

Dayton's Bluff District Forum

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daytonsbuffdistrictforum.org

"The Voice of the Community"



Karin DuPaul

Local business, Bees on the Bluff, was featured at the Urban Pollinator Festival held at Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary on Saturday, July 15. Bees on the Bluff, a small business started by Jeff Borden (left), and Catherine Hoffer (right), specializes in organic honey produced from two hives on a third floor balcony in the Dayton's Bluff neighborhood.

Celebrate the 34th Annual National Night Out with your neighbors!

Karin DuPaul
Forum Staff

Celebrate our great Dayton's Bluff neighborhoods at National Night Out on **Tuesday, August 1**, with your family, friends, and neighbors. Neighborhood groups and individual neighbors are planning a variety of activities for their celebrations. Some neighborhoods have a barbecue or a pot luck meal, others may go as far as to have a magic show, live bands, games, kids parade, and many more creative activities to get neighbors celebrating and hanging out together. This is the 34th Annual National Night Out, which is celebrated nationwide. It's always nice to bring a dish or something to share and join your neighbors. Another way to celebrate is to get all of your neighbors to turn on outside lights from dusk to dawn.

Dayton's Bluff celebrations include: **Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis**, at 777 Forest Street, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.; **Indian Mounds Park neighborhood** at Earl and Mounds Boulevard from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.; **Maple Street between 4th and 5th**

Streets from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.; **Dellwood Gardens** parking lot at 753 East 7th Street, from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.; **Upper Swede Hollow Neighbors** at Greenbrier and Margaret Streets from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.; **Mounds Park United Methodist Church** at Earl and Euclid Streets from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.; **Saint Paul Federal Credit Union** at 1330 Conway from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.; and **Our Saviour's Lutheran Church**, 674 Johnson Parkway, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., featuring a clothing and household items giveaway from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign promoting police-community partnerships and neighborhood unity to make our neighborhoods safer, better places to live. National Night Out was started in 1983 by the National Association of Town Watch, a non-profit organization dedicated to enhancing the communities in which we live through an established network of law enforcement agencies, neighborhood watch groups, civic groups, state and regional crime prevention associations, and volunteers across the nation.

Citizens, law enforcement agencies, community groups, businesses, youth organizations and local, state and federal officials from thousands of communities from all 50 states, U.S. territories and military bases worldwide will join forces to celebrate the 34th Annual National Night Out in 2017.

Karin DuPaul can be reached at editor@daytonsbuff.org.

What's the buzz? Urban Pollinator Festival lands in Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary

Nick Duncan
Forum Staff

On Saturday, July 15, the Lower Phalen Creek Project hosted an Urban Pollinator Festival in the Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary. Visitors were treated to activities including pollinator garden

tours, planting, art projects, workshops on starting pollinator projects at home and in school, and more. Pollinator-inspired products were offered for sale, and lunch was available from a selection of food trucks.

In the last decade or so, Urban Pollinator projects have sprung up in cities across the country and internationally to help fight the alarming global decline of bees and other pollinating insects. At the local level, Bees on the Bluff, located on Forest and Beech Streets, opened this year offering neighborhood-produced honey. To purchase your own Dayton's Bluff made honey, visit beesonthebluff.com or call 651-338-7163.

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

Where in Dayton's Bluff?

More chances to win great local prizes!

Tell us where in Dayton's Bluff the photo on page 4 was taken. Send your guess to editor@daytonsbuff.org. The first correct entry will win a great prize from a local business!

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Dayton's Bluff Take-a-Hike

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.** **There will be no hike in August; the next hike will be on Saturday, September 9.** 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 meeting on **Thursday, August 3, at 6:30 p.m.** **Please note that meetings are now on Thursday.** 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, August 2, 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 Saint Paul 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, August 16, 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.

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 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 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.**



No August events were scheduled at time of printing. Visit moundstheatre.org for information on upcoming events as it becomes available. The Historic Mounds Theatre is located at 1029 Hudson Road, St. Paul, MN 55106; 651-772-2253; historicmoundstheatre@gmail.com.

August at the Dayton's Bluff Library

The following events will be held at the Dayton's Bluff library, 645 East Seventh Street, Saint Paul:

On **Fridays in August**, Dayton's Bluff Library will present family-friendly movies. On **Friday, August 4**, catch *The Last Mimzy*; On **Friday, August 11**, the library will show *The Jungle Book*; and on **Friday, August 18**, *Beauty and the Beast* will be featured. All movies start at **1:00 p.m.** in the community room.

Thursday, August 3, 10, 17, 21, and 31, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., join the library for a casual gathering to practice speaking English for beginning language learners.

Acompáñenos en la biblioteca para una reunión informal para practicar hablando inglés con otras personas que están aprendiendo el lenguaje.

Ku soo biir ardayda makatabada joogta ee wax baranaayo, kuna hadal luuqada ingriiska.

Los koom peb, tim lub tsev nyeem ntawv, xyaum hais lus askiv.

Saturday, August 5, 12, 19, and 26, from noon to 2:00 p.m.: *Maker Space in the FunZONE!* Play computer games like Minecraft, and enjoy other hands-on fun in the Zone.

Monday, August 21, from noon to 1:30 p.m., Don't miss the Eclipse! Get a safe view of the solar eclipse at the Dayton's Bluff Library! Protective glasses and other viewing options will be provided.

Check out board games at the library! The Metro State library now has a board game collection available to all! Library visitors can play the games in the library or check them out for two weeks. The full list of games can be viewed at <http://bit.ly/MetroGames> and all are available to the public.

Every **Third Tuesday**, the Library holds *Game Night*, an event with free console games, board, and card games, snacks, and fun for all ages. *Game Night* runs from **4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.** in the first floor student lounge of the Metro State Library.

