

Dayton's Bluff District Forum

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"The Voice of the Community"



Greg Cosimini

The Dari-ette Drive-In, located at 1440 E, Minnehaha Ave., was put up for sale by its owner in early February.

Dari-ette Drive-In for Sale

Greg Cosimini
Forum Staff

On Monday, February 3, East Siders awoke to an unexpected and disturbing sight – For Sale signs on their beloved Dari-ette Drive-in at 1440 E. Minnehaha Ave. Local Facebook pages lit up with posts trying to find out if it was true. An online real estate listing confirmed it.

The Dari-ette was indeed on the market for \$384,900. It was billed as a “turn-key operation with extensive equipment included.” In other words, anyone who was so motivated could purchase the Dari-ette and open it in spring as has been done for the past nearly 70 years.

The listing also noted: “Dari-ette marquee sign included. Twenty-four parking, ordering and dining stations. Additional 36-plus seats in interior and patio areas. Storage garage on-site.” It was a stark description of an iconic Dayton's Bluff landmark that has been in existence for as long as all but its oldest residents.

The story unfolded over the next few

days on TV newscasts, in newspapers and online. Angela Fida, the current Dari-ette owner for the past 21 years had decided it was time to move on. It wasn't a matter of money. The restaurant is still profitable, but operating the Dari-ette is all-consuming and left little time for her own life. She decided it was time for someone else to hopefully pick up the torch and carry on.

Fida took over the business from her parents, who had owned it for 48 years after having taken it over from her grandfather who had built it literally from scratch in 1951. What started out as a simple drive-in featuring American foods and ice cream eventually became known as a unique drive-in specializing in Italian foods. Fida has said she cooked forty gallons of red sauce three times a week plus six batches of meatballs and seventy-five pounds of sausage.

The Dari-ette achieved national fame when Guy Fieri visited and featured it on his show “Diners, Drive-ins and Dives” on the Food Network.

Fida is hoping for a quick sale of the restaurant. She doesn't want to have to open it herself in spring just to pay the bills. This year the Dari-ette's spring opening date, an annual matter of much speculation since it depends on Minnesota's always unpredictable weather, may not come at all. There is no guarantee that the next owner of the property will continue running it as a restaurant.

Traveling Phone Booth on the East Side

Jessica Turtle
Natural Heritage Project

Jessica Turtle of the Natural Heritage project is working with local businesses to host the Elm Tree Story phone booth. Turtle had the idea of the traveling tree and along with the help of Standing Cedars Workshop, they created the tree.

The East 7th Mississippi Market had a special phone booth that arrived on Sunday February 16. Before coming to East 7th, it was featured at West 7th Mississippi Market.

It was only there until the end of February, but don't worry. If you didn't see it at Mississippi Market, the phone booth will be traveling to the Wabasha Eagle Sanctuary.

People use the phone inside the tree to dial and tell their own nature story which will be featured in a podcast. Over 400 stories have been shared in the tree since 2019. It's very easy to use! Make sure the tree is empty, think of the best nature story you have, and step inside the tree. From there, you'll pick up the phone, listen to the prompt and then record your story.

If you have any suggestions on where the tree should travel next, please contact naturalheritageproject.org or call 651-361-9286.

You can also follow the tree and find out where it'll be traveling to next by following them on Twitter and Instagram at [StoriesElm](https://twitter.com/StoriesElm).

To look at the photo of the tree and more information about it, visit page six!

Upcoming Swede Hollow Book Events

Karin DuPaul
Forum Staff

The Life of Swede Hollow: A Pictorial History is a book that is full of delightful stories and remembrances of the Swede Hollow community. As the Swedes moved out of the Hollow which they called “moving up on the street,” Italians and later Mexican Americans made the Hollow their home. Talk of making Swede Hollow a city park dates back to the early 1900s, in the 1970s the work began. Angela and Karin DuPaul started working on the book some years ago. They visited families and people who lived in and near the Hollow and collected photos, stories, articles and so on. For more information call 651-776-0550.

To get your copy of the book, there will be book events at the Yoerg Brewery at 378 Maria on **Thursday, March 19 at 7 p.m.** and at Next Chapter Book Store at 36 South Selling on **Saturday March 28 at 7 p.m.**

The books are also available at the Swede Hollow Cafe.



Peter Rudrud

Pictured above is Council Member Jane Prince at Dayton's Bluff Library reading to the children for the President's Day Story time.

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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 starts at Indian Mounds Park at Earl Street and Mounds Boulevard at **10:30 a.m.** The next hike will be on **March 14.** The hike is about one and a half to two hours long and will end up at Swede Hollow Park or East Side Heritage Park depending on the desire of the hikers. Learn a little history along the way.

If you have any questions KarinDuPaul@comcast.net or call 651-776-0550.

Friends of Swede Hollow

Friends of Swede Hollow watch over, restore, and celebrate the history of Swede Hollow Park. Join the Swede Hollow community at their monthly meetings on **Thursday, March 5,** at **6:30 p.m.** Email KarinDuPaul@comcast.net or call 651-776-0550 for more information and the meeting's location.

Dayton's Bluff District Forum Board Meeting

The *Forum* is seeking writers and help with online content, idea generation, and ad sales – join us at our next meeting on **Thursday, March 5,** at **11:00 a.m.,** at Swede Hollow Cafe at 725 E. 7th Street. Call 651-776-0550 or email daytonsbuffdistrictforum@gmail.com for more information.

Police Community Meetings

The Eastern District Police will host their monthly meetings for community members held at the Eastern District police office at 722 Payne on the corner of Payne and Minnehaha Avenues. The next meetings are on **Wednesday, March 18** at **9:30 a.m.** and **6:30 p.m.**

The meetings are intended as a time to learn, listen to, and address people's concerns about crime and other issues on the East Side. Saint Paul Police Eastern District is committed to maintaining and growing the quality of life for all our residents. Bring your neighbors - it is a great way to talk about your neighborhood and neighborhood nuisance issues.

