

# Dayton's Bluff District Forum

"The Voice of the Community"

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August 2005

## 'Night Out' Approaches

by Karin Dupaul

National Night Out is August 2, 2005. Join your neighbors and friends and give crime and drugs a going-away party. Neighbors and Block Clubs can do many different things: have neighborhood barbecues or potlucks, enjoy ice cream and root beer floats, listen to a band playing music, host a volleyball game, or just sit and visit. There are many other things a group of neighbors can do. Use your imagination and come up with something different.

National Night Out is designed to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness, generate support for and participation in local anti-crime programs, strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships, and send a message to

*'Night Out' continues on page 8...*

## Changes in Store...

Starting next month, Dayton's Bluff will begin to undergo some changes in order to serve our readers better. We will seek to bring more complete coverage of events both in Dayton's Bluff and the surrounding area. This includes the happenings at churches, libraries, schools, and colleges, as well as the Community Recreation Center, CLUES, the Mounds Theatre and many other venues -- including your own! But you don't have to wait until next month to get involved. E-mail your event information to the editor:

*'Changes' continues on page 8...*

### Inside This Issue

Read Now! July 29th Events.....	2
Upcoming Events.....	Page 2
Garden Tours.....	Page 3
Community Garden .....	Page 3
Community Rec Calendar.....	Page 3
History of Dayton's Bluff....	Page 4
Give a Hoot.....	Page 5
Putting Down Roots.....	Page 6
Summer Sun Suggestions....	Page 6
Letter To Editor.....	Page 6
Doggie Diva.....	Page 7
Clean Up.....	Page 7



## Most Nineties Since the Eighties

by Gabriel Garbow

Not since 1988 have the Twin Cities experienced nine straight days of above-ninety-degree temperatures, but that is just what happened from the ninth of July through the seventeenth. Residents of Dayton's Bluff are still

reeling from the recent stretch of scorching weather, and August shows no promise of being much cooler. Following is a brief survival guide to a Minnesota summer.

**Lawn Watering.**

The good news is that Saint Paul does

not yet appear to be under any special water restrictions. The bad news is that your lawn still needs a lot of attention just to keep from turning to straw. Try these suggestions to keep your lawn - and your water bill in the green this summer:

*'Nineties' continues on page 6...*

## Code of Conduct Adopted

The purpose of the Dayton's Bluff Neighborhood Code of Conduct is to ensure that all people living in and visiting the community will treat all others with respect and dignity. Everyone has the right to be safe and content in his or her own home.

The developing of our Code of Conduct is a strategy that is part of the CARE Operation that was initiated by Mayor Kelly, the Police Department and Code Enforcement to help clean up nuisance crime, behavior, and code issues in the neighborhood. The concept is that if everyone in the neighborhood understands the "dos" and "don'ts" of city code, it would greatly reduce the amount of nuisance police calls and code violations.

The Code of Conduct is derived from the Saint Paul City Code. These are things that we all should be abiding by.

By signing the Dayton's Bluff Code of Conduct, you make a statement of the fact that you do care about your community, intend to follow our code of conduct, and expect your neighbors to do the same. In addition, you support efforts by community and

local enforcement agencies to hold individuals and families accountable for being good neighbors and obeying the law.

Signatures by one hundred percent of the neighborhood would make a strong statement to our city and to each other. We are asking all the people of Dayton's Bluff to agree to live by the Code of Conduct. If you are interested in getting copies for your neighbors call Karin at 651-772-2075.

### The Dayton's Bluff Neighborhood Code of Conduct:

- Codes and ordinances outlined in the Saint Paul Resident Handbook Neighborhood Nuisances must be followed.

- Respect the rights, the feelings, and the property of all others.

- Parents are responsible for the behavior of their children and young people in their care. Therefore, parents must know where their children are and what they are doing at all times. As parents, you can help our children make good choices that reinforce our neighborhood code of conduct.

*'Code of Conduct' continues on page 8...*

## Final Budget Agreement Reflects Right Priorities

by State Rep. Sheldon Johnson

Last week, the Legislature completed work on the state budget for 2006-2007. Although much of the focus recently has been on the special session and the difficult negotiations, I hope the residents of our area will also take time to focus on what's really important -- the final outcome.

At the beginning of the session, I wrote that my priorities for the legislative session would be to:

- Find a way to adequately fund K-12 education to prevent St. Paul schools from further increases in class sizes and cuts to staffing and programs.
- Protect the health care of working families and individuals.
- Help move our economy forward.

We accomplished all of these things during the session. With the final education budget, public schools in our area will receive a 4 percent

## Last Movies at the Mounds Theatre

by Greg Cosimini

Your last two chances to see a movie at the Mounds Theatre this summer are on Friday July 29<sup>th</sup> and Saturday July 30<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. The film will be the 1968 detective thriller "Bullitt" starring the late great Steve McQueen and one of the greatest car chase scenes ever filmed.

Please note: The previously scheduled films "The General", was not available.

All tickets are \$5.00 and concessions are reasonably priced. The Mounds Theatre is handicap accessible. Come see this great show in air-conditioned comfort this summer.

The Mounds Theatre is located at 1029 Hudson Road, St. Paul, MN 55106.

Call 651-772-2253 or visit [www.moundstheatre.org](http://www.moundstheatre.org) for updates. ■

## Benefit Rock Concert at the Mounds

Hmong teen bands Sonorous, Delicious Venom, Shattered Echoes and PH Voice will be performing at the Mounds Theatre on Sunday July 31<sup>st</sup>. They are donating their time and talents to help a neighborhood nonprofit organization. The concert will raise money to support the Portage for Youth, an after school program for girls ages 8 – 15. The music will be mostly alternative rock.

This concert will take place at the Mounds Theatre, 1029 Hudson Road on Sunday July 31 from 7:00 to 11:00 p.m. Tickets are \$3.00.

