

Dayton's Bluff District Forum

Volume 28, No. 8
September 2015
daytonsbuffdistrictforum.org

"The Voice of the Community"



The newest Mississippi Market located at 740 E. 7th Street.

Steve Trimble

Mississippi Market is opening

Steve Trimble

Forum staff

The new food co-op at 740 E. 7th Street is having a ribbon cutting ceremony at **8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, September 2**. All are invited.

After a short event, the store will open its doors for the first time. Regular store hours will be **7:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.**

Three weeks later, on **Saturday, September 26**, they will also be having a grand opening celebration that will feature various special events.

First Mexican Independence Day Celebration on the East Side

Forum Staff

The first Mexican Independence Day Celebration in St. Paul's East Side cultural history will take place on Saturday September 19, 2015. It will be the first time that Mexican Independence Day is officially celebrated on St. Paul's East Side. The festivities will take place starting at noon, at Plaza del Sol, located at 990 Payne Avenue. The person behind the event is Sonia Ortega, the owner and renovator of the former Borgstrom Pharmacy.

This year, the event coincides with the Payne Avenue Harvest Festival

and is part of the historic annual event. Sonia has arranged to have Mexican dancers and live music performed as part of the entertainment. And, of course, the Señor Sol restaurant will be open for their weekend Mexican food buffet.

While Cinco de Mayo has been celebrated in St. Paul for many years, it is less important in Mexico since it memorialized a single battle. Independence Day is a Mexican holiday to celebrate the "cry of independence" of September 16, 1810, which started a successful revolt against the Spaniards

who controlled the country. Mexicans celebrate the event with fireworks, fiestas, food, dance, and music. Part of the traditional slogan that is cried out at the Independence Day is:

¡Mexicanos!

¡Vivan los héroes que nos dieron la patria y libertad!

¡Viva Hidalgo!

¡Viva la Independencia Nacional!

¡Viva México! ¡Viva México! ¡Viva México!

MSU parking ramp update

The parking ramp opened on Thursday, July 30. Initially, the gates will be open so everyone can become familiar with the ramp without a daily parking fee. The gates are expected to be operable by late August or early September.

The daily fee is \$5 for unlimited hours; however, if you leave and return on the same date, you will pay a second \$5 fee.

Students will have access to ramp parking using their student ID card and pay for parking as part of their student fees.

Faculty and staff will also access the ramp using their ID card and will pay for parking via payroll deduction or by semester.

The parking ramp will typically be open during the following hours:

Monday-Friday: 6:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m.

Saturday: 6:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Sunday: 11:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m.

If you plan to make use of the new ramp, remember that overnight parking is not permitted.

Construction of the surface lot along 6th Street is underway and should be completed by the end of August. The total number of spots in the ramp is 764, and the total number of spots in the adjacent surface lot is 76. The former surface parking lot had 538 stalls; the new ramp provides a net gain of 302 parking spots.

The availability of the parking ramp should result in a decrease in neighborhood parking. At this time, we are focused on ensuring adequate parking for students, faculty, and staff. Incidental use by the public is permitted at the daily rate.

There are currently no plans to incorporate Nice Rides or Hour Cars.

Primera celebración de la Independencia de México en el Lado Este de San Pablo

Forum Staff

El sábado 19 de septiembre de 2015 marcará un hito histórico de carácter cultural.

Será la primera vez que se celebrará oficialmente el Día de la Independencia de México en el Lado Este de San Pablo. Las festividades se llevarán a cabo al mediodía en la Plaza del Sol, situada en 990 Payne Avenue.

La persona responsable de las actividades es Sonia Ortega, la propietaria y restauradora de la antigua Farmacia Borgstrom.

La actividad de este año coincide con el Festival *Payne Avenue Harvest*, que es parte de un evento histórico anual. Sonia ha programado ofrecer dan-

zas mexicanas tradicionales y música en vivo como parte del espectáculo. Y por supuesto, el restaurante Señor Sol estará abierto con su buffet mexicano de fin de semana.

Aunque tradicionalmente, Cinco de Mayo ha sido celebrado en San Pablo por varios años, tiene menor importancia en México dado que se le recuerda simplemente como una batalla. El Día de la Independencia es un feriado en México que celebra el "grito de la independencia" del 16 de septiembre de 1810, que fue el inicio de un levantamiento armado contra los españoles que controlaban el país. Los mexicanos lo festejan con fuegos de artifi-

cio, fiestas, comidas, danza y música.

La consigna tradicional que se grita durante el acto del Día de la Independencia es la siguiente:

¡Mexicanos!

¡Vivan los héroes que nos dieron la patria y libertad!

¡Viva Hidalgo!

¡Viva la Independencia Nacional!