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 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.**



Fridays and Saturdays, February 21, 22, 28, & 29 and March 6 & 7: Fearless Five: Dreams. Fearless Comedy Productions is proud to present *Fearless Five: Dreams*. The annual new play festival is back! Five new plays with five directors on the topic of "dreams." This production is sure to stoke audience members' imaginations with a night of laughs and new discoveries for all who attend! Time: All performances at 7:30 p.m. Tickets: \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door.

Friday, March 13: Cabaret & East Side Night Out! Friends of Swede Hollow hosts a fundraiser for Art in the Hollow. This is a family-friendly variety show with DJ Glo as MC. Local Talent! Music, Slam Poetry, Comedy and Storytelling. Entertainers include Juan Parker, Dan Triple E, John Knowles, Nancy Sanchelli Guerlin, Alan J. Hawkins, Mike Presnosil, Jimmy Burns, Kirk Larson, Paul Grading plus other new and local performers. Time: 7:30 – 9:30 p.m. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Pick up discount tickets (\$15) at these local East Side businesses: Brunson's Pub, Karibu Grocery and Deli, Yarusso Bros. and Yoerg's. Tickets at the door: \$30.

Saturday, March 21: Midwest All-Star Wrestling presents Live Pro Wrestling. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. First match at 7:00 p.m. See our website for more details.

Visit our website at moundstheatre.org for more information and other events not listed here and to purchase tickets as they become available. The Historic Mounds Theatre is located at 1029 Hudson Road, St. Paul, MN 55106; 651-772-2253; historicmoundstheatre@gmail.com

March at the Dayton's Bluff Library

The following events take place at the Dayton's Bluff Library, 645 East Seventh Street, Saint Paul.

Tuesday, March 10, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 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 write reviews of the books they read.

The reviews are submitted to the publishers to help guide their decisions.

School is in session! The library's got your back. Check out sppl.org/back-to-school for information on homework help, after school snack, and other resources to make your school year a success.

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

Wish List Care Packages

Help East Side Elders distribute food, hygiene items, and more to seniors on the East Side by shopping their Amazon Wish List!

Visit www.amazon.com/registry/wish-list/3KK001OGFO5NJ to have these much-needed items sent right to their office. From there, a team of volunteers will distribute them to seniors in need.

With the help of supporters like you, East Side Elders is able to supply groceries and personal care items to seniors in the community at no charge to them. These items help stretch their monthly budgets and give them access to healthy food and much-needed personal care products. Donations can also be dropped off at East Side Elders, 463 Maria Avenue Suite 201, St. Paul, MN 55106.

Grocery Shopping

Did you know that East Side Elders can help you and your loved one with grocery shopping?

Let East Side Elders take a chore off your long to-do list! To get help with grocery shopping, call 651-683-2326 or email Info@EastSideElders.org with a detailed list. From there, East Side Elders staff will put a call out to their grocery shopping team and schedule a day and time that works for you and the volunteer for delivery.

Grocery shopping is a donation-based service. Donate what you can for the convenience of not having to head out to the store. Reimbursement for the groceries can be done directly with the volunteer - they will bring you a receipt when they make their delivery.

Volunteer with EastSide Elders

Did you know that EastSide Elders provided over 1,600 rides to seniors on the East Side last year? With the help of our incredible volunteers, we help older adults get to medical appointments, the bank, the grocery store, and other errands. Each ride helps a senior remain an active, vital part of the community.

As we receive more and more requests for help from our senior neighbors, we need to grow our team of volunteer drivers. Join our team by applying online at EastSideElders.org/Volunteer or by contacting us at 651-683-2326. Volunteer drivers have a flexible schedule and help out when they can, as often as they choose. Gas cards are also available for volunteer drivers!

Business Classes

The next Dayton's Bluff Neighborhood Microentrepreneur Class program helps startup and young businesses on the East Side. All East Side entrepreneurs are welcome. Class training lasts eight weeks and includes topics such as operations management, marketing, financial management, one-on-one assistance with creating a successful business, and preparing a business plan, plus eight hours of one-on-one time with the instructor.

Those who successfully complete the course and locate their businesses in target neighborhoods are eligible for ongoing business support services. Some examples of businesses started by people who have previously taken this course include graphics, landscaping, photography, food service, restoration of wood furniture, art, custom floral design, and exterior and interior painting. The course is sponsored by the Dayton's Bluff Community Council and the Neighborhood Development Center. There is a small registration fee based on a sliding-fee scale. Class sizes are limited, so enroll now. Please call 651-379-8432 for an application.

Free Help for East Side Pets

The Animal Humane Society's Community Outreach program offers special clinics for pets on the East Side. The events provide free wellness exams, vaccines, nail trims, spay/neuter appointment scheduling, guidance from the AHS behavior team and St. Paul Animal Control, free pet food, and more.

For upcoming events and locations call 651-788-4685 or visit <http://animal-humane-society.org/outreach-services-frog-town-and-east-st-paul>.

Learn About Medicare and Help Others

Help the Metropolitan Area Agency on Aging provide one-on-one counseling to Medicare beneficiaries at community partner sites.

Make a difference in your community by becoming a State Health Insurance Assistance Program certified Medicare Counselor. Help people understand their Medicare options. Visit Metroaging.org/volunteer to learn more.

Open Ice Skating

Open skating for all ages at Charles M. Schulz Highland Arena and Vadnais Sports Center is open now until the end of March for select dates. The Highland Arena's open skate times go from **2:30 to 4 p.m.**

Skate rental and sharpening are \$5 each.

Visit ramseycounty.us/residents/parks-recreation/ice-arenas-sportsdome/skating-programs/open-skate for more information on times and rinks.