Call 651-772-2253 for more information or visit [www.moundstheatre.org](http://www.moundstheatre.org). ■

## Free Handyman Services for Residents in Need

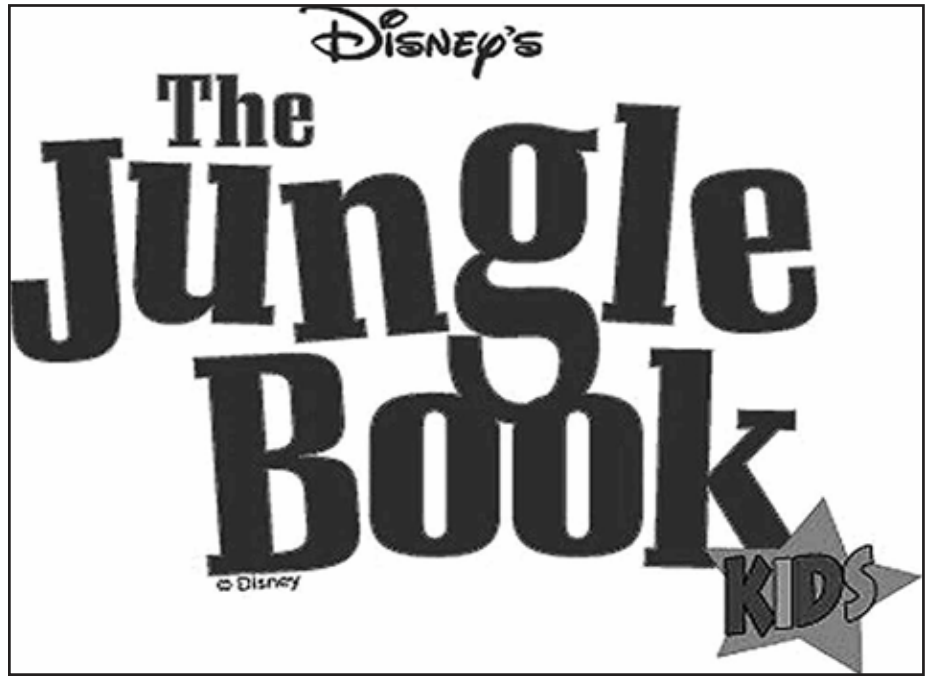
There are many reasons why houses fall into disrepair. Older age, financial instability, decreased physical ability. Working to identify and repair needy homes through Twin Cities' neighborhood organizations, HomeVestors franchisees will donate time and materials to residents in need. This program, called HUG FROM UG, is an outreach program designed to help elderly and homebound residents remain in their homes longer.

Residents may apply to their neighborhood organization for help in completing home repair projects, such as installing a new screen door, replacing broken steps or repairing a leaking faucet. Dayton's Bluff Community Council is the pilot organization for this program, with plans to expand the program in neighborhoods across the Twin Cities.

Neighborhood organizations will work with HomeVestors in the Twin Cities to manage and prioritize homeowners needing assistance. The Twin Cities is home to 12 HomeVestors franchise owners ([www.homevestors.com](http://www.homevestors.com)) who have teamed together in giving back to the community.

"The HUG FROM UG program allows us to give back to the community and help families in need. We have been supported by this community – now it's our turn to give back," explained Matt Mejia, HomeVestors franchise owner.

For more information or to apply, please contact Karin DuPaul, Dayton's Bluff Community Council at 651-772-2075. ■



## Disney's The Jungle Book. at Mounds Theatre

by Jefferson Fietek

The Mounds Theatre is proud to announce that it is the first theater in the nation to be granted the official rights to produce the full-scale stage adaptation of Disney's classic animated film *The Jungle Book*. The production includes all the classic songs like "The Bare Necessities" and "I Wanna Be Like You." This production will have an all youth cast, with students from communities all over the Twin Cities.

### Performance times

Thursday, August 18 at 7:30 p.m.

Friday, August 19 at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, August 20 at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, August 21 at 2:00 p.m.

Thursday, August 25 at 7:30 p.m.

Friday, August 26 at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, August 27 at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, August 28 at 2:00 p.m.

Ticket prices are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children and seniors.

Contact the Mounds Theatre at 651-772-2253 or [www.moundstheatre.org](http://www.moundstheatre.org) to purchase tickets, make reservations or for more information.

The Mounds Theatre is located at 1029 Hudson Road, St. Paul, MN 55106. ■



## Bible School: Safari Fun!!

If you are between the ages of 4 and 13 (entering 7th grade), you are invited to our weeklong Kingdom of the Son Safari Vacation Bible School. We will have a family dinner, games, crafts, songs and Bible stories each evening. Parents and other siblings are invited to the dinner at 5:00 p.m. and closing ceremony at 7:50 p.m. Register by calling Patrice Waters at 651-793-5176.

Dates: Monday, August 15 – Friday, August 19

Time: 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Location: Mounds Park United Methodist Church

1049 Euclid St (corner of Earl & Euclid)

Cost: Free ■

## Don't Get Left Out!!!

If you live, work, go to school or to church in Dayton's Bluff, then *this is your paper*. Help set the direction of the paper month-by-month: take part in Dayton's Bluff District Forum's monthly planning meetings.

## No Experience or Commitment Necessary!!!

Just show up and tell us what we could be doing better. We meet the last Thursday of every month at 6:30pm. The next meeting will be August 25 at The District Council office: 798 East 7th Street, Saint Paul, MN 55106. We'll see you there.

## Church Directory

### Bethlehem Lutheran

655 Forest Street  
St. Paul, MN 55106  
651-776-4737

Corner of Forest & Margaret

**Saturday Evening Service**  
5:00 pm

**Sunday Morning Service**  
9:00 am

**Sunday School and Bible Hour**  
10:15-11:15 am

**Hmong Service**  
Sunday 11:15 am



### First Lutheran Church

463 Maria Ave.  
St. Paul, MN 55106  
651-776-7210  
1 block N. of  
Metropolitan  
State University

**Sunday Worship** - 9:00 am

**Fellowship** - 9:45 am

Nursery & Handicapped Accessible

ALL ARE WELCOME!

**List your church in the District Forum Directory, call: 651-772-2075**

Voice Your Opinions Here! e-mail [gabrielgarbow@hotmail.com](mailto:gabrielgarbow@hotmail.com)

## School Supplies Drive

Dayton's Bluff District 4 Community Council is collecting school supplies for children and high school youth attending Dayton's Bluff schools. We are asking Dayton's Bluff residents to purchase extra school supplies for Dayton's Bluff families who cannot afford to buy them for their children. Bring the supplies to the Community Council offices at 798 East 7<sup>th</sup> Street. Call 651-772-2075 before you come to make sure someone is in the offices.

You can also bring supplies to National Night Out events at Swede Hollow Park, Bethlehem Lutheran church and Mounds Park United Methodist Church and put them in the school supply collection box.

Pencils, pens, notebooks, paper and so on are all needed for the children. The School Supply Collection ends August 20<sup>th</sup>. ■

## Be Your Own Boss

Have you ever wanted to start your own business? Or, have you started one and are realizing that you need more education to make it successful? If so, sign up for the Dayton's Bluff Neighborhood Entrepreneur Training and Support Program. This program helps start-up and young businesses on the East Side. All East Side entrepreneurs are welcome. The next class will start in September.

Class training lasts approximately 16 weeks and includes topics such as operations management, marketing, financial management, one to one assistance with creating a successful business, and preparing a business plan. Those who successfully complete the course and locate their businesses in target neighborhoods are eligible for ongoing business support services.

