

Dayton's Bluff DISTRICT FORUM

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November 2005

This month in 2001...



American Indians from around the area gathered at Indian Mounds Park on September 28th to celebrate National Native American Day. A mini pow-wow and a children's parade was held. The photo shows the contingent from Ain Dah Yung, or "Our Home", shelter – a culturally specific shelter for American Indian youths between ages 5 and 17. Photo by Angela DuPaul.



"Brownie" – a Mounds Park native – poses for a victory photo at the 2003 Dachshund Olympics in Wayzata.



ECFE Fun Fall Field Trip

On Tuesday, September 27, 2005 two classes of Spanish speaking families from the Dayton's Bluff Early Childhood Family Program took big yellow school buses on a ride through the countryside to the Afton Apple Orchard. The weather was sunny and warm and it was a beautiful day for 40 children ages birth to five and their mothers to get up close and personal with pigs, goats, a donkey, a llama and other farm animals, to play on the playground, to take a hay ride, and to "lift and twist" three Minnesota grown apples to bag and take home. They also brought apples back to school so they could cook apple crisp in their classes the following week and eat it with ice cream, another product that

starts on a farm.

Field trips like these are rich educational experiences for city children who sometimes think produce begins its existence in the supermarket. Follow up activities at school broaden children's knowledge of the world in which they live and support their language, math, science, social and emotional development to help them take full advantage of formal education when they begin elementary school.

Thanks to the Dayton's Bluff Early Childhood Family Education Advisory Council for using their funds to underwrite special events to enrich the experiences of both English and Spanish speaking families. ■

Learning Beyond Borders

Thursday, November 10, 2005
12:30 - 5:00 p.m.

Ecolab Community Room
Metropolitan State University St. Paul Campus
Library and Learning Center
645 E. Seventh Street

Metropolitan State University has a global campus community, where students, faculty, and staff are engaged in local organizations working on global issues. What are the opportunities for students to become engaged in internships, study, and travel abroad? How can it connect to

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Getting Yard, Garden Ready for Winter

Winter is coming! Are you and your yard ready? The next month or so is an important time for getting your yard and garden plants prepared for a long slumber.

Certainly cleanup is on the top of the list. Besides just cleaning up leaves and plant parts, making notes of plant performance, location, and problems can help prepare for next season. This is especially helpful with vegetable plants, annuals, and perennial flower plantings. For perennials, allowing the dead plant material to remain until spring may help protect the crown of the plant, although if the bed is mulched later this fall it doesn't really matter.

It's best to wait awhile before mulching perennials and strawberries.

'Garden' continues on page 2

Building a Culture of Peace

Display opening Wednesday, November 2, 2005

Refreshments and Peace Pole dedication, 5:30 p.m.

Metropolitan State University St. Paul Campus Second floor Library and Learning Center 645 E. Seventh Street

The display will be on view from November 2-18, coinciding with the university's fourth annual civic engagement conference, *Learning Beyond Borders: Engaging Students with the World at Home and Abroad*, which will take place Nov. 10. The display brings together the ideas of hundreds of people and organizations dedicated to finding a lasting path to peace. It focuses on UN action areas for a culture of peace, and includes sections on barriers to peace, religions and peace, and introduces peace

builders, some famous and some ordinary individuals who have made lasting contributions to peace efforts around the world.

Join us on November 2 at 5:30 to preview the display and dedicate Metropolitan State University's new Peace Pole, bearing the message "May Peace Prevail on Earth," and to sign the Manifesto 2000 pledge.

For more information, contact Rebecca Ryan, 651-793-1296 or Rebecca.Ryan@metrostate.edu

Building a Culture of Peace is co-sponsored by Soka-Gakkai International, The Center for Community-Based Learning, and the Library and Learning Center. Individuals with disabilities may request accommodations to access this program or event by calling Disability Services at 651-793-1540. ■

A Raisin in the Sun at Mounds Theatre

The second show of Starting Gate Productions' "Wonder Season" is coming to the Mounds Theatre in November. Coming off the success of their first show, *Godspell*, Starting Gate Productions is pleased to present *A Raisin in the Sun* by Lorraine Hansberry.

On the brink of the civil rights movement, this compelling drama electrified both Black and White, and illuminated the experience of being a Negro in America.

This production is directed by Dawn Renee Jones and features the talents of Christiana Clark, Angela Dalton, Shawn Hamilton, Stephen Menya, Dale Pfeilsticker, Artie



Thompson, Adam Western, and Marcus Woodard.

Performances:

Three weeks only!
November 4 - 19, 2005
Thursdays - Saturdays at 7:30 p.m.
Sunday Matinees at 2:00 p.m.
Industry Night Monday, November 14. Pay What You Can Performance

Tickets:
\$18 general
\$16 students and seniors

For tickets call 651-645-3503 or visit www.startinggate.org

All performances are at the Mounds Theatre at 1029 Hudson Road.

Holiday Boutique and Bake Sale

Mark your calendars! HealthEast Care Center - Marian of Saint Paul is having their annual Holiday Boutique and Bake Sale on Friday, November 18, 2005, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. This year's boutique is going to be bigger and better than ever! There will be all sorts of handcrafted items and many different baked goods for sale by residents and the local community. You don't want to miss out, so please stop by and have some fun shopping before the holiday rush. You'll be glad you did.

For more information or if you would like to rent a table to sell your own items, call Jodi Auger at (651) 771-2914.

Marian of Saint Paul is located at 200 Earl Street, across from Indian Mounds Park. ■

Adult Athletics

ADULT BASKETBALL

Registration begins October 1st. Games begin mid-November (men) and early-December (women). Programs are offered for the following classifications: Men's C, Women's B/C. Fees for 2004/2005: \$380/8 games PLUS playoffs. Non-resident teams add \$50.00/team.

ADULT BROOMBALL

Registration for broomball is November 1st - December 3rd. Games begin late-December or early-January. Programs are offered in the following classifications: Men's: Class B, C and D, Women's: Class A/B and C Co-Rec: Class A/B, C and D. Fees for 2004/2005: \$225/6 games Non-resident teams add \$50.00/team Games are played at McMurray Athletic Complex - Lexington Pkwy. and Jessamine.

ADULT BOOT HOCKEY

Registration begins Monday, November 15th and closes Friday, December 9th, 2005. Programs are offered for the following classifications: Class A, Class B. Proposed fees for 2004/2005: \$250.00 for resident teams \$300.00 for non-resident teams (Single elimination playoffs included) (To qualify for residency, all players must work or live in Ramsey County) Games are played at the McMurray Ice Rinks in the Como Park neighborhood of Saint Paul.

COACHES NEEDED

Saint Paul Parks and Recreation offers a variety of coaching opportunities in youth athletics. If you have coaching experience or are willing to learn coaching fundamentals, we can give you the necessary skills and tools. All coaches will be trained through Saint Paul's coaching certification program. The average time commitment is 3-5 hours per week for approximately 8 weeks.

Please contact Recreation Center for more information: 651-793-3885. ■

Seniors' Rec. Programs

City Passport, co-sponsored by HealthEast Passport and Saint Paul Parks and Recreation, is located in Suite 230 on the skyway level of Galtier Plaza, 380 Jackson Street (one block east of Robert between 5th and 6th Streets), in downtown Saint Paul. City Passport provides both structured activities such as computer training, health screenings, musical performances and cooking classes, and a variety of drop-in activities like cards, board games, movie viewing, a book exchange, lots of friendly people to talk with, and always a pot of coffee on the boil. 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday. **651-232-1301.**

Senior Royalty

Men and women, age 55 and older are eligible to become candidates for the Senior Royalty Program. Three men and three ladies are selected as Royalty to reign during the Winter Carnival and throughout the year. All candidates participate in the Senior Royalty Coronation held on February 3 at the Landmark Center. If you would like to participate in a unique experience, meet new people, and have lots of fun at parades and other community events, call 651-266-6363 to receive an application. Apply by December 27.

