

# Dayton's Bluff District Forum

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daytonsbuffdistrictforum.org

"The Voice of the Community"



Nick Duncan

The 2016 edition of the Dayton's Bluff Vacant Home Tour took place on Sunday, April 17. Measuring by the size of the crowd, the tour was a great success. Hundreds of people walked, biked, drove, or rode a vintage 1954 tour bus around the neighborhood to see the six properties included on the tour. This year's tour featured only properties already slated to be torn down – each being sold for \$1. Organizers hope the tour will attract last minute buyers and save these properties from the city wrecking ball.

## The Spring Ride on the Margaret Street Bikeway – all are welcome!

Brad Griffith  
Special to the Forum

The Spring Ride on Margaret Street Bikeway is sponsored by the STewards of Margaret Park (STOMP). The host site for the start and finish of the Ride and the celebration picnic is Bethlehem Lutheran Church, located at 655 Forest Street.

Besides being a fun community event, the objective of the Spring Ride on the Margaret Street Bikeway is to encourage recreational and commuter bicycling on the East Side throughout the Spring and

Summer of 2016.

The Spring Ride on the Margaret Street Bikeway will kick off on **Saturday, May 14**, with a bicycle maintenance and safety clinic from **9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.**, immediately followed by the bicycle ride from **10:00 a.m. to noon**. Riders may choose from two ride opportunities: Forest Street to Johnson Parkway and return, or Forest Street to McKnight Road and return. A celebration picnic will follow the ride from **noon to 1:00 p.m.**

All riders must wear a helmet. Students must ride with a parent or guardian. This is a **FREE** event, but registration is required for attendees. Visit [eventbrite.com](http://eventbrite.com) and search "Stewards Of Margaret Park – STOMP" to register.

## Metropolitan State spring commencement set for May 2

Robert Boos  
Metropolitan State University

Metropolitan State University celebrates its 98th Commencement Exercises Monday, May 2. The student speaker is Michael Shyne, summa cum laude, College of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Student, who is graduating with his degree in applied mathematics.

The ceremony is in the Roy Wilkins Auditorium at Saint Paul RiverCentre. Approximately 876 students are receiving bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees with 584 expected to participate in the spring ceremony.

There is also a separate ceremony for the university's doctoral candidates, Doctor of Business Administration and

Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) on Saturday, April 30, in the university's auditorium at the Saint Paul Campus. DNP graduate Sanouk Xiong will be the student speaker.

Other commencement participants include: Metropolitan State Interim President Devinder Malhotra; Ginny Arthur, provost and academic vice president; Ann Anaya, JD, trustee, Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Board of Trustees; Allen Bellas, Inter-Faculty Organization president; Brian Wermerskirchen, Student Senate vice president; Ochen Kaylan, Metropolitan State University Alumni Association board president; Craig Vinje, Metropolitan State University Foundation board trustee; and Dan Bostrom, Saint Paul City Council member.

Metropolitan State University, a member of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system, is the Twin Cities public, urban, comprehensive state university providing lifelong learning, and competitive academic and professional degree programs at the bachelor's, master's and doctoral levels.

## Dayton's Bluff benefit rummage sale moves into the neighborhood May 6 and 7!

John Slade  
Special to the Forum



For the past three years, the Parental Advisory Council (PAC) of the Dayton's Bluff Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) program has held a spring rummage sale to benefit their program. This year, they are moving from the Dayton's Bluff Recreation Center to the home of one of the parents.

"Our past sales have been great – we get the best donations from our ECFE families – this year we wanted to get on the radar for people who love rummage sales," said Laura Kalkwarf, who will be hosting the sale this year. "We're on the corner of Reaney and Johnson Parkway – 1277 Reaney – and it's a great location. We hope to see a lot of people."

The sale is the main fundraiser for the PAC. Dayton's Bluff ECFE serves over 125 children from the ages of birth to five and their parents or guardians. Each day starts with circle time with songs and a book, and then moves to child-directed play between parents and kids. "It's important for kids and adults to play together, with the child taking the lead. ECFE supports parents as their child's first teacher. Focused play time together builds family bonds and encourages healthy growth and learning," according to Alicia Runquist, lead teacher for the

Dayton's Bluff site. "After interaction time, parents meet to support each other, and the kids and their teachers continue their school routine which includes learning centers, large muscle time, snack time and plenty of opportunities for kids to practice sharing, learn positive ways to express their big feelings and how to get along with other friends."

All Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) and Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) programs are run by the Saint Paul Public Schools. Parents are charged on a sliding scale. The Dayton's Bluff site currently has nine classes – including classes for African American families, Spanish families and Hmong families, family literacy class that meets three times a week, and an ECSE inclusion class.

Parental Advisory Councils operate at most ECFE sites. "We do trips to Dodge Nature Center in the spring and Afton Apple Orchard in the fall, and the PAC sponsors a bus from our site to the location," says Cherie Collette, chair of the PAC. "We have a Winter Pajama Party for families from different classes to meet each other. PAC also pays for snacks, crafts, classroom materials, books, and we help subsidize the field trip admissions. One year we bought a laptop for the teachers."

Donations for the rummage sale come from the parents in the program. "Kids grow so fast, we're always looking for the next pair of jeans and wondering what to do with that bouncy saucer," says Wendy Fredrickson, a PAC member and parent. "We pass on things that are still good and make some money for the program. We've gotten most of our Jack's summer wardrobes at the sale. It's a good deal for everyone."

The sale will be held from **8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Friday, May 6, and Saturday, May 7**, at 1277 Reaney, on the corner of Reaney and Johnson Parkway. Organizers say they will have snacks, drinks, and hot dogs for sale as well.

## Love Your Block contest extended!

We still have a number of gift certificates from local establishments to give away. Send your clean-up pictures to [editor@daytonsbuff.org](mailto:editor@daytonsbuff.org) by **Sunday, May 15**, and the first five entries will win a prize!

Pictures can show the recent parks clean-up, your block, or anything else in the neighborhood.

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

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## Dayton's Bluff Take A Hike

On **Saturday, May 7, at 10:00 a.m.**, learn a little history of the East Side while hiking through Dayton's Bluff.

The hike starts at Indian Mounds Park at Earl Street and Mounds Boulevard and is about one and a half to two hours long. Hikers will have their choice of ending in Swede Hollow Park or East Side Heritage Park.

For more information email [karin@swedehollow.org](mailto:karin@swedehollow.org) or call 651-776-0550.

## Friends of Swede Hollow

Watch over, restore, and celebrate the history of Swede Hollow Park. Come join the Swede Hollow community at their monthly meeting on **Wednesday, May 4, at 6:30 p.m.** Email [karin@swedehollow.org](mailto: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 **Monday, May 2, at 1:00 p.m.**, at the Swede Hollow Cafe (725 E. 7<sup>th</sup> Street). Call 651-776-0550 or email [editor@daytonsbuff.org](mailto:editor@daytonsbuff.org) for more information.

## 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 can help you. SNAP 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! 612-746-3500. Our bilingual staff can facilitate the process for you and your family.

## May at the East Side Freedom Library

On **Thursday, May 5, at 7:00 p.m.**, join the East Side Freedom Library (ESFL) for *Racial Uplift in a Jim Crow Local: Black Union Organizing in Minneapolis Hotels in the 1930s*, a presentation given by Luke Mielke, Macalester College honors student and labor activist.

