

Dayton's Bluff District Forum

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"The Voice of the Community"

Barber Judy Lee Retires

Greg Cosimini
Forum Staff

Judy Lee has retired, having owned and operated Mounds Park Barber Stylists at 1043 Hudson Road for the past 36 years. As of July 31, Dayton's Bluff and the East Side has one less independent barber shop.

Judy became a barber 41 years ago after attending St. Paul Barber School. She was serving her apprenticeship at a barber shop in St. Anthony Park when she heard that a barber shop in Dayton's Bluff was coming up for sale. It was near her home so she decided to buy Mr. G's Barber-Stylists and open up her own shop. She didn't make too many changes, even keeping the same phone number.

Judy has made many friends over three decades in the same location and will be missed.

Her final message to her customers, attached to the shop's window reads, "Judy has retired! What a great run it has been. Thanks so much!!"

The barber shop is part of the building that also includes the attached Saint Paul Saloon. Judy says it's owner Alex Rivero, who also happens to be a barber, hopes to renovate the barber shop and possibly reopen it again under new management by the end of the year.



Greg Cosimini

Judy Lee poses in front of her barber shop window. After 36 years of owning her barber shop, she has decided to close its doors and retire.

Former East Sider Publishes Thriller

Allison Lund-Zalewski
Forum Staff

One of our very own East Siders has recently published a book! Jeff Reck published *Mission to Kill* in July. Reck grew up in the Dayton's Bluff area on the corner of Margaret and Hancock, near Earl Street.

He attended Harding High School, graduating in 2003 and spent most of high school career playing basketball.

"Dean and Gerry Keenan were inspirational role models to me throughout my time at Harding," Reck said.

One of the reasons Reck decided to write this book was because he hated reading as a kid. "I thought most books were boring and wanted to write something that would be fast-paced, interesting, and keep my attention," Reck explained.

After he graduated from college, he spent about five years working at a call center for a local bank. He realized he wasn't happy and wasn't doing what he loved. About six years ago, he started writing down some scenes, which then turned into chapters, and that's when he knew he could make these scenes into a book. His book was close to being finished about a year ago and with the Covid-19 quarantine, it gave him the time he needed to finish the publishing process.

"When my daughter Jacey was born, I became a stay-at-home dad and had a little more time to focus on writing. Now that it's published, I'm so proud to be doing something I truly love," Reck said.

Although this is Reck's first book, he's already begun writing the sequel. He has plans to make these books into a series.

"I'm excited to have it in the world and to get feedback from people who had read it. [This] book is the first in a series and leaves a few unanswered [questions at the end]," Reck added.

Reck came up with the very first scene when he was working out. He was running on a treadmill and the action scene popped into his head. It was as if he was creating his own movie. The next day, he pictured the scene again and it progressed a little further. This is where he told himself that he needed to write this down. When it comes to his characters, he wanted something that was unique and decided to center the book around an entire family that fights terrorism together. "I'm incredibly close to my family and

loved this idea of a thriller that involves a whole family," Reck said.

One of the most surprising things when he was writing the book was how naturally the words came together when he sat down and wrote. The story kept flowing and he worked hard to "translate the visuals" in his head to make it into a descriptive story that readers would enjoy.

Before Reck self-published, he tried to find a publisher but was disappointed by the time it took and the few rejection letters he received. He had two editors for the process. His wife works in communications and edited the book several times with him. He also has a friend who is a published author and he helped Reck with the final edit before sending it to print.

"Once I decided to self-publish, I had a new urgency to finish the story and scrub for spelling errors or tense changes. I also thought a lot about how to present the book to make it compelling for readers, including the cover art and book synopsis. Once I held the book in my hands for the first time, it was truly amazing. I couldn't believe it was real," Reck excitedly explained.

The one thing he would do differently with the publishing process is buy more copies straight away. He has already sold 100 copies, but he is quickly restocking.

Reck will be having book signings in the future. With COVID-19, he is limited for what he can do, but he is looking into a virtual launch party. For the time being, he bought boxes of his paperback and will sign and deliver them to those who are interested in purchasing a copy.

"I also posted about my book on the East St. Paul Facebook page, and the response from the group has been incredible. It's a great testament to East Siders supporting East Siders and I'm really humbled by the feedback I've gotten from that group," Reck said.

One of Reck's hobbies outside of writing is smoking meat. He is a barbecue master! He recently got a Big Green Egg cooker and ribs are his specialty, as well as his pulled pork and brisket. You can also find him playing with his kids. He and his wife just had their third child in March. A stay-at-home dad to Jacey, Jackson, and Joely, they currently live in Woodbury.

Interested in buying a copy? *Mission to Kill* is available on Amazon in paperback or Kindle eBook. You can find the book at: amazon.com/Mission-Kill-Jeffrey-Reck/

Jeffrey has copies of the book and is autographing them for anyone who would like to purchase one. They are ten dollars. You can reach out to him on his Facebook author page at Jeffrey Reck - Author.



Greg Cosimini

The \$52 million renovation of the American Indian Magnet School, located at the corner of Earl and Third Streets, began earlier this summer. The huge chimney on the original building has been removed and a massive amount of dirt is being moved behind the school in preparation for future construction of five additions to the building.



Dayton's Bluff Take-a-Hike

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. 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.

Due to COVID-19, hikes are canceled. Please check back for more information at a later date.

If you have any questions email Karindupaul0@gmail.com.

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. We have changed our meeting date to the second Thursday of each month.

Due to the COVID-19 virus, there will be no meetings until further notice. Please check back at a later date for more information. Email KarinDupaul0@gmail.com 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, September 3, at 11:00 a.m.** Due to the COVID-19 virus, the meeting will take place virtually. Call 651-776-0550 or email daytons-bluffdistrictforum@gmail.com for more information.

Police Community Meetings

The Eastern District Saint Paul Police hosts 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 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.