August 8, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., Teens Know Best! Teens have exclusive access to books before they are

published! This group meets on the second Tuesday of every month to share opinions and pizza. *Teens Know Best* members are expected to write reviews of the books they read. The reviews are submitted directly to the publishers to help guide their decisions. New members can register at the meeting. Call 651-632-3873 for more information.

Just for teens: This year's *Summer Spark* invites teens to read their choice of books, rate them, and earn entries in a drawing to win a Nintendo Switch and three games! This teen-exclusive prize will be awarded at the end of the summer.

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

August at the East Side Freedom Library

Tuesday, August 1, at 7:00 p.m., the ESFL invites you to enjoy a free screening of the film *My People are my Home*.

Meridel LeSueur's 45 minute creative documentary, made in 1976 by a Twin Cities women's film collective, follows the text of several of Meridel's writings woven with images of Midwestern people, particularly working class women. It captures and represents Meridel's work with the artistic depth and edge it deserves.

After the film and discussion, Ward 6 (858 Payne Avenue) invites you to enjoy happy hour pricing on drinks (\$4 for draft beers, selected wines, and rail drinks) in the great tradition of labor fellowship and solidarity.

Thursday, August 3, at 7:00 p.m., Sing Harmony, Hungry Hearts! Gather together to use your voice to sing your truth and welcome others at the ESFL's monthly song circle. Come to sing with your neighbors!

Friday, August 4, from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., don't miss Storytelling through Vinyl and Film: *Searching for Sugar Man*, part of a monthly collaboration with A Greener Read Bookstore and ESFL.

At **5:00 p.m.**, meet for happy hour and listen to South African and folk music at a Greener Read, located at 506 Kenny Road, St. Paul. Then, head to the East Side Freedom Library to screen the 2012 documentary *Searching for Sugar Man*, about a Latino Detroit folksinger who is obscure at home but becomes a significant voice for white South Africans who are questioning apartheid. This event is 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 as they become available.

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 email info@daytonsbluff.org or call 651-774-3510 to sign up and start getting updates delivered directly to your inbox today!



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 target 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.

Roaming Rec at Indian Mounds Park

Roaming Rec runs **through August 14, on Mondays from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.** at Indian Mounds Park. Roaming Rec is a free summer youth program offering outdoor games, arts and crafts, and other recreation activities at parks and other locations around Saint Paul. Snacks will be served at each session. For more information, call 651-292-6508.

Be a tourist in your own city

Take a free Saint Paul walking tour

Now through September, Landmark Center guides will lead three different walking tours of Saint Paul. Tours are free and operate on a rotating schedule, **Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m.**

The second Wednesday of each month, the Rice Park tour departs from Landmark Center's Visitor Information Desk. The tour circles one of Saint Paul's most iconic parks, and stops in the surrounding buildings which give the park its central role in city events and celebrations.

On the **third Wednesday of each month**, the Heart of the City tour departs from inside Landmark Center's North Lobby (6th Street entrance). This tour travels down St. Peter Street, pointing out some of the most famous landmarks and influential buildings in St. Paul's history, including the Hamm Building and Mickey's Diner.

Finally, the Great River tour begins at Upper Landing Park (Shepard Road and Eagle Parkway) and walks along the mighty Mississippi. It highlights buildings and locations that helped make Saint Paul the city it is today. This tour runs the **fourth Wednesday of each month**.

All tours are FREE, operate June through September, and begin at **10:00 a.m.** Space is limited. Reservations are required and open four weeks prior to each tour date. For more information or to make a reservation please call 651-292-3063 or visit www.landmarkcenter.org/visit/walkingtours.html.

St. Paul teen to perform in *Nordsaga*, a rollicking adventure through the Nine Realms of Norse mythology

Carolyn Will
Circus Juventas/CW Communications

On an average day, St. Paul native Mariana Thompson makes a number of important decisions, one of which includes the fate of all mortal men.

Thompson, a Dayton's Bluff resident, is a performer with Circus Juventas in the summer show *Nordsaga*, a swirling, high-flying adventure through the Nine Realms of Norse legend. The show runs from **July 28, through August 13, 2017**, under the Big Top at 1270 Montreal Avenue, St. Paul. The story is told through the *cirque nouveau* style, combining artistic storytelling with wondrous physical feats in the tradition of Cirque du Soleil. The show features Circus Juventas' most advanced circus performers in a professionally staged, large-scale theatrical production.

Thompson's character is *Eir*, a Valkyrie. "My character is the lead Valkyrie," she explained. "Valkyries are sent down and decide who gets to live or who gets to die."

One of *Nordsaga*'s most spectacular highlights will be a custom designed Russian Cradle act, featuring a 15-foot swinging Viking ship along with four flyers, four catchers and four pumpers who move the ship, creating a whirlwind of aerial acrobatics, brute strength and fearlessness. The act was created by Circus Juventas coach Dmitiri Arnaoutov, who grew up as part of a famed circus family with the Moscow Circus. Dmitiri's father created the very first Russian Cradle act in 1936.

Brave New Workshop's co-artistic director Katy McEwen wrote the script for *Nordsaga*, which will be narrated by a local talent. It tells the tale of a midgardian (mortal) named Leif, who stumbles upon a mythic library and is transported into the Nine Realms. After landing in Asgard, he is sent on a path to retrieve the lost hammer of Thor. He encounters crafty, riddling dwarves, spritely elves with a sinister agenda, grumpy giants, and thieving trolls. Ultimately, he is united with an unlikely rival, the God of Thunder himself. Together they undertake a perilous journey to retrieve the hammer and stop Ragnarok – the destruction of the universe.

"The epic nature of Norse legend was an ideal canvas for us to showcase our highest

caliber circus feats that will leave the audience holding their breath in amazement," said Elizabeth "Betty" Butler, Circus Juventas co-founder and artistic director.