Meet Addie Elling — Cheese Buyer from Mississippi Market

*Mark Gallagher
Associate Editor*

Mississippi Market, which is located at 740 East 7th Street in the Dayton's Bluff area of St. Paul, is the grocery chain's third natural foods co-op. The store opened its doors to the East Side in September 2015. The building has 26,000 square feet that encourages the customer to shop for many different food items including a full-service meat counter, a large selection of organic foods, a pizza bar, and a cheese island that offers a diverse selection of cheeses.

Addie Elling is the primary cheese buyer who works at the cheese island in the store, and lives on Margaret Street, just down the street from Mississippi Market. She grew up in the suburbs, went to Lakeville South High School, and then went to college at the College of Visual Arts on Summit Avenue, overlooking Xcel Center. The college has since closed down, but she transferred to the Minneapolis College of Art and Design. "I have my degree in painting and drawing," Elling said, "and ever since I graduated, I have been painting as much as I can, even though I work full-time."

When she was in kindergarten, her teacher had the students write down in the school's yearbook what they wanted to do when they grew up, and Elling wrote down that she wanted to be an artist. So she has always known that she wanted to do art. "Actually, my great-grandmother, who passed away at the age of 105, in 2017," she said, "was a painter as well, and I was just kind of amazed by what she could do. I've always had an aptitude for making things, and I have been drawing since I was a kid and have always loved art class, and in high school, I really started getting serious about it. I always knew I wanted to go to an art school, and then from there I'm just trying to make it work."

Elling started going to art shows in high school. She had a really great art teacher in high school and had some artwork hanging up at school. "One day I was walking by and thought to myself, 'Where are my paintings, and I thought someone at school had stolen them, but my art teacher actually entered the paintings in an art show without telling me. I don't know why, but that was the first time I was in a juried (judged) art show. That show was at Normandale Community College.' The judges are usually art faculty at the high school or college level. But then when I went to school (college), we were doing that kind of stuff all the time."

"When I graduated, I lost touch with that community, and everybody dispersed and kind of did their own thing. I made it a point to seek out other opportunities to sell my stuff. I've reached out to galleries, I've tried to do alumni shows, and now I have this show that I was scouted for. Someone sent me an email out of the blue and asked me to be in this show in Minneapolis at the end of the month. That first one in high school was just for display, but the teacher just took my art off the wall and entered it in an art show. In college, we had shows that we had to do. Also in college, as part of our curriculum, we had to curate our own shows, write artist statements, and find our own venues because there is a whole other way of learning how to market yourself."

Elling has since moved and has lived in Dayton's Bluff for the past few years, got a job at Mississippi Market, is happy there, and she said fondly, "I have always loved St. Paul." The choice to work at Mississippi Market on East 7th Street was an easy one for Elling because she had shopped at the Mississippi Market store on Selby Ave. quite a few times when she studied at the College of Visual Arts. She also liked the idea of working with local, organic products and what the company stands for. "It's more equal," Elling said, "the whole co-op way of working is a different system than lot of other businesses where the hierarchy is very pyramidical. With the co-op, there are member/owners where everyone has a share of stock in the company. It is very community based and it is a really cool place to work."

"I think it's actually mostly the people, and the community of employees because at this store, everyone here are friends, and everyone likes each other. We all hang out together outside of work; it's a really awesome community of employees behind the scenes, too."

Elling got her start in the food industry at Rustica Bakery on Lake Street in Minneapolis, where she worked with pastry. They make a lot of fresh bread, and she made little cakes and éclairs, but it was a lot of work and it taught her the value of really hard work, especially in the kitchen. "I just got lucky at the time when I got hired," she said. "I think they were desperate, but my background in the arts proba-

bly helped a little bit."

Originally hired as a store clerk at Mississippi Market, Elling would work in different departments: she would work at the register, she would stock groceries, and she would do pretty much whatever had to be done. Elling learned what was needed to work in every department in the store. "Often I would help out in the cheese department," she said, "because it was at a time when they were short-staffed and needed help all of the time. Then when that job in the cheese deli opened up, I swooped in, and I remember that I told all my friends, 'don't apply for that job because it's my job,' I kind of knew I was a shoo-in for it."

The length of training depends on the job. With a lot of jobs, the employee can come in to the job, and it is pretty much hands-on. "The store has a 90-day orientation period," Elling said, "where a new employee comes to work and another employee watches and trains the new employee. A buyer has to learn the back end stuff and learn about margins, but I was really excited about the training to be a cheese buyer, so I think that added to my confidence."

"I was a little insecure about the cheese buyer position at first because there was so much to learn about it, and the person who trained me was the grocery manager as well. She was so busy, and she did teach me so much, but I learned a lot on the fly and taught myself a lot of things. Mississippi Market gave me buyer guides and things, and I would look at these French words for the different types of cheeses — so I would do a lot of Googling to see what they meant."

A typical day for Elling starts with her up in the office, ordering product, which usually doesn't take very long. "I order the big orders of cheese about twice a week," Elling said. "A few times during the holidays we have gotten super busy, but I am so used to my job that I will have enough cheese prepared in the back that I can use when it gets really busy. Periodically, I will check my back stock, the stuff that is in the fridge."

There are three Mississippi Markets, and Elling is the only cheese buyer at the East 7th Street location, and the only person doing cheese. She is responsible for buying all of the cheese and essentially taking of it. Part of her day is spent placing and receiving orders, processing orders, and sometimes she gets really big blocks of cheese that she cuts down and packages. "Well, I have a big inventory list," she said, "but I have the capability to order hundreds of different types of cheese. I have the authority to order what kinds of cheese my customers want because I've have gotten used to what works and what doesn't work for them."

"Yeah, it's all me! I take care of spoilage," Elling said. "I do inventory at the end of every month, and my favorite thing about my job is I feel that cheese is such a vast language because there is so much to learn about cheese, which I didn't know before I got this job. I had heard some things, but I have learned so much about cheese in the last year as cheese buyer. I've been at this store about a year and a half and have been cheese buyer for a little over a year. I started working as a store clerk, working in every department, and the cheese job opened up and I jumped on it because I wanted it really bad. I just had experience in baking and cooking, but not like I do now working with cheese."