Meetings are closed indefinitely due to COVID-19.

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.**



THE HISTORIC
MOUNDS
THEATRE

Due to the COVID-19 virus, the Historic Mounds Theatre is temporarily closed and all events have either been canceled or postponed for a later date.

Please visit our website at moundstheatre.org for more information regarding the re-opening and upcoming events.

The Historic Mounds Theatre is located at 1029 Hudson Road, St. Paul, MN 55106; 651-772-2253; historicmoundstheatre@gmail.com

Dayton's Bluff Library

While the Dayton's Bluff Library building is closed, they are still offering resources to the public. Be sure to check out their family fun virtual events!

For more information 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/3KK0010GFO5NJ 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 East Side Elders

Did you know that East Side 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 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 based on a sliding fee scale. Class sizes are limited, so enroll now. Please call 651-379-8432 for a current 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-humansociety.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.

Need Groceries?

If you are 60 or older, you may be eligible to receive a box of nutritious food every month from Second Harvest.

This box is part of a program called NAPS and we can help you apply!

Give us a call at 651-683-2326 and Rolene, our Client Advocate, can assist you with your application.

Some examples of what might be included in a NAPS box are: milk, meat, canned goods, peanut butter, grains, and produce.

Just a Call Away

Did you know that East Side Elders has friendly phone volunteers who can call to check in or just to chat? If you or a loved one would like to sign up, just contact us at 651-683-2326 or Info@EastSideElders.org. You can sign up for weekly calls, or as often as you would like — our volunteers are standing by for your call! During this time of increased isolation, you will also be helping our volunteers by giving them a new friend to talk to!

Landmark Center

Due to the COVID-19 virus, Landmark Center is closed to the general public, including all museums and galleries.

It will remain open only to office tenants at this time.

There will be virtual tours and shows to watch on their website, free to the public.

Please watch landmarkcenter.org and social media pages @landmarkcenter for status updates

Landmark Center staff will be available to answer any questions at 651-292-3225.

Yard Work Assistance

Need help raking leaves in your yard? Our volunteers are ready to help.

Contact us today and we will get you set up with spring cleanup.

Call us at 651-683-2326 or email us at Info@EastSideElders.org

Svenska Dalen

A Poem

Mark Schwister
Special to the Forum

City as poetry, curled up in crumbling mortar, train tracks, dust, and fireflies.
Bluff to valley, hidden hollows, tunnels and stairs, forgotten stories, and cleansing flames.
They came with nothing, never gone but subsumed into the background. History.
River to hills. Gutted remainders. Forgotten. But still there are fireflies.
At dusk, there are rabbits on the trail and echoes of homes. Foundations. Rubble.
Graffiti now. Sirens above, but silence below. And the stories remain, hidden.
At the top of the hollow, the homeless still live, in tents. Among the trees. Surviving.
There is still the creek, the quiet, the idea that you can get by, in the shadows.
We burned this place. Ghosts walk here. Tired or resilient, murmuring or staring through leaves.
There, in the middle, between bluff and river, there is hidden history. Ghosts. And fireflies.

Get Loaded for East Side Elders! Loaded Baked Potato Drive-Thru

East Side Elders

We are very excited to announce a fun and delicious way for you to support East Side Elders and our work with seniors in the community. On **September 18**, we hope you will join us for our Drive-Thru Baked Potato Bar Fundraiser! That's right, you can order a delicious baked potato and a wide variety of toppings — and a volunteer will bring your order right to your car! And don't forget to add dessert and a drink to your meal!

Call us at 651-683-2326 to order by phone or go to their website to register.

We can accept credit cards online or over the phone, or you can arrange to pay with cash on the day of the event. Prices range from \$5 to \$8 depending on toppings and whether you'll need additional utensils.

To help us make this a safe, socially distant event, there will be no orders accepted on the day of the event. This will help us to schedule pickups that are spaced out and safe for you and for our volunteers.

Book Review

Swede Hollow: A Novel

by Ola Larsmo

Mark Schwister
Friend of the Forum

Tucked between Dayton's Bluff and Railroad Island is a hidden ravine, carved out by a gently flowing Phalen Creek. Stretching from Phalen Boulevard to 7th Street, it is a tunnel of trees. A path built on an old railway bed falls gradually from north to south, connecting the Bruce Vento Trail to the Sanctuary.

Locals call it Swede Hollow. What many don't know, however, is the history of struggle and perseverance of the thousands of people who once lived there over a period of 100 years.

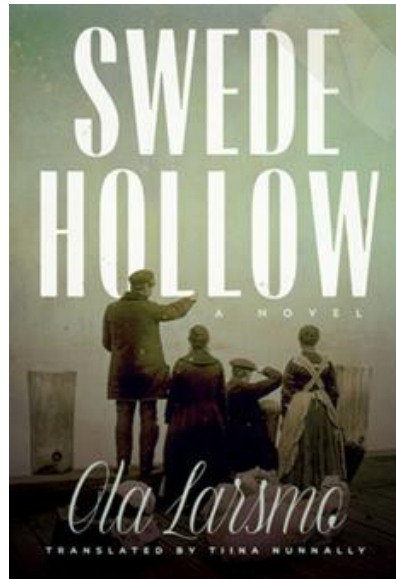
Ola Larsmo, a Swedish journalist and author, discovered its history while viewing an exhibit at the Swedish American Institute during a visit to Minnesota. He wondered "why had no one told me anything about this before?" He researched records at the Minnesota Historical Society on return trips, and wove a historical fiction around those records. Written in Larsmo's original Swedish, the book was a bestseller in Sweden, translated into English by Tiina Nunnally, and published in the US by University of Minnesota Press. The people are imagined. The canvas onto which Ola Larsmo painted them is real.