¡Viva México! ¡Viva México! ¡Viva México!

Dayton's Bluff
Community Council
804 Margaret Street
St. Paul, MN 55106

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WEQY-FM, 104.7, the Voice of the East Side, will be on the air in September. Watch for a big feature in the October Forum or visit our new website at WEQY.org. And be sure to tune in to 104.7 FM.

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, September 9, at 6:30 p.m.** Email karin@swedehollow.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 is owned by Roy Carlson, a former Dayton's Bluff Community Council board member. Budget Towing will remove any junk car or truck—from anywhere in St. Paul—and dispose of it at no charge. The owner of the vehicle 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.

Dayton's Bluff Take-a-Hike

On the first Saturday of most months, the Dayton's Bluff Take-A-Hike starts at Indian Mounds Park at Earl Street and Mounds Boulevard at **10:30 a.m.** The September hike will be on **September 5.** The hike is about one and a half to two hours long and will end at Swede Hollow Park or East Side Heritage Park, depending on the desire of the hikers. Learn a little history along the way! If you have any questions, contact Karin DuPaul at 651-776-0550 or karin@swedehollow.org.

Police community meetings

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

The next meetings are **Wednesday, September 16, at 9:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.** Regular meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month.

The meetings are open to all. The intent is 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 for a great opportunity to discuss neighborhood nuisance issues.

Volunteers needed

The Volunteer Services program of the Ramsey County Community Human Services Department is currently seeking volunteers for the position of Office Assistant—Accounts Payable.

In this assignment the volunteer will assist accounts payable staff by opening received mail and logging the details on a spreadsheet, and doing some filing. Multiple shifts available, Monday through Friday during regular business hours. Downtown St. Paul location with limited reimbursement for

parking expense or bus fare provided. Volunteers must be at least 16 years of age.

Contact Ramsey County Community Human Services—Volunteer Services at 651-266-4090 for additional information or e-mail to HumanServicesVolunteer@co.ramsey.mn.us.

Thank you for helping us fulfill our mission of – Making a difference: Helping people survive and thrive.



The East Side Open Market is live music, food, art, and a farmers market located at 463 Maria Avenue. **Open Thursdays from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** Call 651-815-8523 for more information or East Side Open Market on Facebook.

Business Classes

The next Dayton's Bluff Neighborhood Microentrepreneur Class starts this Fall. 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.

Dayton's Bluff District Forum board meeting

The *Forum* is seeking help with writing, online content, idea generation, and ad sales. Join us at our next meeting: **11:30 a.m. on Thursday, September 3,** at 804 Margaret Street. Call 651-776-0550 or editor@daytonsbuff.org for more information.

Dayton's Bluff Block Nurse program needs volunteers

The Dayton's Bluff Block Nurse program needs volunteer drivers to help seniors without cars make it to doctor's appointments, dental offices, pharmacies, and the like. If you could help on a regular or occasional basis, please call program volunteer coordinator, Michelle, at 651-400-1650 or email volunteer@daytonsbuffseniors.org.

Commemoration of September 11 tragedies to be held at Metro State University

The Sacred Heart Peace and Justice Committee is joining with others at **7:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 10, 2015,** to commemorate the tragedies of September 11, 2001. The gathering will be at the Metro State Labyrinth to the north of the East 7th Street and Mounds Boulevard intersection. The program will consist of silence and sharing.

Paid parking is available in the new Metro State ramp and street parking is available farther up East 7th Street. The free Metro State Library parking lot is limited to one hour; vehicles will be ticketed.

Back to School Event

The annual Back to School Event has provided thousands of East Side children and their families with school supplies and community resources to succeed in our education system. Last year alone the event drew 3,000 participants. Family Values for Life would like to continue to provide the community these resources, however, we cannot do it alone. Please help by participating, volunteering, or making a financial contribution to the upcoming Back To School Event.

Contact Executive Director Alfreda Flowers at 651-774-6663.

September at the Dayton's Bluff Library

The Dayton's Bluff branch of the St. Paul Public Library shares its home with Metropolitan State University at 645 East 7th Street. It has recently lengthened its hours and is open until **8:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday.** One-hour parking is available in the lot, and the 61, 63, and 73 bus routes serve the location.

With the school year beginning, the snack program sponsored by the Saint Paul Public Schools is back! *Homework Help in the Zone* also returns, with some different hours from last year.

Ongoing Events at the Dayton's Bluff Library include: *Teens Know Best*; a unique opportunity for teens ages 12-18 to read books before they are published and write reviews for publishers to read! The group meets **every second Tuesday of the month from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.** over pizza on the third floor of the Metropolitan State University Library. Participants are required to show proof of age to access the books and are expected to write reviews of the books they read.