Music Extravaganza

The "Golden Melody Makers" will host a variety show, Thursday, November 4, 1:00-3:30pm at Hillcrest Recreation Center, 1978 Ford Parkway. Advance sale tickets are \$5/person. door admission is \$7. Call 651-266-6363 for information. ■

No Experience Required! No Commitment !!!

Just show up the last Thursday of every month at 6:00pm and tell us what we could be doing better. The next meeting will be Oct 29 at The District Council office: 798 East 7th Street, Saint Paul.



The Next Exit Band at Swede Hollow Park Night Out event. Photo by Dennis Thompson.

'Learning' from page2:
their lives here in Minnesota? Do you have a project or story to share?

Registration for the conference and reception is required. For more information or to register, contact the Center for Community Based-Learning at 651-793-1285, or e-mail cbl.center@metrostate.edu.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Mu Daiko, taiko drumming group.
- Doug McGill, of localman.org and The McGill Report, offers the keynote address at 1:00, panel response and discussion circle to follow.
- Information tables on the skyway from 1-5pm, offering ways to get involved globally and locally.
- Reception welcoming Consul General of Mexico Nathan Wolf, Great Hall, 5:00.

Don't miss *Building a Culture of Peace for the Children of the World*, a display located on the second floor of the Library and Learning Center from November 2-18. Opening reception Wednesday, Nov. 2, 5:30 p.m.

Individuals with disabilities may request accommodations to access this program by calling Disabilities Services at 651-793-1540. Co-sponsors of the event: Metropolitan State University's American Democracy Project and The Center for Community-Based Learning. ■

'Garden' from page 2:

Winter mulches are suggested to help protect perennial flower plantings from alternating freezing and thawing cycles over the winter. Wait until about Thanksgiving or later so the plants have gone dormant and the soil freezes to apply the mulches, rather than applying now. Straw or evergreen boughs make good winter mulches.

Shrubs and smaller trees may need protection from rabbits or mice over the winter. Putting up a barrier, such as poultry wire or hardware cloth, is the best defense. Put a fence around shrubs, and secure with a few stakes. Put a loose cylinder of hardware cloth around the trunk base of younger trees susceptible to mouse or rabbit gnawing.

Continue to monitor plantings, in particular evergreens, for the need to water. Rains of late September/early October have helped, but keep in mind the soil can still become quite dry. Also, rainfall may increase lawn growth, so be sure to continue mowing over the next few weeks until growth stops.

Finally, it's not too early to check on the condition of winter equipment. Don't wait until the first significant snowfall to realize all the shovels are broken or the snow blower won't start! Get started now and be ready BEFORE you see the first flake fall. ■

Christmas is Coming

A Christmas Story is returning to the Mounds Theatre this December. It's everyone's favorite story of Ralphie and his quest to get a Red Ryder Air Rifle. All the delightful moments you fell in love with in the film version are brought to life, as well as a number of other surprises.

This holiday classic was first produced live on stage at the Mounds Theatre in December 2004 and was a great success. This year's production will be even bigger and better. Create or continue a holiday tradition at the Mounds Theatre. *A Christmas Story* is appropriate for all ages and there is discount pricing for children.

Performances:

Friday, December 2 at 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, December 3 at 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, December 4 at 2:00 p.m.
Friday, December 9 at 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, December 10 at 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, December 11 at 2:00 p.m.
Friday, December 16 at 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, December 17 at 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, December 18 at 2:00 p.m.

Ticket prices are \$15 Adults; \$10 Student/Senior; and \$5 Children (12 and under). Group discounts are available.

Don't delay! Contact the Mounds Theatre to order your tickets. Visit www.moundstheatre.org or call 651-772-2253.

The Mounds Theatre is located at 1029 Hudson Road. ■

Metropolitan State University Events

Books Abound Exhibit Opening Reception. 4-7 pm Library, Third Floor Gallery, Library and Learning Center, Saint Paul Campus, 645 East Seventh Street.

The exhibit, featuring book artists affiliated with the Minnesota Center for Book Arts, will open Friday, November 18. It continues through December 16 and is closed November 16. The opening reception will be from 4-7 pm. Exhibit hours are: Monday – Thursday 11am – 7pm, Friday – Saturday 11am – 4pm. The gallery is closed on Sundays.

Display: Dia de los Muertos Ofrenda. 1-6pm, Great Hall.

The Day of the Dead is celebrated in Mexico on Nov 1 and 2. Mexican families construct special ofrendas or altars dedicated to the spirits of their deceased loved ones. Food will be provided at 4 p.m. ■

Community Garage Sale

Back by popular demand – our seasonal multi-family garage sale. Do you have stuff that is too small, too big or you just don't want anymore? Need a place to sell it? Well, here's your chance to clean house. Let's fill the gym with lots of good stuff to sell. Dayton's Bluff Recreation Center, 800 Conway St. 651-793-3885. Sat. Oct. 8 9 am–2:30 pm. ■

Community Recreation Centers

Margaret

1109 Margaret St.
651-298-5719

Dayton's Bluff

800 Conway St.
651-793-3885

Phalen

1000 E. Wheelock Pkwy
651-793-6600

4H GROUP

Learn life skills, how to set goals, meet new friends and have lots of fun. This group will meet on the second Saturday of each month November through June. Location: Phalen. Sat. Nov. 12 9:30–11 am 4th gr. & up On-going Free

HOLIDAY CRAFTS

Start to get in the Holiday spirit. A variety of special seasonal crafts will be offered. Limit 12. Location: Margaret. Fri. Dec. 9 4–5 pm 8–14 Free

SLIME

Explore the exciting world of polymers, the chemical reactions we use to create them and the inner workings of silly putty. Transform two regular liquids into an oozing batch of your very own slime... Limit 25. Location: Dayton's Bluff Wed. Nov. 23 4:30–5:30 pm 6–12 years old. \$5

TEEN NIGHT

Teens meet the first Friday of each month to play basketball, games, music and more! Must show ID. Location: Margaret. 1st Fridays 6:30–10 pm 13–19 On-going Free

HIGH SCHOOL SKATE PARTY

Location: Phalen Sun. Jan. 15 4–11 pm 13–18 Free

SPRING SPORTS

Registration dates: February 13–17

MONDAY MOVIE MYSTERY

Join us on the second and fourth Monday's of each month as we show a great movie on our big 20x20 screen. No one knows what the movie will be until show time. Movie categories will include new releases, classics, romantic, and comedies. No sign up and no costs, just come and enjoy.

Location: Dayton's Bluff

Mon. Sept. 19 6–8 pm 7 & up Free

PUMPKIN / SWEET POTATO PIE BAKE OFF AND SOCIAL

Prepare a pie at home using your favorite recipe. Entries will be judged and ribbons will be awarded.

Location: Wilder

Thurs. Nov. 17 6:30 pm Free

TEEN CLUB / TEEN COUNCIL

These clubs are for teens who want to be involved in positive social, cultural and community activities. The groups meet regularly to plan activities, help plan events and more. Stop by the center for more information. Location: Margaret. Fri. Oct. 14 6–8 pm 13–19 On-going. Free. Location: Dayton's Bluff. T/Th 5–7 pm 11–15 On-going. Free.

