

DISTRICT FORUM

Volume 23, No. 8

www.daytonsbluff.org

October 2010

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Extreme Makeover to feature haunted Mounds Theatre on Halloween

by Raeann Ruth

A haunted house was the top destination of choice for 200 visiting students from the Oregon School for the Deaf in September. And since the Mounds Theatre is reputed to be home to a number of ghosts, that's where they went when "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition" visited the Twin Cities. The students, from the Oregon School for the Deaf in Salem, along with their families and faculty members, were special guests of the Starkey Hearing Foundation, based in Eden Prairie.



Photo courtesy of Starkey Hearing Foundation
Ghost-detecting goggles a necessity

The show customarily sends the recipients of the makeover on a vacation while local developers and volunteers complete the building project. It made sense to producers to bring the students to Minnesota, where they could address hearing issues with maximum resources at their disposal.



John Savage from MNPIGS (MN Paranormal Investigations) was on hand to talk about the resident ghosts and give a "Ghost 101" to the students.



Photo by Steve Trimble

Sacred Heart Church Fall Festival, September 12
Fiesta del Sagrado Corazon, el 12 de septiembre

The Halloween edition of Extreme Makeover, Home Edition, will air locally on ABC stations at 7:00 pm, Sunday, October 31.

For the rest of us, the Mounds Theatre is hosting "Real Haunted Tours" each Friday, Saturday and Sunday in October. For more information or to book a tour visit www.Real-HauntedTours.com. See page 2 of this issue for information on other upcoming Mounds Theatre events.

Raeann Ruth is the director of *Portage for Youth* based at the Mounds Theatre.

McGhee is a well-known writer of children's, as well as adult, books and is also a professor at Metropolitan State University. One of her best known novels is the award-winning *Shadow Baby*, a story about an 11-year-old girl on a journey of discovery of her own family's hidden past as well that of her elderly neighbor. Other works include poetry and many books for young children.

Most of her books are available through the public library system if you'd like to read up before her appearance. The Dayton's Bluff district council is cosponsoring the reading along with Twin Cities Academy.

Then, on Wednesday, November 3, at 6:30 pm, LiCho Xenexai will read from and discuss *Memoirs of a Fish*, an autobiography about his journey from the war-torn areas of Southeast Asia to St. Paul.

LiCho Xenexai is the director of Hmong Youth Educational Services at the Margaret Recreation Center. The reading will take place at the district council office, 798 East 7th Street.

Book readings ahead

by Carla Riehle, Forum editor

Two book readings are scheduled for October and November that should pique the interest of readers.

At 6:30 pm, on Tuesday, October 5, Pulitzer Prize nominee Alison McGhee will read from her books and lead a discussion at Twin Cities Academy, 835 East 5th Street, next to Sacred Heart church.

Community Calendar

Saturday, October 2, 10:30 am
Take-a-Hike

Monday, October 4, 7:00
District council meeting

Tuesday, October 5, 6:30
Book reading, Twin Cities Academy

Thursday, October 7, 6:30 pm
Community Meeting

Monday, October 18
Vote for board members (all day)
Potluck supper 6:00 pm
Annual meeting 7:00 pm

Friday October 15, 9:30 am,
Wednesday, October 20, 6:30 pm
Police-community meetings

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Graduating microentrepreneur class at ceremony held on September 15. L to r, Melaku Yeshidaagne, Meikua Guanje, Habte Teclehaimanot, instructor Dale White, Ka Davenport, Jennifer Grady; not pictured: Katherine Nave, Saki Mom; more information about upcoming classes on page 5.

MOUNDS THEATRE PLAYS TO FEATURE DINNER THEATER AND COMEDY

by Raeann Ruth

"A Christmas Story"

The Historic Mounds Theatre is proud to present "A Christmas Story," the classic film brought to life on stage for the seventh year.

Humorist Jean Shepherd's memoir of growing up in the midwest in the 1940s followed 9-year-old Ralphie Parker in his quest to get a genuine Red Ryder BB gun under the tree for Christmas. Ralphie pleads his case before his mother, his teacher and even Santa Claus himself, at Goldblatt's department store, with the same and always consistent response: "You'll shoot your eye out, kid."

Show times are December 3, 4, 10, 11, 17 and 18 at 7:00 pm and December 5, 12 and 19 at 2:00 pm. Ticket prices are \$15.00 for adults, \$10.00 for students and seniors and \$5.00 for children 12 and under. Tickets can be ordered in advance at www.moundstheatre.org or 651-772-8674. Purchase tickets early as they sell out very quickly.

"A Christmas Story" is not only a wonderful play for the whole family, but proceeds from the production go to support the Historic Mounds Theatre, assuring additional quality productions in the future.



A season of dinner theater

Building on the success of its dinner theater production "Knotareel Getaway Cruise" in February, the Mounds Theatre has scheduled a full season of dinner theater shows including a new series of musical comedies, "The Bait Shop Trilogy," which is sure to track down and locate even the most elusive funny bone. The schedule for 2011 is as follows:

"Ice Fish'n Opener"—The Bait Shop Trilogy Part I, January 15 to February 19

"Knotareel Getaway Cruise"—Brought back by popular demand, March 5 to April 9

"Fish'n Op'ner"—The Bait Shop Trilogy, Part II, May 7 to June 11

"Hunt'n Op'ner"—The Bait Shop Trilogy, Part III, August 20 to September 24

"A Bait Shop Chris'mas Carol"—The Bait Shop Trilogy, Part IV, December 9 to December 31

Most performances are Fridays and Saturdays at 7:00 pm with a buffet at 6:00 pm, and Sundays at 2:00 pm, with a buffet at 1:00 pm. Additional performances can be scheduled for groups of 30 or more. Call 651-772-8674 to make a reservation or visit us at www.moundstheatre.org for more information and to purchase your tickets online.

Join us for laughter and good times at our inaugural dinner theater season and we're sure to send you home with a smile.

Raeann Ruth is the director of *Portage for Youth* based at the Mounds Theatre. She has been assured that the playwright intends "The Bait Shop Trilogy" to consist of four plays and not three.