The novel tells the story of the Klar family, Gustaf and Anna and their three young children, escaping an uncertain future in Sweden in the 1890s. Arriving in New York, they eventually follow others from the voyage in the search for a new home, ultimately settling in *Svenska Dalen*. A ramshackle collection of over 1,000 immigrants at its highest population in 1905, the community was originally Swedish in the 1850s but over time included Irish, Italians, and Poles. Eventually, immigrants

from Mexico lived in the ravine before it was condemned as a health hazard, the remaining families forcibly evicted and the homes destroyed in 1956.

Those houses were mere shacks, with no plumbing or electricity. Phalen Creek was the community latrine. Disease was common. Work was hard to come by, with most working on the nearby railroads. Language barriers provided an almost insurmountable hurdle to finding gainful employment and an escape from poverty, and Larsmo does not sugarcoat these harsh realities.

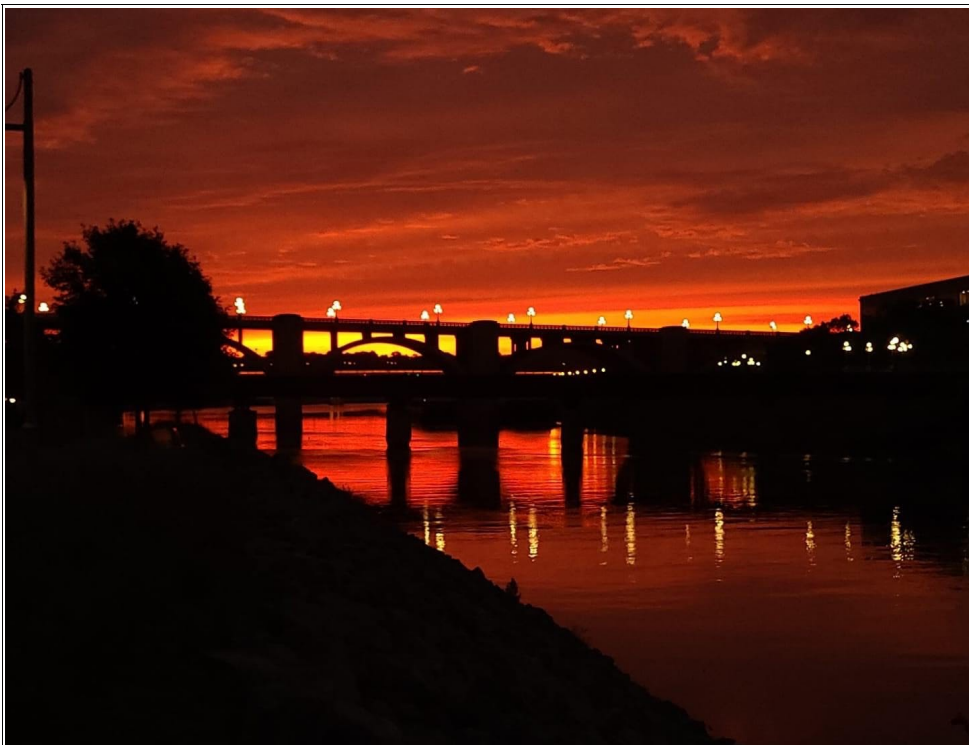
The novel is gritty, believable, and unrelenting in its voice. Excerpts from newspaper articles are included in the novel, lending authenticity. Places both extant and lost to history are given new life: The Hamm mansion, Union Depot, 7th Street, and more are woven into the narrative. Larsmo even includes the infamous Duluth lynchings of 1920 in the novel, as told



by Gustaf Klar's grandson, who becomes an unwilling witness to the riot, a deft and disconcerting twist. Each chapter is told from the point of view of a different character, allowing the reader access to internal dialogue. The story is chronological, chapters grouped in small epochs of the family's fight to survive, but almost more importantly, to belong. It is bleak, but wistful.

Reading this novel — having that internal excitement of "I've been to this place"; the surprise of "I never knew about that building"; or the curiosity of "what does that place look like now?" — gives us as residents of Dayton's Bluff a sense of ownership and identity. The characters may be fiction. The history is true. Swede Hollow, with all its adversity, tragedy, beauty, and hope, is a part of our story. We belong to it.

If you'd like to write a book review about Minnesota-based stories or authors, send it to daytonsbuffdistrictforum@gmail.com.



Josh Buck

Josh Buck shared this beautiful photo of a St. Paul sunrise in July on Facebook's East St. Paul Facebook page. If you have any photos of Dayton's Bluff or the East Side you'd like to share, be sure to send them to: daytonsbuffdistrictforum@gmail.com



Dayton's Bluff Neighborhood Housing Services

The image above is a rendering by architect Andy Madson for the developing of an apartment building for the empty lot at 823 East Seventh. The image was handed out by Jim Erchul at a small meeting and is not a full design and may be changed. The lot owned by the county will likely be given to the city and then Dayton's Bluff Neighborhood Housing Services. For information contact DBNHS director Jim Erchul at 651-774-6995 or email jerchul@dbnhs.com

National Night Out Date Set for October 6

St. Paul Police Department

National Night Out (NNO) is about building partnerships between the police and the community. It is the opportunity to engage with each other, and to get to know neighbors and officers in your community.

National Night Out this year is **Tuesday, October 6.**

"It will be the first time all 50 states celebrate together. It is not too late to register your block," said Patricia Lammers, National Night Out Coordinator.

If you have not registered your event, please do so online at stpaul.gov/nno. Don't forget to check if you are interested in visits from fire or special police units. Once you are registered you will receive updates and additional news via email. We will also send out additional ideas or events as they are added. We want to ensure you have the support and information you need to plan a great event.

If you're interested in taking part in National Night Out, go to stpaul.gov/departments/police/national-night-out. They have the registration link and other tools to make it the best night possible! Not only do they have the safety guidelines for hosting, but they give you a handbook with the history and even ideas for your part as well as what's needed to make your event happen. Whether it be permits, ideas, and more.

