

# Dayton's Bluff District Forum

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daytonsbuffdistrictforum.org

"The Voice of the Community"

## The numbers are conclusive: Bring back Engine 7

Jane Prince  
Ward 7 City Council

In February, Dayton's Bluff lost a vital fire resource serving the East Side. As part of a citywide redeployment plan aimed at better responding to emergency medical services, the Saint Paul Fire Department (SPFD) moved Fire Engine 7 from Station 7 at Ross and Earl Streets in our neighborhood, and sent it across town to Station 20 at Prior and University.

Given that over 80 percent of SPFD calls are for medic services, trading out Engine 7 for an ambulance at Station 7, as proposed by fire officials, seems like a good idea. But consider that decision in view of the cost of fires here. The neighborhoods making up SPFD eastern District 3 experienced \$3.6 million in fire loss last year, compared to less than \$300,000 or one-tenth of that amount, in western District 1, where Engine 7 is now deployed.

Last year, the city commissioned a study entitled "Delivery of Services Analysis for Saint Paul Fire Services of the Saint Paul Fire Department" by Tri-Data LLC of Arlington, Virginia, with a particular emphasis on comparing service levels and response times in the city's 17 neighborhood planning dis-

tricts. Citing the impact of poverty, rental vs owner-occupancy, education levels, TriData noted that districts of the Greater East Side, Payne Phalen, Dayton's Bluff were among those with a heightened demand for fire and emergency medical services, and greater severity of incidents responded to by SPFD.

The inequities in fire dollar loss across neighborhoods are dramatic, with the Highland Park planning district experiencing zero fire loss last year. In fact, the city's other most prosperous neighborhoods experienced a total of \$37,560 in fire loss for the period studied. These dramatic differences are even more stark when we consider that East Siders include a higher numbers of families living below the poverty level.

So what can we do? The best long term solution for the East Side is to replace the 78-year-old Station 7 with a new fire station to provide top notch fire and emergency medical services in Dayton's Bluff, like the newly remodeled Station 19 in Highland Park. Everyone downtown agrees that Station 7 is due for reconstruction. We can all work together in concert with our elected officials to make that happen.

But let's not give up on persuading Saint Paul fire officials to reconsider their decision – through the lens of equity – to find a way, in the near term, to bring Engine 7 back to the East Side. Engine 7 served residents and business here for 130 years and this is where it belongs.

Jane Prince can be reached at [ward7@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:ward7@ci.stpaul.mn.us).



Photo courtesy of Jane Prince

During the big storm on January 22, about 30 East Siders turned out to ask the Saint Paul Fire Department not to take Engine 7 away from the East Side. State Senator Fong Hawj, State Representative Sheldon Johnson and State Representative Tim Mahoney have joined our neighborhood in seeking to save Engine 7.

## Gold Line BRT update

Greg Cosimini  
Forum Staff

The Gold Line Bus Rapid Transit project which will pass through Dayton's Bluff is moving right along. In January, the Federal Transit Administration approved advancing the Gold Line into the project development phase of the federal New Starts program. That means it will be eligible for federal matching funds. Total cost of the project is estimated at \$420 million.

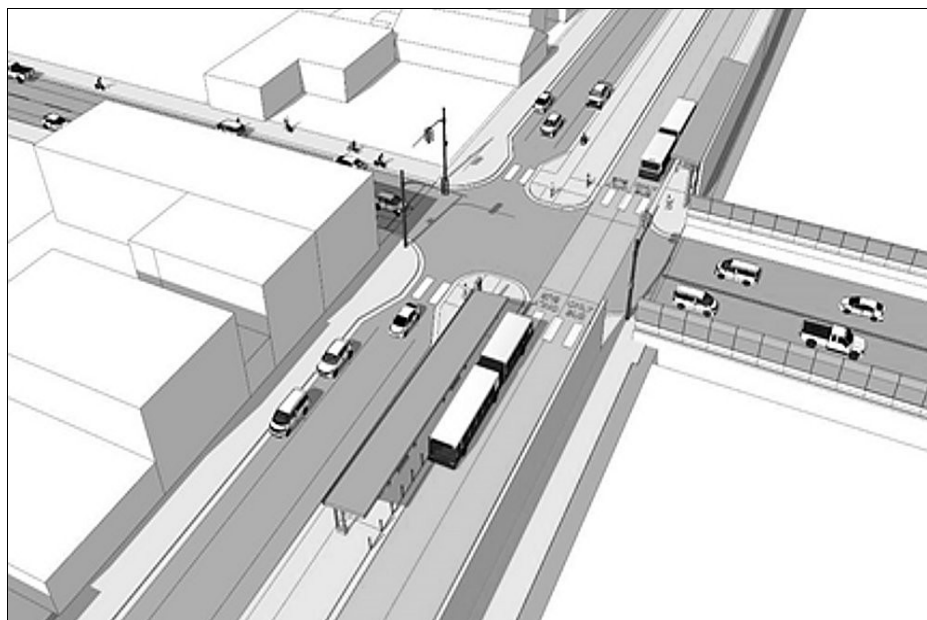
Gold Line buses from downtown will enter Dayton's Bluff at the top of the Third Street Bridge by making a sharp right turn across Mounds Boulevard onto newly constructed bus-only lanes. These lanes will run next to Mounds Boulevard and the I-94 exit until they merge into Hudson Road at Wilson Avenue, where Hudson currently turns into Maria Avenue.

Hudson Road will have five lanes between Forest and Frank Streets:

two bus-only lanes, two parking lanes, and a single one-way west-bound vehicle lane. Although it is often common to have one-way streets come in pairs, there are no plans to turn adjoining Wakefield Avenue into a one-way east-bound street due to the low volume of traffic on Hudson Road.

Metro Transit will begin to refine the design of the Gold Line in the coming months, including the Earl-Hudson intersection which will see some major changes. To aid in this, a Community and Business Advisory Committee will be formed. An application period of about 3 weeks should be starting in late February or early March. The St. Paul portion of the committee will consist of 10 people, two for each station, which means Dayton's Bluff will provide six members representing the residents and businesses who are affected by the stations at Mounds Boulevard, Earl St. and Etna Street.

Greg Cosimini can be reached at [daytonsbuffdistrictforum@gmail.com](mailto:daytonsbuffdistrictforum@gmail.com).



This is the latest artist's conception of the future Earl-Hudson intersection after construction of the Gold Line bus lanes and stations.