Nordsaga performances run **Friday, July 28, through Sunday, August 13**. Evening shows begin at **7:00 p.m.** and weekend matinees start at **1:00 p.m.** Shows last three hours including a 20 minute intermission. Tickets range from \$17.50 to \$40 VIP seats. Family 4 Packs of tickets are available for Saturday matinees. For complete details and to order tickets visit www.ticketworks.com.

Circus Juventas is a 501(c)3 non-profit and the largest youth performing arts circus school in North America. Over the past 23 years, co-founders Dan and Betty Butler have seen their dream grow into a year-round program that serves more than 2,500 children and youth up to age 21 with a diverse array of circus arts training and performance opportunities in a noncompetitive setting. Circus Juventas mission is to inspire artistry and self-confidence through a multicultural circus arts experience that encourages leadership and life skills, teamwork, athleticism, artistry, pursuit of excellence and community service. For more information, visit <http://circusjuventas.org>.

Tickets for *Nordsaga* are on sale now at www.ticketworks.com, 612-343-3390, or by calling the Circus Juventas Box Office, 651-699-8229. More information is available at www.circusjuventas.org.

Tickets regularly sell out, so make like Thor and put the hammer down!



Photo courtesy of Circus Juventas

Mariana Thompson stars as *Eir*, the lead Valkyrie in *Nordsaga*.




Greg Cosimini

Two young bald eagles hanging out on the Mounds Park Airway Beacon tower on Saturday, July 8, in Indian Mounds Regional Park.

ELDER CAFÉ

Thursday, August 10, 2017
12:00 Noon – 2:00 pm
463 Maria Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55106




LOWER PHALEN CREEK PROJECT

What's Happening at the Lower Phalen Creek Project?

Melanie Kleiss will give an update on the Wakan Tipi Center and the work being done by the Lower Phalen Creek Project.

Hope you can join us for a nourishing meal and great conversation!

Call (651) 683-2326 to make a reservation* or to request a free ride!



East Side Elders

Event is **free** for seniors 60+ who reside in the Dayton's Bluff, Payne-Phalen and Conway-Battle Creek areas of Saint Paul.

All others are welcome to make a \$10 donation to East Side Elders.

*We cannot guarantee a meal without a reservation.

Food insecurity: What is it?

Pastor Carl Johnson
Faith to the Nations Dinner Church

When we say we have a mission to abolish "food insecurity," some people don't understand what we mean or have never heard the term. Faith to the Nations Dinner Church has been traveling the United States bringing awareness of food insecurity, and we're now in Dayton's Bluff working with neighborhood churches and other organizations to educate those unfamiliar with the term. In layman's terms, food insecurity is what happens when you don't have secure access to food when you need it.

Food insecurity means four things: not having access to food, not living in or near an adequate place of food distribution, not having access to a stable food supply, and not knowing how to prepare the food. In Ramsey County, there are 67,000 people who are considered "food insecure."

Why is food insecurity such a big deal? Well, there are things that happen (or don't

happen) when people can't eat. Transportation, housing, utility bills, and medication are a sampling of the areas of life negatively affected by those suffering from food insecurity.

We believe that as a faith community, we can abolish food insecurity in Dayton's Bluff through our core values of community, compassion, courage, and completeness. We believe that we are authentic in exploring our journey of faith as a community. We care intentionally for our neighborhood with compassion. Through courage we take risks, and we find completeness in our mission when we worship together not separately. We believe this to be such a big job; only with the help of God can we provide a response to it.

Faith to the Nations Dinner Church will meet on **Saturday, August 26, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**, sharing a table with the Dayton's Bluff neighborhood. Inviting your neighbors and friends to dinner is a great way to be a part of what we are doing; but before you come, ask yourself these two questions: Do I run out of food before I get paid next? Do I run out of money before I can buy food?

We hope to see you on **August 26** at the Dayton's Bluff Recreation Center, located at 800 Conway Street, St. Paul.

East St. Paul gains nearly \$800,000 from legislative session

Amelia Cerling Hennes
Senate DFL Media

Several weeks after the tumultuous end to the 2017 Legislative Session, Sen. Fong Hawj (DFL-St. Paul) is reaching out to constituents to talk about some of the lesser-known successes that came out of the legislature this year, including: \$300,000 for the Eastside Enterprise Center. This money will be used to expand culturally tailored resources that address small business growth and job creation; \$400,000 for the Grow-It Center at Metro State University. This money will help create a year-round learning hub for scientists, students of all ages, and community practitioners to exchange knowledge and grow healthy communities. This center aims to generate best practices in sustainable urban agriculture, healthy food production, and inspire the next generation to solve these issues; \$75,000 for the creation of a Sepak Takraw court in St. Paul. Sepak Takraw is a traditional Southeast Asian sport that

is played over a net and requires players to touch the ball using only their feet, knees, head, and chest – similar to soccer; and a significant increase of \$483 million for K-12 funding over the next two years. This money will fund a 2% increase in the basic funding formula as well as \$50 million in on-time funds for a new pilot early education program.

"This session will certainly not be remembered for embracing and helping immigrant communities. That being said, as a proud voice for immigrants in Minnesota, and the only state senator of Hmong descent – we were able to accomplish some good things for our community. I am particularly happy about the money for the Eastside Enterprise Center. Assisting small businesses and helping expand job creation in our neighborhoods will strengthen our families and the entire East St. Paul region," said Sen. Hawj.

"I realize some of you might have come across a study that our East Side has not been getting its fair share of capital investment resources. I am concerned and will work hard to replenish our equity. Therefore, I encourage your ideas and partnership" said Sen. Hawj.