First-timers get a special party package that includes paper products, balloons, information, and more.

All hosts must have a COVID-19 safety plan in place seven to 14 days prior to the event.

"We are in flux with COVID so we encouraging ideas around social distancing. It will still be a day to celebrate together," stated Lammers.

Patty Lammers also suggests following these tips to stay safe during NNO: Limit the event to only to those on your block, designate individuals to prepare and serve food, do distanced games like horse shoes or bag toss, try group line dancing, show a movie in the parking lot, have a bike parade, set up activity stations, conduct a block scavenger hunt, have chalk art contest, or have an ice cream social with items like Popsicle or Dilly Bars.

If you have questions or need more information contact Patty Lammers at 651-266-5455 or patricia.lammers@ci.stpaul.mn.us or Sagal Abdirahman at 651-266-5994.



Greg Cosimini

Mounds Park United Methodist Church, located at the corner of Earl and Euclid Streets, has been streaming online services every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. since shortly after the COVID-19 pandemic shutdown began. In addition, Pastor Jay Jeong holds a drive-through Holy Communion service in the church parking lot once a month. The next service is scheduled for Sunday September 6 at noon. A special Praise Worthy Sunday will be presented on Sunday September 13. It will celebrate multiracial cultures and ministries, featuring a short sermon, a special singer, hymns and a variety of musical instruments. Pictured are Pastor Jay and Barbara W., MPUMC Worship Coordinator, at the August 2nd Communion service.



Mandy Okonek

Pictured above is the lot at 901 Payne Ave. that will be turned into a skatepark. There is now a Facebook page, Eastside Skatepark Taskforce, that will update the community on new developments of the skatepark.

East Side Skatepark

*Mandy Okonek
Forum Staff*

The partially fenced-in parking lot located behind a bus shelter on 901 Payne Ave. at the intersection of York has sat vacant for the last 21 years. This land is city-owned and a group of eastside skateboard enthusiasts thinks this space would be great for a skatepark.

The newly branded group, The East Side Skate Park Task Force, is driven to transform the parking lot into a multi-use community space featuring ramps for skaters of all skill levels including space for quad wheel skaters.

Sitting at a small wooden table inside Cadence Records and resisting the urge to flip through the bins of vinyl in plastic sleeves to my right, I listened to new and familiar faces excitedly muse their ideas of what could be. The discussion was led by Brenda Hoppe, a lifelong skater who founded the non-profit Midwest Skateboarding Alliance with the mission to advocate the importance of skateboarding as a public health initiative, vital to urban and rural community planning.

In many public spaces, the benches and rails perfect for honing one's skills are off limits. While there are two skateparks in Saint Paul, one on Front Ave. and Merriam Park, the East Side lacks a designated skateboard space. A skatepark could be just the ticket to solidifying East Saint Paul as legit in the eyes of the youth: offering them

a place to skate instead of chasing them out of downtown.

The positive benefits of skateboarding are numerous an affordable form of transportation offering a cardio workout which doubles as a skill-building sport positive for personal growth and mental health.

Juxtaposition Skate Park in North Minneapolis is a shining example of how a skatepark can be a community space, dressed with plants and flowers and adorned with street art. A sanctuary for youth in a notoriously under served community.

The factory workers who flooded the streets of Payne Ave. in the heyday of 3M have long since vacated. Payne Ave. has changed its character, emerging as a hub of locally-owned restaurants, art studios, and live music venues (Cadence and a new one in the works) catering to those in the all-ages category.

The space at 901 Payne Ave. is centrally located and has room to accommodate not only ramps and benches but vendors and urban landscapers. It has the potential to become a destination community space celebrating Saint Paul's youth and attracting skaters from all over the metro area.

The East Side Skateboard Task Force is hard at work planning pop-up events, skate demos, and designing merch to promote the park. Payne Ave. is becoming a place where youth, art, and creativity are celebrated and this energy is contagious.

Catch the positive vibrations in person from a few folks who I know can actually land an ollie on **Saturday, October 3 at 6 p.m.** at Cadence Records where the taskforce will be hosting a "meet and greet" to share their ideas with the community and drum up support for their cause.

Opportunity at the Brownstones on Swede Hollow Park



Brad Griffith, Realtor® - Edina Realty
(651) 263-2830 call or text for additional information



Featured Pet of the Month

*Donnelle Burlingame
Special to the Forum*

Thursday, July 30, while performing a survey for mosquito control district, an employee was in a wooded area on St. Paul's east side. He found a dog that appeared to be dead, and was tied to a tree. He immediately called St. Paul Animal Control.

An animal control officer (ACO) arrived to witness a scene NOT in a horror movie, but a reality in front of their eyes. He was shocked to discover the dog was still alive! It had been tied with a rope around its back leg so tight, it cut down to the bone. The dog also had a zip tie around his muzzle that was embedded down to the bone. There were maggots everywhere, which is a sign he had suffered like that for a week or more. The ACO cut the dog loose and rushed to an emergency clinic in Blaine where veterinary staff affectionately named him Riptide (the strongest of the currents).

He was immediately given strong pain meds, antibiotics, and his wounds cleaned of massive amounts of maggots mostly on his back leg. The leg, completely cold and dead, required amputation a couple days later, when Riptide was stable enough for surgery. He did not have a microchip or collar.

Veterinary staff say due to the amount of maggots on his wounds, the severity and depth of the ziptie on his



muzzle and his overall condition, they are guessing he had the imbedded ziptie on his muzzle indoors longer than he was in the woods. They guess Riptide was tied to that tree for about a week, which meant he had his muzzle zipped for quite a while before being restrained and abandoned in the woods. That is baffling and brings on very strong emotions from everyone learning about his.

The veterinary staff know nothing about his temperament yet, but he is terrified of men. An animal cruelty investigation has been launched. Molly Lunatis is the lead investigator on this case with St Paul Animal Control. It is still an open investigation as of today. Contact Molly at molly.lunatis@ci.stpaul.mn.us or Animal Control at 651-266-1100 if you have any information.