## Help needed for the Minneapolis & Saint Paul Home Tour

Karin DuPaul  
Forum Staff

The 2018 Minneapolis & St. Paul Home Tour is just around the corner and planners are hot on the trail for neighborhood residents and friends to help make this year's tour a success.

The tour will take place on **Saturday, April 28, and Sunday, April 29, 2018**. The tour is of occupied homes to show visitors our wonderful homes, people, and community. Visitors from all over the metro come each year to see the

lovely homes in Dayton's Bluff.

The tour will feature homes that are large and small, Victorians or ramblers, or anything in between. Homes may be works-in-progress or finished products. It's a fantastic opportunity to show off our neighborhood and all the good things about the Bluff. Some visitors like Dayton's Bluff so much that they buy homes here. The tour is also a great way to get new ideas on remodeling and updating your home.

Neighborhood people are still needed to volunteer during the tour. On Sunday evening after the tour is over, the "After the Tour Supper Party" will be held for the home owners and volunteers.

To volunteer, or for more information, please email [karindupaul@comcast.net](mailto:karindupaul@comcast.net) or call 651-776-0550.

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Community Council  
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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.** The next hike will be on Saturday, March 10. 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](mailto: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, March 8, at 6:30 p.m.** Please note that meetings are now on Thursdays. 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 **Wednesday, March 7, at 1:00 p.m.**, at Swede Hollow Cafe at 725 E. 7<sup>th</sup> Street. Call 651-776-0550 or email [daytonsbuffdistrictforum@gmail.com](mailto:daytonsbuffdistrictforum@gmail.com) 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, March 21, 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.**



**Saturday, March 3:** Burlesque! Drag! Variety! We're ready to tickle your fancy at *The Peacock Cabaret*, a glamorous and hilarious burlesque show featuring seasoned performers and fresh talents!

Hosted by Gina Louise. Starring Ophelia Flame and a lineup of fabulous performers! **Doors open at 7:00 p.m. Show begins at 8:00 p.m.**

Tickets: \$150 VIP Table (seats up to 5, includes 5 drink tickets), \$35 VIP Seat (includes 1 drink ticket, seating at shared table), \$15 General Admission (advance), \$20 General Admission (at the door).

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

## March 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 **Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays**, in March, from **4:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.**, Dayton's Bluff Library will offer *Snack in the Zone*, along with *Homework Help in the Zone* from **4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

**Saturdays, March 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31, 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.

**Wednesday, March 7, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.**, join the Dayton's Bluff Book Club as they discuss their recent read, *The Refugees*, by Viet Thanh Nguyen.

**Tuesday, March 13, 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.

**Thursday, March 15, from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.**, *Puzzles and Games Unplugged.* Your chance to play board games and jigsaw puzzles.

New! 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.

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.

## March at the East Side Freedom Library

**Saturday, March 3, from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**, the East Side Freedom Library (ESFL) and A Greener Read Bookstore invite you to *Music & Movements: Funk to the Folks*. Hear a presentation, listen to music, and engage in discussion.

The presentation will discuss music's connections to black power, afro-futurism, themes of liberation, and its long-term influence from the furious afrobeat of Fela Kuti, to the brash, rebellious sounds of hip-hop by artists such as Public Enemy.

Presenter, Chris Bengtson is a local DJ and music aficionado, with a special passion for funk, jazz, hip-hop, and afro-latin music. He has curated over 80 mix shows online, sent remixes and edits to DJs worldwide, and broadcasts bi-monthly on a French online radio station.

This event is free and open to all. Join us for a great journey! **3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.** at East Side Freedom Library, 1105 Greenbrier Street, and **4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.** at A Greener Read Bookstore, 506 Kenny Street.

**Tuesday, March 20, at 7:00 p.m.**, the ESFL invites you to *Neighbors Meet Neighbors: Student Series*, a three-part series of monthly forums centered around the stories and experiences of recent student immigrants to the east side communities.

**Saturday, March 24, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.**, the ESFL and the Minnesota Historical Society (MHHS) present *Women's Activism: Dolores Huerta*.

ESFL staff has worked with MNHS' Teen Action Group on the research and development of an original play about Dolores Huerta, a co-founder and leading activist in the United Farm Workers Union.

This play and program will explore intersections between the labor movement and the women's movement, between white women and women of color, and between labor rights and civil rights. It will also seek to generate a discussion between the past and the present, between the struggles of women in 1968 and their struggles today. Come enjoy the play and take part in the discussion.

Are you interested in collaborating with the ESFL on events, media, and community engagement?

Please join us in deepening our programming through participating and taking leadership in any of the following projects: Event promotion and evaluation, media and communications, and community engagement.

For more information, please attend our collaboration sessions on **Monday, March 5, at 9:30 a.m.** and **Wednesday, March 21, at 5:30 p.m.** Meetings are held on the first and third Monday of every month. In these meetings, we will discuss upcoming events, the library's mission and goals, and explore your own ideas about community programming.

All events listed here take place at the East Side Freedom Library, are free, and open to all. The East Side Freedom Library is located at 1150 Greenbrier Street. Call 651-230-3294, email in-

[fo@eastsidefreedomlibrary.org](mailto:fo@eastsidefreedomlibrary.org), or visit [eastsidefreedomlibrary.org](http://eastsidefreedomlibrary.org) for details on these and other upcoming events as they become available.

## 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.

## Let your voice be heard!

Contact WEQY 104.7 FM, St. Paul East Side's community reporter Cearah Hamilton of The Eastside Vibe if you have valuable resources you want to get out to the community, would like her to cover your event, or interview your organization! Cearah Hamilton can be reached at [cearah@weqy.org](mailto:cearah@weqy.org).

## Wish List Care Packages

Did you know that you can help East Side Elders distribute food, hygiene items, and more to seniors on the East Side by shopping our Amazon Wish List? Visit [www.amazon.com/registry/wishlist/3KK001OGFO5NJ](http://www.amazon.com/registry/wishlist/3KK001OGFO5NJ).

You can have these much-needed items sent right to our office. From there, our team of volunteers will distribute them to seniors in need. So far, we've been able to distribute four care packages to seniors in the community - help us make a bigger impact and shop our wish list today!

Our wish list also includes supplies for the Elder Cafe, items for our Fun and Games events, and office supplies. Thank you for your support!