On **Wednesday, May 11, at 7:00 p.m.**, the ESFL presents a conversation with Frank M. White, author of the new book *They Played for Love of the Game: Untold Stories of Black Baseball*

in Minnesota.

On **Friday, May 13**, The ESFL and A Greener Read invite you to explore storytelling through vinyl and film. The evening starts at **4:30 p.m.** with a *Vinyl and Happy Hour*, hosted at A Greener Read (506 East Kenny Road) followed by a **6:30 p.m.** screening of the film *Round Midnight*, at the ESFL.

On **Sunday, May 22, at 2:00 p.m.**, join labor historians Dave Riehle and Peter Rachleff for a walking tour of Payne Avenue – *From Swede Hollow to Arlington Hills: The Immigrant Past and Present of Payne Avenue* walking tour departs from Swede Hollow Park and will focus on immigrant working-class life. The tour begins at Swede Hollow Park and proceeds to the ESFL, where refreshments and restrooms will be available. Register for this event at [thefriends.org/untoldstories](http://thefriends.org/untoldstories).

The East Side Freedom Library is located at 1150 Greenbrier Street. Call 651-230-3294 or visit [eastsidefreedomlibrary.org](http://eastsidefreedomlibrary.org) for details on these and other upcoming events.

## Mounds Park United Methodist Church

Mounds Park United Methodist Church is a community based, multi-cultural congregation located at 1049 Euclid Street at the corner of Earl and Euclid, striving to build on the positive assets of Dayton's Bluff; working together as neighbors while improving the community.

**Wednesday, May 25, starting at noon**, there will be a community friendship gathering with hot lunch of boneless pork chops with BBQ sauce, scalloped potatoes, green beans, salad, rolls, and dessert. A member of the community, Janet Egge, will be playing the violin. All are invited to come; the focus of this event is on persons age 55 and over. A donation of \$8 is suggested.

Mounds Park United Methodist Church is located at 1049 Euclid Street (corner of Earl and Euclid); 651-774-8736. Check out Mounds Park United Methodist on Facebook.

## Top 20 Training

Tom Cody and the Top 20 team have inspired people to think, learn, and communicate more effectively, and empower those around them to do the same. Top 20 Training is about using the power of choice to make a positive difference in the quality of your life.

All sessions will take place on **Tuesday evenings from 6:30 p.m. to 7:45 p.m.** at Cerenity Marian on the following dates:

**May 17**, *Live Above the Line* - how our thinking governs our experience; **May 24**, *Learn From Mistakes* - move outside your comfort zone; **May 31**, *How to See Things Differently* - the frame; **June 7**, *Resolve Conflict Heart to Heart*.

Sessions are held at Cerenity Marian, 200 Earl St. Free-will offerings gladly accepted. Call (651) 793-2100 for more information.

## DBCC Monthly Newsletter

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 in-

formed about current programs and issues that impact our community. It's easy to sign up – just text BLUFF to 22828, or visit [www.daytonsbuff.org](http://www.daytonsbuff.org) to sign up and start getting updates delivered directly to your inbox today!



## Family Food Box Distribution at the Dayton's Bluff Rec Center

Family Food Box distribution takes place **every third Thursday of the month from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.**

Call 651-793-3885 for more information and to register. The Dayton's Bluff Rec Center is located at 800 Conway Street, Saint Paul.

## May at the Mounds Theatre



**Saturday, May 7: Independent Wrestling International (IWI)**. Tickets include a new "family four pack" option with 2 adults and 2 kids for \$30. Bell is at **7:30 p.m.** but you'll want to be there at **6:45 p.m.** when the door opens to get the best seats!

**Friday and Saturday, May 13, 14, 20, 21, 27, 28: Build Your Own Inferno**. Join Dante and Virgil as they go on a tour of Hell - decided by the audience! Part improv and part scripted, *Build Your Own Inferno* puts the comedy back into the Divine Comedy, combining social commentary and ridiculousness in a way that would make Dante himself proud. All shows begin at **8:00 p.m.** Tickets: \$12 in advance; \$15 at the door; \$12 at the door (if available) with Fringe Button, CONvergence Badge, or Card Carrying Geek Card.

Visit [moundstheatre.org](http://moundstheatre.org) for more information 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](mailto:historicmoundstheatre@gmail.com).

## May at the Dayton's Bluff Library

Join the Dayton's Bluff Library for the following events taking place in May: *Family Storytime: Look at Those Wings!* **Thursday May 19, from 10:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.** as part of the 2016 Urban Birding Festival, Audubon Minnesota will lead a special family storytime all about birds! Visit <http://mn.audubon.org/urban-birding-festival-twin-cities> for more information.

*Third Saturday Social: Saturday, May 21, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.*, Explore a different part of the world by learning about its local customs, crafts, and cuisine. *May's destination: Mexico!*

For information about these and other events check [spl.org](http://spl.org) or call 651-793-1699. The Dayton's Bluff Library shares its home with Metropolitan State University at 645 East 7<sup>th</sup> Street.

## 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, May 18, at 9:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.** Meetings are intended as a time to learn about, listen to, and address concerns about crime and other issues on the East Side.

## Nellie Stone Johnson Scholarship Now Accepting Applications

The Nellie Stone Johnson Scholarship is accepting applications until June 1. Eligible students must be a racial minority and a union member, or be the child, grandchild, or spouse of a union member. Scholarships are awarded to both full-time and part-time students who will be attending a MnSCU tech, community college, or state university in the fall of 2016. Scholarship amounts are \$1,200 for full-time students and \$500 for part-time students.

Applications and information about the scholarship are available online at [nelliestone.org](http://nelliestone.org) or by calling 651-738-1404 or toll free 866-738-5238.

## Dayton's Bluff Seniors presents: Elder Café

Elder Café is a partnership between Dayton's Bluff Seniors and First Lutheran Church. Guests 60 and older are welcome at no charge. Other guests are invited to make a \$10 donation to Dayton's Bluff Seniors.

Join us on **Thursday, May 12, at 11:30 a.m.** for *Always on Sunday*. Eleanor Ostman, longtime food writer for the *St. Paul Pioneer-Press Dispatch*, will take us on a hilarious historic walk through a life in food. More than 500 audiences have laughed at and loved Eleanor's stories – join the fun! Copies of her book *Always on Sunday Revisited* will be available for purchase. Lunch will be served at noon.

First Lutheran Church is located at 463 Maria Avenue. Call 651-683-2326 to make your reservation or to arrange a ride.

## Rental property inspections and racial equity

As part of St. Paul's initiative to address racial equity disparities, the Department of Safety and Inspections is holding community input meetings on how their inspection programs for rental properties can be improved for communities of color. East Side neighbors will have a chance to provide input at the next meeting on **Tuesday, May 24, at 5:00 p.m.**, at Rondo Community Library, located at 461 Dale Street. Food and drinks will be provided.

## Dayton's Bluff Gardeners!

Garden plots are still available at Skidmore Park Community Garden! Plots come in two sizes: 40 and 64 square feet for a fee of \$25/year. Applications and rules are available online at <http://bit.ly/bDQR17> or at the District 4 Community Council office. Call 651-772-2075; [johnbarbie@hotmail.com](mailto:johnbarbie@hotmail.com) or [jennifer.herman7@gmail.com](mailto:jennifer.herman7@gmail.com).



