

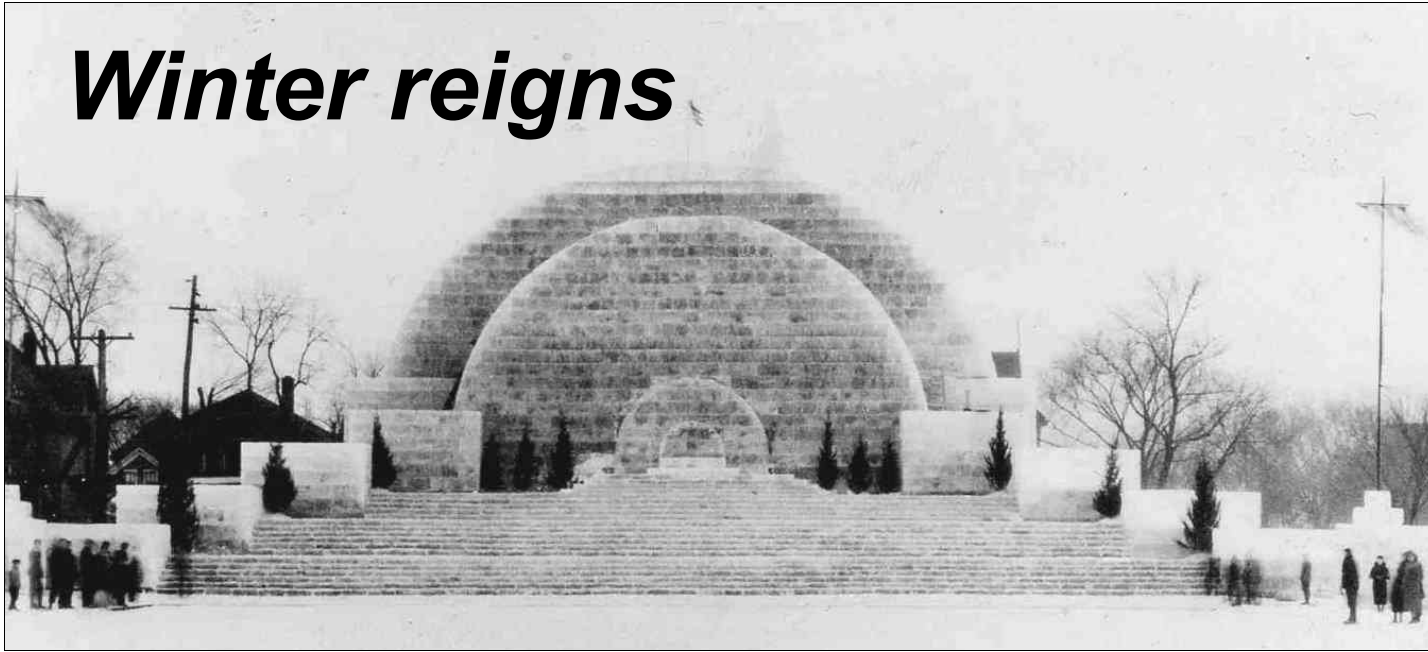
Dayton's Bluff District Forum

Volume 28, No. 1
February 2015
daytonsbluffdistrictforum.org

Vea la página 5 para un artículo en español.

"The Voice of the Community"

Winter reigns



Greg Cosimini collection

Pictured is the 1938 Winter Carnival Ice Palace/Court built in Dayton's Bluff. Unlike the palaces that came before and after, it had a rather simple Art Deco design. The largest semicircle was 60 feet tall. There was a 100 by 300-foot skating rink in front of it. At night, the palace was illuminated with brightly colored lights. It was located in or very near the old Bluff Playground, most of which was consumed by I-94. The palace was in the vicinity of Plum Street., Mounds Boulevard, and the freeway entrance near the west end of Mounds Park. Depending on the palace's precise location, the actual area may still exist today.

Twin Cities Mobile Market: groceries on wheels

Forum staff

The Twin Cities Mobile Market, a grocery store on wheels, is now rolling through Dayton's Bluff and beyond. Its aim is to bring healthy foods to St. Paul neighborhoods at below-market prices and on a regular schedule. It's a program of the Wilder Foundation that will keep on rolling into the future if it receives community support. Anyone can shop there; it accepts SNAP/EBT, cash, credit and debit.

The schedule for Dayton's Bluff is

listed below, but it's a good idea to call 651-280-2000 or check the Web site (wilder.org/Programs-Services/tcmm) to make sure that it hasn't changed.

Wednesdays: Parkway School
1363 Bush Avenue, 1:00-3:00 pm

Thursdays: First Lutheran Church
463 Maria Avenue, 5:00-7:00 pm

Fridays: Parkway Gardens
1145 Hudson Road, 1:00-3:00 pm



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St. Paul Neighborhood Honor Roll 2015

Nicole Pressley, DBCC

Each year, the city of St. Paul asks its 17 district councils to select groups or individuals for the St. Paul Neighborhood Honor Roll. The Dayton's Bluff Community Council has chosen three organizations to honor this year: 180 Degrees, Dayton's Bluff Seniors Block Nurse Program, and Urban Roots. This year's city-wide ceremony will be held Friday, January 30 at St. Thomas University.

180 Degrees

180 Degrees is a multicultural organization whose mission is to "provide comprehensive, culturally specific services that empower our clients to improve their lives by making positive choices resulting in healthier individuals, stronger families and safer communities." 180 Degrees' enrichment and education programs have offered youth guidance and opportunities to be more engaged community members. The staff and youth are always eager to participate and volunteer at local events and with community organizations. Their work in the Dayton's Bluff community has demonstrated how youth engagement can impact the lives of whole families and remind the community that youth are one of its most valuable assets.