Some of the businesses that people who took the course have started include graphics, photography, food service, restoration of wood furniture and works of art, custom floral design for weddings and events, and exterior and interior painting.

The course is sponsored by the Dayton's Bluff Community Council and the Neighborhood Development Center. There is a small registration fee based on a sliding fee scale. The next session will start in September and class size is limited. Please call 772-2075 for an application. ■

## Glimpse Your Neighbor's Garden

Pictured at right, Dayton's Bluff residents and friends recently took part in the Garden Tour of gardens in the East 5th and Forest area on July 14th. On August 29th, there will be an opportunity to tour gardens in the Upper Swede Hollow Park area. It will start in the gardens next to the Swede Hollow Cafe at 725 East 7th Street. To RSVP call 651-772-2075.

Photo by Karin DuPaul. ■



Members of the East Side Garden Corps. sell the vegetables they've grown outside of Swede Hollow Cafe on East 7th Street Saturdays this summer.

## Community Gardening Conference

by Mary Petrie

Beginning August 11, the American Community Gardening Association (ACGA) hosts its national 3-day conference in Minneapolis, at the University of Minnesota. While this annual event draws people from all over the world – this year registered attendees hail from Canada, the U.S., Nigeria, Australia and elsewhere - part of the action will take place in our own little corner of the planet, in a garden tour called "Rockin' East Side Rain and Children's Gardens." The tour traces community gardens and green spaces created and operated by the East Side's Community Design Center, a powerhouse of an organization that builds and boosts the spiritual, ecological, economical and social well-being of communities through hands-on conservation and gardening programs.

The Community Design Center's mission reflects the sort of issues that will be addressed during the ACGA's national conference, which engages with issues of youth leadership; food and social justice; sustainability; urban livability; and much more. In addition to tackling social, economic, and ecological topics, conference workshops include basic gardening and community building instruction.

For people interested in getting outside of a classroom, the ACGA is hosting 22 tours of eclectic greening and gardening spaces throughout the Twin Cities. In addition to the "Rockin' East Side" tour, one can visit the University of Minnesota's Landscape Arboretum; the U-MORE

Park's 75,000 acres of gardens (including bird and butterfly sites); assorted Minneapolis and St Paul neighborhood gardens; and sites in both downtown Minneapolis and St Paul.

Community activists and gardeners of any level are warmly invited to attend the ACGA conference. People who volunteer at the conference receive discounts on registration and workshops. Interested? See [www.communitygarden.org](http://www.communitygarden.org) for details and registration material or call the Green Institute at 612-278-7119.

Conference visitors will also have the opportunity to visit Swede Hollow Park and the Friends of Swede Hollow on August 13. Swede Hollow Park is a natural treasure right in the heart of Saint Paul in Dayton's Bluff.

If you're intrigued by the notion of community gardening, but not in the mood for a conference, there are plenty of resources right here in the neighborhood. The Community Design Center's Youth Enterprise in Food and Ecology program operates several garden sites on the East Side and offers two intern programs, The East Side Youth Conservation Corps and the East Side Garden Corps.

Check out the Community Design Center web site for more information: [www.comdesignctrmn.org](http://www.comdesignctrmn.org).

And the next time you're enjoying a cup of coffee at Swede Hollow Café, check out the lovely little sign with the watermelon, smartly situated in the Children's Garden. These watermelon signs are the Community Design Center's logo, letting you know that



your good old neighborhood activists and youth leaders had a hand in creating a garden. Start looking for those signs and I'll guarantee you – you'll start noticing them in the East Side's sweetest green spaces. ■

## Community Recreation

### Margaret Recreation Center

1109 Margaret St., 55106  
651-298-5719

### Dayton's Bluff Recreation Center

800 Conway St., 55106  
651-793-3885

Director: Jody Griffin  
[jody.griffin@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:jody.griffin@ci.stpaul.mn.us)

**SENIOR PROGRAMS** -- Saint Paul Parks and Recreation offers recreation activities or senior citizens, age 50 and older. Activities such as tours, classes, clubs, and special events are listed in our bi-monthly newsletter called the Pioneer Spirit. To receive your first copy free, call 651-266-6447. Cost of an annual subscriptions is \$5.

**SENIOR CARDS** – 500; Friday's; 12:30-4 pm; Fee: \$12/yr + weekly fee for the kitty.

**SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM** - Ages 1-18; Free lunch from 12-1 pm  
**MOVIES** - A special theme each week! M-Th beginning June 20 running every other week until Aug. 18. Movie time: 1:30-3:30 pm. No cost. Call ahead for details.

**MULTI-SPORT CAMPS** -- The multi-sport atmosphere helps children explore floor hockey, flag football or non-contact lacrosse in a structured day program setting. (9 am-12 pm) for ages 7-11, afternoon session (1-4 pm) for ages 12-15. W-Th, Aug 17. Fee is \$25.

**ARTIST WORKSHOP** - Ages 8 & up; Tuesdays beginning July 12 for 8 weeks. Fee: \$35 + cost of frames. Call the center for more information.

**3, 2, 1 BLAST OFF CAMP** - Ages 7-12; M-F Aug. 1-5; 9 am-noon; Fee: \$90; Call for more information.

**TEEN CLUB** - A club for area youth who want to get involved in positive social, cultural, and community service activities. The group meets on Tuesday & Thursdays. Free. New members are wanted.

**PAYNE - ARCADE HARVEST FESTIVAL** -- Activities for the entire family September 15-17, beginning with the parade on Thursday evening.

**THE MINNESOTA CENTENNIAL SHOWBOAT** -- Travel to Harriet Island for a behind the scenes look at the Showboat Theater. Tour the boat, attend acting & singing workshops and learn about the history. After a bag lunch and games, we will attend a performance of "The Importance of Being Earnest," by the University of Minnesota Showboat Performers. Fri., Aug. 12 from 2:00-10:30pm. Gr 9-12. Fee: \$10.

**FIELD TRIPS** - Registration must be completed with a permission slip prior to trip. You may pick slips up at the rec. center.

-Cosmic Bowling: Fri., Aug. 5  
-Grand Rios: Fri., Aug. 12  
-Farm Day: Sat, Aug 13  
-Waterpark & Picnic: Fri, Aug 19  
-Crowley's Gynmastic Center & Richard Walton Park: Fri, Aug 26  
**EXTREME TEENS** - ages 13-17  
-Cannon River Tubing: Thurs, Aug 4  
-Bluff Lock-In: Thurs, Aug 11. ■

# A Short History of Dayton's Bluff *by Steve Trimble*

## Chapter 8: The 1890's Arrive

**The residents and property owners of this portion of the city have it within their power to make the East St. Paul the most desirable portion of St. Paul, and this done, a demand for sites for homes will arise, and East St. Paul will from her princely residences and beautiful avenues look out upon the broad city beautiful in her situation and full of favor.**

The quotation above appeared in an article titled "Residence District Designed by Nature," appearing in the *Pioneer Press* in December, 1894. It pointed out that the lack of bridges across the railroad tracks had made the approach to the East Side dangerous until recently. Otherwise, Dayton's Bluff "would have in all probability have supplanted the West End or St. Anthony Hill, now so thoroughly established in popular favor."