EVENING @ THE NORTH POLE

Santa's elves will serve pizza, a special dessert and punch. Santa will be there to share some great stories from the North Pole. Christmas crafts and a sing-a-long will get everyone in the holiday spirit. 8 yrs. & under. Bring your camera for a picture with Santa. Location: Dayton's Bluff. Thurs. Dec. 15 6:30–8 pm 8 & under \$4 per person including adults

DEAR SANTA...

Ho! Ho! Ho! Let the Dayton's Bluff elves help your little one get this year's wish list to Santa. Upon registration, you will receive a Dear Santa Wish List for your child to complete. Return it to our office and we'll take care of the rest! Santa will write your little one a letter and mail it directly from the North Pole. Register by Dec. 6. Location: Dayton's Bluff. Mon. Dec. 5 6–7:30 pm. Free

BEGINNING JAZZ DANCE FOR ADULTS

Five, six, seven, eight! Jazz dance is a "cool" way to get a great workout while increasing flexibility. Warm-up, leaps, turns and combinations, all tailored to your skill and comfort level will be taught. Dust off your dance shoes and join us in this fun and funky class. Location: Dayton's Bluff. Tues. Nov. 15 6:30–7:30 pm \$30

PARENTS' DAY OFF

"Parents' Day off!" give parents a break to accomplish tasks, run errands, finish holiday shopping or just spend some time alone while their children ages 5–12 enjoy activities such as gym games, arts and crafts, movies snacks, and more. Children should bring a bag lunch or \$2.75 for a happy meal. Registration is required. Location: Dayton's Bluff. Tues. Dec. 20 9 am–4 pm \$22

PARENTS' NIGHT OUT

Want a Friday evening without the kids? You've got it! Children ages 5–10 can enjoy games, activities, dinner (pizza) and a movie while the adults are free to spend 3 hours going out to dinner, reading a book, or watching a movie themselves. Location: Dayton's Bluff. Fri. Nov. 18. 6–9 pm \$10

PAINTBALL ADVENTURE

Do you really need a reason to spend a fantastic day in the woods? Come out with a group of friends or family, enjoy the great outdoors, and play some paintball at the Adventure Zone. Your own referee will guide you through a variety of game scenarios. Fee includes playing time, semi-auto rental, 250 paintballs and free CO2 refills. Location: Any Area 5 Recreation Center. Thurs. Nov. 10 5–8 pm 13 & up \$28

STAGES THEATER

Location: Phalen "A Single Shard" Sat. Nov. 12 12–3 pm Family. Free "A Winnie the Pooh Christmas" Sat. Nov. 26 12–3 pm Free Limited to 35.

SAINT PAUL WINTER CARNIVAL JUNIOR ROYALTY PROGRAM

Saint Paul teens, grades 7–9, may represent the City of Saint Paul at events during the Winter Carnival. Through a judging process teens will be selected as King Frost, Queen of the Snowflakes, or as members of the Royal Court. Deadline to register is Fri., Dec. 18. Teens must either live in Saint Paul or go to school in Saint Paul to be eligible. For more information, call 651-266-6400.



Amazing Grace Assembly of God

1237 Earl St.
651-778-1768

Sun 9:30 am - Sunday school all ages

Sun 10:30 am - morning Worship
Sun 6:00 pm - evening Worship

Hmong Asbury United Methodist

815 Frank St.
651-771-0077

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

655 Forest St.
651-776-4737

Sun 9:00 am - Morning Service
Sun 10:15-11:15 am - Sunday School & Bible Hour
Sun 11:15 - Hmong Service

Faith Temple - Templo De Fe

1510 Payne Ave
651-778-0096

Sun 10:30 am - Spanish Bilingual Service

Sun 6:00 pm - Spanish Bilingual Service

Wednesday family night

First Lutheran Church ELCA

463 Maria
651-776-7210

Sun 9:00 am - Worship service

Sun 10:15 am - Education all ages

Thanksgiving Eve Service 7:00 pm
Fellowship following worship.

Mounds Park United Methodist

1049 Euclid St.
651-774-8736

9:15am Sunday School, 4-year-old through Adult. 10:30 am worship

Our Savior's Lutheran 'LCMS'

674 Johnson Pkwy
651-774-2396

Sun only - 8am Worship, 9:20 education hour

Sun 10:45am - Worship

Sacred Heart Catholic Church

840 E. 6th St.
651-776-2741

Sat 4:00 pm - Mass

Sun 9:00 am - Mass

Mon, Wed, Fri 8:00 am - Weekday Service

St. John's Catholic Church

977 E. 5th St.
651-771-3690

Mon-Fri 8:00 am - Mass

Sat 8:00 am & 4:15 pm - Mass

Sun 9:00 am, 11:00 am - Mass

St. John's Church of God in Christ

1154 E. 7th St.
651-771-7639

Sun 9:30 am - Sunday School;

Sun 11:00 am - Worship

Wed 7:00 pm - Bible Study

St. John Ev. Lutheran

765 Margaret St.
651-771-6406

Sun 9:30 am - Worship

Thurs 6:30 pm - Worship

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

The 1913 Re-Opening of Carver's Cave

Author's note: I'm going to take a one-issue break from the chapter approach to the neighborhood's history. This will be a more in-depth look at a single event from the early 1900's era. As you probably know, the Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary was recently dedicated and there has been a good bit of press on the riverfront under Dayton's Bluff.

This isn't first time there has been renewed attention paid to the area. In 1913, after many years of neglect, people from this community launched an effort to find and re-open the legendary landmark called Carver's Cave. In the paragraphs below is the story, at least the part that current research has revealed.

The idea of finding and reopening Carver's Cave surfaced sometime in late 1912. A December issue of the Pioneer Press reported that a group called the Mounds Park Improvement Association had appointed a committee "to investigate the matter and devise ways and means for the exploration of this historic hole"

The search was intended to lead up "to building a stairway down the bluff to the entrance and then build walks inside and light the interior with electric lights so that the cave may be opened to the public and become a means of amusement and instruction."

John Colwell, the president of the association was the prime mover in the effort. The Dayton's Bluff Commercial Club would be cooperating in the adventure. The St. Paul Dispatch reported that they would be consulting with the Minnesota Historical Society in "making Carver's Cave attractive to sightseers."

While the papers did not make any reports at the time, it appears that people started actively looking for Carver's Cave in January. They did find something. Colwell jumped the gun a bit and said he thought he had found what they had been looking for.

Mr. Wuerner, age 79, was doubtful that this was the location of Carver's Cave. Along with a group named Mannerchor Club, he had explored the area in May, 1857. He even sent in a photograph which, if properly dated, is the oldest one ever taken of the area.

His and other doubts soon led even the Mounds Park Improvement Association to admit that most people believed that the uncovered cavern was actually Dayton's Cave. They hoped that some of the city's old timers could help in the hunt. One of the local Boy Scout troops was said to be helping in the search.

Because of the newspaper articles—and probably word of mouth—people began sending letters on Carver's Cave to local papers throughout late January and February, 1913. Some thought that railroad construction had cut away the bluff and destroyed the historic landmark.

Other people thought it was just covered up with sand and debris and offered their own personal reminiscences of the area. Judge Bazille, for instance, remembered it as a being a fairly small cave.

James E. Dore, a local real estate man, told a paper "Sure I think there's a real Carver's cave still in existence somewhere under Dayton's Bluff and I'm going to find it." He told a story of going into the cave on a raft with candles for illumination in 1868.

Indian War Relics Found In Sack in Carver's Cave



Story of Hiding and Owner's Curse Read From Marks by Chief.