The Humane Society of The United States is offering a \$10,000.00 reward for information on who could have done this. Riptide is still receiving veterinary care but is officially with Rescued Pets Are Wonderful (RPAW) and because of the active investigation, Riptide will not be up for adoption yet.

RPAW launched a fundraising campaign on Facebook to help with costs of his treatment asking for \$10,000.00 The donations rose to well over \$22,000.

His story was shared nationwide and touched hearts everywhere. Everyone seeing the graphic pictures of his injuries reacted with shock and outrage and we all ask, who could do such a thing?

I had a lengthy conversation with Elisa Johnson, Executive Director of Minnesota Federated Humane Societies, about their role in animal cruelty and neglect cases in Minnesota. They have jurisdiction in 87 counties to

act on reports of cruelty and neglect. They also train humane investigators and law enforcement on all aspects of animal cruelty, neglect, and how to legally conduct an investigation.

I'm hoping to continue this article and address the mentality and temperament of people behind such acts of cruelty and the direct correlation with domestic abuse to women and children. Ms. Johnson stated 100% of the time where there is animal abuse, you will also find abuse to people in that home. I will address that in Part Two.

If you are witnessing animal abuse occurring in real time call 911. To report animal cruelty or neglect you can call St Paul Animal Control at 651-266-1100 or reportanimalcruelty@mnfedhs.org or call 612-866-8663 (you can remain anonymous).

The photo was provided by RPAW and Blaine Family Veterinary Hospital.

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:
daytonsbuffdistrictforum@gmail.com



Erica Schneekloth
Community Outreach, Owner
(651) 774-9979
eschneekloth@abc-seniors.com
www.abcstcroixvalley.com

Always Best Care™
senior services

Homemaking Services
We accept
ILS and EW Elderly Waiver

Specializing in In-Home Care, Assisted & Independent Living Placement

East Side Elders Updates

Shopping, Donations, Drivers, and Volunteer Benefits

East Side Elders

Grocery shopping and prescription pickup help are available from East Side Elders! Contact us with your list and our team will arrange for a contact-free delivery. Contact us at 651-683-2326 or Info@EastSideElders.org today to get started!

We need your help to restock our senior pantry! Our supplies of food, personal care items, and masks need to be replenished - consider making a donation today! Visit our Target Wish List today or purchase and donate these items from your favorite store: Low sodium canned soup, peanut butter, crackers, incontinence pads (long, extra absorbent), fruit cups or applesauce, jam or jelly, bar or liquid hand soap, body wash and shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste, cloth or paper face masks.

Go to: [target.com/gift-registry/giftgiver?registryId=673713829a954398b94ef7b91c0febb6&mc_cid=bcad4798bf&mc_eid=3e85abafbd&lnk=registry_custom_url](https://www.target.com/gift-registry/giftgiver?registryId=673713829a954398b94ef7b91c0febb6&mc_cid=bcad4798bf&mc_eid=3e85abafbd&lnk=registry_custom_url) for the Target Registry.

We need drivers! Contact us at Volunteer@EastSideElders.org or 763-325-3473 if you have any questions. We are very much in need of drivers who are available during the day on weekdays to help seniors get to medical appointments.

East Side Elders also offers free benefits for volunteers 55 and over. East Side Elders is a partner of the RSVP Volunteer Program. To support your work with us, RSVP offers many benefits listed on their website. All East Side Elders volunteers age 55 and up are eligible (and encouraged) to join this free program.



Allison Lund-Zalewsk

The above Little Free Library is not located in Dayton's Bluff, but the steward is our Forum editor, so we're giving her a pass and a welcome to the family of over 60,000 Little Free Libraries (LFL) in our 50 states and 80 countries. Home-built by Allison and husband Andrew, this warm pink model features interior wallpaper and we expect it to be well-used at its 1368 Minnehaha Ave. E location. Once a library is registered, it becomes official and can be found on the LFL locator map. For more information on Little Free Libraries go to: littlefreelibrary.org.

World-Wide Holidays in September

*Temperance Brennan
Special to the Forum*

An anthropologist, such as I am people and cultures and there are quite a few celebrations in September. In the U. S., the first Monday of the month is Labor Day that started as a time for remembering the role of working people and their organizations.

September 16 is Mexican Independence Day (not Cinco de Mayo) and one day earlier than four countries — El Salvador, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Honduras — have independence festivities. It should be noted that this year, a September equinox occurs—a day when the day and night are equal.

And now for that which you have been waiting, some world-wide holidays:

September 11: Enkutatash is the first day of the New Year in Ethiopia. It occurs on Meskerem 1 on the Ethiopian calendar, which is September 11 accord-

ing to the Gregorian calendar.

September 12: National Day is celebrated on September twelfth of every year in Cape Verde. The importance attached to the National Day varies enormously from place to place. The country is a republic located on an archipelago in the Macaronesia ecoregion of the North Atlantic Ocean, off the western coast of Africa.

September 19: Independence Day is celebrated in Saint Kitts and Nevis, a country that gained independence from the United Kingdom on September 19, 1983.

September 20: Constitution Day first commemorated the 1990 constitution, but in 2015, a new Yemen constitution was enacted on September 20, with the date of celebrations correspondingly being moved.

September 21: Armenian Independence Day is a holiday known as 'Ankakhutyun or', and commemorates independence of the country from the Soviet Union in 1991.

September 29: Boqueron Battle Victory Day is a big holiday in Paraguay. The Bolivians invaded southern Paraguay in 1932 and, for a time, captured the Boqueron fort, but were pushed back by the Paraguay army. It is a time of great patriotic zeal and national pride and features parades and other festivities.

