Dayton's Bluff DistrictForum

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daytonsbluffdistrictforum.org

"The Voice of the Community"

The Dayton's Bluff Community Council elects new board members!

Dezmond Juan Community Organizer

Residents of Dayton's Bluff District 4 elected 10 representative leaders for the Dayton's Bluff Community Council (DBCC) Board of Directors. Final voting and announcement of winners among the 18 candidates took place at the Annual Meeting and Dinner on October 27, at the Historic Mounds Theatre. There was plenty of competition for the single seat to represent a business in the district, with four business owners running for the board. In the 4 sub-districts, 14 candidates vied for the nine open seats.

The DBCC staff and volunteers canvassed the community to ensure a good selection of candidates as well as to inform residents about the Council and its work. In the month of September alone, over 1,800 homes in the Dayton's Bluff community were contacted in person, by phone, or via email, and encouraged to participate in this year's election process. We helped constituents get a better understanding of how the Dayton's Bluff Community Council can be a support system and stepping stone for community members who seek a strong voice for their family, neighborhood, and cultural community. Candidates canvassed and promoted the election within their own sub-districts in early October.

A "Meet the Candidates Night" was

held on October 19, 2016. It was a time for the candidates to speak directly to the community and express their thoughts and goals for the Dayton's Bluff community. There was a strong sense of expectation and desire to serve if they were given the honor and opportunity to be seated on the board. With 40 community members in attendance, the candidates had a chance to visit one-on-one with many community members.

The Annual Meeting and Dinner featured a beautiful meal catered by African Delight, a local East Side business. Pa Chua Vang acted as emcee, introducing each candidate to the 120 people in attendance. Jesus Ramirez, a local artist organizer provided a thoughtful call to action, with his keynote speech entitled "Why Equity Matters." Ward 7 Councilmember Jane Prince, spoke about her commitment and hopes for the future of Dayton's Bluff. While waiting for the votes to be tallied, excellent entertainment was provided by singers, Shannon Ileah and Michelle Kaye. Shannon and Michelle are both Dayton's Bluff residents active within the Community Council.

The winners of this year's DBCC election are as follows: At Large Business Owner - Henry Garnica, Sub-District A - Michael Boyd and Yingya Vang. Sub-District B - Elizabeth Matakis, Tamara York-Tallman, and Kirstin Madore. Sub-District C - Crystal Norcross and Rasheed Wade. Sub-District D - Barry White and Holly Windingstad. DBCC Board and staff thank all candidates, as well as every community member that came out to demonstrate support throughout the election process.



Dayton's Bluff Community Council

Pictured above are the Dayton's Bluff residents who ran for the Dayton's Bluff Community Council Board of Directors at the Annual Meeting and Dinner on October 27, 2016.

The 2016 Presidential Election: Dayton's Bluff by the numbers

Nick Duncan Forum Staff

November 8, 2016, marked one of the most surprising presidential election results in the history of our country when Donald Trump upset Hillary Clinton to become the President-elect of the United States.

So, what about Dayton's Bluff? How did our neighborhood vote in the most unpredictable presidential election in recent history?

For many months before the election, pundits, pollsters, and prognosticators did everything they could to read the minds of voters and predict a winner. The overwhelming consensus of the experts was a Clinton victory.

In a number of states, including Minnesota, many voters defied expectations and either voted for Trump, or didn't vote at all. Minnesota hung onto its "Blue State" roots and went to Clinton by a scant 45,000 votes or roughly 1.5 percent. By a contrast, President Obama carried Minnesota over Mitt Romney in 2012 by 225,942 votes or roughly eight percent.

Using numbers collected from the Minnesota Secretary of State website, the *Forum* did a study of 2016 voter stats for precincts one, two, three, four, and five of ward seven in Saint Paul, Ramsey County. These precincts encompass most of the Dayton's Bluff neighborhood.

Our Neighborhood's Results? Deep blue. What we found was that unlike the surprises we saw on a national level, our neighborhood remained overwhelmingly Democratic with Clinton winning a similar percent of the 2016 presidential vote to that won by President Obama in both 2008 and 2012

In the five precincts combined, Clinton won 4,100 votes to 1,060 for Trump. That's 73 percent for Clinton and 19 percent for Trump. This compares to the 2012 election when President Obama beat Mitt Romney 4,615 votes to 1,135 or 78 percent to 19 percent, or 2008 when Obama beat John McCain 3,943 votes to 1,090 or 75 percent to 21 percent.

Changes from 2012 numbers: The most noticeable changes from the 2012 numbers are the decrease in total votes from 5,915 in 2012 to 5,639 in 2016 – about five percent, and the increase in the number of third party votes from 165 in 2012 to 479 in 2016 – an increase from 2.8 percent in 2012 to 8.5 percent in 2016.

It's interesting to note that in some ways, Dayton's Bluff voting in the 2016 election mirrored national numbers. Nationally, Trump got roughly the same amount of votes as Romney did in 2012 (just over 60 million). In our neighborhood, Trump and Romney got about the same, 19 percent (though their vote totals differed).

The biggest difference on both a national and neighborhood level is the decrease in the number of total votes for the Democratic candidate. Clinton fell millions of votes short of President Obama's 2012 total of almost 66 million. In Dayton's Bluff, Clinton drew 4,100 votes to the 4,615 that President Obama drew in 2012. A shortfall of 515 votes or over 11 percent.

The most obvious conclusion to draw from these numbers is that Dayton's Bluff is still a strongly Democratic neighborhood. In fact, in actual numbers, Trump garnered less of the Dayton's Bluff vote in 2016 than Romney did in 2012 or McCain did in 2008. To sum it up, Dayton's Bluff is certainly not Trump territory and the numbers prove it.

Nick Duncan can be reached at editor@daytonsbluff.org.

Where in Dayton's Bluff?

More chances to win great local prizes!

Tell us where in Dayton's Bluff the photo on page 6 was taken. Email your guess to editor@daytonsbluff.org. The first correct entry will win a great prize from a local business!

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Dayton's Bluff Take-a-Hike

Now on the **second Saturday** of most months, the Dayton's Bluff Take-a-Hike will begin at Indian Mounds Park, located at Earl Street and Mounds Boulevard, at **10:30 a.m.**

The next hikes will be on **Saturday**, **December 10**, and **Saturday**, **January 14**. The hike is approximately 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. Share and learn a little history along the way! Email karindupaul@comcast.net or call 651-776-0550 for more information.