Dayton's Bluff Seniors Block Nurse Program

The Dayton's Bluff Seniors Block Nurse Program is a model organization that helps keep seniors in their homes by providing numerous support services and programs. Their unique grassroots approach to drawing upon the professional services of local residences and organizations gives its programs a wide and impact reach while operating with modest funds. From programs that connect

(see "Neighborhood Honor Roll," continued on page 4.)

February is Black History Month

Special Feature

The *Forum* works hard all year to bring you information and news that reflects the diversity of our neighborhood. In recognition of Black History Month, the *Forum* is featuring several articles on issues and history of significance to our African-American community.

Page 1 (below): "Hands Up, Don't Shoot" film and discussion

Page 5: "East Side Freedom Library"

Page 6: "Teachable moments at Freedom School"

Page 7: History article: Crispus Attucks Home

"Hands Up, Don't Shoot; Our Youth Movement" Film and discussion

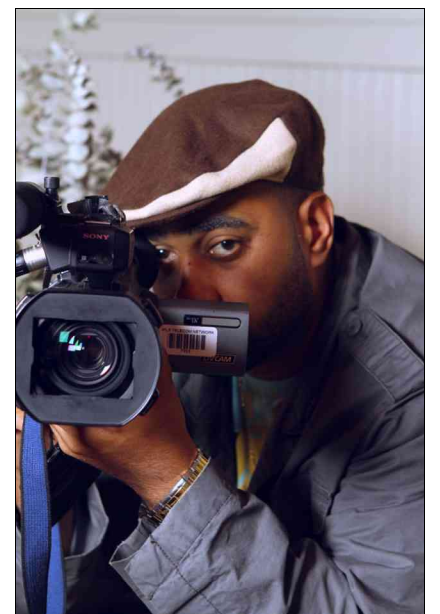
Forum staff

6:30-9:00 pm, Wednesday, February 11
Dayton's Bluff Community Council
Community Headquarters
804 Margaret Street

Filmmaker Ralph L. Crowder III will be present to introduce the film and lead a discussion afterwards. This event is free and open to the public.

Ralph L. Crowder III, a Minneapolis radio and television producer, was in Ferguson, Missouri on August 26, 2014, the day the funeral was held for Mike Brown, victim of a police shooting. It created a unique opportunity for him to engage a Black perspective on the events and to delve deeper into the background of what happened, and its repercussions across the country. This thought-provoking documentary is the result of those discussions.

Join other community members on Wednesday, February 11, 6:30 pm to view and discuss the film. The event is sponsored by the Dayton's Bluff Community Council and the East Side Freedom Library.



Ralph L. Crowder, III

New Friends of Swede Hollow are welcome

Do you enjoy Swede Hollow Park and care about its history and future? The next Friends of Swede Hollow monthly meeting is **Wednesday, February 11, 6:30 pm**. Email karin@swede-hollow.org or call 651-776-0550 for more information and the meeting's location.

Get rid of your junk car; help Dayton's Bluff Community Council

Budget Towing of Minnesota, Minnesota's largest towing company, is owned by Roy Carlson, a former Dayton's Bluff Community Council board member. Budget Towing will remove any junk car or truck – located anywhere in St. Paul – and dispose of it at no charge to the vehicle owner or the property owner where it is located. The vehicle owner will receive paperwork for a tax donation, and Roy will make a small donation to the Community Council. Call 651-772-2075 to have a junk car removed – and help clean up Dayton's Bluff.

Take-a-Hike February 7

Take-a-Hike occurs on the first Saturday of most months. The next hike will be **Saturday, February 7**. Hikers meet at **10:30 am** in Indian Mounds Park at Earl Street and Mounds Boulevard, and hike down to Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary, then through Swede Hollow Park and winding up at the East Side Her-

itage Park. The hike is about two hours (four miles) with some moderately rough terrain. Share experiences and hear stories about life in Dayton's Bluff. New hikers are always welcome. Return transportation is available, if required. For more information, call 651-776-0550.

Meet with the police

The Eastern District Police hosts their monthly meetings for community members at 722 Payne Avenue, at the corner of Payne and Minnehaha Avenues.

The next meetings are **Wednesday, February 18, at 9:30 am and 6:30 pm**. This is a change; both meetings are now on the third Wednesday of each month.

The meetings, open to all, are intended to learn about, listen to, and address concerns about crime and other issues on the East Side. **The St. Paul Eastern District is committed to maintaining and growing the quality of life for all of our residents.** Bring your neighbors; this is a great opportunity to discuss neighborhood nuisance issues.

Forum monthly meeting

This *Forum* newspaper is always looking for help in several volunteer capacities. Help is always needed with writing, editing, online content, idea generation, and ad sales; or perhaps you have another idea for our publication. If you'd like to contribute to the *Forum*, please join us at our next meeting at **12:30 pm on Monday, February 2** at 804 Margaret Street (call 651-776-0550 to confirm date and time).

Business classes

The next Dayton's Bluff Neighborhood Microentrepreneur Class is starting in the spring of 2015. This program helps startup and young businesses on the East Side. All East Side entrepreneurs are welcome. Class training lasts eight weeks and includes topics such as operations management, marketing, financial management, one-on-one assistance with creating a successful business, and preparing a business plan, plus eight hours of one-on-one time with the instructor.

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 this course include graphics, landscaping, photography, food service, restoration of wood furniture, art, custom floral design, and exterior and interior painting. The course is a partnership between the Dayton's Bluff Community Council and the Neighborhood Development Center. There is a small registration fee based on a sliding fee scale. The next session will be starting in the spring and class size is limited, so get enrolled now. Please call Emma Spillman at 651-379-8432 for an application.

DBCC board meeting

The Dayton's Bluff Community Council's February board meeting will be held **Monday, February 23, 6:30-8:30 pm** at the East Side Enterprise Center, 804 Margaret Street. Anyone is welcome to attend.