Bring on the babies

By Meg Gronau

Roll out the red carpet—er . . . play rug—for the new babies at the Dayton's Bluff Early Childhood and Family Education (ECFE) program!

This fall, for the first time, the ECFE program at Dayton's Bluff Elementary School will offer a "newborns-only" class specifically for caregivers of little bundles of joy under six months old. The bundles themselves, of course, are welcome, too. ECFE is a program for the parents, grandparents, and caregivers of children from birth through kindergarten age. Because parents are their children's first and most-significant teachers, ECFE was established to help build healthy families and to ensure that all children are ready for kindergarten.

When ECFE launched in Minnesota over 35 years ago, the Dayton's Bluff site was one of five flagship sites. To this day, Dayton's Bluff remains one of the most robust sites in the city, with a vibrant and diverse population, well-loved staff and curriculum, and a passionate parent advisory council.

In the past, Dayton's Bluff has offered birth-to-five-years ECFE

classes in English and Spanish, and age-specific classes for parents of three-to-five-year-olds. In 2010, as a response to the need for more age-specific infant classes, Dayton's Bluff has been chosen as the East Side location for the new infants' class, which began in September and will be held Monday afternoons from 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm.

In a typical "birth-to-five-years" ECFE class, children separate from their parents after the first 30-45 minutes of class. But in this new infants' class, parents will stay with their babies for the full class time, with gradual separation beginning in the second semester. While Dayton's Bluff ECFE has always welcomed infants and their caregivers, the new age-specific class poses some new excitement for the staff. Finger plays, songs and parent-child playtime opportunities will all be used as parents learn to interact with their little ones. New parents—because even parents with several older children are still "new" to parenting this new baby—can feel overwhelmed working to meet the needs of an infant.

Beth Davies, Dayton's Bluff ECFE's English-speaking Parent Educator, is ready to help parents ease into

16th annual St. Paul Bike Classic

From www.bikeclassic.org

The bike classic on September 12 is history but what a great day it was! About 6,500 riders enjoyed perfect weather, great food, fabulous entertainment and of course a beautiful ride through beautiful Saint Paul and lovely Lilydale Regional Park. Thank you to the many riders and volunteers who helped to make the day

a success! Check back at the website soon for the 2010 photo gallery. We are already looking forward to next year! Details and the date of the 2011 Saint Paul Classic will be released soon! Thank you again for your support of the Classic and the Bicycle Alliance of Minnesota. Together we will do great things for cycling in Minnesota!



Photo by Steve Trimble
St. Paul Bike Classic
Mounds Park, September 12

their new role as their baby's first and best teacher. "Being in a room full of new parents and babies who might be crying, fussing, cooing or 'making raspberries' gives a parent comfort that they are not alone and that much of this new experience is wonderful and normal!" Davies says.

ECFE hopes to prevent the isolation that parents can feel when a newborn arrives, by offering parents a forum for hashing over hot-button topics such as feeding, sleeping and crying. ECFE also provides a built-in support network of parents in similar situations. Many ECFE parents attest to the relationships built while talking, laughing and crying over the ups and downs of child rearing.

"The parents all are very supportive and have great respect for each other's opinion," says Chue Thao, who has seven children and attended Dayton's Bluff ECFE for the first time this year.

"I've made lifelong friends in this room," says Julia Hobday, sweeping her arm around the parents' room. Hobday is a Dayton's Bluff resident and mother of four, and has been attending Dayton's Bluff ECFE for five years.

The new infant class will also include discussions about reading your baby's cues, information on infant development, and resources for new parents and ideas for having fun with your baby. Davies hopes that current ECFE parents and graduates, as well as the Dayton's Bluff community, will help spread the word about the new infant class offering.

2010-11 St. Paul ECFE catalogs are now available in libraries and rec centers across the city. For more information, please call Dayton's Bluff ECFE at 651-293-5343.

Minnesota is the only state in the union offering an ECFE program. It is mainly funded through the St. Paul school system's community education program. There is a sliding-fee scale for participants; however, no family is ever turned away due to an inability to pay. Most ECFE classes meet once a

week and include parent-child interaction, a wide variety of children's activities, and parent discussion group time. While ECFE's focus is on the caregivers of young children, as those children grow, their families' experience in ECFE

sets the stage for parental involvement and children's success in K-12 education. ECFE works to strengthen families and engage the ability of all parents to provide the best possible environment for the healthy development of their children.

Meg Gronau is a member of the Dayton's Bluff ECFE Advisory Council.

Gates Page scholarship information night

Students of color are invited to the Gates Page scholarship night at Metropolitan State to learn about useful information from college admission and financial aid people, current college students and parents.

There will be opportunities to talk with representatives from several private and public colleges, tour Metropolitan State's campus and get specific information about scholarships from Gates Millennium Scholars and the Page Education Foundation.

Families with children of all ages are welcome. This event is free of charge.



It takes place on Thursday, October 21, from 5:00 pm to 7:30 pm, at Metropolitan State University Great Hall, 700 East 7th Street.

For more information visit www.mmep.org/mmep_events.html or contact Amanda at 651-645-7400 ext 204.



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Many community-minded donors fund Metropolitan State student scholarships

by Harvey Meyer

As a higher education institution dedicated to serving the community, perhaps it's not surprising that many of the privately funded scholarships at Metropolitan State University emanate from community-minded donors.

There's the oldest scholarship, the Reatha Clark King Endowed Scholarship Fund, named after the university's second president. The 33-year-old scholarship, like other privately funded ones, is administered by the Metropolitan State University Foundation. It is aimed at students who are economically challenged.

There's the most popular scholarship, the Kopp Presidential Fund. Established in 1996, the merit-based scholarship is named after Lee Kopp, CEO of Kopp Investment Advisors.

And there's the Karl Neid Endowed Scholarship Fund, which is awarded to persons who live on the East Side or graduated from an East Side high school. Family, friends and associates created the scholarship in 1995 in honor of the deceased Neid, a long-time passionate advocate for improving the quality of life on the East Side.