## Five ways to help your elderly neighbor

Janet M. Golden, Executive Director  
Dayton's Bluff Seniors

She hardly ever comes out. In fact, you see so little of your elderly neighbor, you sometimes forget she's there, don't you?

But the quiet life that so often escapes your notice can mask many problems. A fear of falling might keep her from going to her doctor appointments or buying groceries. Worsening arthritis may keep her from caring for her home – or herself.

Luckily, there are organizations out there that can help her remain safe and joyful in her own home. And she can start getting help simply because someone like you was neighborly.

If you live near someone who is in their golden years, who has slowed down and appears to be home bound, make yourself known. Break the isolation – here are a few ideas.

**Offer help.** Once the introductions are out of the way, let your neighbor know you can help with yard-work and snow shoveling. Many times, though, people

can be reluctant to accept assistance from others. One way around this: tell your neighbor that you (or your older children) have some volunteer requirements to fulfill.

**Run an errand.** Before you get into the car and drive to the store, ring the doorbell. Ask if there is anything you can pick up.

**Share the bounty.** When cooking a meal, bring a serving to your neighbor's house. Share fresh vegetables from the garden or the farmers market. Bring a sample of something you baked.

**Set up a neighbor date.** Invite your neighbor over for dinner, Sunday brunch or afternoon coffee. If conversation runs dry, some quiet activities can help pass the time, such as playing checkers or cards, putting together a jigsaw puzzle, or watching a classic movie.

Help your neighbor get in touch with **Dayton's Bluff Payne-Phalen Seniors.** We are a nonprofit that connects seniors with volunteers from your neighborhood who can take them to their appointments, help them with shopping, or just keep them company. In addition to these services, we give referrals. To learn more, visit our website or give us a call: [www.daytonsbuffseniors.org](http://www.daytonsbuffseniors.org) or 651-683-2326.

## Hands-on-service opportunity for youth and adults coming from across Minnesota and beyond!

Eric Buck  
Mounds Park United Methodist

For seven days in June, Urban CROSS (Christians Reaching Out in Service in Saint Paul) is reaching out to help Dayton's Bluff. From June 12 to June 18, students grades 6-12 and adults will serve the inner-city, culturally diverse neighborhoods of Saint Paul. This is an intergenerational event where participants make a real difference in the lives of city residents by providing needed hands-on-service through a variety of projects. Urban CROSS is a grassroots mission outreach of Mounds Park United Methodist Church and its community partners.

Groups of five youth and adults are formed and assigned various projects that can include scraping/painting, yardwork/landscaping, simple repairs, and demolition/light construction. Training, supplies, tools, and safety procedures are provided. Groups can also bring along additional tools/supplies.

Each day includes group time, service projects, showers, free-time, and evening youth worship. Meals are provided by various community restaurants and part-

ners. Evening worship features youth praise music, testimonies, prayers, and a meditation from a contemporary witness to God's presence. Wednesday night features a major community-wide picnic in Indian Mounds Regional Park with food, music and program around our week's theme: "On Sacred Ground."

While in Dayton's Bluff you can take the opportunity to see the six prehistoric Native American burial mounds, the original offices of 3M in St Paul, Hamm's Brewery, Old Swede Hollow, the Historic Airway Beacon, Wakan Tipi, and the homes of Chief Justice Warren Burger and Justice Harry Blackmun who both were United Methodists. If groups would like to stay an extra night to tour and explore sites within the Twin Cities, we can make arrangements for housing for either Saturday, June 11, or Saturday, June 18, just let us know. We can also offer suggestions and contacts for other regional places to visit.

Mounds Park UMC is an urban, multi-cultural, intergenerational, outwardly-focused congregation seeking to reach new people, cultivate spirituality, and strengthen community.

Learn more at [www.moundsparkumc.org/urbancross](http://www.moundsparkumc.org/urbancross). If you have any questions, please contact Eric Buck, 651-774-8736 or [urbancross.st.paul@gmail.com](mailto:urbancross.st.paul@gmail.com). Register for this event by getting in touch with Eric Buck by email or phone. Some scholarship funds are available.

### Dayton's Bluff District Forum

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Next issue: June 2016. Deadline for material: May 10, 2016.

## New organization helping Karen refugees in Dayton's Bluff

Carla Riehle  
Forum staff  
[carlariehle@gmail.com](mailto:carlariehle@gmail.com)

REACH Together, a new service center for refugees, has recently opened its doors at 1075 Hudson Road, just east of Earl Street. Known in the neighborhood for its glass block windows and Art Deco styling, the building was bought by Sheryl Fried about a year ago to serve the local community. Although the center serves all immigrants, the Karen are right now one of the largest populations in need, so Sheryl chose the location in part because of its proximity to the apartments near the south end of Johnson Parkway, now home to over 300 Karen refugee families, and possibly as many as 2,000 residents, out of a population of an estimated 9,000 Karen in Minnesota.

The Karen are an ethnic group originally from Burma that has long been subject to persecution and ethnic cleansing under the military government that took power in Burma (now known as Myanmar) in 1962. In 2005, after years of limiting the numbers of Karen refugees admitted to the US, the State Department began to remove restrictions, and, under the auspices of the United Nations High Commission on Refugees, Lutheran Social Services and many other charitable organizations, thousands began settling in this country, with Minnesota receiving the largest number.

Many of the refugees are not direct immigrants from Burma, but have lived in refugee camps in Thailand for years, hoping for a chance to resettle in another country and begin new lives. The majority of Karen in Minnesota are Christian and come to the US speaking no English and lacking skills needed in today's economy, although many are skilled arti-

sans in traditional crafts like weaving and basketmaking.

That's where efforts like the Karen Organization of Minnesota (KOM) and REACH Together come in. KOM has been in existence since 2007 and provides many services to the Karen population throughout Minnesota. However, with the growing Dayton's Bluff Karen population, Sheryl saw a need for a center within walking distance of their homes. Currently the center provides adult English classes; citizenship classes; basic social services like completing forms, making phone calls and reading mail; providing space for Karen weavers to work together and individual tutoring for high school students. Sheryl has just obtained IRS nonprofit status for REACH Together, making it eligible for grants and donations, but up to now, she has personally provided all the funding for the organization.



Sheryl Fried

Karen weavers at REACH Together.

REACH Together is working on finding ways for Karen artisans to sell their handwoven items at places like the annual Swede Hollow "Art in the Hollow" and this summer's East Side Open Market. The organization is also working with the city of St. Paul on possible sites for a Karen community garden.

Sheryl welcomes visitors to the center. Contact her at 651-774-3086 or [sfried@reachtogether.org](mailto:sfried@reachtogether.org). You can also visit the website for more information at [www.reachtogether.org](http://www.reachtogether.org). If you would like to make a financial contribution to help buy supplies for the weavers and to operate the center, visit [GiveMN.org](http://GiveMN.org) and search for REACH Together.