Addie Elling would love to tell the people who shop at Mississippi Market that if they come to the store and see her working, to come back to the cheese island and ask her about cheese. "I love talking about the cheeses I sell," Elling said, "especially what I call my fancy cheese case. That's the one in the middle of the cheese island where I've got the cheeses that people don't recognize. I'm always available to have the customers try some of the cheeses before they buy it. I just need the customers to try more of the cheeses — and then BUY MORE CHEESE!!!!!"



Mark Gallagher is the associate editor of the *Dayton's Bluff District Forum* and a graduate at the Metropolitan State University.

Mark can be reached at refineditorial@gmail.com

Urban CROSS Needs Helpers

Eric Buck

Mounds Park United Methodist Church

During the week of **June 15** through **19**, teams of teens and adults work with Dayton's Bluff home owners and non-profits on improvement projects to their properties. Projects include indoor and outdoor painting, yard work, landscaping, clean-up and simple construction. If you are in need of some help, please call 651-774-8736. Our team will then call you to assess your project.

Urban CROSS is sponsored by Dayton's Bluff Community Services and Mounds Park United Methodist Church.



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Social Services in Need of Volunteers

Ramsey County

Social Services is looking for an assistant who can help staff with planning, transporting participants and facilitating the Youth Advisory Council (YAC). The YAC is Ramsey County's first long-term youth advisory council made up of teens and young adults who have received county services and want to make a difference. Council members provide insight and recommendations to the Director of Social Services about how to improve county programs.

The YAC meets monthly on **Mondays** from **4 to 6 p.m.**

Current volunteers contact Mary Capuzzi to express interest at 651-266-4090 or Volunteer@ramsey-county.us.

New volunteers apply online.

Contest : Where in Dayton's Bluff?

Send your guess to daytonsbluffdistrictforum@gmail.com with the location of the neighborhood curiosity pictured at right. The reader who submits the first correct entry will be notified and the winner will be announced in the April edition of the *Forum*. Congratulations to Sherry Jasper, winner of the October contest with a correct location of Selby Ornamental Iron.



Talking with a Parent about Transitioning to Senior Living

Sharyl Kaase
Friend to the Forum

It's not always easy to talk with an aging parent or loved one about the need for additional care that may lead to moving out of the family home. However, making a move to a senior living community can be one of the best decisions a family can make for an aging parent, particularly when activities of daily living are more than they can handle, social isolation becomes an issue, or care needs are more than family members can provide. Ignoring such issues won't make them go away and delaying the conversation may put a parent's health, safety, or well-being at risk while escalating the stress level of the caregiver.

Being proactive and making a move when a loved one is still in good health means he or she can fully enjoy all the benefits a senior community has to offer, including staying active, making new friends, and taking part in a variety of volunteer and social opportunities. These benefits have shown to enhance healthy aging and enables older adults to live a better quality of life.

Early conversations with aging parents make the transition to senior living easier and more enjoyable for everyone. For more information about what to look for when choosing a senior living community, contact Cerenity Marian at 651-793-2100 or visit our website at cerenityseniorcare.org.

Free Groceries for Those in Need

Eric Buck
Mounds Park United Methodist Church

Need some free groceries to help get you through the month? Come to Mounds Park United Methodist Church at 1049 Euclid St. on **Saturday, March 21**.

Doors open at **9 a.m.** for coffee, pastries and conversation. Food distribution begins at **10 a.m.** and goes until noon.

First come first served.

This event is sponsored by Dayton's Bluff Community Services.

We're Gonna Be Ok- Theatre Show

Jerry Rothstein
Hamline University Department of Theatre & Dance

WE'RE GONNA BE OKAY opens on Friday, **March 6 at 7:30 p.m.** and runs **March 7, 12, 13, and 14 at 7:30 p.m.** at Hamline University's Anne Simley Theatre.

Tickets are \$2 for Hamline students, \$3 for ACTC students and staff, \$8 for adults and \$5 for outside students and seniors.

Advance reservations are recommended and can be made through the Hamline University Theatre Box

The CABARET!

Benjamin Mason
Friend of the Forum

This year's Cabaret! could be the luckiest yet. On Friday **March 13**, an "East Side Night Out" will culminate in the annual Cabaret variety show, featuring new and established local performers. DJ Huh What? from WEQY will MC an evening of entertainment and humor.

Over twelve local performers will compete to win a top prize, judged by local "celebrities." Proceeds from tickets and a silent auction will benefit Friends of Swede Hollow and the annual local art festival, Art in the Hollow.

Tickets can be purchased now at the four local eateries hosting East Side Night Out: Yarusso Brothers, Karibu, Yoerg's, and Brunsun's Pub. Tickets at the door will be \$30, but tickets purchased ahead of time at any of those four restaurants will only cost \$15 apiece.

Organizers are hoping East Siders will take the opportunity to dine out locally before heading over to the Historic Mounds Theater to take in the show.

Doors open at **6:30 p.m.** and the show begins at **7:30 p.m.**

Go to www.artinthehollow.org for more information

St. Paul Clinic Granted Money

Jen Lowman Day
Women's Foundation of Minnesota

Women's Foundation of Minnesota granted Family Tree Clinic of St. Paul \$8,000 to support the delivery of comprehensive sex education in Metro area schools, aiming to positively influence sexual health outcomes among teens. Family Tree Clinic cultivates a healthy community through comprehensive sexual health care and education.

Family Tree was among nine other locations given grants for sex education.