Whether or not the paper was correct in its assessment of the areas possible prominence, it presented a fairly thorough picture of the neighborhood after a decade of rapid expansion. Bridges had been built, the first streetcar service had been initiated, institutions had been started and the community was well on its way to full development.

According to the article, the area was "well supplied with good schools and commodious and modern school buildings." Van Buren School at Bates and Conway had an enrollment of over 1,100, while Sibley School at Margaret and Frank, had 600 students. There were also smaller outlying schools, such as Deane with 70 pupils and Fisher Ames school in nearby Hazel Park with 75.

The *Pioneer Press* said that "East St. Paul is the most important seat of manufacturing in the city," giving short sketches of some of the businesses: "Osgood & Blodgett, whose factory for the manufacture of package boxes, egg cartons, etc. is located on Duluth avenue near Seventh Street. The Abbott Manufacturing Company, which makes, sash, doors and the interior finishing for offices and dwellings, is located on East Seventh street near Post Siding," an area around a railroad depot near today's Seventh and Earl.

Other industrial concerns included the J. P. Gribbin Lumber Company, which was both a factory and lumber yard, the Robard manufacturing company with their "art metal works" and the Brennan Lumber Co. at 7th and Frank. The Bonn Manufacturing Co. "one of the largest plants in the city, occupies with its factories, the entire tract of land between Arcade, Dutchess and Wells Street and the St. Paul and Duluth Railroad," near today's Seeger Square is located.



Residence of Gustave Wilhus.

The prosperity that brought a building boom and population surge to Dayton's Bluff starting in the 1880's continued into the next decade. In 1893 there was a severe nation-wide depression that stalled the economic progress, but there was a spirited recovery. Most of the remaining building sites were filed up with an ambitious round of speculative building.

The *Pioneer Press* story described what it considered some of the finer houses in Dayton's Bluff. One "beautiful home, with its ample grounds" was "a square two-story house, built of stone-is that built Samuel Mayall on East Seventh street near the top of the hill. On the opposite side of the street, just beyond the bridge, is the substantial and pretty home of J. K. Murphy. The house is a modern structure, and with the terraced lawn and pleasant nooks beneath ample shade trees, forms a pleasing picture to the eye of the beholder."

Constatine Heinrich, owner of the Foot Schulze & Co. in downtown had "an elegant house at 342 Bates," and "Matthew Holl owns a stately residence on Hoffman Avenue. Among others may be mentioned the residence of Andrew Schoch., the popular merchant on Maria Avenue.

The streetcars were starting to have a major effect on the development of St. Paul's neighborhoods. People were no longer limited by their ability to walk downtown to work or shop if they were not wealthy enough to have a carriage. Far more land was available for construction.

However, as the newspaper pointed out, it was difficult to get the streetcars to serve Dayton's Bluff because of the steep grade. The first solution was cars that were assisted

up the steep grade with a cable pulled by mules at the top of the hill. By 1889, the cable system reached to Seventh and Duluth where a car barn was constructed and remained for many years.

One important contemporary event that was not mentioned in the *Pioneer Press* article was the creation of Indian Mound Park, as it was first called. In 1888, a newly formed Park Board began to condemn land for public parks. Including a twenty acre site, located "on the edge of the bluff" and "crowned with five superb Indian mounds."

However, things did not go smoothly. According to a paper, the initial attempt to "acquire a spacious park" was "defeated by the rapacity of real estate speculators," it took until 1892 to acquire seventeen acres of the bluff, including several Indian

mounds.

Around 1896, more land was purchased through a bond issue and the city started grading streets through the area, removing eleven mounds in the process. There would be driveways for carriages and a walkway to the Fish Hatchery below. It was also decided to make Hoffman (Mounds Boulevard) part of a developing parkway system.

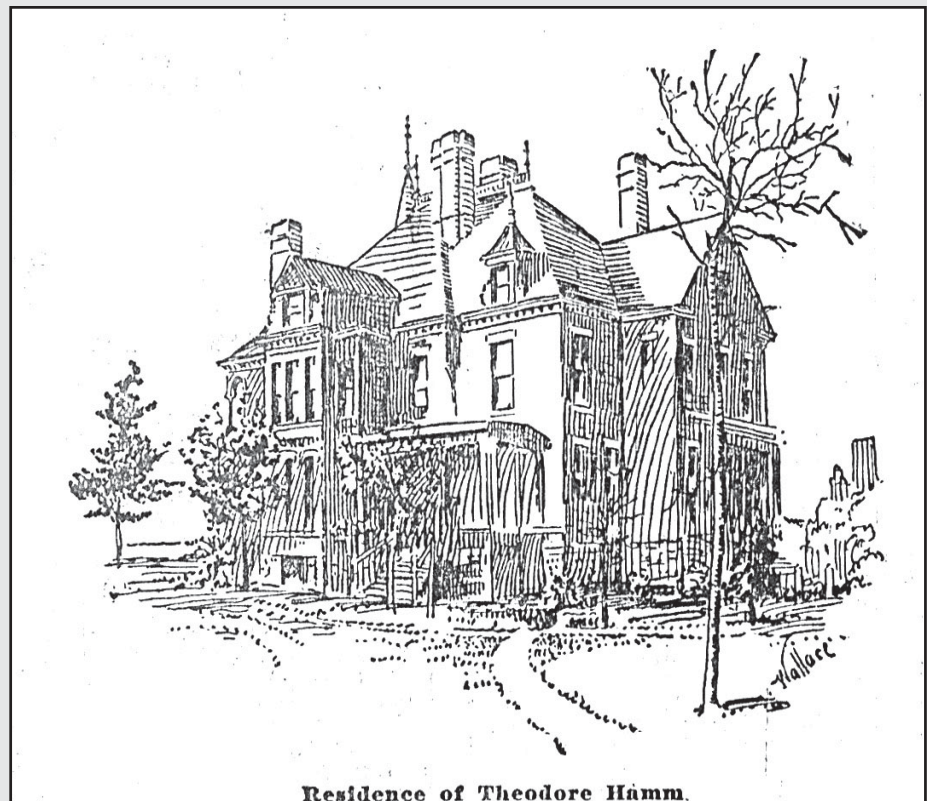
In its 1898 annual report the Board of Park Commissioners said the park "already attracts a multitude of visitors and "when reclothed with trees and grass it will be a beautiful spot-what there is of it" They were disappointed that a large part of the current park "consists of the steep hillside, leaving only a narrow strip along the bluff."