Mounds Park residents ignite fires in Twin Cities bellies

*Carol Sommers
Forum Contributor*

On a lovely recent evening by the river, a vibrant, motley crowd gathered on the West Bank to hear and cheer vibrant, motley speakers. A long series of brief but passionate presentations, a la TED talks, ignited the audience packing the Ted Mann Concert Hall at the University of Minnesota – Twin Cities Campus. The founders and director of the event's sponsoring organization, Ignite Minneapolis, live and work quietly in Dayton's Bluff.

Mounds Park residents Patrick Kuntz, and his wife, Kela Caldwell, imagined this platform for local individuals to inspire others with their idiosyncratic, inspired passions and messages – in person. Coached amateurs take the stage, take a gulp, then spill their guts. Eight years ago, the first of Ignite Minneapolis's semi-annual (spring and fall) events attracted a cozily small, supportive group. Today, the group is still cozy, but decidedly large.

Food trucks and a free draft beer give attendees the opportunity to first indulge, mingle, and mutually admire tattoos and/or out-there chic, shabby and otherwise. Lots of seeking millennials of course show up, but so do the fully matured and fully professionalized. The odd CEO and the recruiter/scout are there somewhere. People come to learn, looking for that edge perception that will ignite a fire in their belly.

The name "Ignite Minneapolis," more euphonic than, say, "Ignite Saint Paul," is just as open to Saint Paulites, Metro suburbanites, and rural participants as it is to Minneapolitans. Anybody with a unique, engaging topic can try out for a five-minute presentation. The subject range is open-ended: entrepreneurial and artistic experiments, life-changing experiences, "failures" and "successes," rarified hobbies and habits, outlandish-or-not compelling ideas, humorous takes on serious issues, serious takes on humorous issues, scientific and technological sparks, etc., etc. All talks are exactly five minutes, accompanied by 20 slides that auto-advance every 15 seconds.

Speakers are not marketers, promoters, or party pols. Not motivational speakers per se, they may nevertheless move you to fire up your own neglected passion or lure you onto the stage yourself. You may find that you want to express your own reality and message to a real crowd in real time. Check out ignitempls.org for more information on its mission, events, schedules, and processes.

When Kela and Patrick aren't working on the next Ignite event (November), they are engaged in their day jobs – Patrick does UI/UX design, Kela works for an academic publisher – or, they may be simply enjoying the wonderful park down the street, or their neighbors (including the many dogs). Their favorite dog is their own – a gorgeous, romping, smokey poodle named Daisy. Daisy loves Dayton's Bluff, too.



Photo courtesy of Patrick Kuntz

Pictured from left to right are Patrick Kuntz, Daisy, and Kela Caldwell, Dayton's Bluff residents and founders of Ignite Minneapolis.



CALLING ALL

Vendors
Artists
Volunteers

WEQY 104.7FM is excited to call out and invite you to join our 3rd Annual 7th Street LIVE festival. We welcome small to large businesses, artist of all kinds, nonprofit organizations and community groups to participate in this celebration.

Contact:

<p>Melinna Sixtos Office: (651)772.2075 Cell: (651)808.5901 melinna@daytonabluff.org</p>	<p>Michelle Kaye Office: (651)772.2075 Cell: (651)315.1507 michelle@daytonabluff.org</p>
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Contest: Where in Dayton's Bluff?

Send your guess to editor@daytonabluff.org with the location of the neighborhood curiosity pictured below 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 September edition of the *Forum*.




Mounds Liquor Store

Open 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.
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Karin DuPaul

Standing in front of a large pile of buckthorn are US Bank employees Jose Amaya, Greg Olson, Brad Weber, Joseph Rosenow, and John Richards. They volunteered with Friends of Swede Hollow on July 12, removing buckthorn and clearing up a flower bed in Upper Swede Hollow Park.

Opinion: Slumlords for Jesus

First Lutheran Church welcomes their new tenant: Listening House

Mandy Okonek
Special to the Forum

Not long ago, my neighbor knocked on my door to inform me about Listening House, a daytime hangout for the homeless that would be opening soon and was to be located in the basement of First Lutheran Church, located at 464 Maria Street. In fact, First Lutheran had been renovating its basement space for this new tenant for months. My neighbor was informed by the church's contractors about Listening House moving in. Upon hearing this information, my neighbor chatted with the landlord/pastor of First Lutheran about their new tenants and the pastor was hesitant to provide any information.

In the past, First Lutheran Church has been host to many neighborhood meetings in dealing with crime issues brought by "wet houses" moving in. The pastor invited her new tenants into the neighborhood without transparency or communication with neighbors. We were able to find out through the grapevine about a neighborhood meeting organized through Listening House and First Lutheran. Listening House claimed to have distributed flyers about the meeting, but personally, I received no such flyer. It seemed suspicious to me that a new tenant from First Lutheran, claiming to be excited about joining the neighborhood, would be so opaque about their intended mission and meetings with the neighborhood.

Not starting on the right foot, the first meeting with Listening House was attended by a record number of neighbors, thanks in part to concerned neighbors spreading the word by door knocking and handing out flyers. The neighbors vocalized legitimate concerns at the meeting: What happens when the shelter closes its doors at 5:00 p.m.? Where do the guests go? Are they screening to root out any problematic guests with known criminal or chemical addiction issues that may cause harm to the 23 young children that are growing up on North Street? The Listening House representatives don't have a plan to deal with overflow guests. Their response to the neighbors' concerns was that their mission is providing a living room to people in need. It's important to mention that Listening House has signed a ten year lease with First Lutheran Church.

This sounds great. However, their mission does not include that their guests have a place to sleep when they close their doors. Their mission does not acknowledge the known problems from overflow of their guests who may not want help. Their mission does not hold them accountable for attracting guests to a small quiet corner neighborhood on a park and releasing them onto the streets at night.