Considering a Move?
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Board of Directors: Greg Cosimini, Karin DuPaul, Jennifer Gascoigne, Sage Holben, Steve Trimble

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Staff: David Baker, Nick Duncan, Elizabeth Wakefield

Photographer: Lou "The Photo Guy" Michaels

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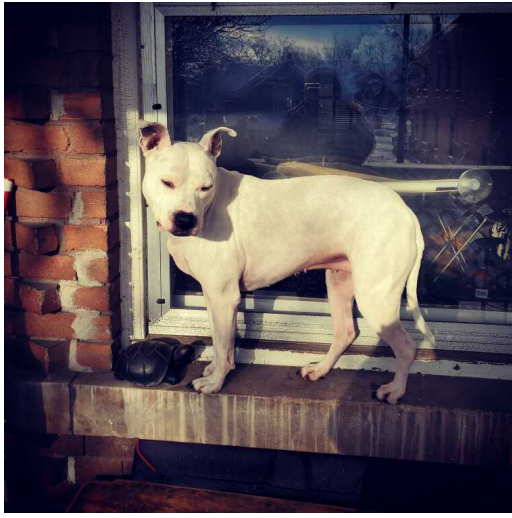
Featured Pet of the Month

*Kat Chambers
Friend of the Forum*

We adopted China five years ago; more like she adopted us. When my husband and I were dating, I had been going through a lot of emotional issues and he thought it would be a good idea for me to adopt a companion, especially because we were still living apart. He and I had very little time to spend together since we worked opposite schedules. We looked through a few animal shelters but to no avail — I mean I fall in love with all animals, but it had to be true love at first sight.

Then I found China at Second Hand Hounds. Instantly I fell in love with her through her photos and bio. Of course I quickly emailed the organization and sent in the adoption money even before meeting China. A few weeks passed and we had a meet and greet, they told us she wasn't too keen on men at first. So Nate sat back so she wouldn't get scared. But during the meet and greet she let me pet her for a second; then she spotted Nate and instantly ran for him, smiling. She licked and head-butted him. She was definitely worth the wait.

Ever since, she adopted us, if she's not attached to me at the hip, she's attached to my husband. Over the years, she's given my family emotional stability, love, and comfort In extreme times; when hope seemed lost, she reminded us



that there is always hope

When my husband had a gran mal seizure, she tried to help him, nudging and licking his face trying to get him to stop. That moment still warms my heart. She is registered as my emotional support animal, but she's that for my entire family. Without her I can't imagine getting through some of the tough times we've been through. Our mushroom, our butt-cuddler, our little pitty baby.

She loves popcorn, chips, and kitties; she's not great with other dogs but loves all people and don't forget the kitties. The way she perches on top of people and furniture you would think she thought she was a cat.

I really do hope she can help break the bad stigma that over-shadows the pitbull breed. It's not about the dog, it's about how they are raised and cared for by their human companions. Don't blame the dog, blame the person.

What makes your pet endearing? Frightening?

How do you and your pet communicate with each other?

Share with readers how you 'talk' with each other?

How did you choose each other in the beginning?

Is there a 'life' lesson you have learned from your non-human companion?

The Forum staff invite all readers to share their photos and stories/comments about their pets and/or pet theories.

E-mail to: editordaytonsbuffdistrictforum@gmail.com

Some St. Paul Small History Selections for March

*Steve Trimble
Forum Staff*

Here are a few short history pieces that I have written for this Forum issue. Since March is Women's History Month, I featured several women-involved events in St. Paul. I also added a couple of extra things that might be of interest even today. Let me know what you think.

March 4, 1915: Prominent club member Isabel Davis Higbee and fifty of her colleagues attended a legislative hearing at the State Capitol on this day, advocating for the establishment of a women's reformatory. At the time, women had been held in a small section in Stillwater Prison with little regard for their special needs. If their crimes were minor, they might be committed to a workhouse, a girl's school or, even kept in a local jail. Higbee argued for a new institution where women offenders would be incarcerated. She had health problems. "My too-active heart is still bothering me but I will continue to fight, even though I die in the harness," Higbee told a friend shortly before the hearing. Isabel told the group "we must give the women fresh air, God's glorious sunshine, and as much freedom as is consistent with discipline." At the conclusion of her passionate talk she collapsed in her chair and died. Her dramatic death at the Capitol was thought to be the catalyst that led to the creation of the women's reformatory in Shakopee. Six days later, the legislature passed a bill authorizing establishment of the women's reformatory in Shakopee, Minnesota where there is still a plaque honoring the memory of Isabel Higbee.

March 6, 1899: Elizabeth DeCourcy, first woman elected to the Saint Paul City Council, was born on this day. She was a widow raising two young sons when elected and had decided to run for the Council seat after an official belittled her when she went to City Hall requesting that a sign be removed in front of her home. She served from 1956 until 1962. She stayed out of politics for a time, but in 1967 became the first woman ever elected to the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners. She retired for good in 1974. Elizabeth DeCourcy won elective office without the endorsement of any political party in city wide elections. She was pioneer who opened the door for women at all levels of politics. "If you knew my mom, the one thing you never wanted to tell her was that she couldn't do something... she didn't just open doors, she knocked them down."

March 12, 1902: Newspapers called her "the girl in whom everyone is interested." Her body was discovered just west of the railway station at Dayton's Bluff. It had been run over by a train on this day. Her head was nearly cut off and one foot had been amputated. It was determined that she was four foot nine, weighed 135 pounds and appeared to be a Scandinavian. She had been wearing a cowboy hat and all the clothing described as cheap but nearly new. Physicians could only estimate her age and couldn't tell if her death was accidental, a suicide or, even a murder. No one from the immediate area was reported missing. Visitors flooded the morgue to look at the body, but no one recognized her. The morgue was filled with dozens of flowers that were sent by strangers.

One person donated a plot from her family cemetery plot. A committee of St. Paul

club women arranged the funeral and purchased a headstone for the burial in Oakland Cemetery. She was "laid at rest by strangers' hands," as one paper put it, "her head pillowed gently to one side, her still fair and comely forehead, half concealed by white roses and pink carnations and the long ringlets of her gold brown hair." She was never identified.

