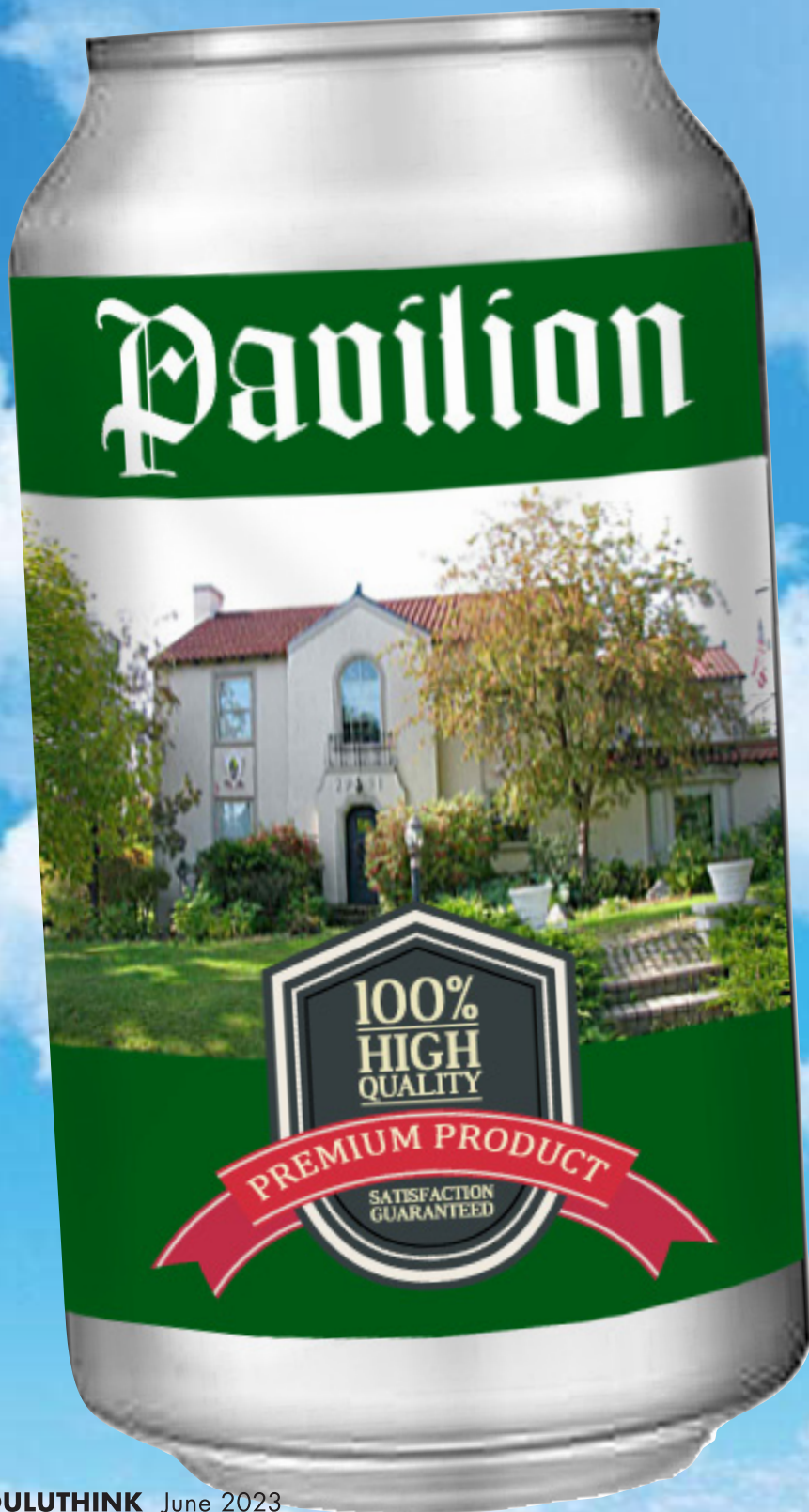
Join us June 21st at 5:30pm
at Lester Park for LSF's first
2023 Summer outdoor Social
Dinner. Bring your own
food and beverage.



NEXT PAVILION PARTY SATURDAY JUNE 24TH

Pavilion Parties continue on the fourth Saturday of each month at the home of our “Flounder”, Bill Van Druten.

Plan to arrive at 1pm. Bring a food item you have made, or maybe an interesting libation to share with other attendees. We'll talk and laugh at Dr. Van Druten's home: 2931 Greysolon Road in Duluth. Park anywhere on Greysolon Road but not on 30th Avenue!



Peter Higgs



On May 29th in 1929, Peter Ware Higgs was born in Newcastle upon Tyne, UK. He graduated with honors in physics in 1950 from King's College, University of London. He earned his master of science the next year and his Ph.D. in 1954, both from King's. In his early 30s, Higgs began his career as lecturer in mathematical physics at the University of Edinburgh. He became a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh in 1974 and chair of theoretical physics in 1980. Higgs was elected Fellow of the Royal Society in 1983 and Fellow of the Institute of Physics in 1991.

In the 1960s he proposed the existence of a single particle responsible for imparting mass to all matter immediately following the Big Bang. (The Guardian, Nov. 16, 2007.) The Higgs boson, the scientific term for the particle, radically altered the field of physics, such that Higgs, according to Time magazine, ranks with physics giants like Albert Einstein, Isaac Newton and Democritus. Based on

Higgs' theory, scientists theorized a quantum field through which initially weightless particles move and acquire their mass. Higgs and François Englert were awarded the 2013 Nobel Prize in Physics for their work.

For several decades, a multi-billion dollar effort, including the construction of the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) at the CERN laboratory in Geneva, Switzerland, sought to find the Higgs boson particle. The LHC, the most powerful particle accelerator ever constructed, cost \$6 billion and took 25 years to plan. "Scientists ... hope the [Large Hadron Collider] will produce clear signs of the boson, dubbed the 'God particle' by some, to the displeasure of Higgs, an atheist." (Reuters, April 7, 2008.) Within two years of the original 2012 results at the LHC, the vast majority of particle physicists agreed that the Higgs particle discovery had been confirmed by multiple experiments and analyses.

"I wish he hadn't done it. I have to explain to people it was a joke. I'm an atheist."

—Higgs, on Leon Lederman, the scientist who nicknamed the Higgs boson the "God particle," The Guardian (Nov. 16, 2007)