We started this column with the article "Residence District Designed by Nature," and might well end with it. The conclusion in the *Pioneer Press* recapped a belief that the area could be a premier St. Paul location, especially since its earlier problems of isolation had been addressed. It had high hopes for the future.

"Dayton's Bluff was for a long period the most eligible residence portion of the city by reason of the splendid view it commands," the article started. "Unlike the level prairie of St. Anthony Hill, it presents a succession of terraces, each commanding an extensive prospect of the city and the adjacent valley of the Mississippi River," and should soon be embraced by the public.

The article concluded with a bit of advice that might be good to embrace more than a century later:

*What is needed to lift this part of the city to the rank of a successful competitor to St. Anthony Hill is that its residents and property owners shall unite in a determined purpose to develop its natural beauty -to enter upon a systematic improvement of its streets and boulevards, generously plant and cultivate shade and ornamental trees, beautify homes and their surroundings.*



Residence of Theodore Hamm.

## Give a Hoot

by Mary Petrie

Those of us of a certain age will remember the "Give a Hoot, Don't Pollute" campaign of some years past, in which a wise old owl counseled youth on their responsibilities to the earth. Lessons of civic duty and stewardship are embodied in that simple phrase: give a hoot, don't pollute.

In sum, as children we were told to *care* – to care for our land and to *take* care in our own conduct. This good old owl knew that respect falls both ways: you demonstrate self-respect when you act respectfully toward other people and our shared land.

We sure could use that owl today.

On July 5<sup>th</sup> I took my first post-Fourth of July run along Mounds Park river bluff. The thousands of revelers left behind thousands of pieces of garbage. There were piles upon piles of spent fireworks: an hour of fun spent shooting light and sparkles into the sky, and the casings and wrappers just abandoned. People casually tossed pop cans, plastic cups, paper plates, food containers, fireworks wrappers, balloons, used diapers, shoes, and hats onto the ground, using the grass as one big waste receptacle. Scraps of paper were everywhere, as if an airplane had dropped confetti

along the river bluff.

As I moved through the mess, I couldn't help but wonder about the psyche of someone who sucks down a Slurpee in a public park, drops the cup on the ground, and walks away. Is this deliberate disregard, a calculated demonstration about how little one cares about others? Is this thoughtlessness—could our Slurpee sipper really *not* know better? Or does so much casual littering mean that self-interest has become so primary that many people no longer put the greater good side by side their own immediate needs and push for gratification?

I vote for #3. Consider our political climate - privatization is touted as the solution to problems that used to be considered a collective responsibility, like social security and health care for the poor. As individual consumers we are faced with thousands of products designed to keep us happy, and in, our one-family homes. We're cocooning. We're private. We're working hard to insure that *our* children go to the best schools, have all the advantages, and are ready to succeed.

Of course, at some primal point self-interest must come first. We all want life, happiness, and security for family and friends. But as those basic requirements are being secured, shouldn't we work toward securing those needs for others? Wouldn't working together to take care of each

others as families, communities, and cultures – or as a bare minimum, at least *acknowledging* the rights and needs of others – build individual self-respect more solidly than a new Game Boy, Jimmy Choo heels, or plasma TV?

But if our sense of self is defined not by others and by our actions as community members – but by what we own, how we appear, and how much social status we leverage – there's little impetus to understanding that the greater good is actually our good.

Making a pile of garbage out of Mounds Park says piles about our people. It's too bad that for some, self-respect seems to have lost its mooring to respect for others and the earth.

But I'm an optimist. I bet the majority of people didn't dump ashtrays on the sidewalk but used the garbage cans or walked home with wrappers stuffed in their pockets. I bet that a whole lot of people who stood along the river bluff to watch the fireworks were surprised and disgusted to watch their neighbors pitch garbage. And, I bet that a whole slew of city workers, the foot soldiers who miraculously transformed Mounds Park back to its normal beauty in one short day, don't toss cigarettes and soda cups onto public ground. Let's hope that majority rules the next Fourth of July. ■

## An afternoon visit to the Mounds Theatre

by J. Wittenberg

In planning to venture to the new Mounds Theatre I decided to take the old carriage, pulled by my single standard breed. Being the first time taking her out, there was much harnessing to be done, oiling of leather, and tightening and rechecking of buckles and choke straps. I even secured the orange triangle on the back to make certain I was legal for our venerable city roads. When the feedbag was full, I was out below the open air.

The journey was fine, up Mounds Boulevard and left on Earl, where one woman literally dropped her apples upon seeing me. In pulling up in front of the marquee I tied my beauty to the nearest lamppost and found the doors to the theatre open.

Inside, all was lit up to welcome me, but alas in the beginning I found not a living soul therein. I called out "hello" but was greeted with silence. After 5 minutes of taking a brief, self-guided walking tour, a little girl with pale blond hair peeked out from behind the curtain. I called out to this yellow-eyed waif and asked if she would come hither and assist me. She answered me by slipping back behind the curtain, where I heard nothing more nor beheld no vision of her again.

Boldly, I called up the darkened stairwell and announced myself once more in the lobby. I identified myself as being employed by the *Dayton's Bluff District Forum*, which usually prompts a quick rolling out of the red carpet...but not today. Thankfully, as I exited the building I was met by a spectacled man of some proud bearing who was apparently on his way in. This gentleman asked to be anonymous; but said he knew of this edifice and that he was working hard to bring films back to this jewel of an institution.

I learned that the last film at the theatre was in '67. He believed our paper has its heart in the right place, to better inform the culturally discerning inhabitants of Dayton's Bluff of all the events at the Mounds Theatre which ought to tantalize one's senses. For films they will be offering "*Bullitt*" on July 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>, starring that young man who is all the rage these days: the one and only Steve McQueen. This August, the play "*Disney's The Jungle Book*" will be running on the grand 900 square foot stage. And recently, this venue, which boasts Art Deco interior and its own in house organ and piano, has become popular as a locale for weddings and receptions, not to mention business meetings and conferences whereby a company can proudly have its name displayed in lights!

As we stood outside and I wrote all this down, the gentleman said that we need more Bluff residents to partake of these events. So I implore our citizens of such distinguished taste offer your business instead to this important neighborhood establishment, lest it fade into obscurity once more. ■

Advertise in the Dayton's Bluff District Forum - Call (651) 772-2075

## BEYOND THE BLUFF

The selection below appeared in the *Pioneer Press* on June 17, 1889, shortly after the new cable system was completed:

"'Oi had a roide on the cable car yisterday,' said one old Irishman to another, on Seventh Street last night. 'An phwat did ye think of it,' asked his friend. 'Foine,' was the reply. The old Irishman was not the only one who has ridden on the new Seventh street cable line, nor is he the only one who has thought it 'foine.'