Friends of Swede Hollow

Watch over, restore, and celebrate the history of Swede Hollow Park. Join the Swede Hollow community at their monthly meetings on Wednesday, December 7, and Wednesday, January 4, at 6:30 p.m. Email karin@swedehollow.org or call 651-776-0550 for more information and the meeting's location.

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 on **Wednesday, January 4, at 1:00 p.m.,** at Swede Hollow Cafe (725 E. 7th Street). Call 651-776-0550 or email editor@daytonsbluff.org for more information.

Police Community Meetings

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

The next meetings are on Wednesday, December 21, and Wednesday, January 18, at 9:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Meetings are intended as a time to listen to and address concerns about crime and other issues on the East Side.

Let's stay connected!

Find out what's happening in your community and at the Dayton's Bluff Community Council. DBCC sends out a monthly newsletter to keep residents informed about current programs and issues that impact our community. It's easy to sign up – just text BLUFF to 22828 to sign up and start getting updates delivered directly to your inbox today!



SNAP Food Program at CLUES (Comunidades Latinas Unidas En Servicio)

¿Necesita más comida saludable para la familia? El programa SNAP le puede ayudar. SNAP proporciona fondos para alimentos que benefician a familias de escasos recursos.

Aún si no es ciudadano, si tiene hijos nacidos en este país ellos podrían calificar. Participar en el programa SNAP no afectará su estatus migratorio.

¡Llame a CLUES para saber si califica! 612-746-3500. Nuestro personal bilingüe puede facilitar el proceso para usted y su familia.

Need more healthy food for your family? The SNAP program provides funds for low-income families to buy food. Even if you are not a citizen, your children born in this country could qualify. Participation in the SNAP program won't affect their immigration status.

Call CLUES to find out if you qualify at 612-746-3500. Our bilingual staff can facilitate the process for you and your family.

Twin Cities Mobile Market

The Twin Cities Mobile Market is a grocery store on wheels that brings affordable, healthy food directly into under-resourced neighborhoods. The Mobile Market stops at Parkway Gardens Apartments, located at 1145 Hudson Road, on Wednesdays, from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.



December 2-4, 9-11, 16-18, 23: A Klingon Christmas Carol returns to the Mounds for a second year. It's the classic tale of SQuja' learning the true meaning of courage and honor on the eve of the Long Night. Presented in the original Klingon with English supertitles. You don't have to be a Star Trek fan to enjoy this play (but it's even more fun if you are). Seating is reserved and some shows will sell out so advance ticket purchases are encouraged. Tickets: \$18. VIP tickets include a front row table seat and one concession item: \$35.

Coming in January: Saturday, January 14, 2017: Independent Wrestling International (IWI) begins a new year at the Mounds Theatre. Doors open at 6:45 p.m. Bell is at 7:30 p.m. Come early to get the best seats!

Visit moundstheatre.org for more information on these and other events not listed here, 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; historicmoundstheatre@gmail.com.

December at the Dayton's Bluff Library

Join the Dayton's Bluff Library for the following events taking place in December: English Conversation Circle; Saturdays in December, from 3:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. This is an opportunity for non-English speakers to practice their English in casual conversation.

Teen Do-Down Workshop; Thursday, December 8, from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Teens can work down their library fines by creating cool crafts.

Fantastic Beasts of Harry Potter's World; Saturday, December 10, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Includes a visit from the University of Minnesota's Rap-

tor Center!

Movie Matinees; December 28-31, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Catch a free, family-friendly movie to celebrate winter break.

For information about these and other events check sppl.org or call 651-793-1699. The Dayton's Bluff Library shares its home with Metropolitan State University at 645 East 7th Street.

December at the East Side Freedom Library

Friday, December 2, the East Side Freedom Library (ESFL) invites you to enjoy a screening of the 2015 film *Bessie*, starring Queen Latifah. *Bessie* tells the story of legendary blues singer, Bessie Smith, and her transformation from struggling young artist, to the "Empress of Blues."

December's film is part of the Storytelling through Vinyl & Film series, a partnership between the ESFL and A Greener Read used bookstore. The evening begins at 5:00 p.m. with music at A Greener Read, located at 506 Kenny Road, St. Paul, followed by the film, Bessie, at 8:00 p.m., at the ESFL.

Saturday, December 3, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., the ESFL will host a conversation on *Academics & Activism Today*. Panelists will discuss how current labor and social struggles guide thecampus and community organizing, public history initiatives, teaching, and mentoring. Participants include renowned historians and labor scholars Shel Stromquist, John McKerley, Eric Fure-Slocum, Emily Labarbera-Twarog, Ralph Scharnau, and Peter Rachleff.

Tuesday, December 6, at 7:00 p.m., join author Brian McMahon to discuss his new book, *The Ford Century in Minnesota*, a history of the impact of Ford Motor Company on Saint Paul. This book concentrates on the experiences and roles of the workers and the union.

Wednesday, December 7, at 7:00 p.m., the ESFL will present a screening and discussion of the film *Soar! Restoring a Historic Neighborhood*, with filmmaker Kristi Wheeler. This event is cosponsored by the Lower Phalen Creek Project.

Saturday, December 10, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., the ESFL will host *Solidarity Saturday*, a community of discussion of grassroots work to support immigrants, people of color, Muslims, and women in our neighborhoods. There will also be a workshop on developing the skills and self-confidence to interrupt acts of racist and sexist harassment.

These events are free and open to all. The East Side Freedom Library is located at 1150 Greenbrier Street. Call 651-230-3294, email info@eastsidefreedomlibrary.org, or visit eastsidefreedomlibrary.org for details on these and other upcoming events.

Business Classes

The Dayton's Bluff Neighborhood Microentrepreneur Class helps start-up and young businesses on the East Side. Classes last eight weeks and include operations management, marketing, financial management, one-on-one assistance with creating 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 tar-

get neighborhoods are eligible for ongoing business support services.

The course is sponsored by the Dayton's Bluff Community Council and the Neighborhood Development Center. There is a small registration fee based on a sliding scale. Class size is limited. Call Emma Spillman at 651-379-8432 to apply.