Dayton's Bluff Book Club

The East Side community is invited to the Dayton's Bluff Book Club. The club meets on the second Thursday of the month at Metropolitan State University's Library to discuss multicultural and/or local authors' books. The Institute for Community Engagement and Scholarship at Metro State provides free copies of the book to attendees prior to the monthly meeting, and a light dinner is served at no charge – call 651-793-1285 or email community.engagement@metrostate.edu to register.

The February book selection is *To Smile in Autumn* by St. Paul author Gordon Parks. The discussion will be held **Thursday, February 12, 6:00-8:30 pm** in Metro State Library room 310. The event is co-sponsored by the Metro State Library and the St. Paul Public Library.



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THIRD ANNUAL CABARET!

**Friday, February 20
8 pm to 11 pm**

The location: The Historic Mounds Theatre - 1029 Hudson Road.

Fundraiser: The CABARET is a fundraiser for this coming year's 6th annual Art in the Hollow, the art festival in Swede Hollow Park (Saturday, June 6, 2015). The CABARET! and Art in the Hollow are programs of Friends of Swede Hollow, a nonprofit organization that works on restoring and protecting the park, celebrating Swede Hollow history, and hosting events honoring Swede Hollow Park and the neighborhood.

About the Event: The house band is the BARRA "the local Irish music experts," as written in the Pioneer Press. Band member Paul Garding is a Dayton's Bluff resident, the other band members are Dave Cammack, John McCormick, Amy Shaw. Other entertainers include Anne DeJoy performing her popular dance number, Soprano Nancy Sanchelli Guertin accompanied by her father former Swede Hollow/Phalen Creek resident Joe Sanchelli, Tap Trio Taplovsky, Chilli Lor's spoken word, singer Laurie Dehmlow, Zingrays and Wibesman Bands, comedy sketches, and much more.

Auction: The evening will also include a silent auction of original art and other items. CABARET! tickets are only \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. Get your tickets now and get the CABARET! on your calendar! The theatre will come alive with an amazing variety of acts. To buy your tickets, please contact Karin DuPaul at 651-776-0550 or karin@swedehollow.org. Don't miss this!



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Dayton's Bluff Seniors update



Dayton's Bluff Seniors were recognized by the Timberwolves FastBreak Foundation in a December 14 on-court presentation. Pictured (from left) are Chris Wright (Timberwolves Team President), Allison Vandenaek, RN (DBS Nurse/Service Coordinator), Rhonda Battisto (DBS Executive Director) and Dan Stoltz (CEO of Spire Federal Credit Union).

A night with the Wolves

Dayton's Bluff Seniors Living at Home Block Nurse Program (DBS) staff members and volunteers had a blast at the Timberwolves vs. Lakers game on December 14, 2014. To celebrate the season of giving, Minnesota Timberwolves sponsor SPIRE Credit Union nominated DBS to be honored in an on-court presentation as part of the Timberwolves FastBreak Foundation Heroes in the Making. The foundation recognizes that we work hard to support Minnesotans in need during the holidays (and beyond)! Many thanks to Dan Stoltz, Spire's CEO for his kindness and ongoing support of DBS.

Looking for seniors

Dayton's Bluff Seniors (DBS) draws a circle of care around neighborhood elders to ensure that they stay safe and independent in their homes for as long as possible. **We are looking for seniors to serve!** Our service coordinators are in the area and looking forward to helping to connect you with resources such as rides to the doctor or grocer, chore services, nursing/wellness visits, fall prevention, food delivery, respite care and more. Many helpful resources can be found online: daytonsbuffseniors.org. How can we help you today? If you or someone you know in Dayton's Bluff is 65 years or better and could benefit from our services, or for more information, please contact us by phone at 651-776-7210 ext. 303, or by email: volunteer@daytonsbuffseniors.org.

Annual meeting

The annual meeting of Dayton's Bluff Seniors Living at Home Block Nurse Program (DBS) will be held at **9:00 am on Friday, February 13** at First Lutheran Church (Education Building) Library, 463 Maria Avenue. Light refreshments will be served.. Friends/supporters of DBS and community members are welcome to attend.

Community Correction:

A recent article in the Pioneer Press, "St. Paul readies East Side home for controversial demolition," (Dec. 26, 2014), states "...the Dayton's Bluff Community Council recently contributed \$16,000 toward repairs" of Ronald Arjo Adams' house at 676 Wells Street. However, Adams actually received assistance from Dayton's Bluff Neighborhood Housing Services, a nonprofit organization that works to improve the housing and quality of life of residents in our community.

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CABARET!

Forum staff

The third annual CABARET! will be on **Friday, February 20, 8:00 pm-11:00 pm** at the Historic Mounds Theatre at 1029 Hudson Road. There will be a wonderful mix of dancing, singing, music, comedy and poetry. It is a celebration of talent with East Side roots.

The house band is the BARRA "the local Irish music experts," as written in the Pioneer Press. Band member Paul Garding is a Dayton's Bluff resident, the other band members are Dave Cammack, John McCormick, and Amy Shaw. Other entertainers include singer Gigi Yau; Katherine Banbury and Dave Blessing comedy act; John Knowles and his Cave Music; Christine Baeumler and her Eco Oracle; Diane May doing a portrait of someone in the

audience; and much more.

The evening will include a silent auction of original art and other items. CABARET! tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. Get your tickets now and write the Cabaret on your calendar! To buy your tickets, please contact Karin DuPaul at 651-776-0550 or karin@swedehollow.org. Don't miss this!

CABARET! is a fundraiser for this year's sixth annual Art in the Hollow, the art festival in Swede Hollow Park to be held on Saturday, June 6, 2015. The Cabaret and Art in the Hollow are programs by the Friends of Swede Hollow, a nonprofit organization that works on restoring and protecting the park, celebrating Swede Hollow history, and hosting events honoring Swede Hollow Park and the neighborhood.