At 5:00 p.m., when Listening House closes its doors, I arrive home from work. Now the mission of Listening House is my mission. I did not choose this unpaid third job. I watch daily around 5:00 p.m., while Listening House Guests parade from Listening House to the Swede Hollow Cafe Rain Garden or to Swede Hollow Park around where they congregate, illegally camping and on occasion, drinking alcohol while they wait for Listening House to reopen.

At one of our meetings, Listening House admitted to allowing intoxicated guests into their living room. Listening House has been open for merely three weeks and I have already called the police more than six times for illegal activity by their guests. The Listening House staff does not take responsibility for the negative behavior and encourages the neighbors to call the police. So now it's our job to enforce their mission? Ridiculous!

I have lived on North Street for more than 13 years. I was married in the backyard of the home from which I rented and then bought the house next door. I have a big love for my street. As a neighborhood, we are a diverse group of hard working and compassionate individuals who truly love our little piece of paradise. This success has not come without hard work and communication on our little block. We've had plenty of bad landlords selling drugs and soliciting. Through perseverance we've held these slumlords accountable for their actions with frequent phone calls to Saint Paul's finest. We are not strangers to dealing with organizations that have moved into our neighborhood with no clue of some of the negative consequences their charitable services have on our block. We already have five halfway houses in the Upper Swede Hollow Neighborhood and we are filled with the folks who spill over into our parks and backyards. The Listening House's services are not needed as a "daytime only" respite on our small residential street.

Swede Hollow Park is a nature sanctuary where urban families should be able to walk and enjoy a bit of nature in the city. Swede Hollow Park is not a campground and cannot sustain homeless camps. There are no public restrooms there and folks defecate in the woods and leave their trash and sleeping gear behind. The pastor for First Lutheran/landlord of Listening House has turned a blind eye to homeless camps right behind her church in the past. She told a story at one neighborhood meeting about her grandmother squatting in Swede Hollow Park and made it clear she will never enforce the laws that keep our parks safe for families to enjoy. She has allowed trash and human feces to pile up behind the church for so long the smell has permeated the neighborhood. This is not the behavior of a good landlord. This is not the behavior we deem acceptable on our quiet street. The neighbors had to deal with these UN-neighborly acts by calling the city and the police.

Following a second neighborhood meeting, Listen-

ing House and First Lutheran's pastor made it clear that their mission was here to stay. The neighbors vocalized ongoing concerns about public intoxication, trash, and their guests passed out on the lawn of the church, and the landlord has turned a blind eye to our concerns and observations and responded with a sermon. The neighbors were accused of being uncompassionate haters filled with fear. She turned our legitimate concerns into a sermon where the neighborhood was evil. She turned her mission into something we would be forced to deal with and embrace.

The meeting took a turn for the worse when several Listening House guests yelled at neighbors for being uncompassionate and cruel. I'll tell you one thing about my neighbors: They are some of the kindest and most compassionate people I know. There is not one door I can't knock on at 2:00 a.m. if I am in need of help. It was at this point in the meeting that many neighbors walked out. This concluded the end of meeting number two and there is not a third meeting on the calendar yet.

Listening House and First Lutheran Church refuse to take accountability for any negative effect that their mission has on the neighborhood. For example, last week a used hypodermic needle was found in the church parking lot. The second week listening house was open I drove by the front doors at 5:30 pm to see two gentlemen drinking and playing guitar on the front steps of the church. All of these issues were cast aside by both the Pastor and Listening House.

As a landlord, First Lutheran Church needs to own all the negative behavior brought on by their new tenants. A landlord-tenant relationship,

pure and simple, is about goods and services. No matter how holy or just their mission may be, this is about First Lutheran Church needing money. It's unethical for them to hide their hurtful and un-neighborly business decision under the veil of compassion. Fear is simply excitement without breath. It's not fear First Lutheran is feeling from the neighbors but anger for the disregard of our concerns and destruction of our neighborhood. I'm breathing and counting to ten, I have the Saint Paul Police department on speed dial, and it's clear that no one at the Listening House is truly listening.



Sage Holben

A stolen shopping cart and a large bottle of vodka, left outside a door of First Lutheran Church.

Opinion: Listening House

Jane Carlstrom
Special to the Forum

Author's note: I wrote an email last week and sent it to many individuals in the neighborhood. One reader suggested that I also send it to the Forum. Since I wrote it, there have been two physical altercations outside the Listening House.

It is 10:30 a.m. and I have just returned from my usual morning dog walk. In Upper Swede Hollow Park, I encountered a woman with a back pack who was carrying a large can of beer or malt liquor. We greeted each other and she volunteered that she was there to "get away from the men for a while and have a drink." I believe that she, like the many individuals we have seen drinking in Swede Hollow Park, is a client of Listening House.

My husband and I walk our dogs around the neighborhood at least twice a day. We are in the habit of picking up trash along the way. This summer we have picked up more beer cans and liquor bottles than at any time in the past. And we also have picked up more clothing, food wrappers, napkins, rugs, and tarps than ever before. Our past in the neighborhood extends back decades. Dave has lived here since 1979 and I have been here since 1992.

After the first meeting at Listening House, I held out some hope that the organization would take responsibility for the problems it has brought to our neighborhood. I have lost that hope.

I was not able to attend the second meeting about Listening House last month, but reports about the meeting from my neighbors were disappointing. They tell me that rather than addressing the concerns of the neighbors we were once again told that we "lack compassion." One neighbor was told by a Listening House supporter that she has a "dark heart." I was very disappointed to hear that once again people who do not live in our neighborhood and who certainly did not seek to have this program placed in any of their own neighborhoods, continue to insult those who express concern about the secretive way this program was dropped on us and who are interested in maintaining a safe and livable neighborhood for our families. Apparently, the second meeting did not advance the Listening House cause.