"Our foundation scholarships are different from those administered at most traditional universities," said Debra Vos, foundation associate director. "In part that's because Metropolitan State has more nontraditional students. The average age of our students is about 32, and most work while attending school and taking care of family obligations.

"The scholarships are also different in that we really take the time to get to know the students and what they truly need to help them get through college. It's a very personalized approach, which is sort of reflective of the way Metropolitan State operates. The money may go toward tuition and books, the mortgage, a car payment, child care or other immediate needs. Where possible, we want to help ease the financial burden of students so they can concentrate more on their studies."

Since 1987, more than \$2.5 million has been raised for private scholarships at Metropolitan State. The foundation has awarded more than \$1 million of those funds; 450 donors have contributed to scholarships over the years.

Nearly \$200,000 was awarded to 111 students in this year alone, a significant hike over 2009. In part, the boost in scholarships awarded reflects attempts to assist more students during a depressed economy.

Courtney Brown, who received three scholarships for this academic year, is deeply appreciative of the funds.

"I'm extremely grateful," said Brown, 40, a senior majoring in law enforcement who is a single father with two young children. "Without these scholarships, I really don't know how I'd fund my education. They help ease my mind and allow me to focus on my studying and getting good grades."

When the opportunity arises, Brown, who works full-time, said he intends to fund a scholarship of his own as a way of giving back to the community.

When I'm in a position to help someone else, I absolutely plan on doing that," he said. "I would love to do that."

Harvey Meyer is an Academic Writer/Editor at Metropolitan State.



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Jerusalem Slim A Hobo Poem

by James Granthem Holm

I was an outcast, the same as Him
He was the Rebel called Jerusalem Slim.
He was the Preacher who roamed a lot.
I was a hobo who slept on a cot.
He was the carpenter who worked with wood
He is the Holy man who knows bad from good.
I am a tramp who walks all day
He was the boy who slept on the hay
I am a dirty, ragged old bum
I am the drunk who drank Demon Rum.
He was the Holy man who died on a tree
He is the one who set me free
He was the Holy Man who was crucified on the Old Rugged Cross
Now He is my only Boss
I am a hobo without a home
He is the Holy Man who stood up to Rome
He was the babe from Mary's womb
He was the Holy Man who was buried in the tomb
I was an outcast, the same as him
He was the Rebel called Jerusalem Slim

Mikee visits 4th and Bates

Mikee, a macaque monkey, has been a member of the Roy Carlson family for over 13 years. The two can often be seen taking their regular constitutional around Lake Phalen..

On September 10, Roy, the owner of Budget Towing,



brought Mikee to meet the kids who participate in Sage Holben's Friday night movies-on-the-porch at 4th and Bates. Each of Mikee's admirers received one of Roy's special buttons with a photo of Mikee's face. They discovered, though, that Mikee gets alarmed if he can't see a readily available escape route, which meant that introductions had to be made from the middle of the street, to the surprise of the drivers who had to maneuver around them. State law no longer allows monkey as pets. Mikee was grandfathered in under the old law.

New online newsletter

by Ed Lambert

District council executive director

Dayton's Bluff is featured in a free online newsletter provided weekly by the nonprofit Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC), in the September 15 edition.

The Line tells the story of the new economy in the Twin Cities—a narra-

tive of creative people and businesses, new development, places to live, and the best places to work and play.

Each Wednesday, the magazine presents original stories, video and photography, and each Twin Cities neighborhood has a section devoted to it.

Get The Line free in your e-mailbox each week by clicking on "about us" at www.thelinemedia.com.

Home Energy Squads

by Mary Morse

Director of Development and Communication at the NEC

Energy bills too high? Hot air (or chilly wind) coming in that leaky front door? Good news! The Home Energy Squads are coming to Dayton's Bluff to help you lower those bills and to make your home more comfortable in just one visit. Home Energy Squads have already served 1,700 Saint Paul customers, saving participants an average of \$192 annually on their utility bills. The Home Energy Squad is a program brought to you by Xcel Energy and the St. Paul based nonprofit Neighborhood Energy Connection (NEC).

In addition to workshops being held across the city, you can sign up for the squads to come to your home. Two to three skilled professionals will install energy-saving measures that start lowering your energy bills as soon as they are in place. The squads can properly weather strip or air seal your exterior doors. They can install water heater blankets, energy efficient compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs), and water-saving showerheads and aerators for your faucets. They can even install a programmable thermostat and tailor it to your schedule and comfort level. You can participate in the Home Energy Squad program for as little as \$30. If you qualify for En-



Photo by Joe Hoover

James Granthem Holm, who wrote "Jerusalem Slim, a Hobo Poem," lives in Mounds Park. He likes to write hobo poetry.

ergy Assistance, the visit is completely free.

For more information about the NEC or Home Energy Squads, please see www.thenec.org. To set an appointment, call 651-328-6220. The NEC's Home Energy Squads speak Spanish and Hmong.

The Dayton's Bluff Community Council is promoting home energy conservation in our neighborhood with a grant from the City of St. Paul, funded by the US Department of Energy through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

Dayton's Bluff in the post World War Two Era

by Steve Trimble

(Continued from the September issue)

After World War II, the demographics of Dayton's Bluff were shifting. The neighborhood was losing much of its former middle class base. The population was declining and aging. As automobile ownership increased, the local business community was affected. Increasingly, people would jump into their cars to go to one of the outlying shopping areas rather than make purchases in the local community. People began shopping at the larger and cheaper "cash-and-carry" grocery stores.

Many of the small businesses successfully kept up with the changing times. For instance, people were invited to Tower Radio and Electric Store on East 7th Street in the winter of 1948 to watch the new technology of television. "This marks the beginning of a new radio era in Minnesota," the neighborhood paper declared. One of the workers at the establishment had built a television set on his own.

A few weeks later Walt Nelson's bar was attracting patrons because it now had a TV. They were able to pick up the stations' test broadcasts every afternoon between three and four o'clock. Hermann's department store at 7th and Fauquier streets also had a set on display.