"All luck will follow you the rest of your life if you heed not my warning. You have profaned the hiding place of the treasure of a great war chief. Put these things back where you got them. His shade will follow you the rest of your days if you do not."

In these words Lazy Boy, a member of the party of Blackfeet Indians which was here yesterday, warned Frank Koalaska, foreman in charge of the work of restoring Carver's cave.

The treasure horde of an Indian chief, hidden away years ago, was discovered by Koalaska.

Knows Meaning of Marks.

Lazy Boy translated the Indian hieroglyphics carved on the weapons found among the treasure.

A bunch of scalps, three strings of wampum, a necklace of buffalo claws, three arrow heads, two arrow shafts, a scalping knife and a tomahawk were found in a sack made of woven rushes. It is one of the best collections ever



"Some of the Indians who visited Carver's Cave with 'Lazy Boy'. From the November 19, 1913 edition of the Pioneer Press.

Like others, Dore had carved his initials in the wall as a youngster and now hoped to find them again. Referring to another article, he laughingly said "the reason why Judge Bazille says the cave was only 400 feet long is because that is as far as he went with us. He was afraid to go further."

News of the effort traveled throughout the state. In mid-February, for instance, the New Ulm Journal printed a letter from a Theo Crone. He had seen Carver's Cave as a teenager and used to swim and fish in it. The last time he saw it was in 1887 when it sported a wooden door. The cave was then kept under lock and key to protect the railroad section men's tools that were stored there.

There were even letters from other parts of the country. George G. Hollister of Prescott, Wisconsin wrote that he had been in St. Paul attending school in 1873 and 1874 and often visited the cave in the late afternoons and on weekends. Rev. N. P. Kerr of Oakmont, Pennsylvania, who had been an early area boatman send a missive telling how he had explored the cavern with candles as illumination.

Charles W. Eddy a member of the Mounds Park Improvement Association was quoted saying "about fifty old settlers have gone down to the railroad yards, feeling confident that they would be able to point out the cave entrance in a few minutes time, but not one of them was able to say positively where it was located."

Some time in February, Colwell was approached by county surveyor J. H. Armstrong who offered to help find the

cave. Armstrong had earlier done survey work for the Burlington road when they cut down some 22 feet into the bluff for their right of way in 1885. He had kept his old notes and guaranteed he could properly locate Carver's Cave.

Colwell had arranged for a work force to start digging "as soon as Mr. Armstrong has pointed out the spot." Planning ahead and being what would prove to be overly optimistic, they said that "when the cave mouth has been opened, a watch man will be stationed to keep vandals out."

The St. Paul Daily News said that Armstrong was going to get a crew of chainmen and rod men together as soon as the weather permitted. Because of the changes in the landscape, he was going to begin surveying a mile or two below and work northward. Sometime in mid-February, Armstrong, with sextant and surveyor tools, started running the lines up the river.

He eventually led the workers to a spot between the rails and told them to dig. They soon found an old stone survey marker. Armstrong then ran his lines from this stone to the bluff, blazed two trees a pointed to where the cave should be.

Colwell, affectionately called the "cave man" by the Enterprise, a weekly East Side newspaper, was reported to be cutting through the sand. In mid-February, an iron spike was going to be driven into the bluff, apparently to see if there was a hollow space within the bluff. This action, the local paper said, that would "probably solve the problem that has baffled investigators since the first of the year."

When the spike was driven, water started to pour out. This added to the presumption that the location of Carver's cave had been found. Even so, much work remained to be done. Fallen rocks, sand and debris covered the entrance. In late February, 1913, the St. Paul Enterprise reported that while "much interest has been awakened," progress was slow. Timbers might be needed to keep land slides from blocking entrance.

While information from this point on is hard to find, the need for money probably stopped the effort from then through the summer. In late July it was reported that Colwell had named a committee to solicit four hundred dollars to buy materials and hire a work crew.

Colwell kept trying to find financial support and did what he could with limited resources. Although there were still some skeptics, Colwell told a Pioneer Press reporter in late August that "there can be no question that the one opening uncovered is the mouth of the cave." However, he needed was another \$300 to keep the work going.

Digging finally began again on October 27th and hopes were high. Perhaps because of the renewed activity, a Virginia, Minnesota poet named Henry Baker arrived. He was said to be "surprised and disagreeably so, to discover that the neighborhood was being used as a dumping ground by the city of St. Paul." He even penned a ten stanza poem that was published in the St. Paul Dispatch.

Colwell and his crew started work on October 27 "after suspending digging during the summer." Tuesday they ran an iron rod into a sand bank. It gave way and the rod came out dripping water. On November 5th, the cavern came into view. The event made the front page of the Pioneer Press with a headline that proclaimed, "Mouth of Carver's cave is reached by workmen."

The next step was to remove eight feet of sand from the front of the cave. Six men and three teams of horses started working. When the debris was gone, the water would be drained and, as the Pioneer Press put it, "a permanent passageway for it will be made, after which the sand in the cave in the cave will be removed. And then its yo-ho for the torchlight brigade and a taste of the real thrills."

The paper reviewed the events of the past few months. It said that County surveyor Armstrong had been "the Columbus" of the journey. It was he. Who had marked two trees "and pointed out where the cave should be. The cave is where he said it was."

Credit for the initiation of the quest was given to Colwell, who described his plans "to string lights within the cave, build steps down the bluff from Short Street, build a roadway from Commercial street and, if possible, continue it around the Burlington yards to the fish hatchery and beyond to connect with the Johnson Parkway."

Once the cave was opened further, initial exploration began. A few days after the initial opening, the Pioneer Press reported that the project foreman Frank Koalaska, had "penetrated 125 feet in the first cavern to the opening that leads to the second chamber" on a raft of logs and railroad ties. They were working slowly for fear that rapid draining could flood the Burlington railroad yards.

A few days later, Koalaska was involved in what could have been a tragic accident. He and his teen age son were together on the raft, making various measurements. "Owing to the danger of explosive gasses,"

A Short History of Dayton's Bluff *continued*

the Pioneer Press reported, "they were unable to light a torch and progress through the darkness was slow."

Suddenly, a "quick lurch of the raft" caused the son to lose his balance and fall into the water. Since he was a good swimmer, the father thought at first it was a joke when he didn't answer a call, but "the lad had hit his head against the wall of the cavern and lost consciousness."

It was so dark that when Koalaska realized the danger, he couldn't see where the boy was, but "he plunged into the water." The first effort was fruitless, but the distraught father was finally able to find and pull his son up by his hair just as he was sinking. Outside the cave, he recovered without any ill effects.

As large amounts of water continued to be drained and its level in the cave had dropped to four feet, blind crayfish were found. According to the Pioneer Press, they were "slightly smaller than ordinary crayfish and move helplessly in the light" and there seemed to be no indication of eyes on the creatures. "They may have come from the first chamber, or lowering the level of the water may have brought them from some further cavern."

In mid-November, Colwell and two others arranged a meeting with St. Paul Mayor Herbert Keller to try to get the city to take charge and to finance the uncovering and exploration of Carver's Cave. The park board did soon take over the work and was "paying the expense of the men and teams engaged in removing earth from the front of the bluff so the ditch can be lowered."

A major public event was slated for November 16, 1913. A crowd estimated at 2,000 had gathered yesterday to watch as a prominent group prepared to go exploring. Around 3:30 a light skiff with seven people on it entered the cave. The group included probate judge Edmund W. Bazille, one of the "old gang." Along with him were Armstrong, two members of the Junior Pioneer Association, Koalaska, a photographer, and a Pioneer Press reporter.

