

Dayton's Bluff District Forum

Volume 34, No. 11
December 2021
daytonsbuffdistrictforum.org

"The Voice of the Community"

Go, Kayla, Go!

Mark Gallagher

As a little girl, Kalya Kane had a dream — she wanted to play hockey. There was a boy in her preschool class who played hockey, and he would tell all of the preschoolers about hockey and how much he loved it. So, after hearing many, many stories about hockey from him, she wanted to know what it felt like to play hockey, so she put her skates on and tried it. Kayla was four years old when she first tried hockey.

Learning how to skate is a big first step, and Kayla didn't start by figure skating like some girls her age; she went straight to hockey. "I used a walker for probably a day or two," Kayla said, "and then I got the hang of it. After I caught on to skating, I saw that there were girls who were about eight years old wearing pink jerseys. I wanted to join their team, and they let me join, but I was five and the rest of the girls were seven and eight. Age wasn't a factor because I can skate pretty good and can catch up to a lot of the older girls."

"When Kayla turned four and started skating," Katie, who is Kayla's mother and loudest cheerleader, said, "she didn't play organized hockey, but she worked on her skating skills for a season. She was a "mini-mite" at four and then went on to play organized hockey. The next year Kayla was five, and all the other girls were seven or eight on the organized teams."

Kayla started at the Johnson program and played there for three seasons. Then they lost the girls' program because the numbers were too low, so the girls had to find another association to play for. Kayla moved over to the Roseville program, and she has been there three years. When she started playing for Roseville, she was already a goalie.

"I always wanted to play goalie," Kayla said, "I like the thrill of it, and I like how it feels to have pucks shot at me. The girls are only in the 12 U (under 12 years old) category, but they are good shooters. I love the thrill. I think I use my body the best to block shots. I have the goalie stick

in my left hand. I write with my right hand and throw right-handed, but I play goalie left-handed."

"When Kayla started hockey and playing goalie," Katie said, "the coaches said to lay the goalie stick on the ground, and whatever hand she picks the stick up with, she should use that side for the goalie stick and catch with the other hand."

Kayla plays on two teams, Minnesota Unbounded and a team from Roseville. Minnesota Unbounded was formed by girls of color who wanted other girls of color not to feel like they were getting excluded by the other players. So, they wanted to make a team that they could feel comfortable with other girls of color and make friends. There are about 15 to 20 girls on the Minnesota Unbounded team, and they play only tournaments during the hockey season. When there are tournaments for the Unbounded team, all the referees are women.

There are about 30 girls between the 10 U team and the 12 U team. The 10 U team is called the Hockey Ninas, and the 12 U team is the Unbounded. The teams are composed of girls of different nationalities: Asian American, Mexican American, Pacific Islander, African American, and Native American, so both teams are made up of girls of all different minorities.

"There weren't tryouts because there weren't that many girls who wanted to play hockey," Kayla said. "The girls would just sign up and start playing. Probably half of the girls that play for the Unbounded team come from Bloomington because they practice at Bloomington Ice Garden, which is at the NE corner of 98th Street and France Ave. almost every day. Most of the girls are from Bloomington, but they are from different associations."

"There is pretty good chemistry on the teams I play for. The teams defend me when I am on the ice, and they communicate well when we are playing. A lot of the players know each other from being on other teams together, but I also play goalie on the 12 U team from Roseville. That's my regular team, which is in a rec league."

*The photo of Kayla was taken by Cyndi Nightengale Photography
See Hockey, page 4.*



See You in February!

With the holidays just around the corner, we are taking a break to spend time with our families, friends, and neighbors.

We will not have a **January** issue, but please keep your eye out for our on-line-only February issue!

Stay safe during the holidays and enjoy the many events St. Paul has to offer!
Happy holidays, Dayton's Bluff!

A Few Recent Dayton's Bluff Items of Interest

G.B. Leroy

Will There be a Dinner With Santa in Dayton's Bluff?