Many writers say the 1950s was a time when "youth culture" was starting to develop. There is some evidence that this was true in Dayton's Bluff. Some of the students wanted things to change. For instance, in 1946 Harding's Junior Prom Committee placed an editorial in the school paper urging the principal to change the rules covering dances. They believed that if someone wanted to go with a person from outside of the school, they should be allowed to do so. To have a good prom," they wrote "we can't entirely follow the rules as they now stand."

Jive Hive at Harding

Two years later the students were instituting rules of their own for their hang out- the "Jive Hive"- located inside the school. Now people who came were going to have to wear buttons. In addition no one under the influence of alcohol would be admitted; there would be no smoking, but it would be all right to bring outside guests if they were signed in. Did any of our readers ever go to an event at the Jive Hive?

Music was on the minds of teenagers at the time and the platters being played had started to change in the era. The Harding school newspaper took a "rock and roll poll" in the mid-fifties and found that of the favorite songs among students, rock was the

runaway favorite, and only one ballad was chosen. The favorite by far was "Heartbreak Hotel," by Elvis Presley. "Why Do Fools Fall in love came in second.

Student interests at Harding High School returned to social and academic focus after the war. There were still many clubs, but in 1947 they tended to be more academic or social service oriented. Harding's organizations included the National Honor Society, Mummies, Scribblers, German Club, Spanish Club, Latin Club, Science Club, Band, Y-Teens, Hi-Y and Library Club.

After the war, young women at Harding would often be funneled into classes thought to be suited to the female roles. As an example, the 1949 school yearbook included the following caption under a photo: "Amidst mixing bowls, spoons, tape measures, needles and threads, the girls of Harding's chapter of the Future Homemakers of America have found time to put together a centennial cookbook . . . put on teas, and keep up with club work."

One thing that didn't change was the neighborhood's interest in school sports.



Photo courtesy Minn. Historical Society
Aerial view of Harding high school,
3rd and Earl streets—1950s

"All Hardingites know that Johnson is our arch rival," the school newspaper stated in October 1946 and that "this has grown from our annual game with the Governors." The "feud" was started in 1932, when Harding had become a high school. The fall football competition between the two was played in filled stadiums and the winner took home the coveted hatchet trophy.

Postwar growth creates need for new schools

Some of the post-war growth in the East Side was putting strains on the resources that had been sufficient in earlier eras. Harding had to go to a two shift system in 1958. There were now 1,480 students in the building at 3rd and Earl streets that was designed for 900. The seniors and juniors went to class in the morning while the two lower grades arrived in the afternoon. "The East Side needs a new high school," a February 1958 *Beacon* article remarked, "and needs it fast."

Like today, it takes a while for school or city officials to get around to taking care of the needs on the East Side and it would be a few years before the new Harding would be built. But the neighborhood coped with the situation as we usually have to do today. Seems like some things do stay the same. I'll add to the facts from the post-war era in the next issue. As always, if you have any memories you would like to share, please get in touch with the *Forum*.

Steve Trimble researches and writes about local history.



Photo from Harding yearbook
Harding Homemakers Club—1950s

VOLUNTEER TUTORING OPPORTUNITIES

World Cultures; American Indian Magnet

By Morgan Bray



Volunteer as a literacy tutor or special events volunteer at World Cultures Magnet School or American Indian Magnet School! The Minnesota Reading Corps is looking for ongoing and one-time volunteers to help improve reading skills and promote literacy by working with Pre-K through 3rd grade students at these schools. Minnesota Reading Corps is a program that is working to ensure that all Minnesota children are on track to read by the end of 3rd grade. Volunteers may work as tutors, guest readers, or assist at special literacy-related events. If you would like to receive more information or submit an application, please email Morgan Bray at mbray10@minnesotareading-corps.org or call 651- 778-3280.

Morgan Bray is Volunteer Coordinator with the Minnesota Reading Corps.

East Side Learning Center

by Krista Eichhorst

The East Side Learning Center (ESLC) was launched ten years ago as a tutoring program for children in grades K-4 who were reading below grade level and didn't have the resources to get help elsewhere. In 2001, Sister Audrey Lindenfesler, SSND, established the first tutoring site at John A. Johnson Achievement Plus Elementary with the help of 25 volunteers who tutored 19 students. Since then the program has

grown to include sites at Bruce F. Vento Elementary, North End Elementary/Franklin Music Magnet, and Saint Matthew's School. Last year, with the help of 240 volunteer tutors, the ESLC was able to tutor 225 students.

The ESLC's success is linked to the dedicated volunteers who invest at least one hour a week to help area children learn to read. It is estimated that 6,000 students in St. Paul could benefit from this service.

Help close the achievement gap in St. Paul schools! Volunteer tutors work with a child one-on-one for at least one hour a week (Monday-Thursday) with resources, training, and support provided by ESLC. If you can read, write, and speak English, love working with children, and can commit to one hour per week for a semester, then you can tutor. For an application and more information, email krista.eichhorst@spps.org or call 651-793-7331.

Krista Eichhorst is Coordinator of Volunteers at the East Side Learning Center

Battle Creek School

by Kristina Mandell

Of the 38,000 students in St. Paul public schools today, 18,000 are not even proficient in reading or math. Volunteer as a tutor at Battle Creek Middle School today to provide the skills necessary to succeed and be a valuable mentor to our children. We ask only one hour a week; you pick the time, we provide the training. For more information please contact Kristina Mandell, at 651-293-8960 x1991 or kristina.mandell@spps.org.

Kristina Mandell is tutoring coordinator at Battle Creek Middle School.

Writers wanted

Necesitamos escritores

by Carla Riehle, Forum editor

Interested in being a community journalist? Why not contribute to the *Forum* newspaper?

If you have an idea for a story or a great photo, please contact the editor

at editor@daytonsbuff.org or call 651-772-2075.

¿Interesado en ser un periodista de la comunidad? ¿Por qué no contribuir al Foro?

Si usted tiene una idea para un cuento o un foto, por favor contacte al editor en 651-772-2075 o editor@daytonsbuff.org.

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What's happening at district council board meetings?