Can you read Swedish?

Last spring, two reporters for a Swedish newspaper visited the East Side to research and write a story about the history of Swede Hollow. They interviewed people who have written about the Hollow, those whose relatives lived there, and even some who were born and raised in the valley, including 94 year old Joe Sanchelli.

The duo shared that a recent visitor had written a novel called Swede Hollow. Forum staff were able to get copies of the newspaper, but are looking to make a translation of the article, which is in Swedish.

If you or someone you know can read Swedish and might be willing to help out, please contact Karin DuPaul with the Friends of Swede Hollow organization at 651-776-0550, or karin@swedehollow.org.

East Side Elders presents Elder Cafe: Polkasol!

Note new time: Thursday, December 8, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at First Lutheran Church, 463 Maria Avenue, St. Paul. East Side Elders presents *Elder Cafe: Polkasol!*

Back (again) by popular demand, *Polkasol!* will play polkas, waltzes, and old-time songs. A very interactive group, *PolkaSol!* encourages listeners to join in the fun. *PolkaSol!* loves to talk with their audience, sharing stories and humor. *PolkaSol!* wants to bring a smile and a light to the eyes of those present and hopefully bring back memories of other days.

Call 651-683-2326 to make a reservation or to request a ride. Elder Cafe cannot guarantee a meal without a reservation.

Admission is free for seniors age 60 and over; all other guests are invited to make a suggested donation of \$10.00. This event is presented in partnership between East Side Elders and First Lutheran Church of Dayton's Bluff.

English Language Learner & English as a Second Language classes at CLUES

Free adult English language classes will be offered **now through December 15, 2016.** Day and evening classes with childcare are available.

Register on Thursdays from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Walk-ins are also accepted on other days. Classes run Monday-Friday, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Registration is ongoing throughout the semester and students attend a minimum of three days per week. The curriculum is designed for adults and focuses on basic living skills.

CLUES is located at 797 East 7th Street. For more information, contact Roz Johnson, at rjohnson@clues.org or 651-379-4222.

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 neighborhood congregation where cultures meet, located at 1049 Euclid Street in Dayton's Bluff. Sunday worship starts at 10:30 a.m. Come and meet your neighbors!

Weekly in December: Fall After-School Program for area Youth, sponsored by McVay Youth Partnership of Hamline University. This is an after-school program for all community youth grades 5-12 at Mounds Park Church from 3:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday, Wednesday, and Friday of each week offering cooking classes, games, homework help, field trips, and help learning English. Contact Jane Krentz at (612) 581-6978 for more information.

Saturday, December 3: Beginning at **1:00 p.m.,** join Mounds Park United Methodist for a *Community Christmas Concert and Dessert Buffet*. The Capital City Wind Ensemble, made up of 23 retired St. Paul city employees, will present their Christmas Concert for the Dayton's Bluff community. Following the concert, the community will share in a full dessert buffet. All are invited and encouraged to share in the music of the season.

Wednesday, December 14: Beginning at **noon,** *Community Friendship gathering with hot lunch*. Enjoy a hot lunch of pork loin and dressing, mashed potatoes and gravy, California vegetables, rolls, and dessert. The program this month will be music by the Women's Chorus of Mounds Park Church. This is a community gathering – ALL are invited to come; the focus is on persons age 55 and over. A donation of \$8.00 is suggested.

Saturday, December 24: Christmas Eve Candle Light Services. Celebrate Christmas Eve together as a community in the warmth of candle light, Christmas music, and carols at two services – one at **4:00 p.m.** and a second service that moves into Christmas Day starting at **11:00 p.m.** All are welcome - please invite your families and neighbors.

Clear Steps for Seniors!

Janet Golden Executive Director, East Side Elders

Winter and all that it brings is on its way to Minnesota. Ice. Bitter winds. Slippery sidewalks and steps. And snow, lots of snow.

According to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, The Meteorological Winter (December-February) of 2015-2016 for Minnesota wound up being warmer than normal, but the Twin Cities still saw 25.7 inches of snow! Over the course of the winter, that's a lot of the white stuff to shovel, scoop, dig, and heap. And this year the outlook is even whiter. Minnesota Public Radio meteorologist Paul Huttner predicts there will be "between 50 and 60 inches of snowfall overall in the Twin Cities."

With the prospect of weeks of clearing snow, one senior commented, "I think it's time to hang up my snow shovel and pick up the phone!" She called East Side Elders and asked if the local non-profit agency could help clear her pathway and steps so that she and her neighbors could walk safely without risk of falling on snow or ice. The City of St. Paul encourages neighbors to keep sidewalks clear of snow but as we all know, the city ordinance requires snow and ice to be removed from sidewalks within 24 hours after the snowfall has ended – and those who fail to do so may encounter heavy fines along with the heavy snow!

East Side Elders is taking steps to help seniors stay safe – and clear of snow and ice during the winter. We try to match volunteers, neighbors, and local organizations who can lend a helping hand by clearing snow for those who are unable to do so.

For homes with larger areas to clear, such as driveways and alleys, we contact local companies that plow snow to ask if they would be able to add a senior to their winter route. While many are willing to do so, the cost of services exceeds the amount that the seniors are able to afford, sometimes as much as \$200 a month for guaranteed snow removal.

We are asking the community to help with our Clear Steps for Seniors campaign. If you are interested in joining the team of volunteers helping neighbors, please call us. We'd love to match you and your shovel with a senior! Or if shoveling isn't your thing, perhaps you could help raise funds to help cover the cost for a senior to have snow-free walkways and paths. Donations are fully taxdeductible and can be made online at EastSideElders.org, by clicking SUP-PORT/ DONATE, or visit our fundraiscampaign site GoFundMe.com/EastSideElders. can also send a donation to East Side Elders at 463 Maria Avenue, Suite 201, St. Paul, MN 55106. Staff can be reached at (651) 683-2326 or at info@East-SideElders.

Help support *Clear Steps for Seniors* today!