Snack in the Zone returns **Mondays-Thursdays from 4:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.**, along with *Homework Help in the*

Zone on **Sundays from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.**, as well as **Mondays-Wednesdays from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.** Best of all, these services are free!

Additional hours for computer help and job search help will be added as the days and times are finalized. Please check sppl.org for the latest information or call 651-793-1699.

Upcoming events at Urban Oasis

Kitchen on the Bluff, located at 705 3rd Street, is a new commercial kitchen that is co-sponsored by Urban Oasis. **On Saturday, September 12,** they will have a free luncheon. It will feature Latino food traditions and will include a variety of foods and some information about them.

On **Saturday, September 19,** they will be holding their second annual Urban Oasis Food Fest with eating and dancing. They have also added a 5K run or walk and a "worm wiggle" for kids. It will be held at Indian Mounds Park next to the pavilion at Earl and Mounds Boulevard.

Both events are free, but you need to register. Contact Katherine Su at 651-560-3031 or email her at katherine@urbanoasismn.org.

September at the Mounds Theatre

Jessica Johnson

Executive Director; Mounds Theatre

Saturday, September 12: Independent Wrestling International returns to the Mounds. Doors open at **6:45 p.m.** with bell time at **7:30 p.m.** This is a family-friendly pro wrestling event. Don't miss out on the fun! General Admission tickets are available at the door. VIP seating at tables on stage above the ring are available in advance online.

Saturday, September 19: The Mounds will be showing *Dropkick Minnesota*, a documentary on Minnesota wrestling. Show time is at **7:00 p.m.**

Beginning Friday, October 2: Haunted Tours at the Historic Mounds Theatre are back. These are real all-supernatural tours with absolutely no fake ingredients added. Small groups will be guided through the Mounds by experienced paranormal investigators. Tours must be booked in advance on our website. Don't delay, they fill up fast!

Visit our website at moundstheatre.org for more information on any of these events and to purchase tickets as they become available. The Historic Mounds Theatre is located at 1029 Hudson Road, St. Paul, MN 55106; 651-772-2253 or historicmoundstheatre@gmail.com.

Project Recovery now accepting clothing donations

People Incorporated's Project Recovery, at 317 York Avenue, is now accepting clothing donations. Cleaning out your closet at the end of this summer? Any clothing donations of lightly worn items are welcome in the homeless services division to go to patrons of the drop-in center and the Housing First program, which serves the underprivileged homeless community in the East Metro, and also provides outreach in Hennepin and Ramsey Counties.

Call 651-225-8963 for more information.

Urban Oasis 2nd Annual Food Fest Adds a 5K Fun Run and Walk

Urban Oasis is celebrating the magic of food by creating an event centered around food, community, and health.

Jacquelyn B. Fletcher, Urban Oasis

On **Saturday, September 19, 2015**, Urban Oasis expects to draw up to 3,000 people to Saint Paul's East Side for its 2nd annual Food Fest. This year, the organization that won the \$1 million Forever St. Paul challenge in 2013, will add a 5K run/walk to showcase the unique Saint Paul river bluff and the power of real food to fuel our bodies and create community.

"The Urban Oasis Food Fest and 5K was created to introduce people to the idea that food is magic. It nourishes our bodies and minds, brings people together, fuels our local economy, and connects us to the land," says Tracy Sides, founder and executive director of Urban Oasis. "By adding a 5K to the event we're making a real connection between healthy eating, physical activity, and the places we live and play."

The race begins at **10:00 a.m.** and the 2nd annual Urban Oasis Food Fest will kick off at **11:30 a.m.** with The May North, a local bluegrass and blues band. Entertainment will continue all day with Barra performing Irish music and Chico Chavez playing Afro Latin jazz.

Proceeds from the family-friendly 5K will raise funds to support Urban Oasis' healthy meal-making programs that equip people with skills to buy, store, and prepare healthy low-cost

food for themselves and their families.

Runners, walkers, families, and organizations are encouraged to sign up for the run that will begin at Indian Mounds Regional Park at the corner of Earl Street and Mounds Boulevard and continues through the Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary where the Wakan Tipi cave—a sacred Dakota site—is located.

Runners and walkers who register at **UrbanOasisMN.org/FoodFest5K** by August 31, are guaranteed a free race t-shirt.

Attendees of the Food Fest will get the chance to taste delicious treats from a variety of East Side food vendors. And have the opportunity to taste-test products from the Urban Oasis kitchen, including the trio of craft condiments now available at CHS Field during St. Paul Saints games.

Between the 5k and the Food Fest, parents can sign their kids up for the Worm Wiggle at **11:15 a.m.** It's a 100-yard trail run for the tots with a wiggly surprise at the end.