By Jean Comstock, board secretary

Highlights of the September 13 board meeting

The following informational reports were given:

- City Planner Alan Lovejoy gave an update on proposed zoning ordinances for Holman Field;
- District council coordinator Diane Wanner reported on upcoming workshops;
- The executive committee recommended adoption of a workplan the executive director has been preparing. Members were asked to review the plan and be prepared to vote at the next board meeting

The board voted to support the zoning board on the decision regarding the billboard on Euclid Street

This summary is not an official record of board actions. These are reflected in the board minutes.

Police community meetings

The Eastern District Police hosts its monthly meetings for community members at 722 Payne Avenue at the corner of Minnehaha Avenue. The next meetings are on Friday October 15, at 9:30 am, and Wednesday, October 20, at 6:30 pm. The meetings are intended to listen to and address concerns about crime and other issues on the East Side.

Take-a-Hike October 2

Take-a-Hike occurs on the first Saturday of most months. The next hike will be Saturday, October 2. Hikers meet at 10:30 am in Indian Mounds Park at Earl Street and Mounds Boulevard.

The route winds through local parks and trails to end up at the new East Side Heritage Park. Along the way hikers will share stories and learn some of the local history. The hike is about four miles long with some moderately rough terrain. Transportation will be available to return to Indian Mounds Park, if needed.

Small business classes

The Dayton's Bluff Neighborhood Microentrepreneur Program is taking applications for the spring 2011 class. Meanwhile, the fall class is underway.

The program helps start-up and young businesses on the East Side. All East Side entrepreneurs are welcome. The Dayton's Bluff Community Council and the Neighborhood Development Center have been hosting two such microentrepreneur classes each year since 1993.

The spring 2010 class had its graduation ceremony on September 15 (picture on page 1).

Classroom training lasts eight weeks and includes topics such as operations management, marketing, financial management, how to create a successful business and how to pre-

pare a business plan. In addition, each student will have eight hours of one-on-one time with the instructor to work on individual business concepts. Those who successfully complete the course and locate their businesses in target neighborhoods are eligible for ongoing business support services.

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

The registration fee is based on a sliding scale. The next session will start in April. Class size is limited, so do not wait to apply. For an application, call Karin at 651-772-2075 or email Karin@DaytonsBluff.org.

Neighborhood clean-up over for another year

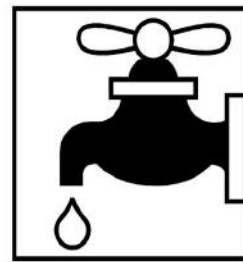
The annual Dayton's Bluff Neighborhood Clean Up was held on September 11. The clean-up gives neighbors the opportunity to bring broken and unneeded furniture and other household materials to Ray Anderson and Sons Dumpster Box Service.

Tons of trash are removed from houses and yards every year at the clean-up. A by-product of the event is the popular reuse area for items that are still usable and are claimed by others as new treasures. Some of the finds this year included a lawn mower, antique toboggan, a storm door, and boxes of books.

The sponsors would like to thank all of the volunteers who helped, as well as special thank yous to the Holiday Station Store on East Minnehaha Avenue, Culver's, Rainbow Foods on Arcade Street and Cub Foods on Clarence Street for donating food for the volunteers. The clean-up is co-sponsored by the City of St. Paul, Dayton's Bluff Community Council, and Eureka Recycling.

More information?

Contact Karin DuPaul at Karin@DaytonsBluff.org or 651-772-2075 if you would like more details about any of the articles on this page.



Fix up your home now!

We are a non-profit agency eager to help you accomplish your home repairs using the latest green rehab techniques that may lower your energy costs.

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Block club meetings

Wilson Avenue Block Club meets online. Contact karin@daytons-bluff.org to join the group.

Margaret Rec Center Block Club meets at 6:30 pm on the second Thursday of each month at the Margaret Recreation Center, at Margaret and Frank Street. This block club meets on the second Thursday of each month at the Margaret Recreation Center at 1109 Margaret St. at 6:30 pm. This block club encompasses Minnehaha to the north, 5th to the south, Cypress to the west and Atlantic to the east; however, all are welcome.

Beech/Margaret 654 Block Club meets at 6:30 pm on the last Thursday of each month at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church at Margaret and Forest. This block club covers Minnehaha, Beech, Margaret, 6th, 5th and 4th between Cypress and Arcade.

Lower Dayton's Bluff Block Club meets monthly. This block club is bounded by 3rd and Maple streets and I-94. Contact Sherry Johnson at sherryjohnson@gmail.com for the time and place of the next meeting.



E-democracy in action

by Paul Godfreed

Dayton's Bluff has its own online town hall. E-Democracy.org is a website created in 1994 to facilitate public discussion and debate on topics such as community life, crime, schools,

transit and any other topic that is of interest to neighbors. It operates as a nonprofit with the goal of empowering more people to improve their own cities. I recently volunteered to moderate the Dayton's Bluff forum and I'm asking neighbors to join in.

(E-democracy continued on page 7)

Upcoming regular meetings at the Dayton's Bluff District 4 Community Council office

Community meeting

The next Dayton's Bluff Community Meeting is Thursday, October 7, from 6:30 to 8:00 pm at the Dayton's Bluff Community Council, 798 East 7th Street. The council holds a community meeting on the first Thursday of most months to work on community issues and let neighbors know about upcoming events.

Police and/or code enforcement officers are usually present at the meetings. Bring addresses where problems are occurring and they will check them out. If the addresses are sent to the council offices ahead of time, they can research the issue before the meeting. All Dayton's Bluff residents are welcome to attend.

At the last community meeting on September 2, about 15 people were in attendance. Police offers were there to answer questions about cars without front license plates, vacant properties that had been broken into and possible drug trafficking. Karin DuPaul took information about code issues to forward to the city Information and Complaint office.

Complaints can also be made by

calling 651-266-8989 or online at <http://www.stpaul.gov/index.aspx?nid=1649>. Complainants' names are kept confidential.

Council board of directors meetings

The Dayton's Bluff District 4 Community Council is changing its regular meeting times from the second and third Mondays of the month to the first and third Mondays. The council has also decided to eliminate the "Housing and Economic Development" and Non-profit" designations for the meetings although it will continue, where feasible, to schedule land use matters for the second meeting of the month.