## An Edible Streetscape Blooming on East 7th Street

Katherine Su  
Urban Oasis

East 7th Street in Dayton's Bluff may not be a place typically associated with performance art – especially performance art about *food*. However, this summer Urban Oasis is partnering with Urban Roots and Dayton's Bluff Community Council to turn this busy urban street into an "Edible Streetscape of East Side Food Traditions," celebrating the beautiful journey that food takes from seeds and soil to various ethnic cuisines on our plates - and invites the community to become active participants as well.

The Edible Streetscape project will highlight the area's food traditions from seed to table in three parts: **Community Planting Day** – with community input, ten container gardens will be designed and placed at various points along East 7th Street between Maria Avenue and Margaret Street. On Thursday, May 26, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., everyone is invited to help plant the first crops in the community container gardens during Community Planting Day. Urban Roots

will also be hosting their first annual plant sale on-site from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

**Season of Growth** – Visit the ten container gardens to learn about diverse food traditions and see the plants growing into vegetables, herbs, and edible flowers. Each garden will feature information about the plants, where they are locally grown, sold, or used in the community, and example recipes which feature them as ingredients.

**Community Meal** – On August 6, East Side residents are invited to participate in a community meal celebrating the growing season and abundance of food traditions represented in the local community.

"The planting of new container gardens on East 7th Street brings a new look that encourages a walkable district, drawing visitors and residents alike to Dayton's Bluff," says Deanna Abbott-Foster, Executive Director at Dayton's Bluff Community Council.

To get involved, visit the Edible Streetscape webpage at [UrbanOasisMN.org/EdibleStreetscape](http://UrbanOasisMN.org/EdibleStreetscape) to keep up with the latest information and upload photo experiences onto the Urban Oasis Facebook page, and include the hashtag #EdibleStreets.



## The 7<sup>th</sup> annual Art in the Hollow festival will be held Saturday, June 4, in St. Paul's beloved Swede Hollow Park

Chelsea DeArmond  
Friends of Swede Hollow

Neighbors will join together on Saturday, June 4, for a day of celebrating diverse local talent at the Art in the Hollow festival in the beautiful and historic setting of Swede Hollow Park in St. Paul.

This community visual and performing arts festival is free and open to all ages. Artists demonstrate and sell their work in booths along the park's paths. Diverse musicians, dancers, and actors perform on an outdoor stage. Entries in the juried sculpture contest highlighting the intersection of art and nature are exhibited throughout the park. Swede Hollow's rich history as one of St. Paul's earliest settlements is also showcased in photographs and story-telling shared by local historians and neighbors.

The festival begins with a fanfare by the Mariachi Estrella band leading the way into Swede Hollow Park. Other performing artists this year will include guitarist and singer Paul Garding and professional organ grinder Angelo Rulli. Past performances have ranged from hula to break dancing, and from bluegrass to spoken word. True to Swede Hollow's roots as a cultural melting pot, Art in the Hollow showcases local talent that represents crafts and traditions from around the world.

Food trucks will be available throughout the day at the park entrance near the intersection of Beaumont Street and Drewry Lane. Free parking is available on Beaumont Street and Drewry Lane in the Hope Community Academy parking lot. Assistance is available for people who may need with walking help down the steep tunnel at the park's entrance.

Artists interested in exhibiting or performing can contact Karin DuPaul at (651) 776-0550 or [karin@swedehollow.org](mailto:karin@swedehollow.org). The application deadline is May 27, and the entry fee is \$15. Artists interested in entering the juried environmental sculpture competition can contact Mary Johnson at [maryj99@icloud.com](mailto:maryj99@icloud.com). Winners receive cash prizes. The application deadline is May 27, and the entry fee is \$10. For more information visit [www.artinthehollow.org](http://www.artinthehollow.org).



Karin DuPaul

The Mariachi Estrella band starting off the 2015 Art in the Hollow, heading down in the Drewry Lane Tunnel into Swede Hollow Park.

## Sierra Club members visit Dayton's Bluff

Karin DuPaul  
Forum Staff

Sierra Club members took a walk through Dayton's Bluff on April 9.

The walk started in Lowertown to the Bruce Vento Regional Trail, continued through Swede Hollow and up the

stairway to the upper park. They then met a local historian who continued to walk and talk with the group, sharing a little about Dayton's Bluff history and the houses of the neighborhood along the way.

The group traveled along Maple, across the freeway walking bridge and along Mounds Boulevard to Indian Mounds Park and then down to the Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary and back to Lowertown.



Karin DuPaul

Several members of the Sierra Club toured Dayton's Bluff on April 9, observing the nature of our parks and trails, and learning a bit about the history of our neighborhood along the way.

## Metropolitan State University announces "Born of Fire" glass arts exhibit

Robert Boos  
Metropolitan State University

Metropolitan State University Gordon Parks Gallery presents *Born of Fire: Selections from Foci-Minnesota Center for Glass Art*, featuring the glass art of instructors who teach at Foci-Minnesota Center for Glass Arts (MCGA), which is Minnesota's only non-profit, public-access community glass studio and education center.

"Because Foci-MCGA operates a fully equipped hot-shop facility, with equipment for kiln work, neon, fusing, and

sandcasting, the artwork that is created there is disparate, yet distinct. From delicate utilitarian vessels to sculptural objects, this exhibit surveys the expansive nature of the medium from the hands of masterful local artists," gallery director Erica Rasmussen said.

Exhibited artists include: Al Honn, Michael Boyd, Eric Dahlberg, Alli Luhmann, Elli Gagner, Bryan Ethier, Todd Cameron, and Kelly Nezworski.

The show runs from April 22 to July 14. The Gordon Parks Gallery is located in the Library and Learning Center on the St. Paul Campus at 645 East Seventh Street. Call 651-793-1631 or <http://www.metrostate.edu/msweb/ex-plore/cas/departments/cwa/gallery/> for more information.

## Fight hunger with Dayton's Bluff Seniors!

Forum Staff

Volunteers are needed to help deliver free groceries to seniors in the communi-

ty. This is an opportunity to make a huge impact in the lives of seniors!

If you are available on the first Thursday of the month in the early afternoon, call 651-683-2413 or email [volunteer@daytonsbuffseniors.com](mailto:volunteer@daytonsbuffseniors.com) to join the volunteer team! This can also be a one-time volunteer opportunity and/or a group activity.

## Swede Hollow Café Expands

Mark Gallagher  
Forum Associate Editor

When Ruth Campbell and her husband bought the Swede Hollow Café three years ago, they had a dream to expand upstairs; they just didn't expect it to be completed by October 31, 2015. They wanted time to get used to owning a coffee shop. The Campbells had some ideas for expansion, but they were not ready to put those ideas into place.

The catalyst for the upstairs expansion was the need install a new hood and ventilation system for the oven on first floor. "We could do it a little bit more efficiently if we did the upstairs expansion at the same time as we put in the new hood and ventilation system," Ruth said. "This made the expansion happen a little sooner than we anticipated."

The Campbells worked in conjunction with Cliff Carey, a member of the Stutzman Group who owns the building. "He is not an architect, but we also worked with an architect," Ruth said. "It took a fair amount of time, probably over a year, and part of that was just working with the city and making sure we met all of their requirements."

Cliff Carey did a lot of the construction on the expansion of the Swede Hollow Café. He is a regular customer and one of the building owners. The Stutzman Group is a group of five couples who purchased the building in the 1990s to fix it up and help the community.