They went with "a powerful electric searchlight... attached to the bow of the skiff," and every nook and cranny of the cavern was illuminated. They continued on and suddenly some one said, "Look, there's old Charlie Keller's initials. See that C. E. K. 1888..."

"And there's old Matt Larson's right below it. And mine, too. Why, the whole gang's here," shouted Judge Bazille. According to the paper "hundreds of names and initials were scrawled over the walls about a hundred feet from the entrance" with dates ranging from twenty to forty years ago that "straggled from the top to the bottom."

The group of old time settlers who "years ago made the cave a trysting place," declared this to be the "only and original" Carver's Cave. The paper agreed that "the last doubt as to the existence of the cavern had been removed."

The "raftees" talked to the crowd about what they saw inside and the gathering broke up.

In late November, there was a surprise visit from a group of Native Americans. However, they were not the Dakota, who had been long-time residents in the cave's vicinity, but a group of Blackfoot Indians Louis Hill was taking from their home in Montana to the Land Show in Chicago.

An article written many years later described the event: "Dressed in full chieftan's regalia and glowing with war paint the band arrived at the mouth of the cave," where they "made good

medicine" offering a "devout prayer to the Great Spirit to accompany them on the expedition and insure their safe return."

Then "after holding a dance in which they circled round beating tom toms and uttering deafening whoops they entertained" and "they entered the old council chambers of their forefathers and studied the carvings on the moss-covered walls."

The Native American group made another appearance in the newspapers. They were later asked to look over a group of relics allegedly discovered in the cave by Frank Koalaska. In an unlikely scenario, one of the Blackfeet looked at the markings on them and was able to tell a story about them.

According to Lazy Boy, the relics had



"Teams of horses were used in 1913 to scoop rocks and debris from the mouth of the cave." From 'Ramsey County History' 1967 Vol4 No2.

been the property of an Ojibway who, along with his Sac wife, had been secreted in Carver's Cave to avoid capture by the Dakota. He warned Koalaska that "ill luck" was likely to follow him because he "had profaned the hiding place of the treasure of a great war chief."

People continued to visit the newly uncovered attraction. Unfortunately, the tradition of carving in the walls of the cave soon reasserted itself. On November 22, 1913, the Pioneer Press reported that "the first entrance of the cave is a mass of names and initials of the present generation. Scratching out the signs which have been there for centuries, they have scrawled such monograms as 'J. H. S. 1913.'"

A special policeman had been stationed at the entrance to protect the remaining signs and "an iron gate will be placed to keep out intruders." "This is greatly to be deplored and some action should be taken by the city to prevent any further destruction." An investigation was going to be launched and there might be arrests.

"Many of the Indian hieroglyphics traced on the sides of the cavern many centuries ago have been obliterated by men and boys who have visited the cave the past few days." The paper said that interpreters from the Indian reservations are to be sent for and it is thought that many things of interest and value will be learned. It is unclear whether this proposal was ever carried out.

While the newspaper coverage almost disappeared, some exploration was continuing. In mid-December, a fourth chamber was found by Frank Koalaska. He was with Armstrong, who now was in charge of the effort. An item in the Minneapolis Journal described it as a narrow long chamber that appeared to be fifty feet high the roots of trees were seen in the ceiling and walls.

But things took a definite negative turn near the end of the year. Colwell and Armstrong, former collaborators were now in warring camps, fighting over the control of the riverfront turf. Supposedly because of the fear of more vandalism, Colwell had put up a fence and secured it with a lock.

He did give a key to Armstrong, who later used it to unlock the barrier and then put on his own lock. He decided not to send his rival a copy. Colwell said Armstrong had no right to put on a new lock. "I put the gate at the entrance and I put the lock on too, and paid for all of it... Our committee... will adopt measures to guard the entrance to the cave and may have to remove Mr. Armstrong's lock."

the ancient carvings upon the walls" This was his right, the paper contended, since he had the permit to dig on the Burlington road property.

However, "Mr. Armstrong has replaced this lock with one of his own and has barred out the man who used his own funds and withstood the jibes and contumely of the people in finding again the lost cavern." The paper concluded: "If Mr. Armstrong knew the feeling he has created against himself he would likely be glad to discover another hole on the ground and crawl in and draw the thing after him."

A week later, the Enterprise printed Armstrong's lengthy response to a Colwell letter. "Your letter of December 30 received," it began "In the field of fiction I would call it a masterpiece. The English is poor but the plot is fine, the villain appearing frequently and in about the right place..."

"When I located the cave, and after eight months delay uncovered it, I did it on the presumption that it was of great historical interest... I had no idea that you owned the cave," Armstrong said sarcastically. "I supposed that any man who owned property would be able to locate it within a radius of a half mile..."

"Now my dear Colwell drop this fool talk, just pass the cave as if you did not own it. Wait until we get it cleaned up and made presentable and turned over to the city, and then file on it. This is my last letter to you on the subject... Your next letter will go into the waste basket unopened," Armstrong concluded bitterly.

The Enterprise then launched into an attack on Armstrong who they claimed was acting as "some sort of self-constituted despot." They mention Armstrong's letter and said that "the animus displayed by Armstrong in the matter of Carver's cave... leads us to condemn the man as unfair and simple to the degree of boyishness."

He has been "butting into the affairs of other men and seeking to take, by... force if need be, possession of Carver's cave and what little credit, if any there may be, in discovering again and seeking to add the old cave to the city's points of interest..."

The Enterprise article also included information on the possible future of Carver's Cave. "Plans are being made to exploit it as a beauty spot and a lure to tourists" and "a large electric sign is to be placed high on the face of the cliff above the cave."

The intersection of Short and Cherry Street, which was directly above the cave, will soon "be condemned, converted into a park and cement steps will be built down the face of the cliff to the mouth of the cave," the paper said. Carver's Cave would become part of the city park system.

By the end of January, 1914, Carver's Cave and the dispute swirling around it almost disappeared from the newspapers. There were no further reports on additional exploration. But the city apparently took control of the site.

There was a short news item saying they had taken the cave site into the park system. The Enterprise noted that the Dayton's Bluff Commercial Club was cooperating with the St. Paul park board in setting aside "for parking purposes, property at the head of the bluff overlooking Carver's Cave."

After that, the public seems to have lost interest and mentions of the cave were sporadic at best. There were some visitors, including transients and neighborhood children throughout the Twenties and Thirties; however, that's another story. ■

Thanksgiving Turkey Tips

by Sean Gavere

So you've done it. You've managed to roast a beautiful picture-perfect turkey. But then it dawns on you....How are you going to cut it up so everyone can eat civilized slices of roasted turkey and not go at the carcass like gang of wild animals? Here are some easy-to-follow steps to get that turkey from centerpiece perfection to neat little slices on your plate!

Let it Sit

Once the bird is removed from the oven, it should stand for 20 to 35 minutes, depending on its size. This gives the juices a chance to soak into the flesh, allowing for succulent cuts of meat. Before you begin carving, have a warm serving platter ready and waiting for all the juicy white and dark meat you'll soon be slicing and digging into.

Remove the Legs

Arrange the turkey, breast side up, on a cutting board. Steady the turkey with a carving fork. Using a sharp knife, slice through the meat between the breast and the leg. Next, using a large knife as an aid, press the thigh outward to find the hip joint. Slice down through the joint and remove the leg. Cut between the thigh bone and drumstick bone to divide the leg into one thigh piece and one drumstick. To carve the drumstick, steady it with a carving fork and cut a thick slice of meat from one side, along the bone. Next, turn the drumstick over so that the cut side faces down. Cut off another thick slice of meat. Repeat, turning the drumstick onto a flat side and cutting off meat, carving a total of four thick slices. To slice the thigh, place it flat side down on a cutting board. Steady the thigh with a carving fork. With a knife, cut parallel to the bone and slice off the meat. Be sure to place all the cuts on the warmed serving platter as you work.