This month's meetings will be held on Monday, October 4 and 18, with the board meetings at 7:00 pm preceded at 6:00 by the greenspace committee on the 4th. The arts and culture committee usually scheduled before the second monthly board meeting will be rescheduled due to the annual meeting and potluck dinner on October 18. See page 8 for more information.

MOUNDS PARK BARBER STYLISTS



APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE
TUESDAY THRU SATURDAY

1043 HUDSON ROAD
SAINT PAUL, MN 55106

651-771-6980

Judy Lee

Dayton's Bluff Business Association | Keys to the Community



Photo by Karin DuPaul
Maryann Chowen, Executive Director of the Dayton's Bluff Block Nurse Program; Mary Gallagher, Executive Director of the Payne Phalen Block Nurse Program and Mary Edwards, Twin Cities Tees



Photo by Karin DuPaul
L to R, Mayor Chris Coleman; Dayton's Bluff Business Association members Tabitha Benci deRango, Susan Tietjen, Colleen Mikesh; City Council President Kathy Lantry

The Dayton's Bluff Business Association (DBBA) held its first business fair on Tuesday, September 14, at the Mounds Theatre. "Keys to the Community" attracted about 160 people according to DBBA membership coordinator Tabitha Benci DeRango.

Of the 40 current members of the association, 25 had booths at the event. An assortment of 50 some raffle prizes, including a half hour massage, flowers, karate lessons and various gift baskets, was also undoubtedly part of the the attraction.

Sidewalk musicians and a visit from

one of the St. Paul Fire Department's hook-and-ladder rigs added to the festive atmosphere.

Since its establishment early this year, the association has grown dramatically as small and home businesses see the advantages of joining forces to exchange ideas, forward leads and get the word out about their enterprises.

Membership in the DBBA is \$50 yearly. The organization holds monthly meetings, usually the third or fourth Tuesday of the month. Call DBBA president Susan Tietjen if you

are interested in joining or would like more information. She can be reached at 651-214-8088. Check the DBBA link at www.daytonsbluff.org to see a list of the current membership.

Future editions of the *Forum* will profile members of the DBBA to showcase the multitude of talents

and specialties available in your neighborhood.

Le Painter

Kjel Farr

COMPLETE COLLISION REPAIR
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 744 E. 3rd Street, St. Paul, MN 55106

Our Youth. Our Community.

Highlighting the youth of Dayton's Bluff

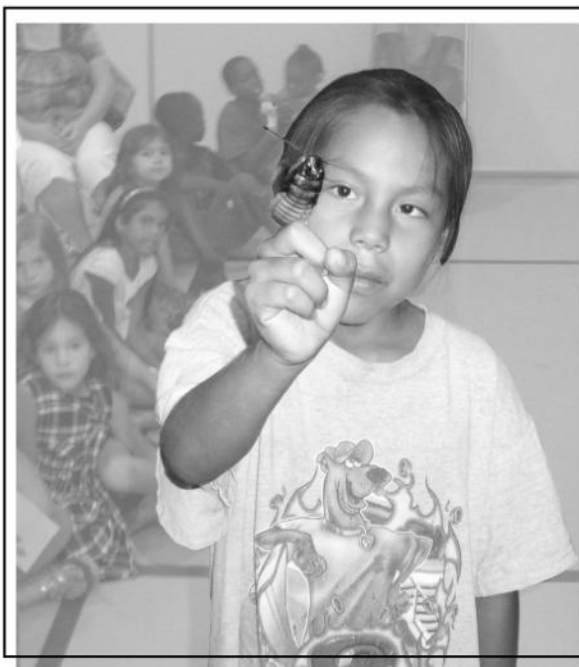
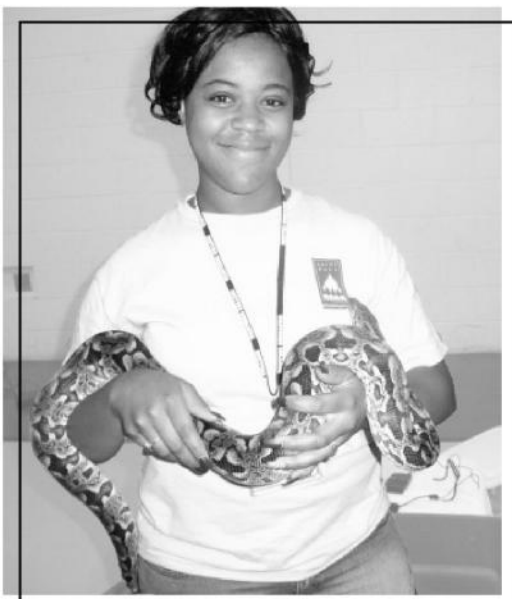
Libraries offer a lifetime of knowledge and fun

Last summer, the Dayton's Bluff Recreation Center linked up with the Dayton's Bluff area Saint Paul Public Library. This partnership provided our Summer Blast program with the opportunity for the kids to receive free books, join reading groups, and



and have weekly visits from a

librarian, who engaged the youth in fun and educational activities.



◀ ▲ Live animals were just one of many activities Dayton's Bluff youth experienced in the Summer Blast program and year-end BBQ.

THE DOORWAY

College Access Center & Computer Lab



Tues & Thurs
4-6p

Resources for teens and adults for finding jobs, applying for college, help with homework and more.

Grand Re-Opening!

Date: November 9, 6-8p

BASKETBALL REGISTRATION

Girls & Boys, ages 8-14



First week in October

Porch life

by Sage Holben

I accept each new day of September as a gift of one more day of neighborhood activity; a promise of neighborhood connectivity. Truthfully, I am not looking forward to winter. It's not the snow, the horrendous heating bills, or the icy sidewalks making the 4th to 7th Street walk a treacherous one. As October approaches, darkness descends too early in the early evening and even our corner porch catches the chillier air. With no warm gathering place to just hang out, our casual drop-in relationships become at least somewhat suspended until spring. Early last spring a younger neighbor and I wondered if our neighbor kids would return – almost like birds or butterflies migrating – or would they have grown away from wanting to be around “older” people. We were thrilled when they returned for visits.