Swede Hollow Café added a 28-seat expansion to its existing downstairs capacity of 35. One of the downstairs tables was moved to the upstairs expansion area. The café stayed open during its yearlong expansion and

worked around the noise while keeping the dust isolated.

"We expanded our menu a little bit before we did the expansion," Ruth said. "We may make more changes in the future, but we didn't expand it a lot in conjunction with the work we did upstairs." All the food, coffee, and other drinks are ordered downstairs, and the Campbells will probably keep it that way for now.

The building is located in the historic district of Dayton's Bluff. The Campbells worked with the Historical Preservation Committee (HPC) to incorporate historic aspects of the building during the expansion.

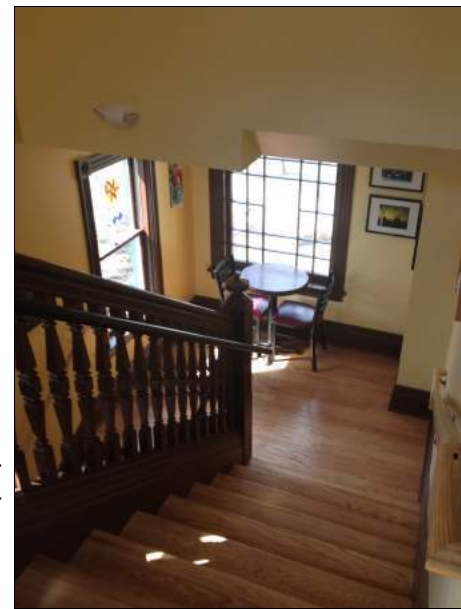
A sheet on the café bulletin board mentions some of the history of the area. The building is from the 1800s.

"There is brick upstairs like there is downstairs," Ruth said. "We have light fixtures in the addition that are salvaged from other old buildings, and they are in pretty good shape. There is a window up there that was salvaged from an old building, so there is also a lot of character up there. We also have a meeting room upstairs. Groups can reserve the room for one and a half or two hours with a minimum purchase.

"The people that come in seem to like the expansion," Ruth said. "Everyone enjoys having more space. It's easier for people to know they will be able to find a table when they come in for coffee.

"We also worked to expand the garden area. We have the upper patio chairs out there right now, and I hope to put the lower patio chairs out there next week. I really enjoy running the coffee shop. It has been a definite learning curve."

Mark Gallagher is the associate editor of the Dayton's Bluff Forum and a graduate of Metropolitan State University. Mark can be reached at [refineEditorial@gmail.com](mailto:refineEditorial@gmail.com)



Mark Gallagher

The stairwell going upstairs to the Swede Hollow Café expansion.



## Dakhóta Iápi Akíčhiyapi Kiŋ Dakota Language Bowl

*Brittany Anderson  
Dakota Language Bowl*

On Saturday, May 7, from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Harding High School (located at 1540 East 6<sup>th</sup> Street) will host the second annual Dakota Language Bowl in Saint Paul, MN. We gather together to share our love of the Dakota language and compete against each other in a good way. The competitors will test their knowledge of the Dakota language against each other. There are youth, adult beginner, and adult advanced categories. Lunch will be served. Come and show your love for the Dakota language!

The Dakota language is indigenous to Minnesota, and like many other indigenous languages in the US, has become endangered due to the effects of boarding schools, and policies which prohibited their use. As of 2009 in Minnesota, it is estimated that there are eight first language speakers of the Dakota Language, within those communities. While a small number of these speakers are in their fifties, most are over the age of sixty. The number of native speaking Dakota speakers is rapidly decreasing. The language bowl is working to increase the amount of Dakota language speakers.

Contact Brittany Anderson at (612) 626-5759 or branders@umn.edu for more information, or visit <http://and9484.wix.com/dakotaiaipi>.

## Keeping our neighborhood safe

*Jane Prince, Ward 7 – City Council*



Facebook/Jane Prince for Saint Paul's Ward 7

An outburst of gun violence in city neighborhoods in April has galvanized the attention of everyone living in Saint Paul. As of this writing, seven gun-related incidents took place during a single four-day period, leaving two dead and nine injured – from Hamline Midway to Summit University, West Seventh to Lexington and University, Payne Phalen to Indian Mounds Park.

In Indian Mounds Park, a 17-year-old youth was killed in what has been described as an act of “gang retaliation.” While Saint Paul Police are still investigating what happened, there were reports of hundreds of people in the park at the time, including families enjoying cook-outs and celebrating one of the most beautiful spring evenings so far this year.

As gunfire broke out, nearby neighbors opened their homes to mothers and children running from the violence. We are grateful that our community is a place where neighbors look out for each other as well as our visitors.

But the homeowners who provided a safe haven for others are themselves traumatized by the turn of events. They’ve been robbed of their peace of mind and worried about the safety of their own children. Learning that gun violence is happening in other Saint Paul neighborhoods is a cold comfort.

*What are we going to do about it?*

I can’t stress strongly enough that we all need to pay attention and call 911 when we see suspicious or potentially dangerous activity. Today, I heard from neighbors that they weren’t surprised by the gang violence, because they frequent-

ly witness drug dealing going down in our area.

PLEASE! If you see drug dealing, or something that looks like drug dealing, you need to call 911. Bad actors need to know that we don’t tolerate criminal behavior in our community.

*But what else can we do?*

As I have said in my earlier columns, all of our city’s children need convenient, free, and accessible recreation. As they grow into teens and young adults, they need safe places to gather, play, and let off steam.

As a City, we need to reexamine the budget decisions and policy choices that led us to close recreation centers. We’ve got to come up with the money to expand programs like GRIP – the Gang Reduction Intervention Program – run by Neighborhood House, which helps young people develop self-esteem to make better choices, helps them find educational opportunities and jobs.

We also need to work with our police department to expand the very successful community ambassador outreach program. Through this program started by the YMCA, community elders representing the diverse ethnic and racial backgrounds of the city’s kids, are dispatched to engage with young people in neighborhood hot spots threatened by gang violence.

These community leaders interact with youth in an effort to ease tensions and quell potential conflicts. This will be the third summer that the ambassadors will work with Saint Paul Police to help keep the peace in neighborhoods. The ambassadors are already working in Indian Mounds Park to prevent further outbreaks of violence.

When the ambassadors meet with youth, many of whom they know already, they try to build positive connections with them. The two biggest needs of the kids they meet? A job and a place to go. One ambassador said, “They think the adults in this city don’t care about them, because they’ve closed their rec centers.”

We need to keep looking out for each other, and we need to report suspicious activity. When lots of kids are gathering without enough to do, alert the police so they and the ambassadors can intervene to disperse them – and keep these young people out of harm’s way.

Our neighborhood isn’t alone in facing the challenges of gun violence. But Dayton’s Bluff is a special place where neighbors, in all our diversity, come together to find solutions. This summer, let’s reach out to new neighbors and get to know the kids on our block. Progress starts with a smile and a friendly hello.

## One step forward, two steps back

*Nick Duncan  
Forum Staff*

Sunday, April 17, started out as a great day in our neighborhood. The weather was fantastic, unseasonably warm and sunny – 80 degrees in mid-April, who could ask for more?