## The Smilin' Cowboys

**Thursday, March 8**, long-standing Twin Cities party band *The Smilin' Cowboys*, will perform at the Minnesota Music Café, located at 500 Payne Avenue. Admission is only \$5.00! **Music begins at 8:00 p.m.**

Local legend Bill Patten will open up the show. The Smilin' Cowboys will go on directly after.

The Smilin' Cowboys will perform on the second Thursday of each month at the Minnesota Music Café.

## Correction

In the February issue of the *Forum*, the Very Reverend Charles Lachowitz's name was spelled incorrectly under the captioned photograph on page 5. We regret the error.



## Mounds Park United Methodist Church

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

### Mounds Park United Methodist on Facebook

Mounds Park United Methodist Church is a multicultural, intergenerational neighborhood congregation located at 1049 Euclid Street in Dayton's Bluff. Sunday worship begins at **10:30 a.m.**

**March:** *After school programming for area youth*, sponsored by the McVay Youth Partnership of Hamline University is an after school program for community youth grades 5-12, held at Mounds Park UMC on **Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 3:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.** Students participate in environmental classes, Girl Scouts, field trips, and receive homework help and support in learning English. Contact Jane Krentz 612-581-6978 for more information.

**Sundays:** *Multi-Generational Sunday School Class.* Class meets every **Sunday at 9:15 a.m.** in the lounge of the church. This class follows an adult curriculum and has a participant age range of 80 years! Youth start in worship at 10:30 a.m. Following kid's time, children aged 0-4 years go to the staffed nursery, grades K-5 go to the upstairs Sunday School room, and children grades 6-12 go downstairs for classes. Breakfast is served during Sunday School. The nursery is staffed for those children aged 0-4 years who do not want to start in worship. Please call the church with any questions.

**Tuesdays, 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.:** *Parents of Addicted Loved Ones (PAL) Support Group Meetings.* PAL is a place where parents with a child addicted to drugs and/or alcohol can find hope in a support group. PAL meetings are open to anyone of any faith or background, as the primary goal is to provide hope through education and support for parents dealing with addicted loved ones. Meetings are led by a trained facilitator. This is an open group to persons 18 years and older. Stop by any Tuesday, ring the doorbell on the Euclid Entrance, and you'll be welcomed in!

**Saturday, March 17, 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.:** *Community Breakfast.* Open to everyone in the community! Join Mounds Park UMC for breakfast with your neighbors. A free-will offering will be collected to benefit Dayton's Bluff Community Services., a nonprofit organization of Mounds Park UMC. Help us help our community!

**Saturday, March 24, 9:00 a.m. to noon:** *Glorious Grocery Giveaway!* Doors open at 9:00 a.m. and food will be distributed on a first come, first served basis between 10:00 a.m. and noon. Pick up an Easter meal to share with your friends and family. There will also be an opportunity to meet, pray, and share communion with our new pastor, Jay Jeong.

**Sunday, March 25, 10:30 a.m.:** *Palm Sunday Worship.* Join as we celebrate the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem, the beginning of Holy Week. There will be a palm processional with the children, so be sure to get there before 10:30 a.m. to participate!

**Saturday, March 31, 2:00 p.m.:** *Community Easter Egg Hunt at Indian Mounds Regional Park.* ALL ARE WELCOME! Come hunt for eggs and take part in other fun Easter activities.

**Sunday, April 1, 10:30 a.m.:** *Easter Worship.* Join as we celebrate Jesus' resurrection! Following Family Friendship Worship, all are invited to continue the celebration downstairs with Easter treats and conversation.

**Need help with a project?** Urban CROSS will have teams ready to help local residents and non-profits with projects such as indoor and outdoor painting, yard work, gardening landscaping, simple construction, and clean up. You may submit your request by calling the church office at 651-774-8736. **Project submission deadline is May 15, 2018.**

## New sexual violence support group offered

Chris Burns  
Saint Paul-Ramsey County Public Health

SOS Sexual Violence Services has begun a new monthly open support group for friends, family, and partners of survivors of sexual violence. The group meets from **6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month** in Saint Paul.

For many years, SOS has also offered a weekly support group primarily for sexual violence survivors, but also open to family and friends. The weekly support group is **every Tuesday night, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.** in Saint Paul. Contact SOS at 651-266-1000 for more information on either of the support group meetings.


SOS support groups provide a safe and confidential setting for survivors to talk

with others who have been through similar experiences. Support groups are open to non-offending adults (age 18 and older) who are rape victims/survivors, adult victims/survivors of childhood sexual abuse, and secondary victims (family and friends of victims/survivors).


SOS is a program of Saint Paul – Ramsey County Public Health that provides 24-hour crisis services, information, and referrals. The program also offers support and information to individuals reporting sexual assaults or seeking medical care, advocacy during exams while receiving medical care, and help in filing a police report or with other legal issues. SOS counselors can also help sexual violence survivors with safety planning involving shelter and assistance with financial concerns. In addition to the support groups, SOS also provides one-on-one short-term counseling.

More information about SOS support group meetings and locations is available at [sosramsey.org](http://sosramsey.org) or by calling 651-266-1000.

# Elder Café



**Thursday, March 8, 2018**  
12:00 Noon – 2:00 PM  
463 Maria Avenue, St. Paul MN 55106




Janet Egge and Dr. Charles Kemper will share their musical talents as we celebrate the wonderful month of March.

**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!

The cost of the event is \$5.00 per person. Punch cards may be purchased at the door.

We take cash, check and credit card.



\*We cannot guarantee a meal without a reservation.

## East Side Elders receives 2017 Commitment to Community Award

East Side Elders

Last week, East Side Elders staff were thrilled and honored to receive a 2017 Commitment to Community Award from the East Side Area Business Association.

Congrats to Cookie Cart, a positive learning environment where teens gain work, life, and leadership skills through experience and training in a local bakery, for winning a 2017 Commitment to Community Award as well.


Thank you to all the wonderful East Side Elders volunteers who, along with staff, make it possible for to serve seniors on the East Side.



Photo courtesy of East Side Elders

East Side Elders Staff are proud recipients of a 2017 Commitment to Community Award, given by the East Side Area Business Association.

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## Little Free Libraries: More than books!