All Saturday afternoon and evening and all day yesterday the line was heavily patronized, and it must have fairly coined money. A large proportion of the travel was what can be called legitimate—that is, it is the regular travel that will always be carried. Another portion, also a large one, was attracted by curiosity to see the part of the city opened up and made accessible by the new line.

To a great many residents of St. Paul that part of the city which lies on and beyond Dayton's Bluff is utterly unknown. In the past few have had the courage tyo

attempt to examine it. It is comparatively recently that there was any mode of communication with it, and that was only by a slow moving street car. Post's Siding was as far off comparatively speaking as Minneapolis.

It is different now. The new cable line makes it one of the most accessible parts of the city. The power house and te end of the line is two and two-thirds miles directly east of Wabasha, street and that distance will be travelled in twenty to twenty-five minutes when the line is running smoothly and carrying its regular passengers.

At present the track is somewhat rough, and so many stops have to be made that it takes rather longer. To one who has never been across Seventh Street fill, the new line opens up a revelation. One passes from the rush and business of lower Seventh street across the tracks, through a quiet residence street lined with pretty homes, ranging from cozy cottages to more pretentious dwellings, all the while climbing the steep hill till

the summit is reached, and then plunges down again into another city, with its separate business interests and pretentious business bocks, and then out among the humbler dwellings of mechanics by the large plant of the plow works till the end is reached at Duluth avenue.

It is a surprise to most those who have been over the line to see the substantial character of the business buildings which adorn Seventh street. There are a number of three, four and five-story brick blocks that would do credit to any business street in the city and they are nearly all occupied by stores of various kinds, apparently in perfect keeping with the style of the buildings.

These establishments are backed by a large population stretching back from Seventh street in each direction, and on toward the city limits. There is another city beyond the bluff, and the new cable line will do much to increase the community of interest between it and the metropolis of which it is a part." ■



'Nineties' from page 1:

1) Water early. The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources suggests you water between 4am and 8am. Avoid the sunny midday hours to prevent scalding of soil and evaporation. Also avoid peak hours of 4pm to 9pm, and watering at night is not recommended, as it may promote diseases.

2) Leave it longer. Let your grass grow to about 2.5 - 3 inches. This promotes stronger, healthier roots, and helps shade the soil, preventing evaporation.

3) Water only when needed. Allowing the soil to dry between waterings allows the roots to grow to greater depths and help make turf more drought tolerant.

**Sweet Ways to Beat the Heat.**

Enough about the plants, what about

keeping yourself comfortable. You don't have to leave Dayton's Bluff for cool refreshment.

Next time your on your way to or from the beach at Lake Phalen, stop in for ice cream at the Dari-ette Drive-In. It's located on Minnehaha Ave. just east of Birmingham St. (across from the Post Office). They serve an array of frozen desserts and Italian food, as well. Customers say to stock up on their spaghetti sause before they close for the season.

Another icy option is the walk-up Dairy Queen on Earl St. between 3rd and 4th Sts. Or, luxuriate in the shade at Swede Hollow Cafe's outdoor garden patio. They offer iced beverages and fresh desserts.

So next time the mercury rises, take the opportunity to explore the local offerings. ■



The Dairy Queen on Earl at Fourth.



Selina ready to serve a scoop and a smile at the Minnehaha Dari-ette.

# Putting Down Roots: Rain Gardens in Residential Settings

Friends of the Mississippi River (FMR) will host a two-part workshop: Putting Down Roots: Rain Gardens in Residential Settings on August 15 or August 18, 6:30 - 8:00 pm; and a bus tour on August 22, 6:30 - 8:00 pm. On Monday, August 15 the workshop will be held at Hillcrest Recreation Center in St. Paul, 6:30 - 8:00 pm. The workshop will be repeated on Thursday, August 18 at West Side Community Health Services (La Clinica) in St. Paul, 6:30 - 8:00 pm. Participants of both workshops are invited to meet at West Side Community Health Services on Monday, August 22 at 6:30 pm for a tour of residential rain gardens in St. Paul. Bus transportation is provided for the tour.

Both the workshop and tour are free of cost and open to all but pre-registration is required. Please contact Beth Storey at FMR to register, 651/222-2193 ext. 16 or bstorey@fmr.org.

This program features landscape restoration ecologist Gregg Thompson of the Association of Metropolitan Soil and Water Conservation Districts. Mr. Thompson is experienced in the areas of landscape ecology, horticulture, and native landscape design and restoration. He is involved in native plant community restoration, native re-vegetation, storm water treatment practices utilizing native vegetation, and bio-stabilization on shore lands and stream banks.

The natural beauty and practical

benefit of a rain garden make it an increasingly popular choice for home landscapers who want to do their part to improve water quality, and many residents seek resources on how to add these lovely features to their yards, schools and businesses. This program will describe what a rainwater garden is, how to build one, and why they can be important for our lakes, rivers and wetlands. The workshop will include a "how to" approach, giving participants information about where a rainwater garden should be placed, soil preparation, plant selection and other nuances of rainwater garden construction.

The tour will include visits to established rain gardens in the city of St. Paul. Staff from Ramsey County Soil and Water Conservation District will be on hand to share information about their cost-share program and available services for native landscaping projects in Ramsey County.

**Workshops:**

Monday, August 15, 6:30 - 8:00 pm  
Hillcrest Recreation Center, 1978 Ford Parkway, St. Paul, MN 55116

- OR -  
Thursday, August 18, 6:30 - 8:00 pm  
West Side Community Health Services (La Clinica), 153 Cesar Chavez

Street, St. Paul, MN 55107

**Bus Tour:**

Monday, August 22, 6:30 - 8:00 pm ■

## Nickeled and Dimed: a letter to the editor

by Pepper Ann Katze

I'm reading a book called "Nickeled and Dimed" by Barbara Ehrenreich. The author is a journalist who went to three cities across the US to see how the working poor live. She spent a month each in Key West, Portland (ME) and Minneapolis, trying to find affordable housing and low-wage jobs. It's a real eye-opener. I've just started on the Minneapolis chapter. She's finding the affordable housing situation here much worse than anywhere else. No surprise to any of us renters.

What stands out for me is the centuries-old Protestant notion that you're poor because God hates you. The assumption lingers to this day that the down-and-out are that way because of some moral failure on their part. *If they would just quit drinking, doing drugs, etc, then they could quickly become Donald Trump.* Perhaps they are mentally deranged. In some way the cosmos must be punishing them for bad behavior.