Volunteers helping out on the Home Tour in 2014. If you would like to volunteer to help during the 2015 Home Tour, email karin@swedehollow.org or call Karin at 651-776-0550.

Homes, volunteers wanted for Home Tour

Forum staff

The annual Minneapolis and St. Paul Home Tour will be held on **Saturday, April 25, 10:00 am-5:00 pm, and Sunday, April 26, 1:00 pm-5:00 pm**.

For the tour, residents in Minneapolis and St. Paul open their homes to the public to showcase city living. Dayton's Bluff has so many wonderful homes that each year we have a number of them on the tour. The tour shows off many of Dayton's Bluff's great features: Metropolitan State University; the parks; our growing business community; our views of the city and the Mississippi River; our outstanding housing options; and of course the wonderful neighbors in Dayton's Bluff. Some visitors like it so well that they have made Dayton's Bluff their new

home.

We are still looking for a couple more homes to be on the tour, and 30-plus volunteers ("neighborhood ambassadors") are needed. The volunteers will help the home owners with signing visitors in, telling the visitors about Dayton's Bluff, and anything else the homeowners need help with. On Sunday evening after the tour is over, an After the Home Tour Supper Party will be held for the families whose homes are on the tour and all neighborhood ambassador volunteers.

For more information on the Minneapolis/St. Paul Home Tour, visit msphometour.com or daytonsbuff.org. To nominate a home to be on the tour, or to volunteer, email karin@swedehollow.org or call 651-776-0550.

Get Involved and Let Your Voice Be Heard!

Want to Make a Difference in Your Community?

Dayton's Bluff Community Council is looking for community members who want to get involved. DBCC is dedicated to supporting and building a community of equity where everyone can thrive. Below are some ways you can get involved:

- Become a Member of the Board (Elections each Fall)
- Committee Involvement
- Volunteer Opportunities

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To Learn More About DBCC and how get involved, visit www.daytonsbuff.org today!

Mounds Park United Methodist Church

1049 Euclid Street (corner of Earl and Euclid); 651-774-8736

Mounds Park United Methodist Church is a community cross-cultural congregation located at 1049 Euclid Street at the corner of Earl and Euclid. All are welcome to the following community events:

Sunday morning service every week starts at **10:30 am** with fellowship time following. Come join your neighbors in worship.

Community Multi-Cultural Feast Before The Fast: Sunday, February 15, 11:30 am in the Church Fellowship Hall. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 18. On Sunday, February 15, after the 10:30 am morning worship service (about 11:30 am), there will be a Community Multi-Cultural Feast Before The Fast, a multicultural potluck dinner. The whole community is invited! We ask that you bring to church a dish to pass that represents your culture. We want to gather all kinds of foods, and sit down to share a meal together. So think of a food that would represent part of your culture, prepare some to share with others, and bring it along to church. We've already heard of people planning to bring Hmong egg rolls, German potato salad, Swedish meatballs, Italian spaghetti, Mexican tacos, BBQ pork ribs and lots more. It's an opportunity to sit down, eat some good food and meet new neighbors! If you can't bring a dish to pass, please bring yourself; there will be plenty of food for all.

If you can, please email or call the church office and let Kaite know what you are bringing. We're going to try to have a name tag for your potluck, so folks can know who brought what. Email secretarympumc@yahoo.com or call 651-774-8736.

Community Friendship Gathering: Wednesday, February 25, 12:00 noon: hot lunch followed by live entertainment. All are welcome to come; the focus of this event is on persons age 55 and over.

All the above events are open to the entire community. All are welcome at Mounds Park United Methodist Church!

Hazel Park United Church of Christ

1831 East Minnehaha Avenue; 651-735-2555
hazelparkcongregationalucc.org – Hazel Park UCC on Facebook.

"Our faith is 2,000 years old, but our thinking is not," says Rev. Sara Morse of Hazel Park UCC, a neighborhood church on the East Side of St. Paul. "We are a forward-looking congregation, and we seek to embrace and carry out the mission of the church in our community and in the wider world. No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!"

Save grocery money with Fare For All Express

Hazel Park United Church of Christ is a distribution partner for Fare For All Express, which offers fresh produce and quality meats at up to 40% off retail prices. The cooperative buying program is open to everyone, with no qualifying requirements or pre-registration. The next drop-in purchase opportunity is **Wednesday, February 4, 4:00-6:00 pm** at the church. Items available include produce, meat, and combination packs ranging in price from \$10-30. Cash, credit cards, EBT cards or debit cards accepted; checks not accepted. Visit fareforall.org for other Twin Cities locations, or contact the church.

The Bauman Fine Arts Series' next performance is at **4:00 pm on Sunday, February 15** by Thursday Musical. Admission is \$8 for adults/seniors and \$5 for youth age 12-17; 11 and under are admitted free.

All are welcome to attend any of the above events; events and schedules are subject to change. For more information, contact HPUCC at 651-735-2555, email hazelparkchurch@q.com, visit hazelparkcongregationalucc.org or visit the Hazel Park UCC Facebook page.

Dayton's Bluff Rec Center in February

- Cheerleading (fee-based) begins February 23
- Karate (fee-based) begins February 18
- 8U basketball tournament February 28
- Parent & tot time in the gym, every Wednesday and Friday, 10:00 am-12:00 noon
- Judo every Monday, 6:00-7:45 pm

Sustainable St. Paul seeks award nominees

St. Paul Mayor Chris Coleman and the St. Paul City Council are encouraging individuals, businesses and organizations to submit nominations to submit nominations for the 2015 Sustainable St. Paul Awards, which honor the work being done to protect and restore the envi-

ronment in St. Paul. Awards will be given in many categories, including one for youth. Nominations are due **Friday, February 20**. For full details on the 2015 Sustainable St. Paul Awards, visit stpaul.gov/sustainableawards.