*Sage Holben  
Forum Staff*

When was the last time you used your local 24-hour library? The Little Free Libraries (LFL), created and marketed by Hudson, Wisconsin resident, Todd Bol, have grown in number to over 60,000 worldwide since 2008. This from the first, constructed and planted in front of his home, to honor his mother, a school librarian. From there, Todd soon had a business partner, Rick Brooks of Madison, Wisconsin, and a staff to provide to a greater public. The 60,000 are registered with LFL and identified on the LFL map. Hundreds, if not thousands of others simply exist for joy. In my alternative neighborhood at 181st and Fort Washington, in New York City's Upper West Side is an actual bookcase. Abandoned newspaper kiosks and phone booths have been multiplying around the country and kept filled as LFLs. Little Free Libraries pose as miniature, ornate cathedrals, country cottages, imaginative science fiction structures, and whimsical enticements.

I confess to always feeling a bit smug in saying ours is #93; the second in Saint Paul. (If you have one earlier than mine, but it's not registered, sorry! Lovely, but...). Registration is not required for a LFL, but the relatively small fee puts your LFL on the interactive map AND helps to fund LFL for those who cannot afford one for their neighborhood. I identified seven registered LFLs in Dayton's Bluff, and with Steve Trimble's help, four or five that are not registered.

I would be interested to hear some experiences from the stewards or users of any LFL. Send your comments to [daytonsbuffdistrictforum@gmail.com](mailto:daytonsbuffdistrictforum@gmail.com). To prod your memory, I will share our Little Free Library experience. I say 'our' as in the neighborhood, as far as it reaches. In the beginning...I was at work at my computer at Metropolitan State University Library and came upon a mention of Little Free Libraries. I instantly connected with the concept and emailed Todd, asking the costs; out of my price range, I learned! I thanked Todd and said I'd do a neighborhood fundraiser for one, possibly next year. Not long after, Todd emailed and said if I wanted to bring one helper, he would help us build one at his workshop. YES!!! I went to my neighborhood boys to see who would want to join me. Pedro jumped at it.

Todd's workshop at the time, was on his home deck. It was a beautiful, crisp Saturday, September 24, 2011. I had no firm idea what would happen - whether we would learn how and then go home and build one, or take one home that day. Todd was truly awesome! My only electrical tool experience was with my drill and my circular saw. I used that saw (inappropriately, perhaps) on everything, from mitering frames to cutting bookshelf boards. Pedro, 13 years old if I remember correctly, had no experience with power tools. Yet Todd gave Pedro hands on experience with a rip saw, air hammer, and mitering saw. What most impressed me was early in the day, Todd had Pedro use the tape measure to get the width of the base. Pedro reported it was about xx inches. Todd took the number, said exactness in measuring matters...then followed up with 'there are [usually] always ways to fix small mistakes.' I never saw Todd re-

measure anything Pedro had done. What I did see, was Pedro's self-confidence grow throughout the day, fed by Todd's firm but encouraging words. We worked (mostly Pedro, not me) from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., interrupted only for a lunch prepared by Susan, Todd's wife. Amazingly, the entire structure was finished except for a bit of trim that Todd added later.

Susan and Todd came to our address the following Monday, and Todd led the neighborhood boys in 'planting' our LFL in the boulevard garden. I say 'our' because it does belong to our neighborhood - and to any booklover or reader passing by. (In our first month, I met a woman who would drive from Arden Hills to exchange books at our Fourth and Bates library.)

Todd shared some wise observations during our work time; etched into my mind, these thoughts repeatedly demonstrated their truth as I observed later interactions with our library. Simply, if people are invested in the library...if they are a part of its beginning, they see it as belonging to them... we are stewards, not owners. We had a small welcome and refreshments for our library that Monday, and we all started a wondrous relationship. When I am outside, I'll often ask if the browser enjoys a certain author or genre so I can keep my eyes open for it. Sometimes I get to pass on to the amazed person that books are, indeed, free for them to take and read. People still express joy, amazement, and thanks that LFLs exist for their pleasure. I can't help but feel, though, that I have received the most...from what I hear and observe.

First, let me tell you the rest of the story of our LFL's first week home. After the Monday's planting, we proud neighbors would share the story with passersby. Early Wednesday evening, my neighbor asked me to share the concept with a potential new neighbor, her friend who was interested in a nearby house for sale. We stood talking when we saw a car slowly moving down the street, a person walking in the same direction, and a second car coming up the street. What happened in front of us was a shooting, the car taking off, and one man dead. Reporters, of course, came to the neighborhood, and played our LFL and my 'Be Peaceful' fence sign in contrast to the killing. Todd contacted me and expressed sadness that when people search for 'Little Free Library,' they may find the killing instead. My thought was 'Isn't this partly why the LFL is so perfect for our neighborhood? That people could experience the good in contrast to whatever the 'bad' was?'

And there has been so much good...the day my neighbor Kenji brought a book for me to read to him on the value of respect. As we closed the book, he said, 'people are complicated, aren't they, Sage?' So many wise observations from our children.

An eight year old neighbor girl, showing me the pulp fiction romance novels fully stuffing her backpack: I asked if she or someone else was reading these to her. She said 'no, but when I do this [running her finger under the line of text], I feel like I'm reading.'

Three young men, fast-talking, fast-moving down the street. One suddenly stopped at the LFL, seeming to look for something specific. 'Poetry' he called back when I asked. Ahhh. Here are two books of poetry you can have (had some on my porch).

The six kids, eight to ten years old, chattering, one girl told other kids about the library. One boy hit the plexiglass hard and cracked it with the heel of his hand - all took off. An hour or so later, the girls returned, and told me the boy was visiting. They apologized for his action; they told him the LFL belonged to all of us and

he was wrong to break it. The next day a regular passerby repaired the plexiglass, without being asked.

A pickup truck swerved across the street, squealed, and parked cockeyed near the LFL. My immediate thought was 'uh-oh.' A teenage girl jumped out with a book, exchanged it for another, and jumped back into the truck and sped off! (first impressions are so often wrong!)

As happens with so many newer LFLs, people were filling bags with the entire selection of books. David, who lived in a rooming house down the street was confronted by his housemates and told to stop stealing what belonged to everyone. They later told me he was selling them. On the other hand, I told them, it's not stealing if the books are free (another Todd gem). That thought helps me to be more forgiving and take less offense.

Whenever I saw bags being filled, I would encourage individuals to take only a few and return later, leaving enough so others could also enjoy the selections. When children, especially, would do this, I would ask about books they enjoyed; and tell them I would find what they liked for their own libraries. It dawned on me one day that perhaps the reason they took every book was the same reason, when a hungry person is offered 'take all the food you need/want,' many (I've been there) will take more than or even food that they don't especially like...just to be sure there is food for tomorrow. Books, for someone hungry to read or simply to have possession of books, isn't done selfishly. It sometimes fulfills a sense of existence. I assure the person, there will be more tomorrow; that if the 'box' is empty, they can knock on my door and we will find another.