Like many others who live here, Dave and I like living in a residential area with economic, ethnic, and racial diversity; we choose to live here. It appears that the neither the Listening House employees or First Lutheran staff choose to live with the problems they have brought to the neighborhood and show little interest in dealing with the concerns of the neighbors. Instead, they show their "compassion" from 9:00 a.m. to

4:30 p.m., and then leave the problems they have brought to us behind as they head to more affluent neighborhoods and suburbs where they do not need to deal with homeless encampments just down the hill from their homes or with daily exposure to public drinking, foul language, and use of our neighborhood park to leave litter, clothing, and human waste. It is interesting to me that those who benefit by drawing a salary or rent from Listening House see themselves as "compassionate." It seems they expect the neighborhood residents to constantly monitor our streets and parks for illegal activities after they and their compassion retreat to their safe, clean neighborhoods.

I have come to the conclusion that Listening House is a program that should not be located in a residential neighborhood. Until it moves to a more appropriate place, the staff should show some willingness to clean up the messes their clients leave behind and to assure after-hours security for our streets and park.

I understand that the Dorothy Day Center will be closing for renovation. I am concerned that the problems we are experiencing in the Upper Swede Hollow neighborhood since Listening House's move to our neighborhood will only become more extreme when other services in downtown are no longer available. I urge you to work out a comprehensive program to provide services for the homeless that will not degrade our residential neighborhoods.

REACH Together is proud to serve Dayton's Bluff

Loretta Dakin
REACH Together

REACH Together is grateful and proud to announce the receipt of two community grants: one from Cities 97 radio station and another from the Partners in Justice Program of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet (St. Paul Province).

The Cities 97 grant is targeted to the purchase of computer notebooks/laptops for student classroom use. The funds come from its yearly sales of the Cities Sampler CD.

"Basic digital literacy is a common part of nearly every work environment," states Job Club instructor Quyen Dang. "Job applications are online, employees log work hours on computers, cashiers use them daily... the list goes on and on." Increasing the number of laptop computers for student use means increased individual practice time and skill development.

The Partners in Justice Program grant supports a part-time Karen interpreter position. Helping people to navigate the barrage of mail received and determining what requires response versus cleverly-designed junk mail is a critical service provided by REACH Together. Nali Punday is the new Karen interpreter for REACH Together. She acts as a caring, high-quality and reliable liaison for new arrivals. "It is very stressful for people when notices threatening to terminate health care or other urgent benefits arrive in the mail. I help people to understand which items require action. I also interpret for phone calls as needed with companies such as utilities or phone service providers." Because of the Partners in Justice Program's financial support, REACH Together can consistently provide these services Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. There are additional interpreter hours covered by volunteers which vary throughout the week.

REACH Together is a nonprofit organization committed to serving refugees and immigrants in the Dayton's Bluff community. Located at 1075 Hudson Road just one block east of Mounds Theatre, REACH Together has been providing much-needed services since September 2015. It was incorporated as a Minnesota nonprofit in March 2015 and received its federal 501(c)(3) status in February 2016.

"We exist to improve the lives of refugees and immigrants through education, advocacy and collaboration", states acting executive director Sheryl Fried. "Our board of directors is predominantly Karen, Hmong, and Cambodian professionals who all came to Minnesota as refugees. REACH Together is guided by finding out what people want and need. We respond by providing those services. Our goal is to smooth the road to self-sufficiency and community involvement."

Current services provided at REACH Together include: English language classes, citizenship classes, rides to monthly culturally-appropriate food distributions at Merrick, interpreter/advocate assistance with basic living needs, support for traditional weaving and basket-making, and most of all, a loving human-sized environment where community is fostered and healing happens.

REACH Together is proud to be part of the Dayton's Bluff community. Participation in Art in the Hollow and Mounds Park UMC's Festival of Nations at Indian Mounds Park has increased visibility and community interaction. REACH Together hopes to create more partnerships with Dayton's Bluff businesses, churches and other non-profits. An August /September Support English and Citizenship Learning initiative is now underway. The goal is to raise \$6,400 to purchase an office-grade color copier, a document camera, and a classroom projector. Donations are accepted anytime in person, by check, or online through the website: www.reachtogether.org.

REACH Together extends a warm welcome to all Dayton's Bluff District Forum readers and hopes you will stop by 1075 Hudson Road to meet the students and the staff.

View from my porch: A place of sociological study and engagement... or of missed opportunity

Sage Holben
Forum Staff

Most people who know me understand that drivers running the four-way stop at Fourth and Bates is a raw spot for me. A few weeks ago a squad car ran it... and parked in front of my house. My first thought was 'urgent mission.' My second was that they wanted information or had questions about some or the activity that was happening in the neighborhood. Neither was the case. They were flyering the neighborhood regarding fireworks. Neither the driver nor his partner apologized for running the stop. The passenger/partner told my neighbor, 'everyone makes mistakes;' they had not seen the stop sign. It would have been a great time for real engagement with residents since there were several on my porch witnessing this. But they had a deadline in placing flyers at doors.

Fourth and Bates has proven to be an interesting intersection: an unattached mattress-surfer atop a car, driving up the Fourth Street hill in midnight hours; a large exotic bird perched on a man's arm, accompanied by a dog walker, strolling on Bates; a man shot and killed on a quiet late Wednesday afternoon; a 20-ish man skateboarding down Fourth Street hill with a few months-old baby cradled in his arms; a large group of indigenous people parading down Fourth (celebrating a saint's day?); and more recently, a stranger rang my door bell, asking to purchase a length of aluminum foil to grill some lunch 'down the street.' He declined my offer of cleaning bad scrapes to his head, arm, and leg from having fallen earlier. These are only a few scenes.