"Beautiful views, great food, and a good cause, what more could you ask for in a 5K event? How about a great food and music festival to relax afterwards?" says Sides. "We're excited for the Urban Oasis Food Fest & 5K to be a fun and memorable event for the whole family that also builds momentum towards a healthier and more equitable food system."



Alcina's Island: A Picnic Operetta

Mixed Precipitation Theater announces *Escape from Alcina's Island: A Picnic Operetta*, a guitar-swinging retelling of the 1735 Handel opera, *Alcina*, performed throughout Minnesota in August and September. An edible opera adventure for the whole family, *A Picnic Operetta* marks a seven-year tradition of celebrating the harvest with a unique blend of music, horticulture, food, and storytelling. This year, *A Picnic Operetta* is moving beyond the Twin Cities metro area to perform in farms and gardens throughout Minnesota.

There are two performances here on the East Side; **Sunday, August 30, 4:00**

p.m. at Skidmore Park Community Garden, 1085 Fourth Street, and on **Sunday, September 20, 4:00 p.m.** at Swede Hollow Park, 657 E. Beaumont Street, which is one block southeast of Payne and East Minnehaha Avenues next to Hope Community Academy.

For reservations for any Mixed Precipitation performance call 1-800-838-3006 or visit mixedprecipitation.org. Reservations are available as of June 1. Seating is limited and reservations are strongly encouraged. The suggested donation is \$10 - \$20 per person. Donations are a critical source of funding for *The Picnic Operetta* and can be made with your reservation or collected at the end of the performance. No one will be turned away for lack of funds. Patrons are encouraged to bring their own blankets and lawn chairs. Some blankets will be provided.

Mounds Park United Methodist Church

1049 Euclid Street (corner of Earl and Euclid); 651-774-8736
Mounds Park United Methodist on Facebook

Mounds Park United Methodist Church is a community based, multi-cultural congregation located at 1049 Euclid Street at the corner of Earl and Euclid. We strive to build on the positive assets of Dayton's Bluff, working together as neighbors improving our community. In May, we invited a new Karen congregation to share our building – they are called New Abundant Life Church. They worship at **1:30 p.m. on Sundays**.

Everyone is invited to the following community events:

Rally Day on Sunday, September 13, kicks off our fall small groups for all ages. Worship is at 10:30 a.m. Schedule of small groups is found on our website. Our fall theme is: "Living in the Ways of God: Exercising Values that build lasting Character!" We'll be talking about centeredness, peacemaking, acts of mercy and compassion, justice, forgiveness, showing respect and honoring dignity, fostering unity, and finding purpose. Welcome!

After-school programming for all children grades 5-12 is available at the church starting on Monday, September 21, from 3:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. This program is open every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. It includes homework help, group activities, music, cooking, recreation, field trips, fun, and snacks. It is sponsored by McVay Youth Partnership of Hamline University. All are welcome!

Wednesday, September 30, starting at noon, Community Friendship Gathering with hot lunch. We begin with a hot lunch of BBQ chicken, roasted potatoes, and vegetables, served with rolls and dessert followed by singer and performer, Shawn Sweeney. All are welcome to come; the focus of this event is on persons age 55 and over.



What's going on at Dayton's Bluff Seniors?

We'd like to tell you about all of our programs and services at Dayton's Bluff Seniors. We're located in the heart of the community and our goal is to help seniors stay in their homes for as long as they like. Home is anywhere you live—whether it's in a house, a high-rise, or an assisted living. We will meet you where you are!

We have many programs and services to help seniors. These include:

Transportation: Our friendly volunteers can give rides to the store, the doctor's office, the post office, or anywhere in the Twin Cities Metro.

Friendly Visits: We can arrange to have a volunteer drop by to visit, and check in to see if you need anything from the store. Our clients often request a friendly phone call once or twice a week.

Chores and Shopping: We can help with groceries, either by taking you to the store, or if you have a shopping list, do your marketing for you, bring the items inside, and put them away for you. We can deliver a "brown bag" of staples to you every month if you meet the eligibility guidelines.

Social Events: Getting out of the house and seeing friends is really important. In partnership with First Lutheran Church, we offer "The Gathering" where our senior community members can meet, chat, and have a bite to eat. We frequently have guest speakers who touch on a wide range of topics of interest to the attendees.

Resources and Referrals: We can find resources and make referrals to a large number of organizations and agencies. We can find resources that can help you save money, such as low cost telephone service, Elderly Waiver, and other resources.

Wellness: Our Service Coordinator will work with you to make sure you are getting the services you need.