Remove the Wings

Before you carve the breast, the wings must be removed. Slice diagonally down through the edge of the breast toward the wing. Using a knife as an aid, press the wing out to find the shoulder joint; cut through the joint and remove the wing. Place the wing on the serving platter as is.

Carve the Breast

To carve the breast meat, hold the back of the carving fork against the breastbone. Starting parallel to the breastbone, slice diagonally through the meat. Lift off each slice, holding it between the knife and fork, and place on the warm serving platter. Continue until you have carved all the meat on one side of the breast. Repeat, carving the other side of breast.

What about leftovers?

This seems to be a common dilemma in most households, so here are a few things to do with leftovers:

Turkey Tetrazzini

INGREDIENTS:

- 8 ounces angel hair pasta
- 2/3 cup sliced onion
- 1/4 cup butter

- 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon white pepper
- 1/2 teaspoon poultry seasoning
- 1/4 teaspoon ground mustard
- 2 cups milk
- 1 cup shredded sharp Cheddar
- 2 tablespoons chopped pimentos
- 4.5 ounce can sliced mushroom
- 1lb. cooked turkey, chopped

DIRECTIONS:

1) Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil add pasta and cook until al dente, drain.

2) In a medium saucepan, cook and stir onion in butter or margarine over medium heat until tender. Blend in flour and seasonings. Remove from heat. Gradually stir in milk; stir until mixture thickens. Add 2/3 cup cheese and pimento, stirring until cheese melts. Stir in undrained mushrooms to cheese sauce.

3) Place layer of pasta in 12 x 8 inch baking dish. Cover with layer of turkey, and then a layer of cheese sauce. Repeat the layers. Sprinkle remaining 1/3 cup cheese over top.

4) Bake at 400 degrees for about 25 minutes.

Turkey Pot Pie

INGREDIENTS:

- pastry for a(10 inch) 2- crust pie
- 4 tablespoons butter, divided
- 1 small onion, minced
- 2 stalks celery, chopped
- 2 carrots, diced
- 3 tablespoons dried parsley
- 1 teaspoon dried oregano
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 2 cubes chicken bouillon
- 2 cups water
- 3 potatoes, peeled and cubed
- 1 1/2 cups cubed cooked turkey
- 3 tablespoons flour
- 1/2 cup milk

DIRECTIONS:

1) Preheat oven to 425 degrees F (220 degrees C). Roll out bottom pie crust, press into a 10 inch pie pan, and set aside.

2) Melt 2 tablespoons butter in a large skillet over medium heat; add the onion, celery, carrots, parsley, oregano, and salt and pepper. Cook and stir until the vegetables are soft. Stir in the bouillon and water. Bring mixture to a boil. Stir in the potatoes, and cook until tender but still firm.

3) In a medium saucepan, melt the remaining 2 tablespoons butter. Stir in the turkey and flour. Add the milk, and heat through. Stir the turkey mixture into the vegetable mixture, and cook until thickened. Cool slightly, then pour mixture into the unbaked pie shell. Roll out the top crust, and place on top of filling. Flute edges, and make 4 slits in the top crust to let out steam.

4) Bake in the preheated oven for 15 minutes. Reduce oven temperature to 350 degrees and continue baking for 20 minutes, or until crust is golden brown.

Good eating! Have a Happy Thanksgiving season! ■

Dayton's Bluff Entrepreneur Class

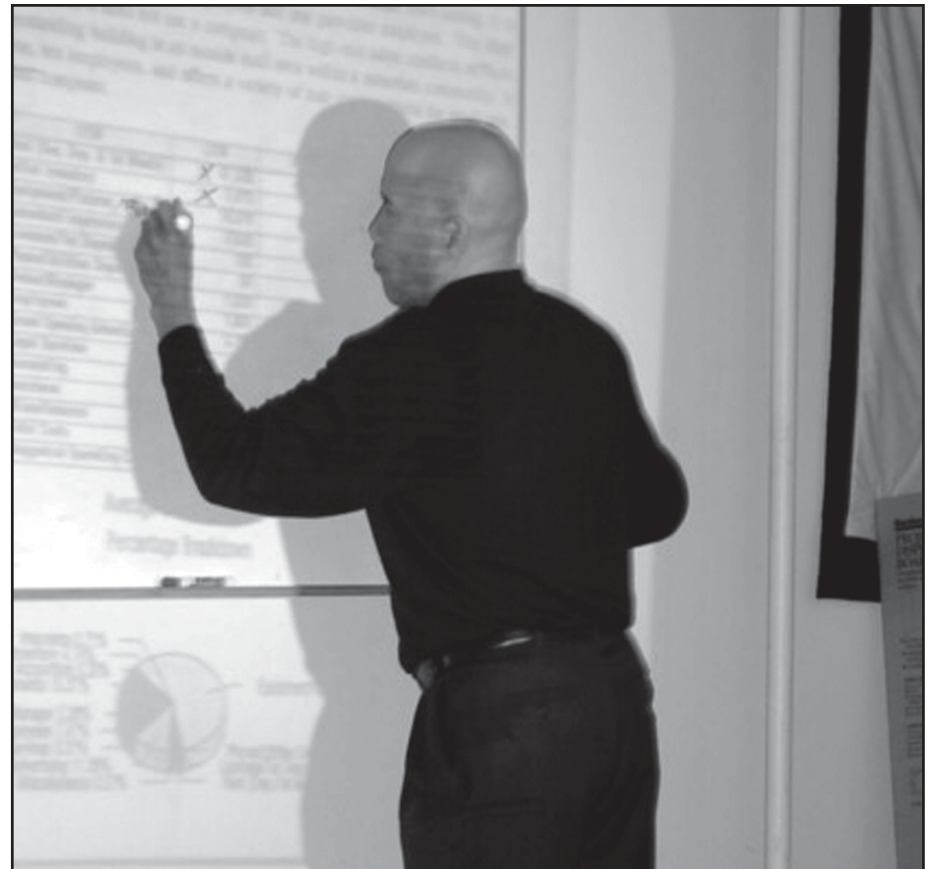
by Gabriel Garbow

For years, the Dayton's Bluff District 4 Community Council has hosted a Micro Entrepreneur Training Program. The program is designed to help prospective business people in the neighborhood start up a new business or improve their existing business. The process begins with an application, then applicants are interviewed and finally twelve are offered spaces in the program. The course - eight classes and at least two one-on-one consultations - is offered twice per year. Classes meet for two hours every Wednesday night for eight weeks. Each week, instructor Dale White commands the attention of an eager audience, dry-erase markers in hand and jokes at the ready.

At the fourth meeting, the class consists of 11 serious entrepreneurs. They include daycare providers, accountants, and auto body mechanic, a couple of hopeful bakers, a visual

artist, and a massage therapist, among others.

After the class is over, participants linger to chat ... make that 'network' with each other. Many ask questions about next week's homework, some get clarification on topics covered in class, many are tired, but all are excited about the prospects of owning or improving their own business. As Mr. White likes to remind his students, "The only difference between employment and self-employment is the self." The participants in the Micro-entrepreneur Program are investing in their important asset: themselves. After the initial classes are over, these individuals hope to be better prepared to succeed in business. They will have formulated individual Business Plans, and have access to the resources of the Neighborhood Development Center. So if you need car repair, fresh bakery items, or even cheesecake, look for these local entrepreneurs right around the corner. ■



Instructor Dale White highlights a figure for his class of entrepreneurs.