I recently witnessed a certain behavior returning to our neighborhood - that of groups of youth walking down the middle of the street, yelling to/at each other; I haven't missed *that* over the last few years. A few weeks ago, I heard unseen females screaming at each other. As they spilled into the intersection I started counting... 6, 15, 20, approximately 25, mostly females, with boys following near the end... possibly to see whether it turns physical? I was pressing '911' when I saw an unmarked SUV with uniformed officers closely following them. Within half an hour the voices were returning, screaming, but in a much smaller group. The next weekend the girls, with boys behind, were at it again. This time, it appeared that a couple parents were intervening - putting two into a car, and another parent 'hollering the youth home.'

Sarcastically, I will say that police asking residents for helpful information is unusual for me. Not only is 'Minnesota nice' not nice, but in none of the states where I've lived has it been made so clear by so many people: 'don't tell me something that may

help me' as in Minnesota. Several years ago an officer told me to 'shut up' when I offered a correction on the law he had cited to a victim of abuse, and I have become quite tired of hearing one commentary at a public meeting and a quite differing one, same subject, when in a one on one conversation... it diminishes my trust, and increases my belief that better communication matters and is needed between police and civilians.

I did have one ray of hope recently. The day of the screaming youth on Bates, I saw a man purposefully walk behind my neighbor's home (I alerted my neighbor to this), and about an hour later I witnessed two squads appear to be looking for someone across the street from me. I later called dispatch and requested that an area officer stop and let me know what the parade of youth was about. In a very short time, an Officer O'Kane stopped. I later learned it was his partner who had run the stop sign a few days earlier.

When O'Kane stopped to fill me in on the 'parade,' he was very engaging... not at all condescending, and he didn't give an attitude I often get - monotone repetition of one statement with arms crossed, 'I'm in charge' body language that acts as a barrier (I realize that a barrier to me, may be protection for the officer; I get it, having participated in citizen police academy programs in Iowa and in St. Paul). These are elements of community/resident engagement that can create more of a trust basis than handing out hotdogs. Not to disparage hotdogs, but a hotdog wrapped in a bun feeds the hunger of the moment; the receiver senses if it is a canned service, delivered without understanding of underlying needs, but is simply an action of duty, or if the wrapper conveys respect for the person with understanding and interest in a person as a fellow human. Either one will carry over to the next meeting.

When Officer Brandon O'Kane and his partner stopped to let me know that our latest Fourth and Bates civil disobedience traffic 'art' installation wasn't legal, he avoided the intimidation attitude of his partner, but engaged in a person to person tone and made his point. When I realized he was the officer who had stopped at my request days before, I did tell him I appreciated his manner... and he also, in the course of conversation, apologized to my neighbor for having run the stop sign. In effect, O'Kane is the hot dog with the real wrapper.

In the past, I have invited SPP officers, traffic related employees, and elected officials to enjoy some porch time and see what happens in an hour's time - perhaps visit with passers-by or neighbors. A city engineer took me up on it and said she learned from what she saw and heard. A newspaper reporter joined me and got three interviews out of it. Did you ever canoe on the same river you normally drove along or walked beside? It's a deeper, broader view. Let me know when you would like to visit my neighborhood.

Sage Holben can be reached at editor@daytonsbluff.org.



Loretta Dakin

REACH Together is proud to announce the receipt of two community grants from Cities 97 and the Partners in Justice Program of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet.

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Judy Lee

Congratulations to Cambric Garden on its Blooming Saint Paul Award nomination!

East Side Eating – Trimble's Taste Trek

Forum contributor Steve Trimble has set out to eat 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 daytonsbuffdistrictforum.org: click on "East Side Eating" at the top of the home page. Steve Trimble can be reached at editor@daytonsbuff.org.

Destiny Cafe 2

1150 Clarence Street
(651) 771-1409

Sunday-Thursday: 9:00 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Friday-Saturday: 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.
Facebook/Destiny Cafe

I arrived at the restaurant at 6:15 p.m. on a Wednesday. I had tried to get in on weekends and there was a wait, but this night there were only a dozen or so groups. The interior was very new and it was "a clean, well-lighted place," as Ernest Hemingway once wrote in a short story. There were nine large booths as well as more than 20 tables - four of which are long enough to seat at least 12 people.

The décor featured many large and small live plants and several wide windows.

A new dish called Hli Xiab - meat with sweet sauce - was displayed on the front of the menu. On the inside, appetizers were first, including egg rolls, steamed rice rolls, papaya salad - Lao or Thai style. There were 16 kinds of chicken, duck spicy red curry (keng), and seafood sour soup (tom yam). Main dishes such as laab beef (raw or cooked), Hmong sausage, roast duck, and a dish I just couldn't bring myself to order - Nyuv me Nyuam Npua, which is pig uteri. There is seafood - "Destiny Sweet and Spicy," and four different tilapia dishes.

Rice dishes include fried rice with beef, pork, or shrimp, or a combo. Several choices of pho (soup) including "Destiny Baby Destiny" Lub Paj, which consists of beef broth and a combination of several meats.

Pad thai comes with a choice of big or small noodles. Beverages range from domestic to Asian beer, wine, a dozen flavors of bubble tea, milk, ly-chee drinks, and sodas.

I had beef brisket with sticky rice and a familiar Asian beer, Tsingtau. Later on I saw a brew named Lao Beer that was new to me, so I just had to have a second beverage. While I was chowing down, I saw someone eating something from a white round object. It turns out it was a topless coconut wrapped in paper. You can buy them to take with you. Other take-home items sitting by the entrance included chicken, sausage, eggrolls, roasted duck, and BBQ pork belly.

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



Photo courtesy of Yelp

The spacious dining room of Destiny Cafe 2.