The 2016 Dayton's Bluff Vacant Home Tour started at 1:00 p.m. Many of us in the neighborhood were very enthusiastic. Our neighbors were going to challenge the city; they were going to save some classic properties in the historic district from the wrecking ball.

What happened? Success! Big time! Not only did a few people show up for the Vacant Home Tour, *everyone* showed up for the tour. At each property, the tour volunteers were overwhelmed by the enormous crowds. Hundreds of people showed up for the tour.

On this particular Sunday, people who had never thought of Dayton's Bluff as a

place to actually live and people who had never even heard of Dayton's Bluff at all were wandering around our neighborhood and loving it. People of all ages, all races, and all backgrounds were trying to figure out what they would need to buy a house in Dayton's Bluff.

Victory, right? Not so fast. Like so many times before in our neighborhood, it's two steps forward, one step back.

At 7:30 p.m. on this same beautiful Sunday, a young man was tragically shot and killed in Indian Mounds Park. Suddenly, the media wanted to make our neighborhood out to be the wild-west again. The murder capital of St Paul. Those of us who live here know that's not the case, but the media says so and people who don't know better listen.

But we know better. We don't forget all of the hard work our neighbors are putting in to make Dayton's Bluff a great place to live, a place to be proud of.

The Dayton's Bluff Vacant Home Tour was a success – a big success. That's a story that belongs on the front page. But what ended up on the front page was another tragedy, another life lost.

## MOUNDS PARK BARBER STYLISTS



APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE  
TUESDAY THRU SATURDAY

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SAINT PAUL, MN 55106

651-771-6980

*Judy Lee*

## Have city planners shortchanged the East Side?

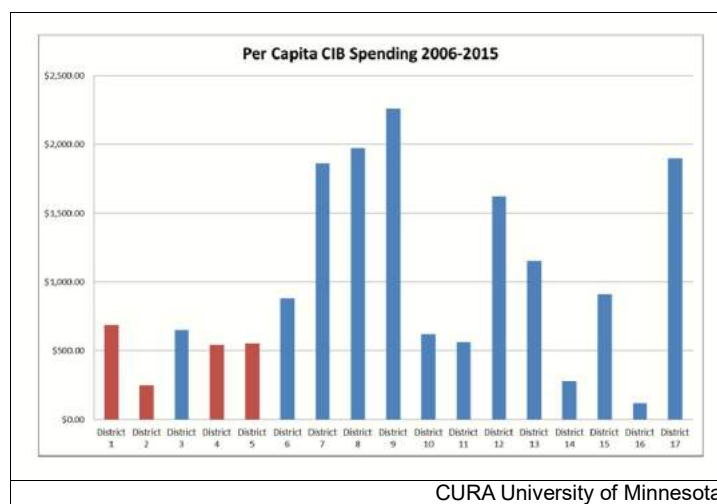
*Carla Riehle, Forum Staff  
carlariehle@gmail.com*

For years, East Siders have complained that the City of St. Paul treats the area as its poor relation, unworthy of adequate funding. They note the declining tax base in a community that predominately consists of people of color and has the city's largest aggregation of poverty, and they point to its closed schools and recreation centers and its crumbling infrastructure. They see the benefits of light rail going no farther east than the downtown Union Depot and projects like downtown's Palace Theater receiving millions in funding. Meanwhile, on the East Side, public transportation languishes and the nation's first charter school, City Academy at Case and Jessie, is plagued with mold and other problems.

However, up to now there haven't been any hard numbers to rely on.

Two neighborhood development organizations – Dayton's Bluff Neighborhood Housing Services and

East Side Neighborhood Development Company (ESNDC) are hoping to change that. They've teamed up with the Metropolitan Consortium of Community Developers and the Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA) at the University of Minnesota's Humphrey Institute to undertake research that will nail down the facts.



CURA University of Minnesota

The project is focusing on the Capital Improvement Budget (CIB) process in the City of St. Paul and is totting up the details of expenditures on East Side projects

versus the rest of St. Paul. Although the CIB process was set up to provide the city's residents with an opportunity to weigh in on capital projects – infrastructure, buildings and the like – those recommendations have often not been implemented.

Under the CIB process, although the city's 17 district councils and its 18-member CIB committee make recommendations, they are not binding when they arrive at the mayor's desk and, according to John Vaughn of ESNDC, are frequently disregarded to the detriment of the East Side. The graph to the left demonstrates the inequality in CIB spending over the last ten years in District Council areas 1, 2, 4 and 5, which make up the East Side.

John believes that when the research is complete, and is added to other inequities that he's documented in city spending, it will be difficult for city planners to deny that the East Side has indeed been shortchanged.

Both Dan Bostrom and Jane Prince, the City Council members representing most of the area, have agreed to tentative plans calling for a community meeting in the fall to take stock of what the numbers mean for the East Side. John says that if the current course is not changed, he fears that St. Paul is destined to become two cities that are divided along income, class, and racial lines.



## Be compassionate on Mother's Day

Jennifer Herman  
Forum Staff

Mother's day is coming up on Sunday, May 8, and one might assume that celebrating mom is a popular thing to do. In fact, according to Hallmark, the holiday for mothers ranks third in the number of cards sent. But googling "I hate Mother's Day" tells another story, yielding pages of sites created by people who are struggling not celebrating. People might struggle on Mother's Day for a variety of reasons: they've lost their mother, they were abandoned or abused by their mother, they struggle with infertility and cannot become a mother, they lost a child, they were adopted and now have multiple moms and mixed feelings, there was a falling out with their mother/child, their children are small and their Dad forgets Mother's day every year, their children are grown and they ignore Mother's day every year, and on and on. You might be lucky enough to receive a pansy or marigold stuffed in a cup of dirt, or a tissue paper flower on a pipe cleaner stem, or a slightly unusual breakfast creation prepared by a junior chef, or a crayon and construction paper card with carefully scrawled endearments. Maybe you'll enjoy brunch out with your mother or children; maybe you'll get

or send a sentimental card and a bouquet of beautiful flowers. If any of this is your experience I encourage you to cherish the moment and count yourself blessed. But also remember and be sensitive to the many folks around you who are sad and struggling. They are avoiding Facebook because of the sadness or guilt they feel after viewing pictures of happy families and reading sentimental tributes to mothers; they might be skipping church and the painful experience of watching all of the other mothers being honored; they are staying away from restaurants crammed with laughing families; they've been steering clear of the card aisle at stores for weeks now.

Some of our friends and family members could use a little extra compassion on Mother's Day. Think about using Facebook to send a private message of encouragement to someone who might be struggling and consider toning down or skipping your Facebook celebration of your mother. Be generous with comforting words and hugs, just your acknowledgment of someone's pain can go a long way toward easing it. Finally, if you "Hate Mother's Day" reclaim the day and take care of yourself -- hang out with people who make you laugh, do something special or indulge in a favorite treat. At the end of Sunday, May 8, if you breathe a sigh of relief for simply surviving the day, please know that you are in the company of lots of other wonderful people who feel exactly the same way.

## Alfred J. Hill: Local Archaeologist and Philanthropist

Steve Trimble  
Forum Historian

Alfred J. Hill was born in London, England in 1833 and as a youngster immersed himself in history and archaeology. He was trained as a civil engineer and came to the United States in 1854. He first lived in Red Wing, Minnesota, with its large concentration of mounds and earthworks. It seems likely the stay there sparked his interest in American Indian antiquities.