Halloween Safety For Kids

Halloween is fast approaching! Everyone is busy decorating their houses, pumpkins, and finding the perfect kid's Halloween costume. The excitement of children and adults at this time of year sometimes makes us forget to be careful. Here are some helpful tips as you plan your Halloween festivities:

Costume safety: Make sure that costumes are fireproof and that the eyeholes are large enough for good peripheral vision. If your child carries a prop such as a plastic knife or pitchfork make sure that the tip is flexible and/or smooth enough not cause an injury.

Pumpkin Displays: If you have carved pumpkins set out on your deck, porch or stairs with candles in them, make sure that they are a safe distance away from little trick-or-treaters, so that costumes will not accidentally catch fire.

Carving Pumpkins: Use caution

when your child wants to help with the pumpkin carving. Small children shouldn't be allowed to use a sharp knife. There are many kits available that come with tiny saws that work better than knives and are safer, although you can be cut by them as well. It's best to let the kids clean out the pumpkin and draw a face on it, which you can carve for them.

Too Much Candy: Treat your kids to a Halloween-themed dinner. This will make them less likely to eat the candy they collect while out trick-or-treating. It will also give you a chance to inspect what they have brought home for safety reasons.

Basic Safety: Teach your kids basic everyday safety, such as not getting into cars or talking to strangers, look both ways before crossing the street and crossing when the lights tell you to. This will help make them safer when they are out trick-or-treating.

Have fun! Happy Halloween! ■

Building a Close-Knit Community

by Jamie L. Smith

When I purchased my home in Dayton's Bluff three years ago, some friends and family members expressed surprise and fear at my choice of location. They saw the area as one riddled with crime, a disproportionate share of rental housing and lacking in cool places to go out to eat, shop or grab a cup of coffee on a Saturday morning. What I saw a neighborhood in transition. I saw a place where people were starting to spend money fixing up their homes, violent crime was actually decreasing and cool little coffee shops were hiding off the main streets.

When Sergeant Vick was killed two blocks from my house, the pressure from my family to sell out and move increased. But I've stayed. This is my neighborhood and it's filled with good people and I feel that I have a responsibility to it.

I feel that my decision to purchase a home in this neighborhood came with an important responsibility to help make this neighborhood a good place to live. Since moving in, I've made it a point to get to know who my neighbors are. In addition to introducing myself and extending a handshake in welcome when someone new moves in, I joined the Margaret Recreation Center Block Club and volunteer there teaching knitting one night a week.

It's a funny story how the knitting class came to be. At one of our monthly MRC Block Club meetings in fall of 2004, Kate Ross, the director of the center, lamented the fact that there was not a lot of programming at the Center for the many young girls who spent their after school hours there several nights a week. She described for us how, due to city budget issues, she was unable to provide enough paid staff and materials to offer classes geared toward the girls. Because many of the kids who spend time at the Center come from low income families, Kate often does not charge them fees to participate in programming. The kids from the area simply do not come from households where there is much left over when the family bills are paid.

When Kate told us that the girls would just hang out on the basketball court and watch the boys play, my friend (and fellow Block Club member) Carey Nadeau and I knew we had to do something. Since we recently got swept up in the knitting craze taking the entire nation by storm, we volunteered to teach a beginning knitting class for the girls (Chicks with Sticks) at the recreation center one night a week. We figured it was a win-win situation: we would be contributing to the neighborhood's well-being, Kate would have two extra

sets of adult eyes at the recreation center and the girls would make some new friends and learn the craft of knitting.

Carey and I solicited donations from our own little knitting circles and tried to figure out how we, just a couple of beginning knitters ourselves, would teach precocious girls how to maneuver the needles and yarn into a scarf. Our knitting friends surprised us with their generosity when we told them what we were doing. We collected boxes and boxes of yarn in every different color imaginable. We built up a small arsenal of knitting needles. And we got some space at the recreation center set aside for us.

Once those other details were in place, Carey and I sat down and plotted out our eight weeks worth of lesson plans. We would begin with introductions. We would all wear nametags I made that said, "Cool Chicks Introduce Themselves" and we'd all share why we wanted to learn how to knit. From there, we'd all make a set of chopstick needles to practice with and then we'd get to the knitty-gritty of teaching the girls how to cast on stitches and go from there.

From the very first night, Carey and I learned that we had to be flexible. Right off the bat, we had to ditch our catchy little Chicks with Sticks name. A little boy came and said that wanted to learn how to knit. Carey and I just couldn't say no to the seven year old boy with big brown eyes. Even though we had originally envisioned this class as a place where girls could focus on female bonding, we didn't want to exclude anyone who

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wanted to learn and be a part of the group.

Since the kids were at different skill levels and we don't have the same exact kids every single week, we weren't able to stick to our neatly typed lesson plans. At first, Carey and I were a little frustrated by that. We wanted to stay organized and see the kids finish their projects by the end of the eight weeks. We slowly realized that what really mattered is that we go at a pace that works for the kids and that they get the attention from us that they need. By the time the eight week class finished, we had a couple kids who were about half finished with their scarves and several more who couldn't wait for the next class.

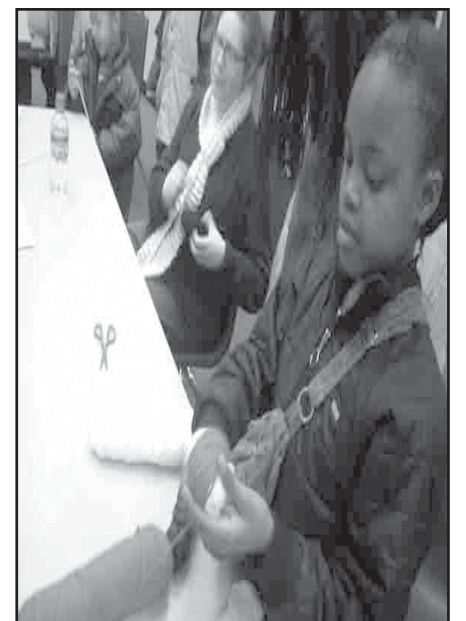
Now that winter is around the corner and Carey and I are in the mood to knit again, it's time to begin knitting class once more. In order to fulfill the goal of providing more programming geared towards girls, the knitting class this fall will be limited to girls only. If there are enough boys who show an interest, we will consider adding another night at some point. Girl's Knit Night In will be on Monday evenings from 6:30pm until 8:30pm at the Margaret Recreation Center beginning November 7, 2005 through January 30, 2005.

If you are interested in learning more about the knitting class at the Recreation Center or are interested in teaching a class of your own on a subject of interest to you, please call Kate Ross at 651-298-5719 or email her at kate.ross@ci.stpaul.mn.us for information.

If you are interested in joining the Margaret Center Block Club, please call Carey Nadeau at 651-206-9114 or email her at can725@earthlink.net or call Kamy Eide at 651-774-1059. We'd love to see you at the next meeting on November 2, 2005 at 6:30 p.m. at the Margaret Recreation Center.

If you have any comments or stories about knitting you'd like to share, please feel free to email me at stpaulgirl76@yahoo.com. ■

Photos by Verna Pitts Photography



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Pet Store Opens on Earl Street

by Greg Cosimini

A new business came to Dayton's Bluff on September 29th when "Fish Man" Dan Monson opened Earl Street Pet. It's located at 369 Earl St. near Hudson Road across the street from Leo's Chow Mein.