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Dayton's Bluff District Forum

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

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Board of Directors: Greg Cosimini, Nick Duncan, Karin DuPaul, Sage Holben, Steve Trimble
Editor: Jennifer Gascoigne; Associate Editor: Mark Gallagher
Next issue: September 2017. **Deadline for material: August 10, 2017.**

East Side Fire Fighter memorials

Steve Trimble
Forum Historian

The other day I was driving down Conway Street across from the Dayton's Bluff Recreation Center tennis courts when I saw something I hadn't noticed before. It was a metal plaque attached to a light post. It contained the name of John Flaherty and a fire department logo. The lot behind the plaque was now filled with a modern house, but was where the old Conway and Maple Fire station was located. I remembered something about the Fire Fighters Union having a project to honor those who died on duty. I called them up and, sure enough, that is what I had been looking at. They directed me to a section on their web site with the locations of many of the city-wide plaques. I thought it might be enlightening to check out some of the East Side memorials. Here are a few of the nine east side locations on the map.

John Flaherty, May 21, 1916. The plaque I had seen was for John J. Flaherty, Jr., who was a pipeman at Engine No. 19. He entered the Department on December 16, 1908 and had been assigned to Engine House No. 19, at Conway and Maple Streets, and to No. 7 at Ross and Earl Streets.

His cause of death was of a fracture of the vertebra, caused by a fall down the stairs of the engine house at Conway and Maple. While none of his company saw him fall, they believed that Flaherty became dizzy and tumbled over the banister falling down the stairs and striking his back on a chair. His skull was also fractured and he died a few days later at St. John's Hospital.

Flaherty, who was 35 years old, was living at 893 Hudson. According to the newspaper obituary, the funeral service was held at St. John's Catholic Church. He was survived by his parents Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Flaherty, and a younger brother Theodore, who was a pipeman at Engine Co No. 7. Incidentally, I looked up pipeman on Google and it refers to the people who dealt directly with the conflagration, as opposed to people in trucks and elsewhere.

Patrick Flaherty, March 20, 1932. Patrick Flaherty, who was a firefighter for 30 years, was 54 when he died at Mounds Park Sanitarium on March 20, 1932. His obituary said his demise was "following an illness since when he was overcome by smoke while fighting a fire." The accident at Rose and Weide was on March 9, so he died eleven days after the initial accident.

One source said he fell from a ladder "after being overcome by smoke," but another said Flaherty fell from a roof because of smoke. He developed pneumonia from his injuries which led to his death.

Son of Leo J. Flaherty, he was a life-long resident of St Paul and was assigned to Engine House 11.

William Kellerman, September 30, 1939. Firefighter William Kellerman, a 49 year old who lived at 1824 Kerwin, died while on a call. He was, according to a newspaper, "stricken with heart disease while fighting a fire at 8:15 in the morning." The company had "answered a call to R. W. Schnaith's home" at 1161 Fauquier (now Bush) Avenue. The blaze had been discovered in the basement of the

dwelling. William Kellerman died from inhaling toxic gas from a refrigerator that caused a fatal coronary disease.

Emmett O'Connor, October 30, 1951. Emmett O'Connor, age 57, of 1133 Thorn Street had a funeral service at St. John's Catholic Church, followed by burial at Calvary Cemetery. Pipeman O'Connor worked to put out a chimney fire at 1400 Mechanic Street and then spent two hours trying to push his truck free after it had become stuck in the snow. He collapsed and died from a heart attack back at Engine House 24 at Seventh and Flandrau. He had been a firefighter since January 1, 1918, and was active in the Hazel Park Commercial Club. Survived by his wife Dorothy, four sons, Emmett, Peter, James, and Jerry, and two daughters Mrs. Patricia McDonough and Mrs. Barbara Munger of St. Paul Park.

Herman Schmaltz, January 25, 1967. Thirty-seven year old Herman Schmaltz, a firefighter for Engine 7, lived at 641 North Street on the East Side. He died on January 25, 1967, while en route to St. Paul Ramsey Hospital.

According to his obituary he "was stricken while carrying a stretcher bearing a Northern States Power Co. lineman who had been injured while repairing storm damage." Herman was making his way through large snow drifts while waiting for the ambulance at Duchess and Wells Streets. His funeral was at Bethlehem Lutheran Church.

As a Sergeant in the Korean Conflict, he received a military burial at Fort Snelling National Cemetery. Schmaltz was a lifetime St. Paul resident and was survived by his wife Myrtle, his mother, two daughters, Susan and Jane, and son William, all of St. Paul.

There have been 62 Line of Duty Deaths (LODD) since the St. Paul Fire Department was established in 1856. The first was recorded in 1882.

In 2010, the firefighters began compiling the history of those deaths to place street or wall-mounted signs near the site of the LODD. They will include the Maltese Cross (the symbol of the fire department), the person's name, and the date that they gave their life in the line of duty. You can see a map that shows their locations by going to www.iafflocal21.org.

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



Steve Trimble

A Line of Duty Death plaque commemorating the location of former Engine House No. 19, at Conway and Maple Streets, where Pipeman John Flaherty was injured while on duty as a St. Paul Fire Fighter, later resulting in his death.

Have Forum, will travel...



Mark Cosimini and Mary Block display a copy of the *Forum* in front of the Space Shuttle Endeavour at the California Science Center in Los Angeles.

Several readers send 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.



Marilyn Trimble Travis keeps the Queen's Guard in London, England, in-the-know about all things Dayton's Bluff.

Many thanks to our 2017 donors:

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- Mounds Park United Methodist Church



Friend of Swede Hollow, Mike Grealish, keeps up on the news of the neighborhood while visiting Costa Rica.

Friends of the Forum

Dear Reader,

The *Dayton's Bluff District Forum* has been a volunteer-run newspaper since the 1980s, 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.

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

If you have been our *Friend* in the past, please renew your membership with a donation in 2017.

Our goal for the year is \$2,000; as of this printing we have raised \$1,340.00 – Will you help us?

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