Weekend movies on the porch have been a large focus over the last two summers. They've become much more than simply a movie night. Kids often start asking on Monday, “Are we having a movie this week?” I've found that they are the better selectors of movies than I am, so I largely leave it with them to select and negotiate. Bantering mingles with calling dibs on a favorite seat; serious conversation sometimes occurs during “glitch fixes” of the DVD player or projector, checked out from my workplace. Conversation might drift from

violence in school, local theft, social behavior, sex education in school, to medical or homeless issues. These topics come from the kids, eight to 14 years old.

Interestingly, what has evolved is that besides a group of kids actually watching a movie, a growing group of preteen to young teens gathers on the edge of the porch or in the yard itself. The movie is of no apparent interest. Occasionally, two or three will leave to race down Bates, then return. I suppose it's no different than my enjoying time at a coffee shop – just being in a comfortable place to chat, with no planned activity, just be.

At one girl's suggestion, we kept a notebook on the porch so people could write messages throughout the week. Occasionally I'll find that an unknown someone has dropped off boxes of crayons, children's books, or flower bulbs for the garden. The porch has become a place where we celebrate any occasion and sometimes it's simply a steamy summer day when everyone creatively digs into a juicy, sweet watermelon. Makings for root beer floats emerge from several homes. Someone will have ice cream and another will bring root beer. Someone else will bring crunchy snacks or Kari will bring “sugar” carrots.

Someone will come and ask to play a board game, and then two other children come. Sometimes they are children I've never actually met. Several weeks ago I learned that the boy playing Scrabble with me was the same one who has made life hell for a neighbor two blocks over. But I'm seeing another side to him . . . and that's a greater possibility. I've learned so much from my neighborhood. One lesson is that it's not really about movies or the porch. We neighbors, of all ages and backgrounds, have learned how much we all mean in each other's lives.

Sage Holben is a member of the Dayton's Bluff District 4 Community Council.

Free after school program

by Ed Lambert

District council executive director

The St. Paul Parks and Recreation Department kicks off another school year by offering area youth unique opportunities to enjoy safe, positive, and engaging activities through the Rec Check Initiative.

Rec Check is a free after-school

program that will be offered at 14 recreation centers, during the 2010-11 school year, for children in grades 1-6, including the Dayton's Bluff Recreation Center at 900 Conway Street.

The program provides a variety of supervised activities such as homework help, art, reading, and special events. In addition to the learning opportunities, the program also offers plenty of opportunities to “play” by



KEEP OUR LAKES AND RIVERS CLEAN

When it rains, it drains. Rainwater from our roofs and gutters drains to local lakes and the Mississippi River via storm drains, picking up pollution along the way. You can Stop the Rain Drain. We're asking St. Paul residents to redirect garage gutter downspouts to lawn or garden areas instead of alleys, sidewalks or driveways. We'll do it for you for free, or you can do it yourself!

To schedule an appointment, call Elizabeth at 651-644-8888.

Learn more at stopraindrain.org.

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And there's no better place than Metropolitan State University! We're right here in your neighborhood and our classes are conveniently offered on campus, online or a combination of both. Visit our Website for a complete listing of over 50 majors and 10 graduate degree programs.

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participating in physical activities and enjoying a healthy daily snack. Rec Check is held Monday through Friday, 3-6pm, from September 13 to June 14, 2011, when the St. Paul Public Schools are in session.

A change in state law now allows the Saint Paul School District to transport children to Rec Check programs, provided that the center is within the school attendance or transportation area, and is located over one mile walking distance from the school. All children attending the program are required to check in and out with staff.

The program is part of the mayor's “Second Shift Initiative” and is a partnership between the city and the school district to extend the learning day for St. Paul youth. Contact Gina Stokes gina.stokes@ci.stpaul.mn.us or call 651-793-3885 (afternoons on weekdays) for more information. Registration remains open so contact her soon.

(E-democracy continued from page 5)

E-Democracy has forums set up for communities all over the state and internationally as well. You can post text, photos, videos and links; reply to people's posts; and you can check in from anywhere.

Having a dedicated online forum to discuss neighborhood issues is a great way to connect and solve problems. Not everyone can make it to block club meetings, and e-Democracy offers another way for people to connect.

The forum can't fully open until at least 100 people join the group. So take a moment to sign up at <http://forums.e-democracy.org/groups/st-paul-db>. It's free and a great way to start conversations that can help us all make Dayton's Bluff a better place.

Paul Godfread is a member of the Dayton's Bluff District 4 Community Council.

Where in Dayton's Bluff?



The mystery object in last month's Forum was correctly identified by Christi Saari as the front window in the building formerly housing Arlene's hair salon at 1075 Hudson Road.

If you know the location of this month's mystery object, email karin@daytonsbluff.org or call 651-772-2075. The name of the first person with the correct answer will be printed in next month's Forum.



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**Monday, October 18: vote for district council board of directors
 Stay for annual meeting and potluck**