Dan is no stranger to Dayton's Bluff. He is actually returning to his old neighborhood after wandering around the Twin Cities and the world for many years, having grown up on Wilson Ave. just a few blocks from his store's location. After graduating from Harding High School in 1969, he spent four years with the Navy in the submarine service, which could explain his interest in fish.

Dan also has 30 years experience on dry land with fish. He had a pet store on Rice St. for 10 years and another one in Robbinsdale for five. He is also

a past president of the Minnesota Aquarium Society.

Visiting Earl Street Pet is like going to the zoo. It contains all kinds of fish, reptiles, amphibians and birds that Dan will gladly show to visitors. As Dan's nickname implies, the focus of his store is on fish with about 75% of his stock being of the swimming variety. These include a huge selection of bettas, as well as angelfish, tiger and rosy barbs, neon and black tetras, Oscars, swordtails, guppies, bala and albino rainbow sharks, zebra danios, gold algae eaters, pink kissing gourami and many more varieties that are too numerous to mention and spell checker doesn't recognize. Besides selling fish, Dan also takes trade-ins from private breeders.

The reptile and amphibian section contains animals that range from the fairly commonplace to the exotic.

These include iguanas, leopard geckos, bearded dragons, Eastern collared lizards, blue-tongued skinks, pacman frogs, red-eared turtles and an incredible Mali Uromastyx.

One thing Dan wants to make clear is that he doesn't handle snakes, either personally or in his store. Many people like them, he explains, but he isn't one of them and they have a tendency to scare off some customers.

The fine-feathered friends division will soon include, if they haven't all arrived already, parakeets, finches, canaries, lovebirds, small and large parrots, and parakeets.

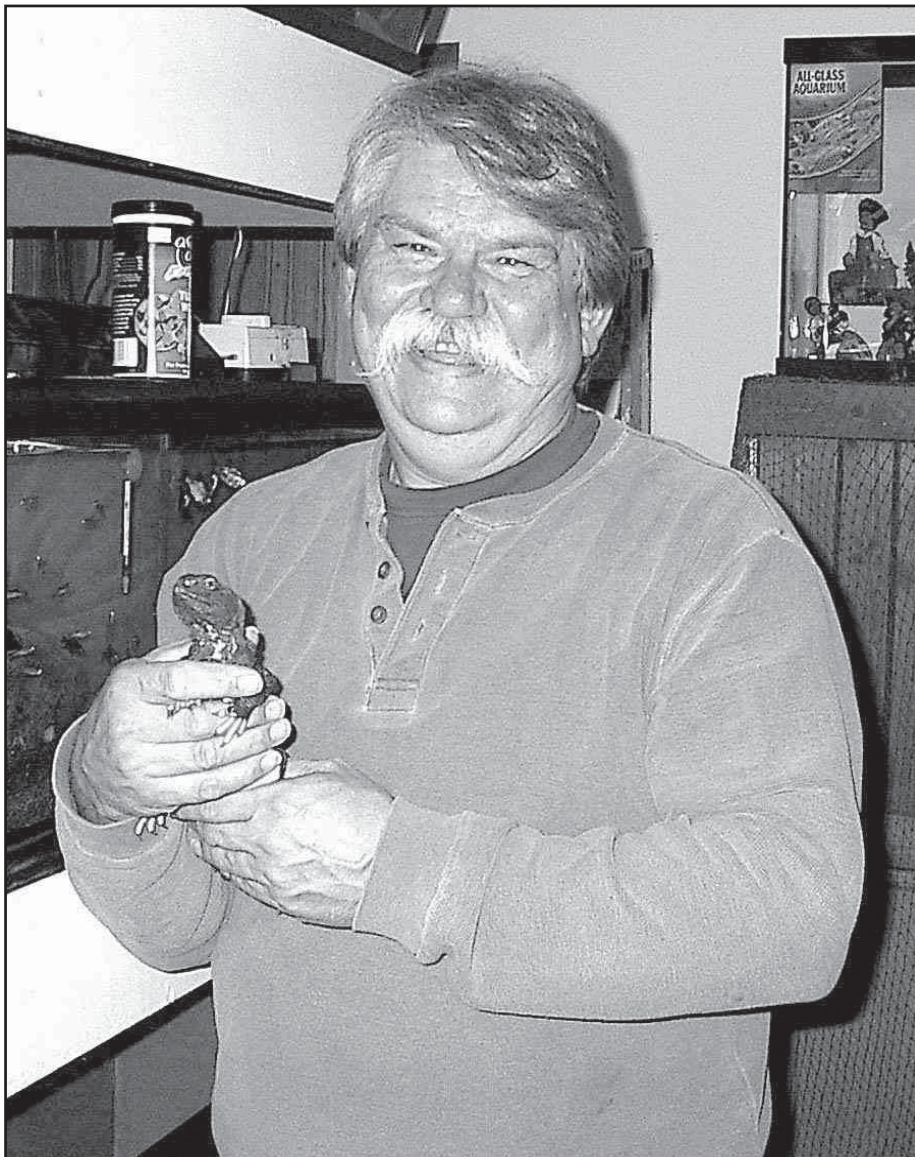
This menagerie will be joined in the near future by hermit crabs and probably mice and hamsters. Earl Street Pet won't be selling dogs or cats because of the size of the store. They require too much space and make much more of a mess than say, for example, a guppies.

Earl Street Pet has much more than just animals. It carries every conceivable fish-related item you could imagine from aquariums and aquarium accessories to fish food and fish books. Of course other kinds of pets aren't forgotten. There are also plenty of things for your birds, reptiles, amphibians and various other two-, four- or multi-legged friends. Dan has developed specialty bird seed mixes for a different types of birds and is also working on a special Earl Street Pet brand of dog food. In the meantime he carries regular doggie treats

Dan likes to say, "Beginners Start Here." He offers a free fish starter kit to new fish owners and loves to talk about fish whether it's one-on-one or to many people at a time. He is always available to give lectures and demonstrations to classes, Scout troops or to any other group.

Earl Streets Pets is open seven days a week: Monday – Friday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday noon until 3 p.m. Drop in anytime or give Fish Man Dan a call at 651-778-2323.

Don't miss Earl Streets Pets Grand Opening Sale on November 11, 12 and 13. There will be door prizes and of course plenty of animals to look at and purchase. ■



Fish Man Dan Monson and his little buddy, a Mali Uromastyx want everyone to come and visit them for their Grand Opening Sale on November 11, 12 and 13.

"Where are you, Dayton's Bluff?"

The Mounds Theatre has been open for two years and during that time many activities have been held in the building. There have been plays, movies, concerts, dances and dance presentations, lectures, variety shows, magic shows, a mime festival, and a visit by two real live Munchkins.

People attending these events have come from all over the Twin Cities and as far away as Wisconsin but very few from the Dayton's Bluff area. It's strange that some will drive 20 or 30 miles to attend the Mounds Theatre but others won't even walk over.

We wish to thank those loyal residents of the neighborhood who do visit the Mounds Theatre regularly and ask the others, where are you?

Why don't you come to the Mounds Theatre? Do you want to see different types of entertainment? Is the cost too high, even though some events cost \$5 or less? Do you have a difficult time finding out what is playing?

We would like to hear from you. Please let us know your thoughts by calling 651-772-2253, writing the Mounds Theatre at 1029 Hudson Road, St. Paul, MN 55106, or email us at greg@moundstheatre.org.

We look forward to hearing from you, or better yet, seeing you in person at our next event.

--Greg Cosimini, Mounds Theatre ■

Dayton's Bluff District Forum

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Advertise in the District Forum: call Karin at 651-772-2075