March 22, 2006: On this day, the St. Paul Human Rights Director requested that the Easter Bunny and other holiday decorations be removed from City Hall. He found that a secretary had decorated her desk with a cloth bunny, some Easter eggs, and a handmade sign that read "Happy Easter." He was concerned that an Easter message would offend citizens that didn't celebrate the holiday. Opinion was divided. Some felt that a public building shouldn't display any particular religious holiday items. Others said they couldn't see how people would be offended by something as harmless as a bunny and eggs. The dispute was the topic of local and even national discussion. A local radio station sent a staffer dressed in a six-foot pink bunny suit holding a "Bring Back the Bunny." The story even hit the internet and 92% of those taking a poll supported the holiday tradition. One Council Member hung a bunny sign that said "Happy Easter" on his door. Unfortunately, it was not all fun and games. Those supporting the removal received hate mail, with complaints about their decision coming from as far away as Singapore. In a somewhat ironic action, the house of the Human Rights Director was egged.

March 27, 1885: A reporter visited the St. Paul City Hall on this night to investigate conditions of homeless men. Under the headline "The City Hall Hostelery," the newspaper reported observations of Oscar O'Keefe on the "odd characters" among in the hundreds of men who found refuge there in the winter. By the end of March over 1,700 different names were in the register. Most were young men who worked summers but ran out of funds in the winter. Among the group were a few "old veteran tramps," who came and went. One of the regulars was "The Ferret." He had been there for three months and occupied the exact same spot that no one else dared take. The thirty-year-old got his nickname from his long nose. A recent arrival was a brakeman who lost his job and looked for work, ending up stranded in St. Paul.

Men were "packed in like sardines," seemingly soundly sleeping. The only thing which created a suspicion that the sleep was troubled was the "never-ending scratch, scratch, scratch." The officer said in the spring "the poor devils will disappear, those who work can then find something to do, while confirmed tramps will take to the road."

March 25, 1888: The first of a series of investigative articles called "Mong the Girls Who Toil," appeared in the St. Paul Globe. Revealing the lives of working women in the Twin Cities, they were written by Eva McDonald Valesh, under the pseudonym of "Eva Gay." One of her early articles revealed long hours, unhealthy conditions, and low wages faced by women who worked in a local garment factory. When the women there went on strike less than a month later, her writing was credited with setting off the protest. Born in Maine in 1866, the daughter of a politically active father, Eva McDonald moved to Minnesota as a child. As a typesetter in a print shop, she joined a typographer's union, sparking her interest in labor issues. She continued writing for the Globe for more than a year, going undercover as a factory worker, a domestic worker, and a store clerk.

McDonald became a star in Minnesota labor and farmer movements as a public speaker. She spoke throughout Minnesota in support of the Knights of Labor and was also elected State Lecturer of the Farmer's Alliance. Even as she lectured across the state, she continued to work for the Globe as the editor of their labor section.

Seeley Sez

*Seeley Booth
Special to the Forum*

As you may know, I am fairly new to the East Side of St. Paul, but I have been walking around and trying to get acquainted. You may already know the things I am going to point out, but maybe not, so I’ll tell you some of the things I have recently found out during my daily strolls.

My first journey started out at Caydence Records and Coffee located at 900 Payne Avenue. I went there because I read that it had received an award as one of the best “Java Joints,” as we used to call them when I was a kid. The coffee there was great as was the selection of vinyl records that many still believe are the best way to listen to music.



It was also a great place to get the local gossip from one of the owners about the happenings in our area. It turns out that, according to him, Brunson’s, a smallish

watering hole is planning to expand into the next-door space.

Then there are some other additions to Payne Avenue to challenge Minneapolis’ “Eat Street.” Two of them of them are already open. One is a Korean restaurant located at 828 East 7th Street just east of Arcade. I haven’t had time to go there but plan to do so. I was once stationed in Korea and want to see how this one compares.

I ran across the other because there was a sign in



front of the Metro State Student Center that said “Selling Soup.” I checked it out and found that is one of the several local Eddington’s and has a somewhat limited menu featuring soups and sandwiches. It’s there primarily to serve the students, but the public is welcome.

A new establishment will be opening at the former Louie’s Bar at 883 Payne Avenue. It has applied for a liquor license and will be called the North Star Bar and Grill. Further up the street I saw that there is a new spot opening called Café Lilla at 1110 Payne that includes the word “wine” on its window. In addition to openings, I was surprised when I went to one of my favorite coffee houses The Goat, only to find it had closed. A little sad.

Animal Humane Society Offering Classes

Animal Humane Society

The Animal Humane Society is offering obedience classes for your animals! They have several locations where you can sign your pet up to attend the classes.

Classes can be for puppies to adults. Adults have the chance to start from beginners to advanced classes.

Learn how to practice basic manners, or work on a more advanced skill like scent detection with their experienced, professional trainers.

AHS encourages you to come sit in on a training course without your pet to get a first-hand look at what your dog will learn through the classes offered.

You can help bring out the best in your best friend.

Visit animalhumanesociety.org/behavior/behavior-and-training-class-descriptions for more information.

The Animal Humane Society is located at two Saint Paul branches. One is at 1159 University Ave W, St Paul, MN 55104. The other is located at 1115 Beulah Lane, St. Paul, MN 55108.

Other locations are in Coon Rapids, Woodbury, South Minneapolis, and Golden Valley.

Non-fiction Book Review

Being Wrong: Adventures in the Margin of Error
by Kathryn Schulz

*Theresa Wanta
Special to the Forum*

There is nothing as satisfying as being right, and nothing as maddening as being wrong!