Seely Sez

*Seely Booth
Special to the Forum*

Here I am again, wandering around the Dayton's Bluff neighborhood and other places around the East Side to see what's happening. Some things have not changed. On Payne Avenue the North Star Bar and Café Lila are still not open. In fact, the café has plywood on its windows. Another restaurant whose windows are boarded up is Santa Fe Coffee Shop located at 1105 Payne Ave. Not sure if they will be opening up again. I'll try to find out. However, there are at least two new businesses on the East Side.

There is now a restaurant at 1087 Arcade called Bay Bay's East Side Eatery. It is owned by Rowena Hudson. She and the restaurant are offering food including burgers, fish, gyros, chicken, sandwiches, and salads. On Sundays there will be soul food.

Dayton's Bluff is now welcoming the opening of La Michoacana Purepecha, at 809 East Seventh Street. Owned by Ricardo Hernandez. He is offering Mexican-style ice cream—38 flavors and over 60 kinds of popsicles. There are also other snack foods and drinks. Many of the ice creams are unusual, using rice, pine nuts, and dragon fruit and other traditional Latina flavors. He is experienced since he also had such a store at 701 East Lake Street in Minneapolis.

I'll try to have more complete write-ups in later *Forum* issues. But you can also find both of the new places on Facebook. Why not visit these two spots yourself and let the paper know your opinion on these new businesses in our East Side?



Seely Booth

The topmost photo is La Michoacana Purepecha located at 809 East Seventh Street. The restaurant is owned by Ricardo Hernandez. The bottom photo is Bay Bay's Eastside Eatery, owned by Rowena Hudson.

Wisdom and Courage Needed More Than Ever

*Jane Prince
Special to the Forum*

When I was first running for office in 2015, I had a conversation with a Somali family and asked the, now in hindsight, mindless question, "What is most important to the Somali community in Saint Paul?"

The answer? "The same thing that's important to YOUR community: the success of our children." Abdirizak Said is one of the founders of the Somali American Youth Enrichment Club, and on that day, Coach Said became like a coach to me, helping me assess the needs of our ward through his lens.

I learned that our city, faced with the financial crisis stemming from the Great Recession in 2008, took the grave and in some cases irreversible action of slashing recreation center budgets and programming. This took a terrible toll on our East Side, with the demolition of the Margaret Rec and the closing of the Eastview and Highwood Hills rec centers.

Worse yet was the fact that each of these centers served areas of concentrated poverty, where children most needed safe places to connect with other kids and caring adults. Highwood Hills, for example, served the East Side's largest population of Somali and Oromo refugees, a neighborhood with poor transit connections, few community services and no public gathering spots.

The good news? In my first term, with the support of my elected colleagues, we reopened Eastview and Highwood. We put a renewed effort into funding free and low-cost programming for youth on our East Side.

I write today, because with not one, but two unprecedented crises facing our city — the COVID-19 pandemic and the tragic murder of George Floyd by Minneapolis police and the resulting civil unrest — we have returned to Great Recession era levels of economic crisis across the nation. Our city is facing a \$30M current year deficit due to revenue shortfalls and Mayor Carter has made clear that we are in for some very painful budget challenges for 2021. Worse

still, homelessness and hunger, which we euphemistically refer to as "food insecurity," are at Great Depression era levels.

What does this mean for our community? We who live in Dayton's Bluff are no strangers to the impacts of poverty. We know how hard our community partners work — like Pastor Carl and Storehouse Grocers, Indigenous Roots Cultural Center, East Side Table, East Side Elders, Listening House and so many others — to meet the extraordinary needs of our neighbors.

Homelessness is not theoretical in our neighborhood; homeless neighbors live in encampments all around us; we know that there are hundreds of homeless families in our public schools. And we know that when the governor lifts the eviction moratorium in place during COVID, many of our neighbors are going to lose their affordable apartments here.

So, as we consider the budgets we will have to cut, I return to Coach Said's words. At all levels of government, we need to focus all of our energies and resources—through partnerships with philanthropy and nonprofits — on the basic human needs: increasing the supply of safe, decent, affordable housing, building our small businesses and creating living wage jobs, and ensuring that all our city's neighborhoods are safe and welcoming.

This surely won't happen all at once. But ask yourself: What kind of sacrifices can we make as individuals and as a community? Are those of us lucky enough to have the economic resources to withstand the current downturn willing to support deep budget cuts, to ensure that burdens don't continue to fall on those at the bottom of the economic ladder? Seventy-seven thousand adults in Saint Paul have applied for unemployment due to COVID and thousands more are facing hunger and possible eviction.

If we're in for a long-term economic downturn, how can we come together in a spirit of shared sacrifice and common purpose to make ours a city that is safe and good for kids. Let's resolve to make our voices heard that solving the housing crisis is not an option, but a moral imperative. Let's let Congress know that it's high time to reverse decades of federal disinvestment in affordable housing to ensure safe, decent housing for all.

When it comes to ensuring a strong future for our children, let's all start with saying "hello", learning their names, being available to them, and becoming an advocate for every one of our city's kids.

Dayton's Bluff District Forum

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Next issue: October 2020. **Deadline for material: September 10, 2020.**



St. Paul Parks and Recreation

September might be a great time to walk around Indian Mounds Park and find out about trees. Perfect for Scouts or kids whose teacher wants them to bring in leaves. It's a mile-long path that visits 31 unique trees, all marked with brown posts. If you put "Indian Mounds Park Tree Trek" in your computer search there is this map that you can download. Each tree has a brown pole next to it that has information. If you have a smart phone you can read from a QR code.

Some September St. Paul Events

Steve Trimble
Forum Staff

Here is a sampling of what was happening in St Paul in a variety of years. These pieces are only around two hundred words, but you could go on-line (or even in books) and find additional information. Hope these are interesting for most readers.

September 2, 1901: An expectant crowd waited at the Union Depot to greet Vice President Theodore Roosevelt. He visited with the welcoming committee and then boarded a streetcar for a ride to Minneapolis. There he took part in Labor Day activities and then returned to St. Paul for a memorable speech at the State Fairgrounds.