Urban Oasis report from Cuba

Urban Oasis staff

In December, after more than 50 years, President Obama reestablished diplomatic relations with Cuba. Due to the loss of access to a regular supply of petroleum products and other imports, Cuba systematically developed an agro-ecological food system that relies on natural biological inputs and decentralized food production.

Hear Tracy Sides, the founder and executive director of Urban Oasis,

and Robin Major from Shared Ground Farmers' Cooperative share stories and answer questions about their experiences as part of a January 2015 Twin Cities delegation that took a food sovereignty tour of Cuba's world-renowned urban agriculture system.

The event will be held **Friday, March 20, 7:00-9:00 pm** at the East Side Enterprise Center, 804 Margaret Street. The public is welcome.

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Continued from page 1:

Neighborhood Honor Roll: Three organizations chosen in 2015

seniors to health services to their neighborhood watch programs, this organization has done an amazing job supporting and enriching the lives of the Dayton's Bluff senior community.

Urban Roots

Since 1969, Urban Roots (formerly Community Design Center of Minnesota) has

worked to develop a vibrant East Side community through cooking, conservation and gardening programs. Engaging youth and collaborating with residences and organizations, Urban Roots has created an incredible Community Supported Agriculture program and worked with Dayton's Bluff Community Council to plant flowers

along East 7th Street. Last year, we were excited to award them with STAR funds to continue their important work here in Dayton's Bluff and the greater East Side.

Please check back in March for photos of this year's event, and a comprehensive listing of all the Dayton's Bluff honor roll recipients since the 1980s.

Dayton's Bluff District Forum

804 Margaret Street, St. Paul, MN 55106
 Phone: 651-776-0550 E-mail: editor@daytonsbluff.org

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Board of Directors:

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Next issue: March 2015. Deadline for material: February 15, 2015.

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St. Paul Community Education: The history of immigration

Immigration & the Making of St. Paul: East Side Freedom Library, 1105 Greenbrier Street; **Monday, January 26, through Monday, March 2, 6:00-8:00 pm**, \$50.

How We Got Here? The History of Immigration to the East Side: Wheelock Early Education Center, 1521 Edgerton Street; **Tuesday, February 17, 1:00-2:00 pm**, \$10.

Both classes are taught by Peter Rachleff. These opportunities are sponsored by the St. Paul Public Schools Adult & Community Education and the East Side Freedom Library. To register: stpaul.ce.feepay.com or 651-767-8179.

Viswanathan wins philanthropy fellowship

Dayton's Bluff resident **Avi Viswanathan** has been named as a 2105 Ron McKinley Philanthropy Fellow by the Minnesota Council on Foundations. The fellowship prepares high-potential individuals from underrepresented communities for careers in philanthropy.

Viswanathan has served as the campaign director for HIRE Minnesota, a campaign working to achieve racial equity in employment. Avi and his family are engaged in many community activities, and he has served on the Dayton's Bluff Community Council. He will join the Leadership Programs team at the Bush Foundation. Learn more about the Fellows at mcf.org/about/fellows-2015.

Rush Line open house

Forum staff

About 100 East Siders attended the Rush Line Open House on January 14, 2015 at the Duluth/ Case Recreation Center. Visitors were asked to let the Rush Line project staff know their preferred routes, station locations, and other routes to study. Some visitors drew their idea for a better route on a large map. Rush Line staff also asked participants about opportunities and benefits related to their preferred routes.

The Rush Line process and timeline will take eight or more years. Participants asked questions and made statements. Some were concerned that there were not many transit users or people of color in attendance; Rush Line personnel said that is something they are working on. Many participants feel the Bruce Vento Regional Trail is an important asset for the community that might be put at risk by the Rush Line. For more information about the Rush Line, go to rushline.org.

One state, one license – Un estado, un licencia

*Henry Garnica
DBCC Board of Directors*

[Editor's note: The One State, One License Coalition is leading a campaign for passage of a new law authorizing Minnesotans to obtain drivers licenses regardless of their immigration status. The Dayton's Bluff Community Council is a supporter of this campaign.]

I am an immigrant too.

I am a firm believer that the One State, One License campaign should be supported by other individuals and organizations involved with immigrants as neighbors, employers or private entities. President Obama is advancing a powerful initiative to grant legal status to millions of immigrants, and protect millions of families from separation.

If more immigrants could obtain official identification, the United States will be more secure, because the state government would have neighbors' and residents' names, addresses and other information. This will improve security on the streets because more drivers will have the approval of the Department of Motor Vehicles to be on

the road. The Minnesota economy will also benefit, because more people will buy cars and have accident insurance as well as other benefits.

For this initiative to become a reality, concerned residents and organizations must work together so that our voice reaches the government in a way that makes it clear that both residents and the state will benefit from drivers licenses for immigrants.

[Nota del editor: La Coalición para un Estado, una Licencia está liderando una campaña para la aprobación de una nueva ley que autoriza los residentes de Minnesota para obtener licencias de conducir sin importar estatus migratorio. El Consejo Comunitario del Dayton's Bluff es un partidario de esta campaña.]

Yo soy inmigrante también.

Creo que esta iniciativa debe ser apoyada por otras organizaciones y por personas involucradas con inmigrantes. Vecinos, empleadores y entidades privadas pueden participar. El Señor Presidente Obama esta adelantando un fuerte trabajo

para otorgar a millones de inmigrantes un estatus legal y proteger a millones de familias de la separación de sus miembros.

Si más inmigrantes pueden obtener una identificación oficial; Estados Unidos será más protegido. El gobierno de MN tendrá el nombre, la dirección y más información sobre los vecinos/residentes. Otros beneficios secundarios serán para la economía en MN también. Podemos tener más seguridad en las calles; porque más conductores son legalmente autorizados con la aprobación del DMV. Más personas pueden comprar coches y su respectivo seguro contra accidentes, más personas pueden hacer negocios en MN sin mencionar otros beneficios.