CLUES: A gem on the East Side

Olivia Grajeda Special to the Forum

Comunidades Latina Unidas En Servicio (CLUES) is located at 797 East 7th Street, in the same building as the Mexican Consulate. CLUES is one of three social service agencies in the Twin Cities for not only Latinas and immigrants, but all people in the neighborhood. Two additional CLUES agencies are located in Minneapolis at 720 East Lake Street, and in West St. Paul at 882 South Robert Street.

The Robert Street CLUES is known for offering "aging well services" and assistance to those who care for elders 60 years of age and older. Some of the services offered are information and referral, application and forms assistance, accessing services and support, advocacy and support (individual, family, and small group), individualized caregiver coaching and consultation, and respite programs both in-home and on-site.

The programs and services available through CLUES connect families with

resources including free classes in English, computers, citizenship, buying and selling a home, resume preparation, interviewing, and employment; physical and mental health resources including addiction and family therapy, and information for healthy eating and physical activity, as well as access to medical insurance.

Additionally, CLUES offers economic help with employment search assistance, preparation of taxes, savings and financial counseling, legal assistance, and public service guidance.

Help for the family includes; education for parents, family counseling, mentoring for adolescents, programming for the elderly, help with abuse and sexual assault.

The St. Paul Police Department provides a community information and assistance platform through the Community Engagement Unit department having a presence at the Mexican Consulate on Friday mornings, at 9:15 a.m., in Spanish. Commander John Lozoya, who lives on the East Side, initiated this community outreach and an officer from that division comes by to offer community outreach and information for newcomers to St. Paul. We have a pearl in the neighborhood!

Have you considered attending a police community meeting?

Karin DuPaul Forum Staff

The Eastern District Saint Paul Police hold their monthly community meetings at the Eastern District Police office located at 722 Payne Avenue, at the corner of Payne and Minnehaha Avenues. The meetings are on the third Wednesday of each month. The next meetings are on Wednesday, December 21, and Wednesday, January 18, at 9:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

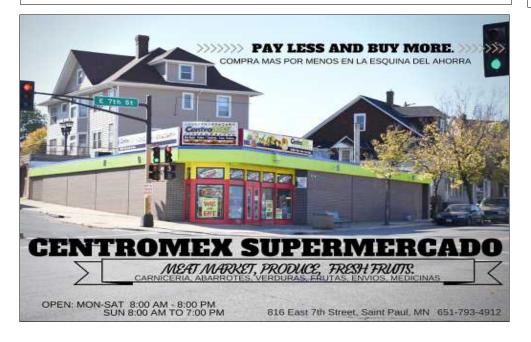
The community meetings are intended to be a time for residents to ask questions and learn about neighborhood concerns, and for the police to listen to and address the concerns of residents about crime and other issues. Saint Paul Police are committed to maintaining and growing the quality of life for all residents. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend the monthly meetings.

At the October meeting, Senior Commander Axel Henry talked about about some Saint Paul neighborhoods that have set up Facebook pages that help connect nearby neighbors similar to the ways block clubs do. The Police Department is willing to work to help neighbors connect with neighbors.



Photo courtesy of Karin DuPaul

A group photo of those who attended the 9:30 a.m. October East Team Community Meeting. The community meetings are a good way to share information with neighbors and to learn what is going on in the community while meeting other East Side residents.





Swede Hollow opera a hit!

Karin DuPaul Forum Staff

The East Side Freedom Library on both November 4 and 5, was full of people attending Ann Millikan's opera, *Swede Hollow*. The cast did an excellent job of portraying life in the Hollow as remembered by some of the people who were children growing up in the Hollow. Scotty Reynolds from Mixed Precipitation Theater was the Stage Director and members of the Mankato Symphony Orchestra did an excellent job with the music.

December 11 is the 60th anniversary of the burning of Swede Hollow. The opera told the story about the events when the City of Saint Paul evicted the residents of Swede Hollow and burned their homes to the ground. The people loved their homes and their neighbors living in the Hollow and did not want to leave. The Opera featured other tidbits of life in the Hollow. Swede Hollow, or Phalen Creek as some residents called it, was home to new emigrants for nearly 100 years before it was destroyed. First, the Swedish; next Italians; and then Mexican Americans.

The opera's final chorus, *Dakota Land*, celebrates the original inhabitants of the region with a text by Anishinabe poet Marcie R. Rendon. Centering on the theme of home — leaving home, finding home, losing home —*Swede Hollow* comes alive through powerful music on the land that holds its memories.

The opera is being recorded at Minnesota Public Radio and a CD Release Party will take place on **Sunday, December 11,** at St. Paul's Flat Earth Brewery, located at 688 Minnehaha Avenue East, from **3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.**

Karin DuPaul can be reached at karindupaul@comcast.net.



Facebook/East Side Freedom Library

The Swede Hollow opera packed the house on November 4-5 at the East Side Freedom Library.

Lots of talent at the CARBARET!

Karin DuPaul Forum Staff

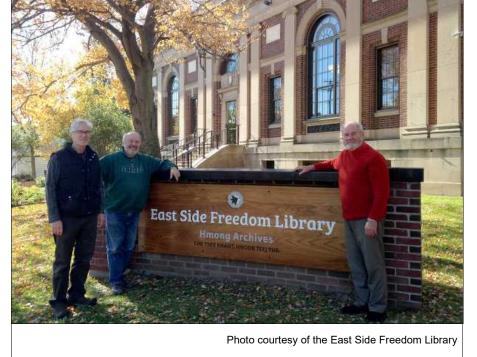
The 5th Annual CABARET will be on Friday, March 3, at the Historic Mounds Theatre, located at 1029 Hudson Road, from 7:30 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. East Side talent is needed – singers, musicians, comedians, and dancers. This is a celebration of talent with East Side roots. If you or someone you know would like to entertain at the CABARET, call Romi at 763-913-4382, or email romislowiak@gmail.com.

The evening will also include a silent auction of original art and other items.

CABARET tickets are just \$25 in advance and \$30 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. Tickets make a great Christmas gift – get your tickets today by contacting Karin DuPaul at 651-776-0550 or karin@swedehollow.org. Don't miss this!

The CABARET is a fundraiser for the 8th annual Art in the Hollow, the art festival in Swede Hollow Park happening on Saturday, June 3, 2017. The CABARET and Art in the Hollow are hosted by Friends of Swede Hollow, a nonprofit organization that works to restore and protect the park, celebrate Swede Hollow history, and host events honoring Swede Hollow Park and the neighborhood

Karin DuPaul can be reached at karindupaul@comcast.net.