Dayton's Bluff Seniors needs YOU! **We also offer opportunities for community members not needing our services.** Volunteering in your community keeps you engaged and informed. If you would like to be part of the DBS volunteer team, please call us at 651-400-1650 or 651-237-7633.



Dayton's Bluff Seniors
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Block Nurse Program

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Mariana Thompson — A Girl with Passion

Mark Gallagher
Forum Editorial Associate

Who starts doing gymnastics when they begin to walk? Mariana Thompson, that's who. At age three, she was already doing cartwheels, backbends, backflips, and was also a pretty good hopscotch player.

When she was about eight, Mariana took her first class at Circus Juventas. She had done gymnastics at a club for some time before, but it was boring for Mariana's mom to sit and watch her daughter do the same thing over and over. Mrs. Thompson had a friend whose daughter was in the Circus Juventas program and really enjoyed it — that was all Mariana needed to hear.

Mrs. Thompson took her daughter to Circus Juventas in Highland Park. Mariana says, "I was watching the students perform their routines, and of course I wanted to do all of them. So, I signed up for my first class, Master's Intensive, where a student gets to do a bunch of cool things."

Circus Juventas appealed to Mariana because it is not your stereotypical animal circus. "It's a cool thing that you can show your friends, and it's special because not very many kids do it," she says. "Most kids will do a sport like gymnastics, but Circus Juventas is like a more intense version of gymnastics, and you can still succeed at whatever level you get to."

Initially, the trainers at Circus Juventas do not teach students how to walk on a balance beam or how to hang on a trapeze — the first thing the trainers teach the students is how to be *respectful*.

"They teach you that in order to do good, you have to feel up to it," Mariana declares. "If you are misbehaving, the trainers will stop you right there. They talk to you, and if you don't come to class with the right attitude, the trainers won't train you — *you have to have the right attitude.*"

A student at Circus Juventas can coach or train little kids, but they have to be 15 years old. "I started coaching right when I turned 15 because of the time I spent in gymnastics, which led to an advanced placement when I started at Circus Juventas," Mariana says with pride.

She has performed in front of a crowd many times. "I usually don't get nervous except when I'm doing my difficult acts," Mariana states. Her first summer show was in 2008, and she has been in one or more acts of every summer show since then. This year Mariana will be in five acts and has a small character part. Circus Juventas has two weekends of shows in May and August. The May shows are like a pageant, and the summer shows, which are in August, are based on a story.

The training schedule that Mariana keeps is very rigorous. She practices at Circus Juventas every day except Sunday, for a total of 23 hours a week, which works out to be about 4 to 5 hours a night. Her training regimen would tax any world-class athlete.

Mariana Thompson will be a junior in high school this fall. Even though college is two years in the future, she has been thinking about it. "I don't think I will do anything with medicine, but I have always thought of chemistry as something really cool," Mariana says. "Maybe I would like to get into physical therapy."

You can be sure whatever Mariana chooses will be done with drive and passion.

Mariana lives in Dayton's Bluff and goes to school at Nova Classical Academy.

Call Circus Juventas directly at 651-699-8229 or go to circusjuventas.org for tickets or information.

Mark Gallagher is a professional writer and editor.
Mark can be reached at refineEditorial@gmail.com.



Photo courtesy of Circus Juventas

Mariana Thompson (left) performing in the Circus Juventas production of *Neverland*.

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Monthly circulation: 7,000; also available online at daytonsbuffdistrictforum.org. This publication of Hopewell Communications, Inc. is intended to provide a forum for the ideas and opinions of its readers and to be an instrument for developing community awareness and pride. No material contained in this paper may be reprinted without consent of the editor. Articles and letters to the editor are welcome and may be emailed to editor@daytonsbuff.org. The *Dayton's Bluff District Forum* is delivered to every home and business in the Dayton's Bluff neighborhood. Outside this area, subscriptions cost \$15 per year and may be arranged by calling 651-776-0550.

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Next issue: October 2015. Deadline for material: September 10, 2015.

See Jane run!



Fong Hawj endorses Jane Prince for City Council!

"Jane will join me as a responsive advocate for the East Side."

Senator Fong Hawj
STATE SENATOR, DISTRICT 67

Jane wants to meet with you this fall!
Contact Jane at JanePrinceW7@gmail.com to let her know what is important to you!

Jane ^{FOR} Saint Paul PRINCE FOR Ward 7

DFL and LABOR endorsed



Paid for by Jane Prince for Saint Paul's Ward 7 City Council,
JanePrinceW7@gmail.com, 651/308-4984, Sam Murphy, Treasurer.

Uncovering Swede Hollow history

Forum Staff

There has recently been an unusual look at the history of nearby Swede Hollow. It isn't research into archives, but under the ground of the old immigrant homeland.