But the problem is much more complex. Without making enough money to build up savings, all people can do tread water. It is the growing gap between wages and cost of living that keeps the poor getting poorer. As the author says, you have to work at least two jobs to keep a roof over your head. All too often that means the roof

This is not to say mental and

chemical issues don't play a role. It's a chicken/egg question. Some people have it all and lose it all to cocaine. But some use chemicals to ease the pain of hard labor - which itself ruins the bodies of even people in their twenties. Some never had anything to begin with.

To say, as pundits often do, that the poor are just too lazy to pull themselves up by their bootstraps is to ignore the mathematics of reality. It's a convenient way for the middle and upper classes to avoid seeing that they have the power to help.

Now I've complained a lot about my job. But at the most basic level I have what thousands are not afforded in their place of employment: dignity. We are treated as human beings. Many companies assume that the poor are treacherous sinners who need to be treated like animals. It's the question of whether the maid who nips valuables is doing so because of some moral weakness or because her salary from the maid service doesn't cover groceries. I make well above minimum wage, yet it's tight.

The housing crisis will be the major issue in years to come. I'm not sure what the solution might be. I don't blame anyone for being wary of the crime often attaching itself to low-income housing. But what of the honest, hard-working poor? Do they - and especially single mothers - not deserve a safe place to call home? ■



## Debbie.... Dog Training & Grooming Diva!

by Sean Gavere

How long have you lived on the East Side? What do you appreciate about the East Side? A big part of what makes the East Side so great is that the businesses contribute so much to making our community better. My partner and I have had the distinct pleasure of living on the East Side for one year now. We moved from a downtown St. Paul condo to a nice neighborhood on the 700 block of Wilson Avenue.

Once we moved in we decided that it was time to start a family so we adopted a dog. It has been many years since either one of us had a dog in the family and had to brush up on our dog care and training knowledge. We turned to books and videos only to get frustrated because those techniques were not working the way we had anticipated.

One day my luck changed! I was driving home from work and came across this little shop near the corner of Wilson and Maria called Debbie's Doghouse. I quickly jotted the phone number down on a piece of paper and called when I got home. Upon calling, I was greeted by a lovely voice and she told me about everything that Debbie's Doghouse had to offer. The most appealing options to me were the grooming and training. She had given me some tips right away to help until we could meet personally. I immediately scheduled a time to have

Debbie work with our dog Maxie. I anticipated having to fight Maxie to get her collar and leash on and drag her down to Debbie's, but to my surprise DEBBIE CAME TO OUR HOME! This is what I call personal training!

Debbie's philosophy is that the most successful way to train your dog is by working with him or her in their own environment. Her caring nature and love for dogs really shined through in working with Maxie. Our dog absolutely loves her and is excited to see her every time we go down to Debbie's Doghouse for a bath, brush, and clip. When Debbie comes to the house to work with Maxie, the dog behaves, learns, and loves to spend time just playing with Debbie. Her prices are VERY reasonable and there is more care and concern put into training and grooming than I have ever received at one of those big chain pet department stores.

Because we have been so lucky to have Debbie work with Maxie and train her, we have now expanded our family once more with another dog. We recently adopted a Beagle pup named Calvin. From my experience with Debbie, I now have the tools to start remedial training and then send him off to Debbie for more advanced training.

Debbie has been absolutely incredible and without her our life with Maxie would have been very challenging and messy! If you have a dog or are thinking about adopting a dog, call Debbie to talk to her about it. She can provide you with guidance on what to be aware of and help you make good choices to match you to a dog. I have never had a problem scheduling time with Debbie to come and work with our dog.

Debbie's Doghouse is located at 805 Hudson Road (near the corner of Wilson and Maria). Her days and hours of operation are Tuesday - Saturday 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Call for appointments....651-776-4080.

Thank you Debbie for being a great small business that impacts our community! ■

## It's Time to Clean Up

On Saturday, September 10, 2005 the Dayton's Bluff Annual Neighborhood Clean Up will be held from 9:00 a.m. to noon at Ray Anderson & Sons north of East 7th Street at the end of Atlantic. It's time to clean up your yards and homes and get ready for the clean up. More information about the clean up will be in the September issue of the Forum. Volunteers are needed to help with the clean up. There will be limited item pick up for Seniors Citizens with no means of transportation. Call 651-772-2075 to volunteer or for more information.

DO NOT BRING APPLIANCES TO THE CLEAN UP. On Monday, September 12, 2003 J.R.'s Appliance Disposal will be doing a special curbside appliance pickup in Dayton's Bluff. The cost is \$25.00 for one appliance, plus \$10.00 for each additional appliance and an additional \$10.00 for each air conditioner (\$35.00). All you have to do is call J.R.'s and sign up for this special pick up. They will let you know the cost for your appliances. Then have your old appliances on the curb on September 12th. Call Joan at J.R.'s 651-454-9215. ■

## Leo's Chow Mein

*We specialize in Chow Mein,  
Fried Rice,  
Egg Foo Young*

Dine In or Take Out

Lunch Buffet

11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

\$4.25

Hours 11:00 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.

6 Days a Week

1059 Hudson Road



## Parkway Gardens Open House

Parkway Gardens, the senior rental complex at 1145 Hudson Road (the old Johnson Bros. Liquor Store site), is now open and taking applications for residency.

Parkway Gardens offers one- and two-bedroom apartments with a variety of floor plans to choose from. Some apartments come with eat-in kitchens and they can be outfitted for handicapped accessibility. The apartments are unfurnished but come with a wall mounted air conditioner and kitchen appliances, including a dishwasher. Extra storage is available

and the units are cable-ready. Heat, water, sewer and trash removal are included with the rent but residents must pay their own electric bills. One underground parking space is provided on an as-available basis.

Other amenities at Parkway Gardens include laundry facilities on every floor, community rooms, library, resident business center with computers and Internet access, sewing room, game room with a billiard table, wellness center, and a beauty shop.

There is an enclosed outdoor courtyard for picnics and barbecues, a landscaped area with paths and a pond, and a parking lot for visitors.

Parkway Gardens is managed by Metes and Bounds Management Co. Contact May or Abby at 651-771-0267 for more information or a tour. ■

## MUELLER MORTUARY

### PARKWAY CHAPEL


835 Johnson Parkway  
at East Seventh Street  
Saint Paul, MN 55106  
(651) 774-9797  
FAX (651) 778-9677

### LAKE MORTUARY

4738 Bald Eagle Avenue  
at Third Street  
White Bear Lake, MN 55110  
(651) 429-4944  
FAX (651) 429-7748

Call anytime for service or information

**GREGORY W. LE MAY**  
for  
**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**



**CHILDREN...**  
...a terrible thing to waste.

[www.citizensforlemay.org](http://www.citizensforlemay.org)  
Prepared and Paid for by Citizens for Le May  
235 McKnight Rd. S. St. Paul, MN 55119

## Volunteer Opportunity: Interpreter

Assist human services staff to effectively and efficiently serve non-English speaking clients by translating and reverse translating Hmong, Somali, Oromo, or Spanish and English and perform related duties as assigned. Volunteers must be at least 16 years of age. Contact Ramsey County Community Human Services—Volunteer Services at 651-266-4090 for additional information or e-mail to: [volunteerservices@co.ramsey.mn.us](mailto:volunteerservices@co.ramsey.mn.us).