The Dayton's Bluff Recreation Center will be doing something for families at their location at 790 Conway Street. It will happen on **Thursday, December 9, 2021, from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.** Besides a free dinner, people can take a photo of Santa in the school auditorium. Masks will be required indoors.

However, depending on the COVID situation, it might be a drive through event with give-aways. A decision will be made, so be sure to call the Recreation Center (after 2:00 p.m.) at 651-793-3885. You can also reserve a spot online by going to the St. Paul city web site, click on departments, and click on Parks and Recreation and then choose Dayton's Bluff Recreation Center.

Canasta Familiar in English is Family Basket

Lots of groups have been giving food to people during the COVID era, but this one is working to make sure of its quality. Canasta Familiar, a food shelf operated by Comunidades Latinas Unidas en Servicio (CLUES) in Dayton's Bluff provides culturally appropriate food to about 500 families per week. But they don't stop there. The food shelf also has a zero-waste policy, which includes making sure that food that is expired or no longer fit for consumption is composted.

Dayton's Bluff Community Council Hires an Executive Director

The group recently announced on its web page that the Board of Directors approved the hiring of Veronica Burt as the new Executive Director of the Dayton's Bluff District 4 Community Council. After a lengthy search process, Veronica rose to the top of the candidate list and was the clear choice for the role.

Veronica is a 25-plus-year resident of Dayton's Bluff. She brings many years of experience in community planning, development, and engagement. We are very excited to have her lead the Council forward into the future.

Please join us in welcoming Veronica to her new role! Feel free to share comments or suggestions for DBCC's future by reaching out by phone at 651-772-2075 or through their email: info@daytonsbuff.org. They also have a Facebook page and have monthly Zoom meetings that are open to all.

Get Ready To Bid For Good Things!

The East Side Elders have done lots of good for this neighborhood, so help by bidding on their December on-line silent auction. You could win gift cards from local shops and restaurants and special items in baskets. You might find some of your holiday presents this way.

This East Side Elder's fundraiser is raising money for Fetch! Their free grocery program that helps community members in need by delivering free groceries, personal care items, and household needs. The auction starts on **December 6** and bids have to be made by **December 13**. The Link to the auction page is 32auctions.com/Elders.



Steve Trimble

A photo from an earlier Dinner with Santa at Dayton's Bluff Rec Center

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.

Our next meeting will be on **December 21** starting at **6:30 p.m.** at 668 Greenbrier Street. Anyone interested in Swede Hollow is welcome to attend.

For more information, 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, December 2** at **11:00 a.m.**

If you'd like to attend, call 651-776-0550 or email daytonsbuffdistrictforum@gmail.com for more information. We are currently meeting at the Dayton's Bluff Library.

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, and address people's concerns about crime and other issues on the East Side. Policing meetings are held at **9:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.** on the third Tuesday of each month. Bring your neighbors!

Call or email Robyn at 651-266-5580 or robyn.brewin@ci.stpaul.mn.us to ensure the meetings have not been canceled.

SNAP Food Program at Comunidades Latinas Unidas En Servicio (CLUES)

¿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 to 3 p.m.**



THE HISTORIC MOUNDS THEATRE

December 3-5, 10-12 and 16-19: The Historic Mounds Theatre brings you our Klingon Holiday Tradition, *It's An Honorable Life: A Star Trek Fan Production*, live and on stage in December. A Klingon fears he is too great a warrior to die in battle and will instead die of old age. Q leads him on a journey through his life in this mixture of Star Trek and holiday classics. Directed by Phillip Henry and featuring a large cast of talented local Klingons, it's sure to be a lot of fun. The show is presented primarily in Klingon with projected English titles. COVID-19 safety precautions will be observed at all performances. Thursday, Friday and Saturday performances are at 7:30 p.m. Sunday performances are at 2:30 p.m. Price: General admission \$20, Table seating \$35.

Saturday, January 29, 2022: *Trek vs. Wars Burlesque*. See website for details in January.