Two University of Minnesota graduate students in anthropology, Stefanie Kowalczyk and Kelly Wolf, are undertaking the first systematic archaeological dig on the site of the valley.

Before digging, they used ground penetrating radar (GPR) to try to detect dense objects in the soil. After that, they chose two different spots to dig rectangular holes a few feet wide and then to carefully sift the soil to see if there were any artifacts.

They also invited Twin Cities residents to join them to watch or, on several days in July and August, to actually have hands-on experience hunting to find what is sometimes called material history. They did uncover pieces of metal, portions of a toy, fragments of pottery, and other interesting remains from earlier residents. After cleaning and studying the findings, they will make public presentations in the fall. They do have some on-line information that you can find by putting "Swede Hollow archaeological" into a keyword search.



Forum Staff
Enameled cup unearthed during the Swede Hollow archaeological dig.

Watch the Glow

Karin DuPaul

Everyone is welcome to attend the annual *Watch the Glow of the Setting Sun on the Red Brick Brewery* event hosted by Friends of Swede Hollow (FOSH) will start at **6:30 p.m. on Friday, September 18**. Meet at the Henge in lower Swede Hollow Park, near the Drewry Lane and Beaumont entrance. Witness the sunset firsthand and see the bright glow of the brewery building. After the sun sets, the evening cookout begins and socializing continues. Former Swede Hollow residents and Hamm's employees are invited to share memories of the "good old days" of living in the Hollow and working at the brewery. Some years, Joe Sanchelli and his daughter Nancy have entertained everyone with Italian songs and stories about life in the Hollow. Historians including Steve Trimble and Jim Szevich have even been

known to attend. *Watch the Glow* provides a great opportunity to meet some wonderful people while visiting Swede Hollow Park.

FOSH is a nonprofit organization that works on Swede Hollow issues, plantings, cleanups, education, history tours, and events. For more information or to volunteer please send an email to karin@swedehollow.org or call 651-776-0550.



Forum Staff
Historian Jim Szevich entertains a crowd at Swede Hollow.

MOUNDS PARK BARBER STYLISTS



APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE
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Rep. Sheldon Johnson invites you to:

THE URBAN OASIS FOOD FEST & 5K

A family-friendly 5K to benefit Urban Oasis

Saturday, September 19th at 10AM - Indian Mounds Regional Park

Come join me and my daughter for the Urban Oasis Food Fest & 5K. The family-friendly event is a great opportunity to have fun with your neighbors and support Urban Oasis. After the race and kids' Worm Wiggle event, the Food Fest celebration will run from 11:30AM to 4:00PM.

- Taste delicious, local foods
- Listen to live music
- Sign the kids up for the free Worm Wiggle event at 11:15AM, a 100-yard trail run for the tots

The family-friendly 5K features tasty snacks, and supports Urban Oasis' healthy meal-making programs that equip people with skills to buy, store, and prepare healthy affordable food. Register for the 5K by August 31 to guarantee your free race t-shirt and help us celebrate the magic of real food!

For more information and to register for the 5K, visit:
UrbanOasisMN.org/FoodFest5K

Sincerely,

Rep. Sheldon Johnson



State Representative

**SHELDON
JOHNSON**

259 State Office Building
100 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55155

(651) 296-4201
rep.sheldon.johnson@house.mn
www.house.mn/67B
www.sheldonjohnson.com

Ex-convicts and ex-convents

Sage Holben
Forum Staff

How do people react when hearing that a post-prison ministry program proposes to house 24 ex-felons in a long empty convent in the middle of a modest neighborhood? Not surprisingly, people have less of a knee-jerk reaction if they are respectfully given information early in the process instead of reading it publicly and having their expected reactions already judged.

For residents who first heard of FreedomWorks on reading the April 5 *East Side Review*, the news may have been disturbing. Not only did it appear that Dayton's Bluff Community Council and county law enforcement gave full approval, but, according to some residents, seemed to indicate that if residents disagreed with FreedomWorks moving in, the residents might be denying rights and dignity to their fellow man.

Dayton's Bluff Community Council executive director, Deanna Foster, and staff/committee liaison Brenda Reid met with FreedomWorks representatives before the FreedomWorks proposal to purchase the convent at 869 Fifth Street East was brought to Land Use Committee and to a community meeting. Learning that Freedom works would very soon go before the City, Land Use quickly put together a community informational meeting which was held on April 16.