Minnesota Historical Society

Alfred J. Hill, circa 1880.

Hill moved to St. Paul in 1855 and started a long career as a draftsman in the state land office. His interest in mapping and his position in the state land office

presented an opportunity to pursue archaeology. He contacted other surveyors working in Minnesota and sought information on the location, number, and size of any mounds or other archaeological material.

During the Civil War, Hill served in the Sixth Minnesota Infantry which was involved in the Dakota War and Hill was then sent to Washington, D.C., to the office of topographical engineers. After the war, Hill returned to St. Paul, joined the Minnesota Historical Society, and served as an officer of the Committee on Archaeology.

Hill was determined to find, sketch, and investigate burial mounds and other structures, mostly in the Upper Midwest. Hill sent around a circular requesting information on any known mounds and other antiquities throughout the state. The information sent in was organized in a series of large notebooks. However, in the 1870s, the Historical Society discontinued the Committee on Archaeology.

Hill continued on his own. He had been hoping for an extensive survey of the ancient earthworks of Minnesota and adjacent states. Funds for such a survey were not available from public sources and obtaining an appropriate person to conduct the survey was even more difficult.

Hill did do some work and wrote that he had found 39 mounds in Dayton's Bluff in the late 1870s, in two separate groups. He dug into one and found "just a few human remains," but also a ceramic pipe and "a large number of sea shell beads closely packed together." But he never viewed himself as a trained scientist. He once said "I told my friends that I was only keeping the place warm until a real archaeologist should turn up." And it happened -- Hill met Theodore Lewis in 1880 and knew that the "real archaeologist" he hoped for had arrived.

## Zintkalan Nuni: Lost Bird of Wounded Knee

Steve Trimble  
Forum Staff

Making it to the regional level of National History Day is quite an accomplishment. While visiting the event at Johnson High School, I met a group from the American Indian Magnet School located at Third and Earl Streets. The sixth-grade trio was composed of two American Indians and one Hmong girl. Their display board was titled "Zintkalan Nuni: Lost Bird of Wounded Knee."

I asked a few questions. Among them was, "how did you come up with the topic?" One of the girls said that her mother is from Pine Ridge, South Dakota, and had heard stories about the Wounded Knee Massacre.

It is an interesting and little-known story. On December 29, 1890, U.S. soldiers surrounded a group of Lakota in South Dakota and began to disarm them. Gunfire broke out and the troops began indiscriminately shooting men, women, and children -- killing over two hundred. Four days later, a rescue party found a live baby on the banks of a creek, protected underneath her mother's frozen body. General Leonard

Colby, who had just arrived on the scene, decided to keep the little girl.

The three students used a variety of sources. Going to libraries, talking to the group member's mother, and of course searching the internet where they found photos and documents. They found out about Zintkalan Nuni, the Lakota term for Lost Bird in English. It is not known what her actual Lakota name had been.

Unfortunately, the students found out that the story is not a happy one. Zintkala Nuni encountered two cultures and unfortunately was not warmly embraced by either. Colby ended up showing little interest in the child and she was eventually passed from one family to another. Like so many other Native children, she was sent to a boarding school. She faced racism, was not able to fit into Lakota culture, and was often in ill health from diseases to which she had no resistance.

She married, but the family struggled. Having moved to California, she died at the age of 29 and was given a pauper's burial.

Recently, a woman who researched the story paid to have Lost Bird's remains exhumed according to Lakota customs and brought to South Dakota. Zintkala Nuni is now buried with her family in the Wounded Knee Memorial Cemetery located near the site of the massacre.



Steve Trimble

The three sixth-grade students who created the history display. Left to right: Leloni, Skyla, and Kasissi.

Hill agreed to devote up to ten percent of his financial resources toward the survey and Lewis would conduct the field portion of the project. The Northwestern Archaeological Survey was born. Hill was somewhat wealthy, having wisely invested in real estate when there was money to be made.

Lewis made his headquarters at Hill's home at 406 Maria Avenue in St. Paul and lived there for the next fifteen years. One author claimed "the house on Maria Avenue was the center of the most extensive archaeological activity ever privately initiated and supported on the American continent."

Hill provided \$16,200 over the 15-year period and the survey painstakingly documented more than 2,000 mound and village sites containing more than 17,000 individual mounds and earthworks.

Hill died suddenly of typhoid pneumonia on June 15, 1895, thus ending the Northwestern Archaeological Survey. He was 62 years old, and his death was unexpected. No will could be found for his estate. Lewis claimed that Hill planned to leave funds to complete and publish the

survey, but there was no proof of this.

There was a lengthy probate process, which included a lawsuit and a claim by a mysterious fiancé who said she and Hill were on the verge of being married. A court ruled that because Hill died without a will his estate had to be given to his nearest living relatives. They turned out to be two elderly cousins living in Ontario and England.

Hill's house is gone, taken for a parking lot by St. John's Hospital years ago. He is buried in Oakland Cemetery. One source summed up the importance of the man who lived in our neighborhood: "Much of our knowledge of the mounds and earthworks of Minnesota is due to the quiet industry and generous nature of Alfred J. Hill." If you want to see more information, check out "Mounds Survey Made by Alfred J. Hill in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and South Dakota" Minnesota Archaeologist 64 (2005):145-151 at Minnesota Historical Society or go online and enter "Paul Nelson" and "Indian Mounds" into the keyword search where you will find an excellent article.



**Apryl Around Town –**

Forum assistant editor Apryl Cave takes readers along as she explores things to see and do in the neighborhoods surrounding Dayton's Bluff.

**Mears Park Beefs up its Restaurant Game With a Contemporary Pig-centric and Bourbon Slingin' Eatery**

Apryl Cave  
Forum Assistant Editor

Carol March, owner of Public Kitchen has ventured to make Lower-town a lively spot among diners of all types. March opened St. Paul's latest delicious eatery, Handsome Hog, in the old Bin Wine Bar spot right next to Public Kitchen, they're so close they even share the same bathroom downstairs.

The decor blends the modern, almost steampunk-like feel (with the chandeliers) with an old, classic farm feel. The place is perfectly lit to make your food look just as handsome as your date or vice versa. Handsome Hog's service is also just as charming with gracious and friendly servers, as well as Chef Justin Sutherland himself taking small breaks to come out and chat with the patrons, adorned in his famous wide-brimmed "True Cooks Braisers" Snapback hat (an urban lifestyle brand made just for chefs) which makes him feel like more of an inviting and approachable friend rather than a stuffy, prestigious chef.

Justin Sutherland hails his cooking experience from Le Cordon Bleu College of Culinary Arts in Atlanta, as well as from heading the kitchens at St. Paul's Meritage and its sister restaurant, Brasserie Zentral. A fellow Lowertown-

er for six years, his neighbors are now the ones reaping the benefits -- a swanky new spot to grab a glass of bourbon or a selected pig of the day.

Handsome Hog opened on March 21, and has already brought with it a new and exciting taste to Saint Paul. The contemporary southern menu created by Sutherland has excited not only the neighbors but Tin Whiskers, the Saint Paul Brewing Company. The brewing company has supplied Handsome Hog with it's own specialty tap "Handsome Hog Smoke Ale" a light, smoked-bourbon infused, oaky beer that pairs perfectly with all the tastes mingling about the restaurant.