Then there were the three young girls who saw 'sex' on the cover of a magazine, and we chatted about sexuality and sex education. Smart young women!

The backseat of my car is filled with books - as I drive around, whether Roseville or other parts of Saint Paul, or Wisconsin, if I notice an empty space in a LFL, I share what has been given to me. Occasionally, I notice a book I recognize as 'from the beginning.' Sometimes a book borrowed from a school or public library with no 'withdrawn' markings will make its way back to the public system.

The door was once loose on its hinge and before I could repair, my neighbor, husband of one of our most avid readers and donors, was already repairing with one of best hinges anywhere (piano hinge).

A couple years ago, a librarian friend of mine told me the door was missing from the LFL in front of the American Indian Family Center. I no longer had my trusty circular saw, so I made a flap of heavy doubled plastic, a row of magnets and a trim of duct tape. I drove by the LFL last week and the 'door' was still there. I now carry a staple gun, magnets, scissors, plastic, duct tape, with my hammer, screwdrivers, screws and nails, and black marker - in my car's LFL fixit box.

I've seen people use our LFL as a specific destination (from Arden Hills to Conway Street) as well as an 'on the way' place to stop. I am grateful to those who leave the remaining selections in some kind of neat order...but if stuffed back in, glad the door is closed. I thank those who replenish our inventory, whether by placing a few inside the library, or leaving their bags or boxes on the green porch chair. And, I thank Todd, for taking a simple joy of reading and sharing, and growing it into a huge, worldwide, joyful, exuberant bookfest!

*Sage Holben can be reached at [daytonsbuffdistrictforum@gmail.com](mailto:daytonsbuffdistrictforum@gmail.com).*

### Ramsey County Commissioner Rafael Ortega Announces Bid for Re-Election

*Ken Iosso  
Office of Commissioner Rafael Ortega*

Ramsey County Commissioner Rafael E. Ortega announced that he will be seeking re-election in 2018. First elected in 1994, Ortega serves Ramsey County District 5, which includes the Saint Paul neighborhoods of Capitol Heights, Dayton's Bluff, Downtown, Highland Park, Macalester Groveland, Railroad Island, West Seventh, and the West Side.

As Commissioner, he has focused his work on protecting Ramsey County's most vulnerable residents, fostering a strong economy, assuring that residents have access to a great transportation network, and making sure that Ramsey County delivers the best service in a cost-effective way.

He has also been a leader on important projects for Ramsey County Residents. "With the help of my supporters and great partners, we are building transportation that provides people with better connections to

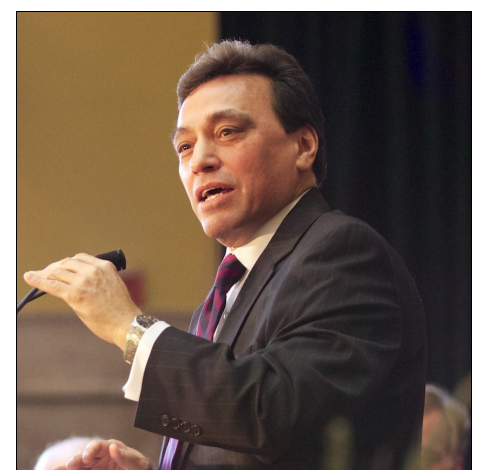
jobs, education and the places they need to go," Ortega said. "Along with maintaining a strong network of roads, we are investing in transit that allows people to get to important destinations and encourages private investment."

Among the projects that Commissioner Ortega has championed are: Redevelopment of Rice Creek Commons (formerly the Twin Cities Army Ammunition Plant) in Arden Hills into a housing and commercial center; redevelopment of the former West Publishing site in downtown Saint Paul into riverfront residential and commercial development; the Green Line connecting downtown Saint Paul to the University of Minnesota and Downtown Minneapolis; the Gold Line Bus Rapid Transit line connecting Saint Paul to Woodbury; the Rush Line connecting to White Bear Lake; and the Riverview Corridor.

While leading these high-profile projects, Commissioner Ortega has never lost sight of his key goal of providing access and voice to people who have felt left out, by simplifying a complex human services system and connecting people to education and jobs.

Ortega intends to seek the endorsement of the DFL and entered recent precinct caucuses with the support of AFSCME, the Saint Paul Regional Labor Federation, and many elected and community leaders.

For more information on Ortega's campaign, please visit <https://commissionerrafaelortega.wordpress.com/>.



Rafael Ortega



# Tales from the Bluff: Braving the Blizzard

Carlyle Slade  
Forum Contributor

It was January 22, and ol' Mr. Winter was unleashing a blizzard upon the Twin Cities. Snow was descending, ascending, traversing, and drifting. It was blowing every which way and it provided me an opportunity to do what I enjoy doing - bundling up and braving the blizzard. In other words, I had to shovel.

I had just begun to heave the snow from my sidewalk when I noticed a van stuck on the corner of my block. So, I galumphed over and greeted a mother with her four children. A sense of urgency sprang into my disposition. I had to get this van mobile and on the double. But as quickly as the van would get moving, it would go directly into another snow-ridden corner of the intersection. The mother would get out and we would shovel. Then she would proceed to drive into the next corner. By the time we had covered every corner of Maria and Short, I asked if I could drive. She al-

lowed it and I hopped in the driver's seat.

As I was assessing the situation, I was mumbling, "Oh boy! This isn't good." Not but a second later, two of the children started talking over one another: "You can do it! Believe in yourself! I believe in you! You can do it!" I was impressed by the level of their encouragement. As a single man, it's rare that I get reminded that children are always listening. I turned my gaze toward the back seat and said, "Your attitudes are outstanding and I believe you are correct!" I slowly rocked the van out and made it to a somewhat decent location down the street. At which point they thanked me, and I returned to my sidewalk to heave snow.

As soon as I cleared my sidewalk, I couldn't believe my eyes. I saw the same van stuck in the same intersection once again. There were already people helping her out of this awfully redundant cycle, but I galumphed over again anyway. I found that the two young men who were helping her out were my neighbors. They informed me that they were walking around the neighborhood with shovels, helping anyone they could. This noteworthy gallantry gave my disposition a new tone. I asked the mother where she was heading, and it was not but five blocks away. So I hopped back in the driver's seat.