Para que esta iniciativa se haga una realidad necesitamos trabajar mancomunadamente los residentes y las organizaciones involucradas en este proyecto para que la voz llegue al Gobierno y sea escuchada como la vía para que tanto los residentes como el Gobierno se beneficien de una aprobación eventual a las Licencias de Conducir para inmigrantes.

East Side Radio update

Carla Riehle

A newly-created WEQY-FM volunteer team has begun meeting every two weeks to work out a comprehensive plan for the new East Side low-power FM community radio station that was granted a construction permit by the Federal Communications Commission last March.

After a few bumps in the road, the team believes it now has a more realistic view of what it takes to get a radio station on the air. Deanna Abbott-Foster, Dayton's Bluff Community Council Executive Director, believes the Council got the cart before the horse by hiring a station manager and seeking underwriters before considering the complexities of program creation. Team members are now working on a business plan and following

up with individuals who have programming ideas.

The team has connected with the Twin Cities Community Radio group, consisting of Frogtown and Phillips neighborhood activists who recently obtained their own construction permits from the FCC. It's become clear that the three start-ups have much in common in terms of the demographics of their neighborhoods and common goals of reflecting and strengthening cultural diversity. All believe that shared programming can strengthen all three stations, while allowing plenty of freedom to create hyper-local content specific to each neighborhood.

Thanks to a City of St. Paul Neighborhood STAR grant, most of the equipment for the station has been ordered and is awaiting the

arrival of specialized technicians to install it. The station will temporarily be working out of a space at 798 East 7th Street where it has set up an editing and recording studio. Broadcasting will begin when the studio moves down the street to the Rogers Printing office complex, currently under construction.

Station volunteers are still being sought for programming in the various languages that reflect the cultural diversity on the East Side. The team is also in need of computer donations. An iMac or Mac Mini would be ideal, but any computer of fairly recent vintage would be welcome. Please call the Dayton's Bluff Community Council at 651-772-2075 if you can help, and watch the East Side Radio/Radio de Lado Este Facebook page for more updates.

The East Side Freedom Library: communities in conversation

Nicole Pressly, DBCC

The East Side Freedom Library, a project of Peter Rachleff and Beth Cleary, has created a unique space for learning, culture, and conversation here on the East Side. With programming ranging from lectures on labor history to musical performances, the library has created a space to engage residents and discuss ideas through our differences rather than despite them. The product of this work is a true community-building process that firms up potential to learn together, live together, and move forward together.

On Wednesday, January 14, the East Side Freedom library hosted a free screening of *At the River I Stand*, a documentary about the 1968 Memphis Sanitation Workers' Strike. The film high-

lights a sometimes-forgotten history of the context around the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. It underlines the issues of race and class in America and how they mutually worked to create the conditions in which these black men worked, as well as how they informed the strategy through which they found success. The Sanitation Workers' Strike brought worker's rights and civil rights together; building a coalition between labor and civil rights activists that was integral to the effectiveness and success of this initiative.

The film, in both content and imagery, moved the diverse audience to reflect on greater issues that loom large in the social and economic realities of local residents. The parallels between then and now, between Memphis and the Twin Cities metro, were immediately ex-

pressed during the discussion following the film. Other reactions expressed the lack of knowledge around the death of Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Memphis Sanitation Workers Strike as a whole. Citing things like socioeconomic conditions, media imagery, and goals of self-determination and economic independence, many found themselves asking, "How far have we come?"

Like many other America cities, the Twin Cities metro continues to suffer from low-performing schools, concentrated poverty in communities of color, and an ever-resonating distrust between marginalized communities and local government. In this room, neighbors shared confusion and frustration around the discourse of progress and the current realities of injustice – none calling for action or prescribing any particular ide-

ology, but all recognizing these issues and understanding that more work must be done.

How do we put these recent tragedies and inequitable conditions in conversation with these forgotten and ignored histories in productive ways? How do we truly recognize progress when our points of reference are different? How far have we come and where are we going?

These are ubiquitous questions that demonstrate the gaps that keep us divided. The East Side Freedom Library is bridging that gap. It opens the space for collective consciousness, informing how we see ourselves and our communities.

All are encouraged to visit this space and participate its rich programming. Information about the library, and the event calendar, can be found at eastsidefreedomlibrary.org.

Teachable moments at Freedom School

American Friends Service Committee

The following is an excerpt from an article posted at afsc.org/story/systemic-racism-focus-twin-cities-freedom-school. It is presented here as part of our Black History Month feature.

On two frigid days in December, the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) Twin Cities' Freedom School was launched at Sun Ray Library. Approximately 30 young people and adults came together to gain a deeper understanding of structural and institutional racism coupled with the importance of making change.

The lessons of Freedom School really came alive on the second morning.

As participants delved deeply into the ways in which racism has been legally sanctioned in our country, there was a knock on the door. A librarian informed Sharon Goens-Bradley, Healing Justice program director for the Twin Cities' office, that a reporter and cameraman were outside wanting to speak to someone.

The reporter, a perky young white woman, told Sharon that they'd heard about Freedom School from an article in a neighborhood paper and were hoping to shoot footage of the event and interview some of the youth there. "The reporter seemed to assume that because they had spontaneously shown up at Freedom School they'd immediately be welcomed in to the group" Sharon reported.

That particular station, however, has a long-standing antagonistic relationship with progressive citizens, many of them from communities of color. Most recently the station was involved in "Pointergate," a news segment that accused the Minneapolis mayor of making gang signs and with a "known felon."

When Sharon explained to the reporter that the

consensus of the room was that they not be allowed to enter, the reporter became irritated and said, "Can't we just interview a couple of people? How about you?" When Sharon continued to repeat that there would be no interviews and mentioned "Pointergate," the reporter stated, "I was not the reporter on that story and he (pointing to the cameraman) wasn't there either."