Roosevelt launched into an energetic oration on this day. He said, "A good many of you are probably acquainted with the old proverb: 'Speak softly and carry a big stick—you will go far.'" He then added: "If a man... lacks civility, a big stick will not save him from trouble; and neither will speaking softly avail, if back of the softness there does not lie strength."

Four days later President McKinley was shot and, after he died a few days later, forty-two-year-old Theodore Roosevelt became President. His statement at the fair became associated with his foreign policy and cartoons often showed him holding a stick. He claimed that the United States had the right to oppose European meddling and to intervene in the domestic affairs neighbors. Now he was in the position to bring the "speak softly but carry a big stick" idea into a reality.

September 4, 1884: Sitting Bull, a Hunkpapa Lakota leader, was visiting Saint Paul. A U. S. Indian agent hoped to impress him while Sitting Bull just wanted to learn about whites and make a case for aid. He visited businesses, toured the *Pioneer Press*, the State Capitol, and went to the burial mounds, a cigar factory, and Franklin School and tried out a telephone.

He saw a play at the Grand Opera House when there was an "attempted assassination" when the visitors "were leaving the theater in single file, and while the great Sioux leader was still in the foyer, an attempt was made to take his life."

According to a witness, a man shouted, "Damn him, I'll shoot him" and aimed a revolver at Sitting Bull. His companion grabbed the gun and told the person not to be a fool.

"The white people are wicked and I don't want my women to become as the white

women I have seen," Sitting Bull told a reporter. "I want you to teach my people to read and write, but they must not become white people in their ways; it is too bad a life. I would rather die an Indian than live a white man."

September 14, 2014: When a bell rang, two thousand people sat down to eat at a half-mile-long dinner table in the middle of Victoria Street in St. Paul. Called "Create The Community Meal," this event was the brain-storm of local artist Seitu Jones. He had watched his Frogtown neighbors passing his studio with bags of processed foods. Jones discovered obstacles for healthy food choices. Mostly it was the lack of access, and the loss of food traditions and cooking habits.

A large number of community groups helped grow food, cook it, and plan the huge undertaking. There were more than 400 volunteers including farmers, prep workers and cooks, drivers, mobile art kitchens, dancers and spoken-word artists. There were also food servers, food runners waste managers, and table hosts.

The menu was a locally-produced meal of ginger-honey soy chicken, Ethiopian fosalia green beans, collard greens, black beans and rice, corn bread and a mixed salad, along with apple cider. Seitu summed up things saying, "Our next food story needs to be written to create a fair and just food system, a story that equitably shares the benefits and risks of where, what, and how food is grown, processed, transported, distributed, accessed and eaten."

September 24, 1886: Dr. Justus Ohage performed the nation's first successful gallbladder surgery—technically called a cholecystectomy—at St. Joseph's Hospital on this day. There had been eight such operations in Europe, but this was the first gallbladder removal in the Western Hemisphere.

Ohage was born into a medical family in Germany and came to the U. S. in 1864 and, at the age of fifteen, was the youngest soldier in the Army of the Potomac. He went to medical school in Missouri and had training back in Germany. At the age of fifty Dr. Ohage became St. Paul's commissioner of public health, serving from 1899 to 1918. He was an activist and sometimes controversial. He hired food and milk inspectors and started an orderly system of birth and death certificates. He made school vaccinations compulsory, developed quarantine laws, and worked for clean air and noise abatement. Two of Ohage's favorite quotations were, "In the health of the people lies the strength of the nation" and "Cleanliness is essential to the maintenance of good health."

Unfortunately, the reason he went into private practice in 1918 was because he resigned after being charged with disloyalty during WWI.

View from My Porch

Sage Holben
Forum Staff

Fourth and Bates neighbors have enjoyed two recent "intersection events" in spite of COVID-19. On a Wednesday evening in July, Saint Paul police brought the department's new *Bike 4 Kids* truck with not only bike helmets and bike repair, but a video game screen component and snack bar. This vehicle debuted at Fourth & Bates and is available for outreach in other Saint Paul neighborhoods by contacting SPPD. The vehicle was paid for by Otto Bremer Trust. Participating adults and children gave this outreach by our police and academy members high marks. Basketball challenges and video game interaction between youth and police resulted in smiles, laughter, shared confidences.

A pre-school neighbor once told me, "Sage, people are complicated." Yes, and when we can play with each other and meet on common ground, we most often can see that we are capable of laughing and smiling together. It's a start; it may mean little to people on the "outside," but in our neighborhood the grandmother who frets about her great-grandchildren and the young teen I've known for two years and have never seen smile tell me this was an event they will remember...and the teen came and asked me the following day, "When can we do this again?"

On August 8 we shared *Music from the Porch*, Paul Garding, on a Covid-19 induced hiatus from his traditional Irish group *Barra* shared the porch stage with Nick Okonek and his visiting father Corey. The three with their guitars and mellow singing delivered hope, joy, and fun to an appreciative masked and distanced audience.



Donnelle Burlinghame

Pictured above is *Music from the Porch* that was held on August 8. Everyone was masked and distanced as they enjoyed the wonderful guitar players.



Sage Holben

Pictured above, a little girl smiles brightly for the camera. She and the Saint Paul police officer behind her attended the *Bikes 4 Kids* event that was held in July.

Free Masks Available

Ramsey County

Ramsey County today launched a new initiative – A Mask for Everyone – to ensure that individuals and families have access to cloth face masks to help slow the spread of COVID-19. Led by the county's COVID-19 Racial Equity and Community Engagement

Response Team (RECERT), the program will prioritize distributing homemade cloth masks to racially, ethnically, and culturally diverse communities.