I knew what I had to do. I had to drive like a mani-

ac. I had to drive fast and bust drifts. I had to get this family home without getting stuck again. With all that in mind, I mapped out the best route in my head and I told every one to hang on tight. I began the journey with a "Rockford" (Google it), because it was effective and because it is one of my favorite maneuvers. I then floored it. We gained momentum and started busting through drifts. We achieved ramming speed and we made it up the hill on Pacific Street. All the while, the kids were still rattling off words of encouragement. It was exhilarating and we made it. We made it to the middle of the road outside of their home. We were stuck again, but at this point we were close enough for the mother and children to get inside.

The mother's sister was now with me and another neighborhood hero had stopped to help us out. We shoveled out a spot on the side of the street and parked the van. It was a triumphant moment among complete strangers.

Before I walked home, the mother graciously thanked me. She told me that she prayed for an army and that she had received one. As I walked home, I chuckled and thought to myself: "Dayton's Bluff delivered her an army of good Samaritans."

Carlyle Slade can be reached at [carlyleslade2@gmail.com](mailto:carlyleslade2@gmail.com).

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## Contest: Where in Dayton's Bluff?

Send your guess to [daytonsbluffdistrictforum@gmail.com](mailto:daytonsbluffdistrictforum@gmail.com) with the location of the neighborhood curiosity pictured below for a chance to win great prizes from local businesses. The reader who submits the first correct entry will be notified and the winner will be announced in the April edition of the *Forum*.



## MOUNDS PARK BARBER STYLISTS



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*Judy Lee*



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### Dayton's Bluff District Forum

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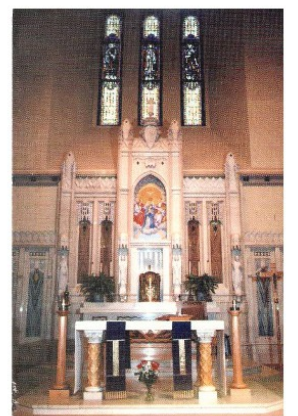
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Next issue: April 2018. **Deadline for material: March 10, 2018.**

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## East Side Eating – Trimble's Taste Trek

In 2015, Forum contributor Steve Trimble set out to eat at every locally-owned, sit-down restaurant on the East Side (all 59 of them!)

Recently, he has been visting restaurants that opened since then. All of Steve's reviews can be found at [daytonsbluffdistrictforum.org](http://daytonsbluffdistrictforum.org) under the "East Side Eating" tab.

**Los Sanchez Taqueria**  
(651) 730-0032  
1905 Stillwater Ave E  
St. Paul, MN 55119

Daily hours: 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.  
[facebook.com/lossancheztaqueria](https://www.facebook.com/lossancheztaqueria)

This month I decided to visit a restaurant that has been open for around a year, Los Sanchez Taqueria.

The restaurant features a large interior with two rooms connected by large arches. The walls are red above a white tile floor. There were some pictures and decorative plastic banners suspended from the ceiling. There are ten or so booths and a dozen tables. There are two medium-sized flat screen televisions.

You order at a counter and they call out your number when it is ready. Their leaflet says "authentic Mexican food." Of course there are regional differences that might be authentic. In this case, owner Santiago Sanchez, came to Minnesota from the Morales area and many of the selections are clearly labeled Morales. There are also three large posters of Emiliano Zapata, the leader of a huge peasant revolt in Morales during the Mexican Revolution.

Here are some of the dishes to be found: Appetizers chips with either guacamole or Swiss cheese, taco salad, "super nachos," and French fries. Breakfast features Chilaquiles, served with two eggs; Huevos (eggs) al Gusto - two eggs with choice of meat; and

breakfast burritos.

There are 11 different "plates" to choose from including Flautas de Polla (chicken), with rice, beans, lettuce; a mole with a sauce served with beans and tortillas; and Caldo 7 Mares, a seafood soup with mussels, octopus, scallops, shrimp, and catfish. For smaller appetites you might try one of the eight Mexican sandwiches known as tortas such as Torta Cubana, Torta Hawaiana (marinated pork and ham and pineapple), menudo (beef tripe), and Alambres Campechano, comprised of steak, roast pork, bacon, and vegetables.

Kids menu includes a Kid's quesadilla, chicken taco, or mini burritos. The desserts are fried plantain, custard, tiramisu, and Tres Leches Cake.

Some of the "extras" are nopales (cactus leaf), pico de gallo, and corn on the cob, spread with mayo then rolled in grated cheese and sprinkled with chili powder.

The place was not crowded on that Wednesday. Five or so tables were occupied. During my time there were two take-out orders. There was light background music and everyone but me was Latino.

I opted for the Chimichanga, served with a chopped lettuce, tomato, and onion salad, topped with two servings or guacamole and sour cream. There is no alcohol but several different soft drinks, so I chose to have a fruit punch flavored bottle of Jarrito.

They don't deliver so to get their food, you'll have to show up. It can be a little difficult to find the restaurant. Take I-94 to the White Bear Avenue exit. Go north on White Bear and you will find Stillwater Road the next street after crossing East Seventh Street. Head east for a few blocks and you will be there. However you might be able to taste the best of Los Sanchez Taqueria when it warms up because they have a food truck that roams St. Paul.

Steve Trimble can be reached at [daytonsbluffdistrictforum@gmail.com](mailto:daytonsbluffdistrictforum@gmail.com).

## You got somethin' to say?

### Say it here!

The Dayton's Bluff District Forum welcomes all opinions and neighborhood anecdotes – send yours to [daytonsbluffdistrictforum@gmail.com](mailto:daytonsbluffdistrictforum@gmail.com).

Deadline for the April 2018 issue of the *Forum* is March 10, 2018.

## View From My Porch: Bits & Pieces of Winter Sludge

Sage Holben  
Forum Staff

Whenever I hear a restaurant customer say, in making a menu selection, "I'll do (a hamburger, the chicken, etc.)", I cringe. 'Doing a....' was always more in relation to a *shhhhhh!* sex job than a meal in my lexicon.

How is trust rebuilt in our district council when unscheduled board meetings are held without 'proper notice'; when information is not shared, when communication between community and what is left of a board is lacking.

How do I trust police officers when I am told 'my hands are tied; even with the info you gave me.'; 'go ask your candidate/your city councilperson'?