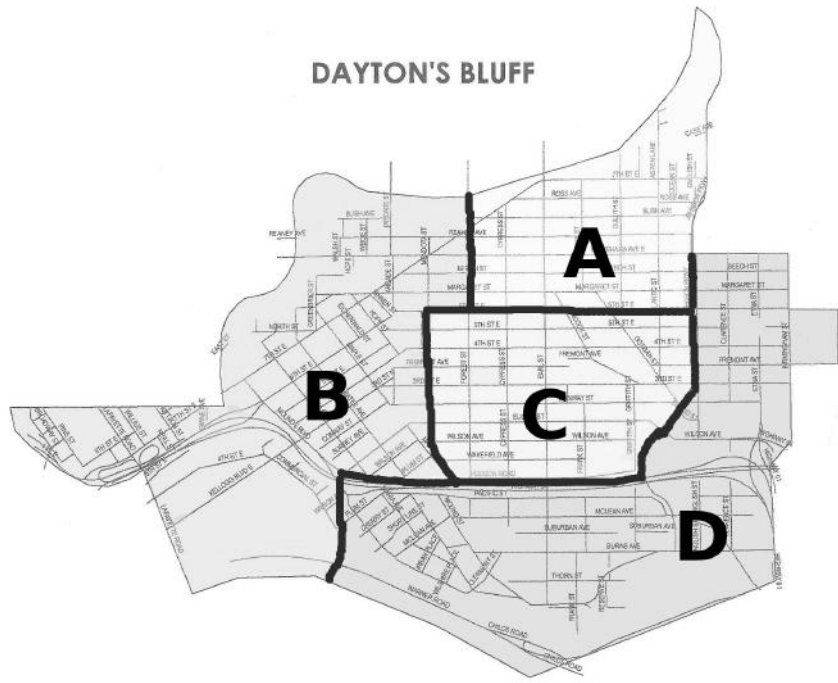
The election for the Dayton's Bluff District 4 Community Council board of directors will be held on Monday, October 18. Polls are open from 9:00 am until 7:00 pm at 798 East 7th Street. Any Dayton's Bluff resident age 18 or over may vote. Voters may choose two representatives for the sub-district where they reside and one for an at-large seat. Write-in candidates are also permitted. The map below shows the layout of the subdistricts.

The board of directors has 18 members of whom 16 are representatives of the four subdistricts and two are at-large positions. Subdistrict representatives must reside in the subdistrict, while at-large members may be either a resident of Dayton's Bluff, an owner or operator of a Dayton's Bluff business or organization or a property owner in Dayton's Bluff. Nine of the 18 members are elected each year for two-year terms.

Absentee ballots are available if requests are made at least 10 days prior to the election, in writing, and signed by the voter. Ballots will be mailed to the voter at least seven days before the election and must be received back in the council office by October 18.

Election day is also the time of the district council's annual meeting, with a potluck supper, beginning at 6:00 p.m. Bring a dish to share and stay for the meeting and the results of the election. This year, meeting attendees will hear a state of the district address by City Council president Kathy Lantry.

The candidates for the board of directors as of the close of filing on September 20 are as follows: at-large, Giovanna Salerno; Subdistrict A, Chris Newton, Daniel Stahley; Subdistrict B, Jean Comstock, Cheryl Kenney; Subdistrict C, Richard Bold, Tabitha Benci DeRango; Subdistrict D, Jacob Dorer, Avinash Viswanathan.



**What a Pet!
 Shear Elegance Pet Grooming**

*by June Bennett
 District council administrative assistant*

"Grooming your dog makes for a beautiful and wonderful pet that really appreciates its owner."

This advice comes from Deb Welage, owner of Shear Elegance Pet Grooming establishment. Deb has been grooming dogs for over 13 years and loves every bit of it. That special affection for dogs is shared by husband Michael and son Aaron, 19.

Deb's first shop was in Mound for 13 years; she relocated the business to the East Side three years ago. A graduate of Cutting Edge Dog Grooming school in Crystal, she loves art as well as dogs and has managed to combine the two together in her shop.

Deb can now accommodate five to eight dogs a day and she is open seven days a week from 9:00 am to 7:00 pm. She has a medical background, which helps her advise clients as a supplement to their visits to the vet.

Deb says, "When your dog is home with you, it's your baby but when they are with me, they are my babies." Her shop will not only groom your dog but will also groom the owners. She hopes to add another service soon where she will come to your home and pick up your dog.

So if you are in the neighborhood and decide that your dog is in need of that special TLC—nail clipping or a good bath and brushing—stop in at Shear Elegance located at 393 Ruth Street, St Paul. The shop can be reached at 651-528-1157.

A healthy and good dog wags its tail with its heart.

small business development, as well as connect major employers like 3M and The Hartford Financial, to their employees. Additionally, transit developments will add a much-needed connection from

the metropolitan region to communities across the river and help alleviate one of the metro's most congested traffic arteries.

Beginning in September, the Gateway Corridor Commission will start an Alternatives Analysis Study to determine the best mode of transit, estimated ridership, potential routes and projected costs to construct and operate the transit line. The study will determine whether light rail, commuter rail or bus-rapid transit is the best option to provide consistent and continuous service to the eastern suburbs. The Alternatives Analysis Study is expected to be completed by spring 2012.

Depending upon federal and local funding, the Gateway Corridor transit line could be operational by 2022.

For more information on the Gateway Corridor, please visit www.thegatewaycorridor.com.

Gateway Corridor may connect Dayton's Bluff and other points

from press release

There are more than 300,000 people living along the Gateway Corridor, the overlay that runs along I-94 from Saint Paul to western Wisconsin. Each day, over 90,000 vehicles cross the St. Croix River Bridge into Saint Paul, adding to the already congested Saint Paul traffic. This number will only increase in the coming years as the population is expected to increase by 30 percent as 30,000 more jobs are created.

The Gateway Corridor will serve as a vital link between downtown and neighborhoods of Dayton's Bluff and Battle Creek, and the neighboring communities like Maplewood and Woodbury. A new transit line to the east will spark new residential and

Vote por sus representantes del consejo del distrito el 18 de octubre

Las elecciones del Consejo de Dayton's Bluff se llevarán a cabo á 798 E. 7th Street. el 18 de octubre. Vote por sus representantes de las 9:00 de la mañana hasta las 7:00 de la noche. Mantente al día para el "potluck" cena a las 6:00 de la tarde. Será seguida por la reunión anual del consejo.

Free Junk Car Removal

Get rid of your junk car for free and get a tax deduction, too! Contact Karin@DaytonsBluff.org or 651-772-

2075 and Budget Towing will haul it away and a \$100 contribution will be made to the Dayton's Bluff district council.

Dayton's Bluff District Forum

798 East 7th Street
 St. Paul, MN 55106
 Phone: 651-772-2075
 Fax: 651-774-3510
 E-mail: editor@daytonsbluff.org

Monthly Circulation: 7,500

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Board of Directors: Greg Cosimini, Karin DuPaul and Steve Trimble
 Editor and Layout: Carla Riehle
 Next issue: November 2010. Deadline for material: October 10, 2010