**CLUES** needs your help  
in building a  
brighter future for  
Minnesota's Latino  
community!

**Volunteer Tutors**  
are needed for the following  
classes:

- Spanish Literacy Classes
- English as a Second Language (ESL) Classes
- Citizenship Classes
- Computer Classes
- Child supervision services assistant

The minimum time commitment for volunteer tutors is three hours per week for an eight-week period. Classes are held in the morning and evening and the next quarter begins in early July. Spanish is not a requirement.

For more information, contact Alejandra Reyes at 651-379-4229.

## Volunteer Opportunity: Child Care/Nursery Assistant

One, two, we're ready for you. Three, four open the door...assist agency staff in providing supervision and care for the children who must wait while their parents complete interviews, or attend support groups or counseling sessions.

Volunteers must be at least 16 years of age. Contact Ramsey County Community Human Services—Volunteer Services at 651-266-4090 for additional information or e-mail to [volunteerservices@co.ramsey.mn.us](mailto:volunteerservices@co.ramsey.mn.us).

### 'Final Budget' from page 1:

increase in the base per pupil funding formula in each of the next two years, as well as additional resources. That translates into an extra \$36.8 million for St. Paul schools over the next two years. That's good news for our schools and, more importantly, our kids.

The final Health & Human Services bill protected the health insurance of over 30,000 working Minnesotans whose coverage was threatened. It also provided a long-overdue cost of living increase to the men and women who work in our nursing homes and facilities that care for our disabled.

On the economic front, we passed a \$1 hourly increase to the minimum wage, a move that will make it easier for thousands of Minnesotans to get ahead. We also passed a significant Capital Investment Bill that is expected to create 10,000 good-

paying construction jobs in the state.

I realize the 2005 budget negotiations were sometimes difficult to watch. However, sometimes gridlock is a sign that the system is working, that both sides are standing up for what they believe in. I know that the thousands of Minnesotans who will be able to stay on MinnesotaCare, and the children, teachers and parents who will benefit from replenished school budgets will agree that these things were worth fighting for.

Again, I'd like to thank all of you for your patience and support this session. Your input has been extremely important to me this session. Please feel free to contact me during the summer and fall.

*Sheldon Johnson, District 67B, 229 State Office Building, St. Paul, MN 55155, (651) 296-4201* ■

### 'Night Out' from page 1:

criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back. Join 30 million other people in more than 9,000 communities nation-wide in a variety of events and activities.

You and your family can attend these Dayton's Bluff National Night Out events:

- 1st Lutheran Church at 464 Maria
- 5th Street East between Mounds Blvd and Maria
- Bethlehem Lutheran Church at Margaret and Forest
- Clarence between Point Douglas and McLean
- 1300 Conway in the Saint Paul Federal Credit Union parking lot
- Euclid between Maria and Mounds Blvd.
- Margaret Recreation Center at 1109 Margaret
- Margaret between Johnson Parkway and Atlantic
- Mounds Park United Methodist Church at Euclid and Earl
- Swede Hollow Park at Greenbrier and Margaret

If you are interested in having a National Night Out event in your neighborhood or have any questions, call Karin at 772-2075. ■

### 'Code of Conduct' from page 1:

- Noise levels must not be too loud, particularly between 10 p.m. and 7 a.m. to be considerate of your neighbors. "Too loud" means you can plainly hear it at the property line if the noise is inside a home, or you can plainly hear it 50 feet away if the noise is outside a home.

- Behavior of our family and guests living in and visiting our homes is our responsibility.

- Possessing or drinking beer or liquor is against the law in city parks.

- The use or selling of illegal drugs anywhere in our community will not be tolerated.

- Gatherings, house parties, and yard parties should not infringe on our neighbors' rights and the noise level should not be too loud. (See noise level guideline above.)

- Vehicles causing loud noise because of defective or modified exhaust systems must be brought into compliance with the City of Saint Paul noise ordinance. Also, loud home and vehicle stereos, and "boom-boom" cars will not be tolerated.

- Commercial trucks and school buses must be parked in officially permitted areas according to the zoning code.

- Trash and debris must be in tightly closed trashcans and collected weekly. Trash should be stored behind your home and should be in front of the house only on trash collection day.

- Grass or other landscaping materials should cover yards. Grass must be kept shorter than 8 inches and overgrown vegetation must be trimmed.

- Cars should be kept in a garage or parked on approved surfaces (that is, those covered with asphalt, concrete, or crushed rock) or parked on the street.

- Dogs and other animals must be contained within the home or yard, or on a leash. They should not be allowed to bark or make noise to the point of nuisance. (See noise level guideline above).

Snow should be removed from your sidewalk within 24 hours after a snowfall. Cars and other vehicles parked on the street must be moved for snow emergencies.

- If we see suspicious activity or believe a neighbor is in distress, we will contact the appropriate authorities.

- As residents we agree to communicate the terms of our neighborhood code of conduct to other homeowners, landlords, and tenants. Landlords should ask their tenants to follow the neighborhood code of conduct and be responsible for infractions to our contract. Landlords and tenants should be in agreement that breaking the code will be cause for eviction.

- All races, ethnicities, sexual orientations, and classes will be embraced with dignity and respect given to all. Ethnic or cultural allegiance and biases will not exempt individuals from their responsibility toward community cohesion and consideration.

Remember! If you have a problem with a neighbor, make an attempt to talk with him or her to work it out.

For more information call Karin at 651-772-2075. ■

### 'Changes' from page 1:

[gabrielgarbow@hotmail.com](mailto:gabrielgarbow@hotmail.com) or send a printed listing of your organization's event to Dayton's Bluff District Forum 798 East 7th Street, St Paul, MN 55106.

The District Forum will also unveil a redesigned format for content as well as an updated front page and masthead in August. We hope this will help us be come a more useful and recognizable resource for everyone whose lives lead them to Dayton's Bluff. ■

### Dayton's Bluff District Forum

798 East 7th Street  
Saint Paul, MN 55106  
Phone: 651-772-2075

FAX: 651-774-3510

E-mail: [KarinDD@msn.com](mailto:KarinDD@msn.com)

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Board of Directors: Allen Clausen, Greg Cosimini, and Karin DuPaul.

Editor & Layouts: Gabriel Garbow.

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