Until flyer'd, most neighbors had not heard of the proposed purchase and joined Father Eugene of Sacred Heart Church in their surprise. Approximately 85 persons attended the meeting. One third of the attendees appeared to be affiliated with FreedomWorks — mentors, church volunteers, clients, and families. Also in attendance were some teachers, office staff, and families affiliated with Twin Cities Academy. Much of the concern at first focused on ex-felons living next door to Twin Cities Academy. *Newsweek Magazine* recently ranked TCA number 42 on the list of the nation's top 500 schools. It was soon made public that Twin Cities Academy would be moving when their lease with Sacred Heart expires during the 2016-2017 school year.

It became evident that people held a wide range of opinions and fears — and they all made sense. It is this writer's opinion that people who live closest to a proposed site change are those who have the first right to be heard. They may not agree with those who hold the most power, and they may not speak with the most authority. They are, however, the ones whose lives, safety, and quality of life are

most affected — real or perceived. Many spoke at the meeting with questions about the program, about the people involved in the program, about behaviors, about safety, and about human needs; about re-entry into society and for children who live nearby. It was a respectful meeting. There was anger, there was tenderness, there was strengthened determination, and there was change of heart. One woman who lives across the street from the convent came to the meeting adamantly against the proposal. She is now volunteering with FreedomWorks, working with re-entering men preparing work resumes.

A second meeting was held at the Community Council office. Anger was more evident both in words and in silence. Determination was more evident in body language. Application of religion in such a project was brought up; property values; safety; and proliferation of existing sober houses, half-way houses, post-prison housing; safe homes in the Dayton's Bluff low income, vulnerable district were all brought to the forum. It must be said that though people voiced not wanting a post-prison program within their neighborhood, they are not blind to or against such a program. Neither do most deserve the 'NIMBY' (not in my back yard) tag so easily given by those whose lives and property are not in the mix. When those who have the biggest voice live in outlying suburban rings or other city districts, it's just too easy to denigrate others for their concerns.

Ultimately, even with city zoning and planning committee meetings into May, it was, indeed, the small group of people who decided the future. A group of citizens left the last City Planning meeting and appealed the decision. Shortly afterward, it was learned that on June 15, Sacred Heart Church (listed as buyer in Ramsey County records) purchased the convent, built in 1963, paying \$447,000. A source from the church has indicated that there are, at the time of writing, no planned uses. It is tempting to make a connection between this group of residents and the purchase, as over months it was heard that Sacred Heart Church had no money.

Note: A re-entry support program for ex-felons and their families has been established by LeeAnn Larson-Allen and James Allen. They are the contact persons who initiated a network to assist ex-felon re-entry with housing, jobs, and support network. Volunteers and resources are welcomed. See Facebook: "SUPPORT" building foundations.

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History Corner

Memorials on the Bluff — part two

Steve Trimble
Forum Historian

Last issue, I wrote about three memorials that were located in the Indian Mounds Park area. Now it's time to take a trip to East Seventh Street where some additional memorials are to be found. Here are a few of them. If you know of more anywhere in the neighborhood, let me know.

I also want to report that we made a mistake in last month's article. The date of Ruth Thompson's passing was 2004, not 2014.

Northeast corner of 7th and Mounds: Memorial Labyrinth. This memorial is dedicated to David Barton, Metropolitan State University's pioneer head librarian. He headed the media center from 2002 until his death in 2012 from a brain tumor. He was integral to the creation of the Library and Learning Center and served as its first Dean. Because he was an avid gardener, the university staff and faculty decided that the best way to honor Barton was to build a labyrinth surrounded by a reflective garden.



Steve Trimble

David Barton Memorial Labyrinth.

offers a safe walking path, a peaceful oasis for reflection and relaxation," and is "a place where neighbors of all ages, students, staff, and faculty can come together."

I have seen many people in the labyrinth area sitting around talking or relaxing and sometimes walking the path. Embedded in the sidewalks and trails are names and sometimes messages from people who knew David. There are also metal plaques on some of the larger items such as boulders and benches.

743 E. Seventh near Maple intersection: Hamm Park. William Hamm donated this small park in 1910 in memory of his father Theodore who was the founder of Hamm's Brewery. Theodore and his wife Louise lived nearby in what is now Upper Swede Hollow Park. There was a small metal informative plaque on a boulder at the southwest corner of the park, but someone recently stole it.

The land for this "mini park," as the city calls it, was created when Lyman Dayton's Addition and Irvine's Second Addition met up at an angle. Originally a fifth of an acre, its size was somewhat expanded in recent times by vacating a section of Maple Street. As a City Council member, William Hamm had a special interest in public amenities and believed that parks were a vital amenity of city life. There are now benches among



Steve Trimble

Hamm Park.

the shade trees. There is also a small ring made up of the actual large stones that were chosen by Hamm who designed them as part of a flower garden.