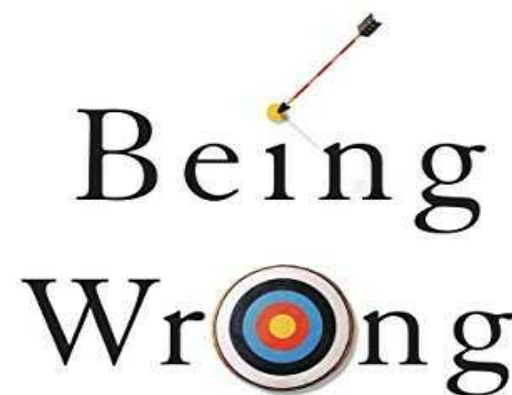
The first part of the book deals with how we acquire knowledge. Generally we consider our senses as a reliable source of knowing. Yet eyewitness accounts send the wrong person to prison, later exonerated by DNA testing. In addition, our knowledge is often superseded by our beliefs: and you can’t argue beliefs. Finally, what we know is influenced by

society. We must all make decisions based on the knowledge we have. That means sometimes we are wrong.

The second part discusses how we deal with being wrong. Real life examples introduce each chapter; many of which we may remember hearing about; Alan Greenspan, Penny Beerntsen, end of the world advocates. We tend to give more weight to evidence that confirms our beliefs than to evidence that challenges them. To think that after many years we find we were wrong is so difficult because it negates those years. It’s like negating our life.

The final part of the book shows the advantages of being wrong and how it can work for us. On a larger scale, because of errors in the replication of genetic sequences, we end up with variation among individual members of the species; and because of that variation, the species as a whole can adapt and survive.

The author is a journalist whose work has appeared in the New York Times Magazine, The Nation, and Foreign Policy among other publications. She has been a recipient of the Pew Fellowship in International Journalism. I think you will find this book interesting, but I may be wrong.



ADVENTURES IN THE MARGIN OF ERROR

Kathryn Schulz

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NATURAL HERITAGE PROJECT
ELM TREE Stories

FOLLOW @STORIESELM ON TWITTER TO KNOW WHERE WE WILL POP-UP NEXT

Steve Trimble

Pictured above is the sign for the Elm Tree Stories phone booth that was located at East 7th Mississippi Market until the end of February. People can go into the tree and record their personal nature story. For more details, see page one.

View from My Porch Mid-Winter Musing, for What it is...

*Sage Holben
Forum Staff*

The nurse gently, so tenderly, handed the cradled infant to the wide-eyed mother. "An angel," murmured the mother, barely a woman, though she had just given birth. The room was silent. Silent, in awe of what they were seeing.

Extra toes, less a finger, unusual birthmarks...but never had anyone witnessed an infant born with the tiniest of downy feathers, delicately covering the child's doll-sized shoulders - like a cape adhered to the skin; or, perhaps, like the angel the mother sees, wings waiting to take form.

An attendant proposed 'plucking a few' to see what would result. "No," the angel's mother answered. "We will wait. She will decide whether to shed them. She may need them to make her way through this life." Who among us yet wears their feathers?

Occasionally, in picking up litter, I will find interesting notes, as I found the following:

Man-Cat

Abilities:

- Can Change Form - Cat to Man, Man to Cat
- Can Climb Walls and Ceilings
- Can Contain Poison
- Can Hypnotize People With a Purring Voice
- Has Special Hearing
- Has Special Seeing In Day and Night
- High Intelligence

Sage Holben can be reached at 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

Opinions expressed in contributed articles may not represent the views of the Forum.

Deadline for the April issue of the Forum is March 10, 2020.

Worldwide Holidays in March

*Temperance Brennan
Friend of the Forum*

I'm hoping that I am one of your favorite anthropologists. I decided to do another article that might or might not be. As you know, March includes St. Patrick's Day and International Women's Day. But there are dozens of other events this month that are important and interesting.

Why not check out the countries below and maybe have a party that includes some of their culture? Why not invite some neighbors over for a traditional Hungarian dinner, including Gulyás (goulash), the national dish with a fisherman's soup named Halászlé. You could get a Gambian movie from Netflix or listen to some Namibian music.

March 3: National Liberation Day. Over a century ago Bulgaria was liberated from Ottoman rule that had lasted for five centuries.

On this day in 1878 the San Stefano peace treaty was signed, thus putting an end to the 1877 to 1878 Russo-Turkish

War.

March 7: Victory of Adwa. This day celebrates the 1896 Ethiopian victory over Italy that secured Ethiopia sovereignty. A massive Ethiopian army routed an invading Italian force and ended Italy's conquest of Africa at that time. Defending its independence, Ethiopia cast doubt on the assumption that all Africans would fall under the rule of Europeans.

March 12: National Day Mauritius, officially the Republic of Mauritius, is an island nation in the Indian Ocean. It marks two events that took place – Independence from the United Kingdom in 1968 and becoming a republic in 1992.

March 15: National Day or Nemzeti ünnep marks the anniversary of the start of the 1848 Revolution of Hungary against the Austrian Empire. It is also known as 1848 Revolution Memorial Day or Revolution and Independence Day.

March 21: Independence Day. This is one of the Namibia's biggest annual celebrations that marks the day in 1990 when independence from South Africa was officially recognized. Namibia is located on the southwestern coast of Africa, bordered by Angola, Zambia, Botswana, and South Africa.

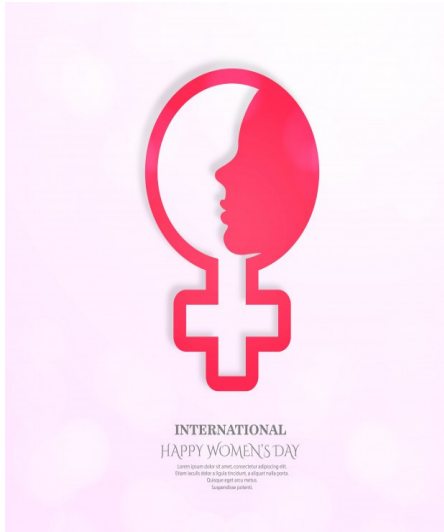
March 23: Pakistan Day ('Yaum-e-Pakistan') is a public celebration that commemorates the Lahore Resolution of 1940 that eventually led to the creation

of

Pakistan.

March 29: Martyrs' Day commemorates the 1947 rebellion against French colonial rule which eventually led to Madagascar's independence after thousands of lives had been lost. The day is a public holiday in which the dead are memorialized for their sacrifices.