The design, construction, and installation of a new sign in front of the historic East Side Freedom Library (ESFL) building located at 1105 Greenbrier Street is complete! Pictured left to right is Keith Christensen, the artist, Peter Rachleff, president of the ESFL, and Marlin Heise, co-founder of the Hmong Archives (partner organization to the ESFL).

Santa is coming to Dayton's Bluff: Free holiday dinner!

Steve Trimble Forum Staff

The Dayton's Bluff Recreation Center will once again be having their popular holiday free family dinners at the Dayton's Bluff Recreation Center, located at 800 Conway Street, connected to Dayton's Bluff Elementary School. The event is on **Tuesday**, **December 6**. The buffet dinner will run **from 6:00**

available to visit with the kids from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

There will be several other activities for kids, including crafts and a chance to send letters to Santa.

Everything will be free, but to make sure there will be enough food, the center asks that you let them know you will be coming. To register, stop by the center, or call 651-793-3885.

Parents and guardians should remember to bring cameras for numerous cute photos.

Steve Trimble can be reached at editor@daytonsbluff.org.



Steve Trimbl

Santa visiting with neighborhood children at a previous year's holiday dinner. p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and Santa will be



Karin DuPaul

2016 CADADET

Needed: Your home on the 2017 home tour

Karin DuPaul Forum Staff

The 2017 Minneapolis and Saint Paul Home Tour will be here before we know it. We are looking for Dayton's Bluff homes to be featured on the tour. The tour will run Saturday, April 29, and Sunday, April 30, 2017.

This tour is of occupied homes to show visitors our

wonderful Dayton's Bluff homes and community. Visitors from all over the metro area come each year to see the lovely homes and meet the great people living in Dayton's Bluff.

Six to eight Dayton's Bluff homes are needed to be on the tour. Homes can be large or small, Victorians or ramblers, or anything in between. Homes may be works-in-progress or finished products. It's a fantastic opportunity for us to show off our neighborhood and all the good things about Dayton's Bluff. Each year, some visitors like Dayton's Bluff so much that they buy a home here. The

tour is a great way to get new ideas on remodeling and updating your home. You may nominate your own home, or talk to a friend or neighbor about getting their home on the tour.

In addition to homes to be on the tour, we are also looking for neighborhood people to volunteer to help out during the tour. After the tour is over on Sunday evening, an "after the tour" supper party will be held for the home tour host families and all home tour the volunteers. To sign up or for more information, please email karindupaul@comcast.net, or call 651-776-0550.

A crowd packed the Historic Mounds Theatre for the 2016 CABARET.

Step up to show what kind of community we are!

Join the Dayton's Bluff and District One Community Councils for their First Annual Interfaith Intercultural Community Meeting and Meal on Tuesday, December 13, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Battle Creek Middle School - Free! All are welcome.

> Jane Prince Ward 7 - City Council

There were many reactions to last month's presidential election, but the most disturbing were the stories I heard of school children - as young as six and seven - coming to school in tears, worrying that they could be sent back to a place that doesn't want them, or that their moms and dads could be taken from their

homes while they slept. These fears are real – and we as a community cannot ignore them.

At the same time, I was invited to come to tea at the home of one of my Somali constituents. He and his wife wanted me to reassure their young children about the election. And they wanted to share the concerns of our neighborhood's East African immigrants. I tried to assure the family that our constitutional system of checks and balances will protect them from any harm. But as refugees, they came to this country with a tenuous hold on confidence in government and authority figures. I understood what was behind the question, asked by their sixth-grade son, himself a citizen: "Can they deport us?"

I am sure, like me, you were horrified by campaign rhetoric that included prohibiting Muslims from entering our country, and requiring Muslims to sign a government registry - an idea straight out of Nazi Germany. So it is no wonder that our neighbors who are immigrants -

documented and undocumented, naturalized citizens or otherwise - are questioning the promise and the safety of our

Saint Paul is better than that. The Swede Hollow Opera, composer Ann Millikan's amazing production performed in November at the East Side Freedom Library, told the story of how our neighborhood was shaped by Swedish, Italian, Mexican, Hmong, African American, and Native American people. We in Dayton's Bluff recognize that we've always been better and stronger as a community of diverse people, from all kinds of backgrounds and ways of life.

So what can we do? Some of us may be a little uncomfortable with hugging and opening up to strangers, looking into the eyes of people we don't know, smiling and saying, "Hi!" But the time has come – in a world that has become more threatening - for us to show our gratitude and love for one another as neighbors.

At teatime that day, that Somali family asked me to work with them to reach out to the Dayton's Bluff Community Council and the District One Community Council, Darul Uloom Islamic Center, First Lutheran Church, Mounds Park United Methodist Church, Progressive Baptist Church, the East Side Freedom Library, our elected officials and many, many others - and you know what happened?

On Tuesday, December 13, from 5:00 p.m to 8:00 p.m. at Battle Creek Middle School, YOU and your family and friends are invited to what we hope will be our first annual "Interfaith Intercultural Community Meeting and Meal," to assert that ours is a neighborhood where all are welcomed, all are loved and all will be protected – no matter who's in charge in Washington D.C.

Please join us. If you'd like to get involved in planning this event or signing on as a co-host, please call me at 651-266-8670 or email me at ward7@ci.stpaul.mn.us anytime before that date!

One Perspective

Dezmond Juan Fort Yuma Quechan Nation

I want to share my thoughts on the conference I attended at Metropolitan State University on October 29, - Overcoming Racism: Disrupt Racism As Usual. The opening was good; they had a Native American community member from South Minneapolis begin with a song and an opening prayer. The Pillsbury Theater group did a wonderful skit followed by a Q&A panel discussion which took us into lunch. I met a group of students from Hamline University and had a great conversation with them, getting to know them better and sharing contact information.