It's increasingly difficult to 'see' and empathize with needs of people who are homeless and doing their best to 'make it', while staff in the university library or local fast food restaurant are being threatened, cursed at, aggressively addressed, the person openly drinking alcohol or hovering over customers. The responsibility demonstrated by the local drop-in center staff becomes laughable...marginally, since residents, library, and business employees become continually more stressed and concerned with safety.

And now the newly announced practice of our City Council that people who speak at the Council meetings will no

longer be asked to give their address, only neighborhood. A detriment to this was very obvious in the case of 'people against Listening House' appeared at several public meetings. People who work or volunteer at the 'drop-in living room' were able to sing praises of the site. Yet unlike the neighbors who were left with lewd behaviors, human excrement in their yards, the praising people were and are able to go to their homes at night, far, far away...yet leaving the impression with the Council that they are from the neighborhood. That's where a list is handy, as one person said, 'to weaponize the homeless' in letting them know that there are homes all around the city where they are welcomed to camp in yards of residents...not just in the lower Dayton's Bluff area.

On the topic of homelessness...not always a clear definition...I'm putting out a call for help. A local woman is trying to get back into her own physical, still existing home. She is seeking legal real estate help, either pro bono or contingency payment. A dispute exists on whether certain mortgage payments were made. She has proof of payments: mortgage interest statements as well as canceled checks. One legal connection referred to her mortgage as a 'cloudy title.' I am offering a very simple outline, and only real estate attorneys need reply. Here is a person with a home she cannot get back into, and she has become a victim of a system that keeps trying to pull her deeper. Please contact [daytonsbluffdistrictforum@gmail.com](mailto:daytonsbluffdistrictforum@gmail.com) if you qualify to offer assistance.

Sage Holben can be reached at [daytonsbluffdistrictforum@gmail.com](mailto:daytonsbluffdistrictforum@gmail.com).



Steve Trimble

Los Sanchez Taqueria at 1905 Stillwater Avenue East.

## 6th Annual CABARET!

Karin DuPaul  
Forum Staff

The 6th Annual CABARET! was held on Friday, February 2, at the Historic Mounds Theatre. The evening was a wonderful mix of singing, music, come-

Swede Hollow Park.

The entertainment included singers Juan Parker, Dorothy Doring, Jaymes Taylor, John Knowles, Alan J. Hawk, Renee Vaughan and Adam Keisling, Mr. D, Rashad 502, Jimmy Blues, and the Wayward Creek Folk Singers.

Other entertaining acts included Michael Pernosil, Nancy Sanchelli Gertin, Helga - a Viking woman, DJ Huh?What, and Kevin Whitby who served as emcee.

The CABARET! is a fundraiser for this coming year's 9th Annual Art in the Hollow, the art festival in Swede Hollow Park (Saturday, June 2, 2018). The CABARET! and Art in the Hollow are programs of Friends of Swede Hollow, a nonprofit organization that works on restoring and protecting the



Karin DuPaul

The Historic Mounds Theatre saw a full house for the 6th Annual CABARET!

dy, a Swede Hollow story, and poetry. It was truly a celebration of talent with East Side roots. The judges were great, wonderful food from Yarusso's was enjoyed, there was a silent auction, and VIP Bingo that featured new faces who are now working on both the CABARET! and the upcoming Art in the Hollow festival in

park, celebrating Swede Hollow history, and hosting events honoring Swede Hollow Park and the surrounding neighborhood. For more information about Art in the Hollow call Karin DuPaul at 651-776-0550.

Karin DuPaul can be reached at [daytonsbluffdistrictforum@gmail.com](mailto:daytonsbluffdistrictforum@gmail.com).

## Congratulations to Gudrun Gates, winner of February's *Where in Dayton's Bluff?*

Gudrun correctly guessed the location in the photo on page 6 of the February issue – Bethlehem Lutheran Church.



# My sister Jo

*Rick Cardenas  
Special to the Forum*

My sister JoAnn passed away about two years ago and I have missed her greatly. One of the reasons is because I would always use her as a resource; she would tell me when someone died, when someone was born or we would just say "hi."

Joni and I were together from her beginning - I'm a year and 50 days older. We lived with our mother, aunts and uncles, and our grandma who was dying of cancer, and she kept us close to her. Our "Gramma" made our oatmeal with raisins, a cinnamon stick, and butter, and it was JoAnn and me in a quiet and mellow time with our grandma. (We were so close to our grandma that we thought she was our mother, Jo and I argued that with others for many years.)

Our house was at 613 E 4th Street on the East Side. It was one of many that were under or around the Third Street Bridge.

Our Gramma once gave us a peach to eat and I was telling her how fuzzy the peach was. I had a little lisp, so I said "futhy," for fuzzy, and that is when JoAnn, my little sister, first started talking and started taking control. "Say Fuzzy, Ricky," she'd instruct me, beginning a lifetime of loving peaches and Jo telling me what to say.

Jo and I both went to Van Buren School. We hung out at Bluff playground after school and for much of our summers. I was there for baseball and Jo played on the girls' softball team. I loved watching and cheering for her. She continued playing softball and swimming in the backyard pool into late adulthood.

In the fall, the Bluff dances started and Jo worked on teaching me how to dance to the fast songs. This was a big task, since I have no rhythm. She gave up on the fast ones and we worked on the slow dancing instead. She was proud of her accomplishment in that regard. JoAnn loved skating at night at the Bluff and we would walk home together. She never stopped loving sports and dancing!

JoAnn was always there for me. Politically, we traveled with similar thoughts; she would go to the DFL Caucuses and not be afraid to raise the minority, disability, and womens' issues. She was on board with the GLBT issues immediately upon hearing about any negativity in that regard.

JoAnn jumped into womens' rights because of her own and others' experience. She was one of the first workers at Women's Advocates, and was one of the women to help create the Casa de Esperanza, a shelter for Latinas. She was an activist!



Photo courtesy of Rick Cardenas

**JoAnn Cardenas with her younger brothers Manny and Chuck.**

Some of my fond old memories of JoAnn are when we were out doing leafleting and picketing for Cesar Chavez's United Farm Workers. She would bring my three nieces, Lori, Candi, and Chris, to the picket line; these are fun memories for me. I know JoAnn loved that history too, but I don't think that the nieces remember the Red Owl picketing as fondly, if at all. But Jo, the girls, and I were out there.

Those who knew JoAnn know that she was always a very social person and she liked parties, conventions, caucuses, and the state DFL Central Committee meetings. She loved the pomp of those DFL/DEM conventions and inaugurations.