Eventually the reporter and cameraman accepted that they would not gain access to the room and left, visibly upset.

According to Sharon, "The reporter's insistence that she was not responsible for her employer's behavior illustrates the propensity in our society for ascribing poor behavior to only to individuals and not looking at the larger systems that help keep racism in place."

After spending a few minutes processing the event, Freedom School continued as scheduled. Dustin Washington, director of AFSC's Seattle Community Justice program, continued to educate and challenge participants to explore our country's history and the



AFSC

Two Freedom School participants discuss poverty. The group met in December at Sun Ray Library.

ways in which we all participate in the perpetuation of racist systems.

When surveyed about what they learned after participating in two days of Freedom School, youth wrote: "[Racism] affects more people than I thought," "Some of the statistics and racial demographics are astonishing and I learned the best time to take action," "How I can change myself and engage more and involve more people different from myself," and "The definition of racism."

A four-day Freedom School is planned for this summer in the Twin Cities.

AFSC is a Quaker organization devoted to service, development, and peace programs throughout the world. Their work is based on the belief in the worth of every person, and faith in the power of love to overcome violence and injustice.



Jane and her husband David Murphy are 30-year residents of Mounds Park where they raised their son Sam, a 2003 Harding High School graduate. Jane's husband is a landscaping designer/contractor and community volunteer.

As an attorney, a community volunteer and as a city council legislative aide, Jane has an extensive record of innovative problem solving and building consensus on issues of broad community concern.

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History corner: a Black History Month feature

An East Side Story: The Crispus Attucks Home

Steve Trimble, Forum historian

The Crispus Attucks Home, named after a Black patriot who was killed by British troops in the Boston Massacre of 1770, was an African American institution in the Railroad Island neighborhood from the early 1920s until 1967.

Most orphanages at the time would not admit Black children. The home addressed the desire for African-American elderly, orphans, and neglected children to be cared for by their own community. Will and Fannie King, two AME (African Methodist Episcopal) missionaries came to St. Paul in the early 1900s and opened a residence in a small house near Oakland Cemetery.

They called it the Crispus Attucks Industrial School and Colored Old Folks' and Orphans' Home. The purpose of the institution was "the improvement of industrial and social conditions of the colored people of the State of Minnesota" and "the establishment of a home for the indigent, deserving colored men, women and children."

In 1908, the residents were taken to a rural location on Randolph Avenue in what is now the heart of Highland Park. Because of extra land, the new site was called "the farm." With their elders helping, up to 20 children led busy lives with school, study time, Sunday school and labor. The boys worked the farm and made brushes, and girls cooked, cleaned, drew water from the well, and trained to be domestic workers.

By the early 1920s, orphanage services had ended and the institution became a home for about 16 elderly people. Crispus Attucks Home was then relocated to 469 Collins Street (now Tedesco) just off of Payne Avenue, where it remained for the next half century. The structure had previously been the site for "The Home for the Friendless" that had a new headquarters on nearby East 7th Street. The place was not ideal. Built in 1883, it was old, and far from the primary Black residential district. But it had previously been used for senior care, and it was affordable. The women of the Crispus Attucks board had wanted to build a new house, but the meager finances of the group made

that impossible.

The Attucks home was now a board-and-care residence for elderly Black citizens, and continued to be run by a Black-controlled organization and financially supported by churches, government funds and rent from those residents who were able to pay. There were seven men and six women who all had private rooms on the second floor. Each room contained a bed, a dresser, and an easy chair.

The staff was made up of two matrons, a janitor, a laundress, and a cook. There were two meals each day. Breakfast at 8:30 am consisted of bacon, eggs, toast and fruit sauce with coffee or milk. Sometimes there were also pancakes or muffins. The 2:00 pm meal featured meat, two vegetables, bread and butter, dessert, and coffee or milk. There was no regular evening meal, but there was always fruit and other supplements available in their rooms.

As the years passed, the structure slowly deteriorated and city and county agencies felt it was barely fit for occupation. The board resisted closing it down, but a new situation made the decision for them. The state was buying up land for possible use for 35E and wanted theirs. In mid-November 1966, the board and the Highway Department came to an agreement. The state paid \$58,000 for the 469 Collins house and its land. Within a month, the Wilder Foundation took custody of the remaining nine residents. The structure was razed on March 29, 1967 and the land where it stood is now part of the current Eileen Weida Park at Burr and Tedesco. The funds from the sale are still used for philanthropic gifts, including aid to students.

If you grew up on the East Side and remember seeing the Crispus Attucks Home, or possibly interacting with some of its residents, please send us a story for the next issue. You can email it to editor@daytonsbluff.org. To read a full history of this former African American East Side landmark, type some or all of the following into a Google search: Paul Nelson; "Orphans and Old Folks: St. Paul's Crispus Attucks Home" Minnesota History 56.3 (1998).



Minnesota Historical Society

The Crispus Attucks Home at 469 Collins Street (currently Weida Park) housed elderly African-Americans from the early 1920s until it was razed in 1967.

Mounds Theatre director does retirement her way

Raeann Ruth, former executive director of the Mounds Theatre

There's a nasty rumor running rampant, that I've retired. I have not. I am never going to retire.

What is true, is that I'm retiring from work as I've known it – working seven days a week, chasing the almighty dollar in order to keep the Mounds Theatre open.

My job was not just eight-to-five; running a theatre was all-consuming. In 2015 I am starting a new chapter.

It will be different, but I will carry much of theatre life with me. The people I've met, the experiences that I have shared through the ups and downs of this 14-year journey – these I will remember and cherish.

To all the people responsible for making the Mounds a destination venue, I thank you for your support and understanding, and especially your courage to give new initiatives the green light.