My first session was on mobility, which although coming from a rural Latino perspective, their main needs were no different than the needs experienced in an urban setting - shopping and working locally were important, because having to travel a long distance for work and food is a real hardship. The discussion led us to talk about housing and gentrification. A comment was made that community members in communities of color are afraid of gentrification, therefore "they keep their living areas looking undesirable." This caught my ear, I had to speak out. Community members don't fear gentrification, they fear getting moved out of their homes and the communities they and their families have been part of for many generations. They fear people with money, who buy up property and raise the prices so high that they and their families cannot afford to live there anymore. So, the belief that communities of color keep things ugly and unkempt because they fear gentrification

is far from the truth. As I talked, many heads were nodding in agreement. I continued, passionately speaking on housing issues, like the fact that there is no cap on fees for rental applications. Some landlords make more on application fees than they make actually renting the units, with no value returned to the applicants. I didn't care for the privileged comment made about our communities, and I had to speak up. After the session the individual came over to me and apologized, trying to make up for the mindless comment that was made. I just smiled and said, "We all see things through different lenses."

Next, I went to "Let's talk about disrupting Racism." This was a total letdown. They talked about celebrities and athletes, past and present, who use their position as disruptors of racism. I couldn't sit there and listen; I had to leave. Moving on to a workshop that I thought was going to be a helpful session about collaboration and not doing this work alone, instead I saw two white women pitching their program to educators in the school system. They talked about how they go in and teach about equity to students of color so they "gain self-esteem." When asked about instructors of color they named staff of color, but it sounded more like tokenism and filling a box, instead of true equity work. After a number of us had a long discussion about the session, we all agreed that it was odd that white women would teach students of color about eq-

All in all, the conference was a good experience, and I feel it's too bad that I couldn't listen to all of the sessions. Maybe if I attend next year it will be a better experience in the sessions. I'm really glad I went and met others around the metro area though - that was a really positive experience.

Avi Viswanathan appointed Program **Director of The Institute for Community Engagement for Nexus Community Partners**

Steve Trimble Forum Staff

Neighborhood resident Viswanathan was recently appointed Program Director of The Institute for Community Engagement for Nexus Community Partners. According to the organization's announcement on Facebook, he "will lead the work of developing the Institute into a vital center for the learning and practice of community engagement, both locally and nationally." They acknowledged Avi's long history of working with different communities to develop engagement and work toward racial equity.

The Nexus Community, located in the Twin Cities, focuses on a community-building approach to strengthen people's social, cultural, and human capital that will help them more fully participate in creating positive change in their neighborhoods.

In his own Facebook posting, Avi wrote that he was "very excited to announce" that he was joining Nexus Community Partners. He credited his time with the Bush Foundation that allowed him to work with people and communities that "had a great impact on me." Avi then added that he was "excited to carry the work forward by focusing on one of our greatest needs authentic, deep, meaningful, community engagement."

Steve Trimble can be reached at editor@daytonsbluff.org.



Nexus Community Partners

Avi Viswanathan, newly appointed **Program Director of The Institute for Community Engagement for Nexus** Community Partners.



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ST. PAUL, MINN

When discipline becomes abuse: What happened at Sibley Elementary School a century ago?

Steve Trimble Forum Historian

In the last issue, I took a look at what was happening in the neighborhood a century ago. I mentioned that there was an event at Sibley Elementary School then located at Margaret and Frank Streets, that involved a student, a principal, and outraged parents. However, it was covered in two long and quite thought-provoking articles in the St. Paul Daily News and there wasn't room to include it in the November *Forum*, so here it is now.

The paper's front page displayed the following headline: "Teacher Kicked Boy." There was also a sub-headline reading "Principal H. A. Trapp, Sibley School, accused of abusing 7 year-old Raymond Belisle." The story started when the second grade student got to his home at 1011 East Sixth Street. He told his mother that his back hurt and added that the principal had kicked him. The next morning when she looked under his shirt there was a large black and blue bruise that was about the size of a man's shoe

She took Raymond to the Lowry Medical Building in downtown and saw Dr. A. H. Ahrens. He agreed that there was a large contusion, but he could not identify the bruise as having resulted from a kick.

Raymond's mother then reported the incident to Commissioner Wunderlich, since public schools were then under the control of the city. He met with Belisle's parents and "when I told them how it was, they seemed satisfied," adding "we certainly do not want children abused." He referred the matter to school Superintendent Hartwell.

The Daily News talked to Principal Trapp who first stated that "because he was out of line in marching at the school," he shook the boy and pushed him back in line but didn't "remember if he kicked him." However, he later said "if there was a bruise on his back though, I probably kicked him."

The next day, in a second Daily News article, the principal said "I deeply regret the the occurrence. I certainly will not touch another child. I have conferred with the child's parents and physician and I am willing to do anything that is right," including paying for the visit to the doctor. However, in a later sentence Trapp seems to be trying to justify what he

had done. He wanted people to know that "there have been grave problems of discipline to be solved in the Sibley School."

There may have been problems of abuse as well. When Trapp was asked if he had chastised other students he replied "I have laid hands on only three other boys at the school. One of them, a lad of 12 years, struck me" when he had the boy by the shoulder and was "marching him along. I struck him back. What can a teacher do under such circumstances? Discipline must be maintained."

The article also quoted some of the written school policies: "#143. In no case shall any room teacher lay hands on a pupil for the purpose of personal violence or to inflict pain save when nessary to repel or resist violence on the part of a pupil."

#141 stated that principal can call the "special officer" of the building "to assist only ejection of a pupil or trespasser." However, "in the case of serious or repeated offenses" they might employ "reasonable corporal punishment" if parents had given written permission.

The Superintendent deplored the publicity given to the event and vowed that "he was personally against corporal punishment," adding that Principal Trapp "is a young man who wants to do right. He is impetuous and made a mistake, but he has done everything possible to rectify it."

"I know that he did not mean to hurt him," he continued, and assured the reporter that "no campaign need be made regarding discipline in the schools. I know that Mr. and Mrs. Beslile are satisfied now. I know that Mr. Trapp is sorry, but I certainly cannot see what good further publicity will do."

As far as I was able to find out, there was no further publicity, at least until today. I checked the other papers and they did not cover the situation, including the one East Side journal that was published in 1916. The only other thing I found about the family is that the father, William, worked as a moulder – a skilled craft that included casting various products of metal. I also don't know if Trapp remained the principal of Sibley.