She liked family picnics and family events such as weddings. She gave me surprise party after surprise party. She even put an ad in Access Press announcing the surprise. I didn't catch it. Always surprised!

In her last few weeks, Jo hadn't been eating much, just some mashed or ground stuff, fruits, potatoes, even meats. She was not able to speak much, but she was still able to write, and a few weeks before passing, I was trying to decipher something she'd written. When I couldn't, I called Lori and Candi to help and it turned out to say "Where's my peach smoothie?" She was ordering me around for one last time. I really miss you, Joni!

# Mounds Park Nurses and WWI

*Steve Trimble  
Forum Historian*

The Ramsey County History magazine published a recent article The Ties That Bind: Mounds Park Nurses and the Great War, by Johannes R. Allert. Since the hospital was located where today's Cerenity stands, I thought people might be interested in this story.

American soldiers who were seriously wounded were shipped home to U.S. Navy hospitals for medical treatment and rehabilitation - twenty four of the Mounds Park nurses helped provide their care. They also had to deal with the world-wide influenza pandemic in 1918. Some of the letters the nurses sent home form the basis of the article.

Anna Marie Dahlby and Anna Rosalie Olson, who was called Rose, both wrote providing insights into their experiences. Anna Dahlby was sent to Portsmouth Naval Station in Norfolk, Virginia, as a navy nurse. In a letter to her family in St. Paul, she confessed to feeling homesick but added, "I am so happy and content as can be. I am so glad I am in service and shall surely never regret that I enlisted."

Rose Olson was sent to the Great Lakes Naval Station in Illinois. She wrote about remarks of the nursing superintendent. "When she heard I was from Mounds Park, she told me our nurses were some, if not, the very best they had. She spoke highly of them... so I am sure glad I belong to them." Anna grew fond of navy

slang: I am getting to be a regular sailor, at least in my grammar. When patients are too noisy, we say "Pipe down!... It all sounded very funny to me at first... but it does not take long to get used to things."

Rose observed "We are admitting more and more Marines and it makes one's heart sick to see some of them, especially some of the shell shocked, or gassed." When Rose found out the fate of Esther Kirbach, another Mounds Hospital volunteer, she said "Just learned today that Kirbach is gone. It surely makes us wonder who goes next."

On November 18, Anna Dahlby came down with influenza and bronchial pneumonia set in. She died two days before Thanksgiving. After a formal naval ceremony, her body was shipped home for burial. A private service in St. Paul was followed by burial in Union Cemetery.

Rose provided details of new policies to ensure nurses' well-being. "Each one of us has to have our temp and pulse taken every day by a supervisor nurse... So many nurses work and have fever and they try to work it off and then they suddenly collapse and nothing can be done."

Rose survived the flu epidemic. The Nurses group created a plaque as well as a "living memorial" in the form of a nursing scholarship named in the honor of Anna Dahlby and Esther Kirbach. To read the entire article, put rchs.com in your search engine then click on "Publishing" and then click on "Magazine." Scroll down to "Past Articles & Back Issues" and click on Volume 52, Number 1: Spring 2017.

*Steve Trimble can be reached at daytonsbuffdistrictforum@gmail.com.*

# Dayton's Bluff Women's History Walk

*Steve Trimble  
Forum Historian*

Last year there was a two page article in the Forum that was a walking tour of some important spots where local woman lived or worked. It was designed to allow people to start out at the Swede Hollow Café, read directions, read stories, walk in a big circle,

and return back to the starting point. It includes attorneys, teachers, architects, television stars, business owners, German, Hmong, and Latino activists, nurses, pioneers and military figures to name a few.

Rather than re-print the entire article please read the on-line version. To see it, go to daytonsbuffdistrictforum.org and click on "Past Issues." Then go to the March 2017 issue. Call a friend or two and celebrate Women's History Month with a stroll through the neighborhood's history.

# Van Buren's Last Photo

*Steve Trimble  
Forum Historian*

I recently bought a photo of Van Buren School on ebay that I had never seen before and it may be the last image of the neighborhood school ever taken. In my purchase, the original ornate domed tower in the center of the building was gone. It was taken on January 19, 1975, for the *Pioneer Press*. Written on the back was "Swan Song of the Van Buren School as final reunion

day was held today as many former students came to bid it goodbye!"

A newspaper clipping of the caption read "Van Buren Elementary, 275 Maple, almost a century old, will be destroyed early next month and its students moved to the adjacent Dayton's Bluff Elementary School. An open house and reunion attended by some of the 42,000 students who have passed through its doors was held Sunday afternoon. The building was constructed in 1881."

Did you attend Van Buren? If you did, please share some stories that we could print in an upcoming issue of the *Forum*.

*Steve Trimble can be reached at daytonsbuffdistrictforum@gmail.com.*



Photo courtesy of Steve Trimble/Pioneer Press

"Swan Song of the Van Buren School as final reunion day was held today as many former students came to bid it goodbye!" reads a newspaper clipping affixed to the back of this photograph of Van Buren School's final days. The school, which stood at 275 Maple, was constructed in 1881 and razed in 1975.



# Have Forum, will travel...



David Lyons keeps his travel companion up to date on what's happening in Dayton's Bluff while visiting Cuba.

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 [daytonsbluffdistrictforum@gmail.com](mailto:daytonsbluffdistrictforum@gmail.com).



Mark Cosimini and Mary Block read the *Dayton's Bluff District Forum* near the Eiffel Tower in Paris, France. Au courant!



Greg Cosimini

The private jets of the rich and famous lined up at Holman Field in St. Paul during the Super Bowl, held at U.S. Bank Stadium in Minneapolis. No word on if any of the jets had a copy of the *Forum* on board.

## Many thanks to our 2018 donors:

Cliff Carey

Dick & Regina Mccarthy

Larry Meuwissen & Joyce Maddox

### 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 below. 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 2018.

**Our goal for the new year is \$3,000; thanks to readers like you, we raised \$2,250.00 in 2017 – will you help us reach our goal in 2018?**

Sincerely,  
The *Dayton's Bluff District Forum*

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Make checks payable to: *Dayton's Bluff District Forum* and mail to 804 Margaret Street, St. Paul, MN 55106. For more information, contact 651-776-0550 or [daytonsbluffdistrictforum@gmail.com](mailto:daytonsbluffdistrictforum@gmail.com).

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