Individuals and families in Ramsey County that are in need of masks can visit ramseycounty.us/AMaskforEveryone to request a mask. Each recipient will be provided with: homemade cloth mask to help slow the spread of COVID-19. Accurate and up-to-date information about the importance of wearing a mask. Instructions on proper use and care of homemade masks.

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.

Cafe La Palma

Phones: 651-772-4313

655 Payne Avenue

St Paul, MN 55130

Open every day: 8 a.m.-9 p.m.

Facebook: @La Palma Supermercado

I decided to have a lunch on my Taste Trek but didn't want to have a large one and set out for Café La Palma. The restaurant is inside La Palma Supermercado. I had visited it and knew there was a restaurant in the back, but I hadn't ever eaten there.

By the time I got in a little after 1:00 there was a line. It was arranged with twenty pictures on the wall showing what the food looked like. There were two televisions which, at the time, were loudly following a Latino soccer game, six four-person booths and five tables. In addition, there is a small side room with more tables.

If you aren't in a hurry, you can order off the menu which I

did. I decided to stay with my small portion idea and had two pupusas — one cheese and one meat — with a tangy coleslaw. I chose a lime Jarrito for my drink. I did have to wait ten to fifteen minutes.

The menu says that the house specials are churrasco (steak) and both Salvadorian and Cuban style tortas. There also is a selection of soups and various kinds of sea food such as shrimp or even whole fish. They have several offerings for desayuno, aka breakfast. Some choices include choriza omelet, Mexican style scrambled eggs and even pancakes. There are pupusas, Tortas, Gorgidos Nuegaddos con chilate (fried yucca with homemade sugar cane syrup) and a couple of dozens of other specialties. There is even a kid's menu with mini-tortas, a kid's burrito and small quesadillas. There is no beer or wine, but there is a selection of interesting juices and soft drinks.

I wondered why there were Salvadorian dishes — some listed as specials — at what seemed to be a Mexican food store. I found out why when I met Lanca Solis on my way out. She is one of the three owners and is from El Salvador. She also showed me some of the Salvadorian items in the grocery, including a large offering of baked goods that came from the nearby El Guanaco. They are currently open for eating in and taking out. They have a colorful "To Go Menu." There is a small parking lot and a side door so you can get in without going through the grocery. But you'll want to look around



there as well.

Many thanks to our Friends of the Forum 2020 donors:

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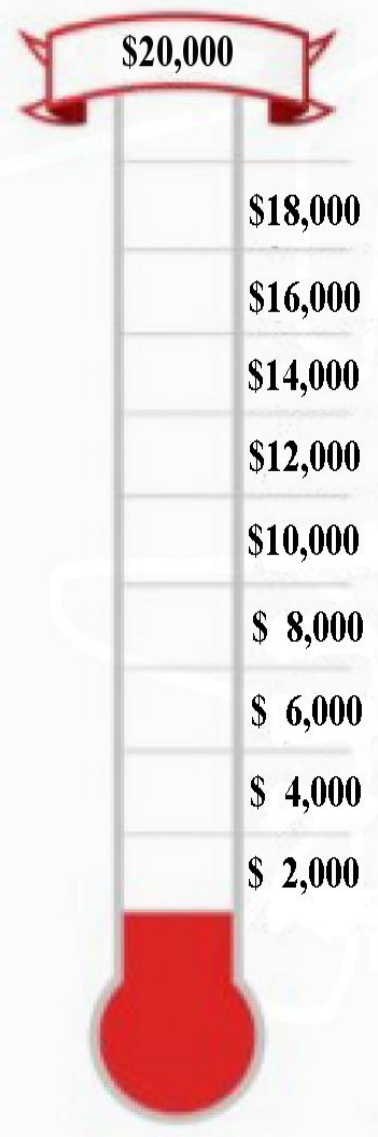
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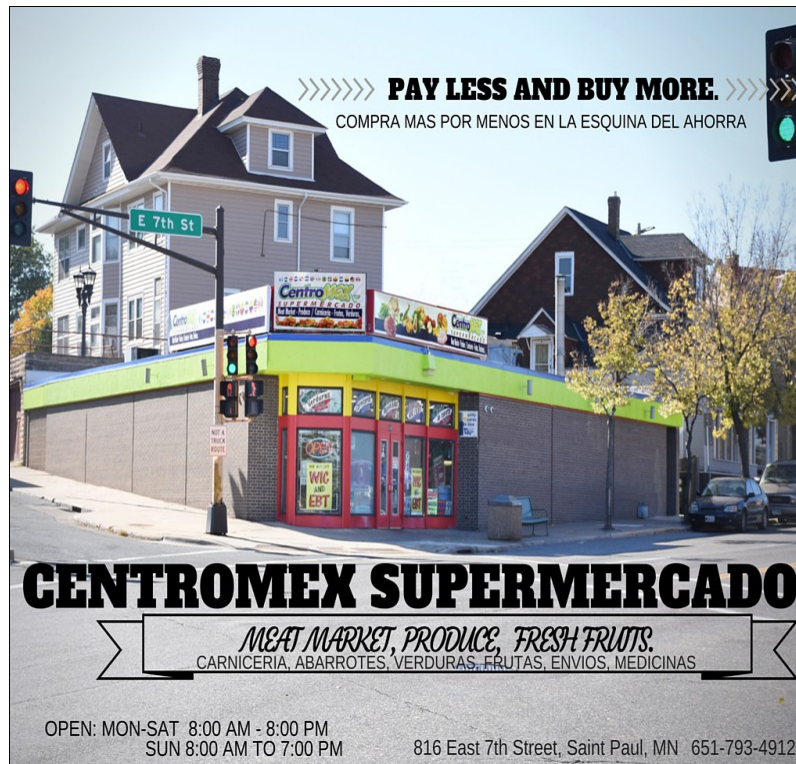
You got somethin' to say? Say it here!

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 October issue of the Forum is September 10, 2020.



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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?

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Thank you for your support!