Questions about school discipline still echo across the years from 1916 to the present. How do you know when discipline in schools and in homes turns into abuse? Was the Sibley School an aberration or a part of a pattern at the time? What about the parochial schools? There may be a written policy on discipline for the St. Paul schools today, but does anyone know how to find it? What has been the experience of you or your children? How about a few letters to the *Forum?*

Steve Trimble can be reached at editor@daytons-bluff.org.

TEAGHER KICKED **BOY, SAYS MOTHER** (Y 1-Principal H. A. Trapp, Sibn ley School, Accused of n Abusing 7-Year-Old. :-COMPLAINT TO WUNDERLICH of g Boy's Story Is He Was 16 Booted Into Line at School March. n l-s, Principal H. A. Trapp, Sibley school, is accused by parents of 7-year-old Raymond Belisle with having kicked the boy in the back because the lad was out of line in marching at the school. The boy is in the ceond grade. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Belisle, live at 1011 E. 6th st. Principal Trapp, says he shook the boy and pushed him back into line, but "doesn't remember if he kicked him." "If there was a bruise on his back, though, I probably kicked him," he added. CASE REPORTED. Mrs. Belisle reported the case to Commissioner Wunderlich, who referred the matter to Supt. Hartwell. Mrs. Belisle says there is no question but that Principal Trapp kicked her son. "Raymie complained of hurting him," said Mrs. Belisle today, "saying Mr. Trapp had kicked him. I found a tender place on the small of my son's back. Next day it was black and blue. It was about the size of the toe of a man's shoe. BOY TO DOCTOR. "I took Raymie to Dr. A. H. Ahrens, "I took Raymie to Dr. A. H. Ahrens, 1032 Lowry building, who examined my son and found the bruise. I went to Mr. Trapp. He said he could not deny kicking Raymie, although he could not remember doing so. "He said he was sorry and offered to pay the doctor's bill. I went to Commissioner Wunderlich. He said he knew nothing about it and sent me to Supt. Hartwell. The latter said he had known Mr. Trapp well, that his record was good and he couldn't believe it." WARNS AGAINST ABUSE. WARNS AGAINST ABUSE. rd. Commissioner Wunderlich says the department of education investigated the case and that it was not shown. Principal Trapp kicked the child. He said Mr. Trapp had been cautioned. "Our stand on that subject is posi-

Minnesota Historical Society

An article published in a 1916 edition of the St. Paul Daily News chronicles the alleged abuse suffered by a young student while attending Sibley School.



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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Next issue: February 2017. **Deadline for material: January 10, 2017.**

Contest: Where in Dayton's Bluff?

Email editor@daytonsbluff.org with the location of the neighborhood curiosity pictured at left for a chance to win some great prizes from local businesses. The reader who submits the first correct entry will be notified and the winner will be announced in the February *Forum*.

Congratulations to Sarah Ryan, winner of November's contest with her correct guess of the location in the photo: the Historic Mounds Theatre.

Opinion: It was an exciting season for the Dayton's Bluff Rec Center soccer teams

Team Captain Dayton's Bluff Rec Center Soccer

Editor's note: The author's name was not provided due to status as a minor

Against all odds, the Dayton's Bluff Rec Center U14 and 7-8 age group soccer teams made it to the top spots in the Rec Center league, U14 in second and 7-8 in first.

With the space that the Dayton's Bluff Rec Center provided, and the \$500 the Trades and Labor Union donated, it was possible to proceed with this year's teams. All soccer

players from anywhere in the neighborhood were invited to join, which made the team very diverse. In fact, we were the most diverse teams in the whole league. Every other team had children from one race, which is not something we are opposed to, but this diversity of players gave children on our teams an amazing opportunity.

All of the soccer players were amazing and the results were quite satisfying. The younger group (7-8) won all of their games by a wide margin, and ended the season undefeated – none of the teams were able to score a single goal against them.

This is a program that was difficult to run at times due to other responsibilities, but against all odds, these teams triumphed.

East Side Eating – Trimble's Taste Trek

Forum contributor Steve Trimble ate at every locally-owned, sit-down restaurant on the East Side. He hopes to get the word out to Dayton's Bluff 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 59 may now be found online at daytonsbluffdistrictforum.org: click on "East Side Eating" at the top of the home page. Steve Trimble can be reached at editor@daytons-bluff.org.

Swede Hollow Cafe

725 E. 7th Street (651) 776-8810

Monday-Friday: 6:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Saturday: 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Sunday: Closed

swedehollowcafe.com

It was the grand opening day of the new second floor seating area. I got there too late for the music and special food, but needed to make this day part of the Taste Trek. The restaurant was founded in 1997 by two Dayton's Bluff women and was launched in the historic Stutzman Building, a once-dilapidated building that was restored through the efforts of the Upper Swede Hollow Neighborhood Association.

The interior of the late nineteenth century commercial structure has a high ceiling and nice woodwork. There are several sizes of tables for singles or larger groups. You go to the counter to order from a chalk-written menu on the back wall and the food and/or drink will be brought to the table. There are a few books and art items for sale, many from local writers and artists.

The café opens early and people often order the breakfast sandwich consisting of scrambled eggs and cheese on a croissant. You can add beef, turkey, or ham, if you'd like. Another possibility is the baked hash browns platter with two scrambled eggs and toast, or house-made granola with steamed or cold milk, topped with berries. There are always baked goods including the famous caramel roll. In addition, you will find a bacon caramel roll, coffee cake, scones, cookies, bars, and biscotti.

Lunch is available after 10:30 a.m. Salads include Minnesota wild rice with shredded carrots and other items served with balsamic vinaigrette dressing, and apple walnut salad with Gorgonzola and creamy poppy seed dressing. Both come with a toasted dinner roll. There is always a choice of meat or vegetarian soups. There are always several sandwiches such as ham and brie with romaine, and dijon mustard on toasted ciabatta. How about roast beef and provolone with tomato, roasted red onions and pesto on toasted ciabatta or a Mediterranean veggie sandwich, with a variety of vegetables, white bean hummus and cheddar on wild rice bread?

Seating is available on a patio with an old fountain and seating amidst vegetable gardens. It was chilly, so I stayed inside and had a bowl of chicken pizolle soup and half a four cheese sandwich. I ordered the last caramel roll for sweets and took it home, because there were free pumpkin cookies for the Halloween opening celebration. I took a look and was pleased to see the quality of the new upstairs eating area that is open to community meetings. However there is no elevator so if people with difficulty maneuvering stairs are part of your event, this may not be the best place to go.