As the countdown towards my exit became more widely known, I began to hear another rumor. Apparently, I had, over three very long years, single-handedly rehabbed a decrepit old 1920s silent film/vaudeville theatre into a vibrant theatrical venue for the Dayton's Bluff Community.

Flattering as it is to be seen as the hero, it is not true. I did not do it by

myself. It took a great many wonderful, giving folks to make all of this happen, and I would like to acknowledge them all.

To the original rehab team (the "Five Over 50" group + one): Bob Raddatz, Joyce Waldon, Greg Cosimini, Fred Kaphingst, my husband Steve and my daughter Amber, I thank you for your support and unending patience, and for putting up with my "type A" personality. We accomplished more than anyone ever thought possible. And to the legions of volunteers that kept everything going at the Mounds Theatre throughout the years, I am deeply indebted. There's truth in the old cliché, "nothing ventured, nothing gained" and we've proved it – together.

And I repeat, I'm not retiring. I will be working with just as much energy as ever, but on the things I have put on hold for 47 years. There will be time for family, travel, and fishing on the Snake River that flows in front of our new log home in Mora (which has been my dream destination for years). I call that living.

As the changing of the guard takes place, I wish the new Executive Director Jessica Johnson and Alex Bajwa much success in the upcoming years. I'm sure through their dedication and hard work they will take the Mounds Theatre to the next level.

Metro State community liaison resigns

Mark Gallagher
Forum Editorial Assistant

In June 2014, Jaylani Hussein was hired by Metropolitan State University to improve relations between the university and the Dayton's Bluff community.

The community liaison position seemed tailor-made for Hussein, who spent 50-60 percent of his time out in the community on a weekly basis. "I was always in some meeting in the community," he says. "For my first two weeks at Metro State, I actually walked around the whole neighborhood to talk to people and just engage with them and share stories."

When Hussein arrived at Metro State, there were a number of issues brewing with the Dayton's Bluff community, and the parking lot issue was one of the thorniest. Hussein admits this, but adds, "In reality, most people have a very favorable view of Metro State, and I saw that. I never felt un-

ease or unwelcome."

Hussein added, "I was somebody just walking around saying 'I'm from Metro State and I know that we are your neighbor. If you have any questions, here is my business card—please call me.' Maybe that was something we hadn't done in a while.

"The one thing I enjoyed most was the partnership being developed and expanded on between Metro State and the East Side," Hussein says. "Exciting things were happening—not only the new buildings going up, but the conversations we had."

His last day at Metro State was January 2. Hussein has since taken the position of Executive Director at the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR Minnesota).

"CAIR is an organization that stands for people, and Metro State is an organization that builds people," Mr. Hussein says. "The East Side is where people live, so I feel like one of

the elements that did not change is my commitment to serving people."

In the interim, Metro State community liaison business will be handled by Tom Cook at 651-793-1902 or tom.cook@metrostate.edu.





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Judy Lee

Travels with the Forum

A chance encounter in New Jersey



Sage Holben

Dayton's Bluff denizen Sage Holben met Carl (left) and Sue on the train at Newark International Airport in New Jersey. Sue, a New Hampshire resident, was traveling with her husband Paul; Carl was headed to a large family reunion. Sage's request to photograph the travelers with the *Forum* led to a fast friendship. "I feel as if we've known each other for years!" Sage said.

Howdy, Forum readers!



LaBarre family

Dayton's Bluff residents Linda and Chris LaBarre – toting the *Forum*, of course – stopped by the Austin Art Wall on a recent trip to Texas.

Don't forget to take a copy of the *Forum* with you when you travel! Submit your photos to editor@daytonsbuff.org.



Lois (Sipf) McKinnon

Born February 28, 1915, Lois McKinnon (born Lois Sipf) is a centenarian! As a youth, she spent all her free time at Margaret Playground, winning many first, second, and third place ribbons for field events through the playground, the city recreation centers, and at Harding High School. She was awarded the Harding "H" Award and St. Paul Seal Award. Her athletic talents followed her throughout her life, as she participated in bowling, long blade skating and skiing up until she was 95 years old. She was still turning cartwheels and standing on her head until her daughters put a stop to it at age 90.

Lois was awarded the "Certificate of Recognition" from the City of St Paul Division of Park & Recreation as the Honored Volunteer in 2000. She was working with and enjoying many activities for over 50 years with Parks & Recreation.

She loved to travel and spent time in most every state in the lower 48, as well as Hawaii, England & Scotland, Caribbean, Bermuda and Alaska.

Her favorite newspaper is the *Dayton's Bluff District Forum* (editor's note: she is even one of our valued "Friends," – see below!). She looks forward to every issue, as it brings back so many memories that she has of the place where she was born and raised. Her daughters drive her through the streets of Dayton's Bluff many times each year so Mom can remember all the people she grew up with and what it looked like when she was young. She can tell you stories about people and places all over the area like it was yesterday.



We all wish Lois happiness and health as she celebrates 100 years.

Many thanks to our 2014 donors:

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Dear Reader,

The *Dayton's Bluff District Forum* has been a volunteer-run newspaper since the 1970s, and has always operated on a minimal budget.

For the past two years we have been soliciting donations through our *Friends of the Forum* program. Thanks to the donations of readers like you, we have been able to keep the paper up and running.

If you value this community source of information, please consider filling out the form at right. Any amount is appreciated; you may also make memorial donations, or include the *Forum* in your legacy planning.

If you have been our Friend in the past, please renew your membership with a donation in 2015.

Sincerely,
The *Dayton's Bluff District Forum*

Board: Greg Cosimini, Karin DuPaul, Jennifer Herman, Carla Riehle, Steve Trimble; Editor: Meg Gronau; Editorial Assistant: Mark Gallagher

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For more information, contact 651-772-2075 or editor@daytonsbuff.org.