March 31: Freedom Day. The holiday marks the date on which the British military finally withdrew from Malta and its sister island Gozo in the Mediterranean Sea. In 1814, Malta had become a crown colony of the British Empire and its forces remained on the island until 1979, when the Defense Treaty with Britain ended the occupation.



Mounds Park United Methodist Church Meetings

*Eric Buck
Mounds Park United Methodist
Church*

Mounds Park United Methodist Church is located at 1049 Euclid St. Come join members for Lenten Mid-day Services (with Holy Communion). It is every Wednesday from **March 4** through **April 1** from **noon to 12:30 p.m.**

Join the church for Study Groups. They meet every Tuesday from **10 to 11:30 a.m.** and Wednesdays from **5 to 6:30 p.m.**

Animal Humane Society Offers Low Cost Services

American Humane Society

American Humane Society offers a special program for lower cost services. The Humane Society Community Outreach Program includes services such as: low-cost spay/neuter surgery, free pet wellness exams (includes nail trims, vaccinations, and more), free pet food, other free and friendly pet resources!

If you're interested in learning more visit: outreachinfo@animalhumanesociety.org.

Due to limited space, pet owners must register for the January indoor clinic in advance.

Please note that registration does not guarantee an appointment. After you complete the form, AHS staff will contact you within five business days to confirm your appointment time.

AHS is also looking for volunteers at their various locations. Go online and apply today!



Steve Trimble

Two local Dayton's Bluff Girl Scouts are ready to sell their cookies to customers!

The Eagle Eggs Have Landed

*Greg Cosimini
Forum Staff*

After two years of failure, the new pair of eagles on Minnesota's Department of Resources Eaglecam have succeeded in starting a family.

The first of three eggs was laid on February 7 with two more following in the next week. Both mama and papa eagles are taking turns incubating the eggs, and if all goes well, they will begin hatching around mid-March. To find the Eaglecam, do an online search for "MN DNR Eaglecam".

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 60 may now be found online at daytonsbluffdistrictforum.org: click on "East Side Eating" at the top of the home page. Steve Trimble can be reached at daytonsbluffdistrictforum@gmail.com.

Karen Thai Food

Phone: 651-771-2078

300 Larpenteur Avenue East

St. Paul, MN 55117

Monday – Saturday 11:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.

Sundays are closed

Facebook: @serkolo1985angel1

You may remember that I did an earlier review of May's restaurant that was here and a while ago I saw that there was a new name on the sign. Was it just a change in signage or is it a new restaurant? Of course I had to check things out. So I went up 35E and parked in the lot in front of a small strip of retail site between Wheelock Parkway and Larpenteur Avenue.

Walking in I saw that there were a dozen booths, six tables, and a short bar for single eaters, including me. It is in a smallish area maybe around twenty-five feet wide and forty feet deep with a kitchen in the back. It is clean and well lit, with some decorative Asian items on the walls. The printed menu was a little unusual, but helpful in my opinion. Available dishes are numbered on the left side page of the menu and on the facing page the ingredients are listed. One example is #11 Massanan Curry that consists of garlic, coconut milk, potatoes and roasted peanuts. There were also photos of the dishes on the north wall. Here are some of the items on the menu:

The appetizers were spring rolls, egg rolls, and chicken wings. The noodle offerings include Pad Thai, Pad See, Drunken Noodle (Pad kee mao). There is fried rice, curry Massaman, red curry and green curry. Some of the soups are Kuay Jap, Pad Kra as well as Pad Na. There are also several kinds of Pho, such as rare steak, meatball and well done brisket. There is crispy fish, too.

I had never eaten Karen food, so I asked the owner to suggest something. He said Pad Kra Pao, a stir-fried meal. It is sometimes called basil chicken or beef or whatever meat is in it. I opted for the combination, so mine had beef, chicken, and shrimp. The

other ingredients were onions, red and green peppers, chopped long green beans, chili and Thai basil in a fish sauce. They did ask if I wanted it spicy and I deferred. It was plated with a generous mound of white rice that was topped by an egg (soft-boiled, poached? with a runny yolk) that is often part of Karen cuisine. I added some beef egg rolls as a side.

There are no alcoholic beverages, but several soft drinks, including three that are from Thailand. There is Thai Tea, coconut juice and Mogu Mogu, which I bought. It has lychee juice and includes Nata de Coco, a fermented coconut juice gel that floats in the juice and is chewable. Ser Lo is the owner and greeter. He grew up in a Karen farm family in Burma, the ancestral home of the Karen people. They faced hard times because the new military government would often raid villages, sometimes burning them and sometimes killing the residents. Like many others, Ser Lo and his family fled to nearby Thailand and spent some years learning the food there until finally coming to Minnesota. This is why the restaurant features two kinds of ethnic food.



Karen Thai Food has been open around two years and it is thought to be the only spot featuring Karen dishes in the Twin Cities. On my way out a man who had finished eating spoke to me and said, "Be sure to ask them about their Boat Noodles." I forgot to do that but I plan to find out what they are. Can any of you readers clue me in? Steve Trimble can be reached at daytonsbluffdistrictforum@gmail.com.



Steve Trimble

Pictured above is the owner of Karen Thai Food, Ser Lo.

Many thanks to our 2020 donors:

MaryAnn Cogelow

John Davidsen

Audrey J. Harken

Jean Rivard

Steve Trimble

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. Each issue costs around \$1,900 to produce and mail, per month.

For the past three years we have been soliciting donations through our *Friends of the Forum* program. Thanks to the donations from 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 2020. **Our goal for 2020 is \$18,000; thanks to readers like you, we've raised \$1,815 to date – will you help us reach our goal in 2020?**

Sincerely,

The Dayton's Bluff District Forum

Yes, I will become a *Friend of the Forum*. My tax-deductible check is enclosed, for:

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Thank you for your support!