Visit moundstheatre.org to purchase tickets and get more information on upcoming events. The Historic Mounds Theatre is located at 1029 Hudson Road, St. Paul, MN 55106; 651-772-2253; historicmoundstheatre@gmail.com

Free Health and Human Services

United Way 2-1-1 provides *free and confidential* health and human services information for people in Minnesota, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, connecting you with the resources and information you need: Alcohol & Drug Abuse; Child Care; Consumer Regulation; Financial Assistance Programs; Healthcare; Money Management; Transportation; Animal Services; Criminal Justice & Legal Services; Employment; Food/Housing/Shelter; Tax Organizations & Services; Utilities (includes phones); Mental Health.

When calling 2-1-1 you will need to enter your ZIP code and then will hear a menu of services. Be patient, please. With COVID-19, lines are busy. You may be given options to waiting on the line.

COVID Saliva Tests Available

Minnesota is offering at-home COVID-19 saliva testing for any person with or without symptoms, at no cost.

When you take the test, you will log in to access the Vault virtual waiting room and do a video visit with a Vault test supervisor. You will then send the test to

the lab in Oakdale, MN, using the pre-paid package. Once it arrives at the lab, you will get your results by email in 24 to 48 hours.

This saliva test is available at no cost for every Minnesotan.

Go to learn.vaulthealth.com/state-of-minnesota/ or health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/testsites/athome.html to learn more

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 fee based on a sliding scale. Class sizes are limited, so enroll now. Please call 651-379-8432 for a current application.

Family Homeless Prevention Assistance Program

Family Homeless Prevention Assistance Program (FHPAP) funds can help single folks, too.

Here is a list of agencies that help with deposit and/or rent assistance through FHPAP:

Neighborhood House: 651-789-2500
MN Community Care: 651-266-1290
American Indian Family Center: 651-793-3803

CLUES: 612-746-3550

YMCA: 763-493-3052

Face-to-Face: 651-224-9644

Dayton's Bluff Library

The library is hosting plenty of fun activities. Listed below are some December events:

December 1 — Dayton's Bluff Book Club: A great fit for folks who love reading diverse books by local authors and discussing them, **6-7:30 p.m. via Zoom.**

December 2, 9, 16 — Family Storytime: Join us in the Children's Area of Dayton's Bluff Library for a lively storytime! **10:30-11 a.m.**

December 11 — FunLab Hour of Code: FunLab is STEAM programming designed for kids ages 7-11. Join for crafts, engineering projects, science experiments, or relaxing boardgames and

movies. **2-4 p.m.**

December 14 — Teens Know Best: Join Teens Know Best! TKB is for teens, ages 12-18, who want to read and review YA books that aren't available to the public yet. **6:30-7:45 p.m.**

February 2 — Dayton's Bluff Book Club: A great fit for folks who love reading diverse books by local authors and discussing them, **6-7:30 p.m. via Zoom.**

Visit sppl.org/'s calendar for more.

Xcel Phone Numbers

Gas Leak: 800-895-2999. Power Outage: 800-895-1999.

Call 811 before you dig: Before starting that roto-tiller or heaving that shovel into the ground for *anything*, call 811. At no charge, Xcel will have a trained technician check the area on your property or on the boulevard to be sure there are no wires, pipes, other hidden surprises in the designated digging area. Usually, someone checks within a day (allowing a couple days is helpful), marking the 'no-dig' area with painted lines...and everyone is safe!

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 someone will assist you with your application.

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.

Financial Assistance

Increased financial assistance is available for Ramsey County residents who lost income due to COVID-19 and need help paying for housing costs.

Residents may be eligible for Emergency Assistance that can help pay for past due rent/mortgage, a damage deposit, or prevent utilities including water, electricity, and heat from being disconnected.

Go to ramseycounty.us/EmergencyAssistance for an application or call the Emergency Assistance hotline at 651-266-4884.

Free Legal Services for Low-Income People

Call Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services at 1-888-575-2954 or go to smrls.org to see if you qualify for free legal assistance with: family law, government benefits, housing, education, seniors, immigration, and farm workers. You can also call if you're behind on your bills, having problems with credit or creditors, or have other civil legal issues, etc.