797 East Seventh: Carmen Cervantes Education Center. The Education Center is a room facing East Seventh inside of the CLUES (Comunidades Latinas Unidas En Servicio) building. Carmen Sanchez was born in Mexico in 1921. She married Elido Cervantes and came to the West Side. They moved to a home on Maria in the 1960s where they raised seven children. Her husband died in 1961 and she supported the family by doing laundry and selling hand-made tortillas. She never graduated from high school, but always emphasized the importance of education to her children. All seven graduated from college and many earned advanced degrees.

In January, 2000, CLUES dedicated the room in her name to honor the philosophy of a widowed mother who proved that you can succeed in spite of difficult situations and to acknowledge her struggle and strength of belief. If you go inside and up to the second floor, you can see an oil painting of Carmen on the wall of her memorial room.

So, even though our readers seldom write to the paper, please make us aware of any other memorials in the neighborhood. Actually, I have an idea for at least two others that should exist. One would be near the spot where Roger Tetu was killed by a careless driver — perhaps in Margaret Park. There is an award in his name, but some sort of physical memorial would also be nice. And here's one that the Port Authority should sponsor. A memorial to the fifteen 3M workers who died in the February 8, 1951 gas explosion. It could be in the hub in Beacon Bluff. I bet the 3M union and family members would also contribute. How about it, Monte?



Steve Trimble

This portrait of Carmen Cervantes hangs on the wall of her memorial room inside the CLUES building.

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Zoo Siab Txais Tos

Bienvenida **Welcome** Soo Dhawaadda
Salvete

East Side Eating – Trimble's Taste Trek

Forum contributor Steve Trimble is attempting to eat at every locally-owned, sit-down restaurant on the East Side in 2015. He hopes to get the word out to the Dayton's Bluff community about the eating options here on our side of town. There are more restaurants than there is room for in the monthly paper, but at least 22 may now be found online at daytonsbuffdistrictforum.org: click on "East Side Eating" on the top of the home page.

Carbone's Pizzeria

680 E. 7th Street

(651) 771-5553

Monday: 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Tuesday-Saturday: 11:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Sunday: 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Carbonespizzeria.com

Over a century ago Alfonso and Antoinette (Nana) Carbone came to St. Paul and started as a small Italian grocery/confection shop with a small near beer bar during Prohibition. In 1954, when Alfonso died, Nana gathered traditional recipes from the south of Italy and with the help of her sons, opened what is considered St. Paul's first pizzeria. It was a family-friendly restaurant that has grown into a small local chain—and this one is still operated by Carbones.

While it has entered a sixth decade, the place has a modern look with paneling, composite table tops, matching flower-etched glass separating the half dozen booths. There are two tables that seat six people. I was surprised there were no Italian paintings or family photos. It was a weekend night, but there were only a few people there. Maybe its because all of the construction at Metro State and the scarcity of parking.

On to the menu. Appetizers include toast-

ed Italian cheese bread, pizza fries, and garlic toast. There were different sizes of pizzas, mostly with the usual toppings. A few interesting ones were hot pepper rings, fresh garlic and shrimp. There is also a veggie pizza. As you might expect, there are a lot of Italian specialties. The entrees include "Italian special" spaghetti, lasagna, and mostaccioli. There are hot hoagies made with a variety of possible ingredients and seven kinds of sandwiches, such as Italian style chicken and Philly beef.

Of course there is a Hot Dago (Nana's recipe) and I decided to try her creation. It came on thick bread with a meat patty inside and sauce on the side along with a serving of hot banana peppers. I added an order of garlic bread. Of the three beer choices, I took Michelob. A person can also have wine.

There are servers, but you pay at the counter.

There are lunch specials that can be taken out. Carbone's website includes monthly coupon deals. Their motto is "Pizza the whole family loves," and they did win a "best pizza" award from *Mpls-St. Paul Magazine*.

Why not visit the restaurant and take your family or friends to Carbone's and help their business out during the disruptive construction season? If you are afraid of not finding a parking place you can call in an order and send someone in for a take-home or arrange for delivery.



Steve Trimble

Carbone's Pizzeria, located at 680 E. 7th Street.

The Forum hits the road...



Several readers sent us pictures of themselves reading our newspaper on their travels. If you'd like to do the same, please email photos to editor@daytonsbuff.org.

Above: Heather MacLaughlin, longtime Dayton's Bluff resident, peruses the latest issue of the *Forum* on the stoop of her summer home in Grafton, New York.

Many thanks to our 2015 donors:

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Steve Trimble

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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.

Our goal for the year is \$2,000; as of this printing we have raised \$1,106.00. Won't you help us?

Sincerely,
The Dayton's Bluff District Forum

Board: Greg Cosimini, Karin DuPaul, Jennifer Herman, Sage Holben, Carla Riehle, Steve Trimble

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