Besides the beer, Handsome Hog also dishes out cocktails sure to please everyone, not just bourbon lovers (although the bourbon slushy might just please everyone). The restaurant also serves up a mean gin fizz, a cloud of citrusy-gin perfection, as well as a delicious vodka, sage, lemon, and pineapple cocktail titled "Sage against the Machine."

As for the main course or courses, depending on how hungry you are, the chicken and waffles has become a fan favorite – it's light but sweet and the savory buttermilk batter really makes you forget what you've just ordered, it's so delicious. The rosemary and pear-infused waffle is an added bonus.

Chef Sutherland's favorite is the chicken and waffles, but he also recommends something called "The Farm," which is a braised oxtail dish served with a buttermilk biscuit, duck egg, and crispy pig's ear. If you prefer something more toned down they also offer baby back ribs, beef brisket, pulled BBQ sandwiches, and salads.

With delicious entrees and home-cooked mac and cheese or franks 'n beans sides you might just want to order the whole menu. Just remember, it's a place dedicated to the curly tailed, pink farm animal, so it's okay to pig out.

**East Side Eating – Trimble's Taste Trek**

Forum contributor Steve Trimble ate 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 59 may now be found online at [daytonsbuffdistrictforum.org](http://daytonsbuffdistrictforum.org): click on "East Side Eating" on the top of the home page.

**La Cabana**

863 E 7<sup>th</sup> Street  
(651) 774-7547  
Open daily: 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.  
Facebook/lacabana

There was a three inch snow the night before and trying to avoid the predicted three to eight inches in the late afternoon, I thought it prudent to have lunch during the lull.

There is a small parking lot and off-street spaces. Reservations are accepted, but not necessary. I went toward the building and was greeted by signs in the window that told of the availability of tortas, cerveza, and some daily specials. They keep Mexican beers on-hand, in addition to offering margaritas and a full bar.

I was there for a 1:00 p.m. lunch and there were a few other diners. Latino soaps were on the televisions. If I had come earlier, I could have ordered breakfast. Maybe huevos rancheros, consisting of two fried eggs and salsa on corn tortillas or a breakfast burrito.

There is a selection of seafood fishes. Deep fried mojarra (fish) with vegetables and others with garlic sauce or spicy sauce. There is also seafood soup and shrimp with rice and salad. There are seven camarones (shrimp) dishes served with different cooking styles. Entrees are served with beans, rice, and salad. Here are some of the options available: "Pollo en Molechicken" drumstick and thigh with mole sauce, "Pollo a la Mexicanos" chicken strips cooked with onions, tomatoes, jalapenos, and pork in green salsa.

There are some beef items as well, including Bistek a la Mexicana, Bistek a la Diabla, which is seasoned steak with spicy salsa, and milanesa (breaded steak).

When I sat down, the server brought me a basket of tortilla chips and two different sauces. I had three flautas – crispy rolled tacos filled with cheese and two sides of guacamole and sour cream. Too early for beer, so I added a real Mexican Coke.



Steve Trimble

Artwork inside of La Cabana.

Karaoke hours are Viernes (Friday) 6:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m., Sabado (Saturday) noon to 2:00 a.m., and Domingo (Sunday) noon to midnight.



Apryl Cave

Chef Justin Sutherland (at left) surveying the scene at Handsome Hog.

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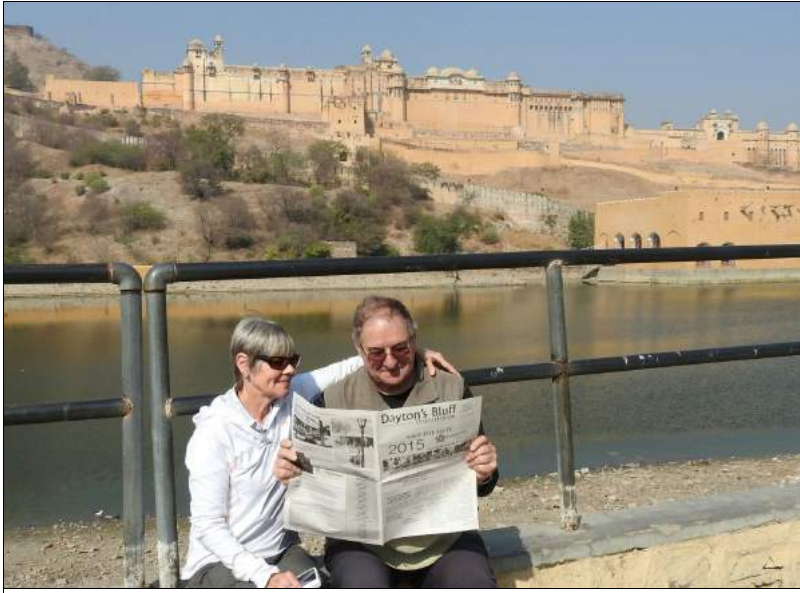


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### Have Forum, will travel...



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.

Larry Meuwissen and Joyce Maddox took a time out to catch up on the news at home while visiting the Amber Fort just outside Jaipur, India.



Young Bluff residents, Lance and Moriah, brought the Forum along on their spring break trip to Manitoba, Canada, eh!



Hot off the presses (or the smartphone, as the case may be) is a photo of the Forum in Venice, Italy, with Mary Block, Mark Cosimini, and some real-live gondolas in the background.

### Book review: A Good Time for the Truth Race in Minnesota

Carla Riehle  
Forum Staff

The Minnesota Historical Society Press has just published *A Good Time for the Truth: Race in Minnesota*, a compilation of essays from 16 Minnesota writers of color. Edited by Sun Yung Shin, the book is a unique offering in the growing collection of literature about race, as it brings together a wide variety of racial and cultural experiences in our state.

The essays include the experiences of IBé, an African immigrant entering a "sea of white that I constantly had to come to terms with" to Heid Erdrich, of both Ojibwe and Caucasian parentage, who says "My face lies about my race, my whiteness defies me and defines me," and Kao Kalia Yang, who became the object of snickers and sneers from two white women in a bowling alley restroom.

While Minnesota is 85 percent white, that proportion is rapidly changing and the East Side has changed even more, with a population that is now around 60% people of color. In a way, the book represents a microcosm of our own neighborhood and offers a chance to readers of any background to learn about the experiences of people who could be living next door to them.

At a book launch at the Minnesota History Center in April, keynote speaker Nekima Levy-Pounds spoke about living in a society that is built and structured around white privilege.

"We don't like to talk about it but every single system that we have . . . has been impacted by the system of white supremacy," she said, and challenged the audience to "open their eyes and see the reality of life for people of color." This book will help meet that challenge. It is available at the Minnesota History Center bookstore, Amazon, and other bookstores.



Photo courtesy of Minnesota Historical Society Press

Nekima Levy-Pounds and a young event-goer pose together at the Book Launch Celebration for *A Good Time for the Truth: Race in Minnesota*, held at the Minnesota History Center on April 5.

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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 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.

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**Our goal for the year is \$2,000; as of this printing we have raised \$765. Will you help us?**

Sincerely,  
The Dayton's Bluff District Forum

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