Steve Trimble can be reached at editor(a)daytonsbluff.org.



Steve Trimble

A patron steps up to the counter to place her order at Swede Hollow Cafe on October 31, 2015.

Caught in the Lye: A new novel – meet the author

On **Saturday, December 3, from 10:00 a.m. to noon** at Swede Hollow Café. Join author Marilyn McGriff, a new Dayton's Bluff resident, for a signing of her new novel, *Caught in the Lye*, a local history mystery based on a universal Nordic theme – lutefisk, what else?

To investigate an apparent homicide

at the local lutefisk processing plant, Nick Nordin, a rookie sheriff's deputy, is assigned to the case. Nordin knows nothing about lutefisk or his new environment. In the course of his investigation, he learns about both, thanks in part to a local historian who regales him with tales of the area. He also strikes up a relationship with the young woman undertaker who dealt with the murder victim's body. But lutefisk remains the main character of the story, and it doesn't come out smelling so good.

For more information, contact Marilyn McGriff at mmcg844@gmail.com.

East Side Eating – Trimble's Taste Trek

Editor's note: Since the Forum doesn't print a January issue, please enjoy two installments of Trimble's Taste Trek in this issue.

Happy holidays from the Dayton's Bluff District Forum!

Mexitalian Pizzeria

1193 Payne Avenue (651) 772-0101

Sunday-Thursday: 10:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Friday-Saturday: 10:30 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Facebook/Mexitalian Pizzeria

I saw posters on the former Otra Cocina storefront saying "Mexitalian Pizzeria Coming Soon." Then a Facebook post said the restaurant was having a grand opening on December 3, and that there would be free samples. You better believe I was on my way up Payne Avenue to get there when the doors opened at 11:00 a.m. Outside, there was a ribbon-cutting ceremony and I was invited to be photographed with the group.

Inside were eight tables for four and a large screen TV that was emitting Mexican music. The decor was primarily red, green, and white – the colors of the Mexican flag. There, I met Yolanda from the Latino Economic Development Center (LEDC) and she filled me in on some details about the new owners. They are three brothers – Oliverio, Teo, and Domingo Casiano – who came to Minnesota from Puebla, Mexico. Their

research showed the top cuisine trends are now Italian and Mexican. They created a name to reflect their fusion approach to both traditions. The LEDC gave technical support and loans to make their East Side dream become reality.

Here's some of the menu: appetizers including wings and "garlic knots," entrees including grilled chicken marinated with Mexican spices, and Stromboli (a sort of turnover filled with cheese and Italian meats).

The sauce choices tell it all: enchilada, tomato, hot salsa, and roja. Toppings include chorizo, meatballs, cornitos, mushrooms, and pepperoni. Several "Signature Pizzas" include enfruolada a vegetarian bean and taco pizza, the Pizza Poblano, whose main ingredients peppers are mild chorizada - a Mexican style sausage. "Classic Pizzas" include meat-lovers, Philly cheese steak, and chicken Alfredo. Some pastas are baked ziti, garlic and oil, and linguine. The hot subs include chicken Parmesan and eggplant Parmesan.

I had two sample slices of pizza. One was made with chorizo and Italian sausage. The other was topped with beans, cheese, and green peppers. I also got two small bowls of different pastas. I accompanied the food with a mango flavored Jarritos soda.

They had not yet started making the Italian pizzas for sampling when I was there. I may have to go back sometime to see if they do a good job of replacing the ones served a few blocks south at the now-shuttered Romolo's.

Steve Trimble can be reached at editor@daytonsbluff.org.



Steve Trimble

Owners and family (who are also staff) of the Mexitalian Pizzeria restaurant.



Who's who on the Bluff

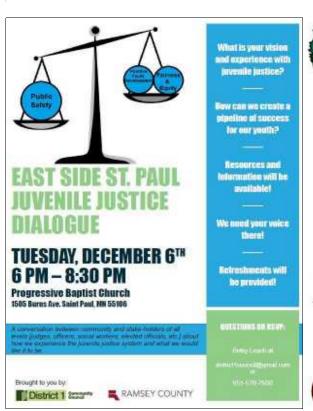


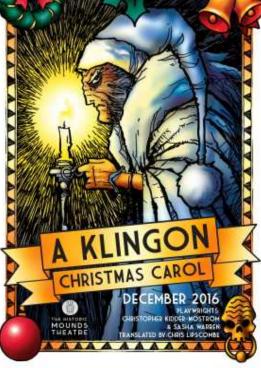
Student of the Month Laxmi Westby, from Ms. Wriedt's Kindergarten class at Dayton's Bluff Elementary School.



Steve Trimble

Congratulations to Dayton's Bluff resident Jeanelle Foster who was elected on November 8, to serve on the St. Paul School Board. Jeannie was endorsed by the DFL and won 37.91% of the total vote.





Are you receiving your copy of the *Forum* each month?

If you live in the Dayton's Bluff neighborhood, you should receive your copy of the Dayton's Bluff District Forum within the first two weeks of each month.

If you live within the neighborhood and feel you have missed delivery, please email editor@daytonsbluff.org along with your name and mailing address. We will contact the US Postal Service on your behalf.

If you do not live within the Dayton's Bluff neighborhood but enjoy reading the Forum, you can pick up a copy at many neighborhood locations, including the Dayton's Bluff Community Council offices at 804 Margaret Street, or email editor@daytonsbluff.org to have the Forum mailed to you for a yearly fee of \$15.

Have Forum, will travel



Mark Cosimini and Mary Block with their favorite newspaper in New York. They are on a balcony at the Whitney Museum of American Art with the Empire State Building in the background.

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@daytonsbluff.org.



Carol Watnemo carries a copy of Dayton's Bluff District Forum with her to the market square in Krakow, Poland.

Many thanks to our 2016 donors:

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For the past three 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 do-

Our goal for the year is \$2,000; as of this printing we have raised \$1,512.29 -Will you help us?

Sincerely,

The Dayton's Bluff District Forum

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Thank you for your support!