If an interpreter is needed, SMRL will provide one.

Hours: **Monday through Friday, 9 to 11:45 a.m.; 1 to 3 p.m.**

Cerenity Marian Senior Living Winter Warmth Drive

Kris Kulseth

Cerenity Marian Senior Living campus is a full continuum of care campus located across from Mounds Park in East St. Paul. With independent and assisted living, memory care, transitional care, and skilled nursing, they are able to care for individuals 55-plus with any level of healthcare needs.

In mid-October, Cerenity Marian began a Winter Warmth Clothing Drive to support those in need of coats, hats, mittens, gloves, scarves, boots, snow pants, and socks. These items will be donated to Guild and the American Indian Magnet School, both based in St Paul.

Guild is a Minnesota not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization that empowers those living with mental illness and/or experiencing long-term homelessness by helping them find the tools they need to lead stable, fulfilling lives in communities of their choosing.

The American Indian Magnet School was created from the vision of elders and community members. Their goal was to provide an American Indian perspective and to welcome students of all backgrounds to a diverse school community. Our teaching approach is rooted in American Indian culture, traditions, values, history, and art.

There are currently donation boxes located just inside Cerenity Marian's main entrance at 200 Earl Street and we will still happily accept your donations of new or very gently used items. Other locations are Church of St Casimir, St. Patrick's of St Paul, and The Beloved Church.

A big thanks to all who have already generously donated — there were many items that were handmade along with items purchased at stores!

Happy holidays from all of the team at Cerenity Marian!



Kris Kulseth

The photo above shows some of the generous donations made to the Cerenity Marian Senior Living Winter Warmth Clothing Drive.



@Dayton's Bluff District Forum

Some St. Paul Trivia

Sixty-two people met at Macalester College in Saint Paul at a three-day event initially called the "Committees of Correspondence." They talked about "empowerment", "neighborliness" and "connection with the earth." What political party came out of the meeting?

Charles Rogers of Saint Paul is best known for what?

- A. He is the youngest mayor of Saint Paul
- B. He won the Medal of Honor while serving in WWI
- C. He received the first automobile license in Saint Paul
- D. He was the first person to commit suicide by jumping off the High Bridge

On June 9, 1898 the first golf course in Minnesota was opened for play. Where was it?

Send your answers to daytonsbuffdistrictforum@gmail.com for a chance to see your name in our February issue!

Cerenity
 SENIOR CARE
Marian of Saint Paul



Compassionate Memory Care for your loved one

Our ministry provides a warm compassionate care team that enhances the lives of our memory care community where health, wellness, and choice come to life.

Ask about our move-in special! Tours available (contact Sharyl Kaase at 651-495-1819)

Learn more at <https://cerenityseniorcare.org/>

Immediate Openings

Hockey, continued from page 1

During the summer, Kayla did eight weeks of goalie training with an all-girl's camp called OS, and the OS camp is run by one of the Whitecaps' players. Winny Brodt Brown, a Roseville High School graduate, and her husband are the owners of the OS camp, which is run all year long. Kayla did the eight weeks of goalie training with Amanda Leveille, the Whitecap's goalie.

"Kayla had hockey camp at St. Paul Academy (SPA)," Katie said, "on Tuesdays and Thursdays for eight weeks during the summer. I would drop her off at 7 a.m. and then pick her up at 1 p.m. So, Kayla was at goalie training at SPA with the OS girls camp to get her ready for the season. Next week, Kayla will also do goalie training fundamentals with Amanda to get her ready for tryouts."

After that, Kayla will participate in a program called "Durable Minds" at Roseville arena. It's training that gets goalies *mentally* ready to have pucks shot at them. One thing Kayla and Katie love about Roseville is they schedule mental health training. Kayla goes through a curriculum starting with a class that prepares goalies for the whole season.

"I have the Durable Minds mental health program once a week," Kayla said, "and we sit in a classroom for about an hour. It's only for goaltenders in different age divisions, and the goaltenders sit in the classroom together. The most valuable lessons that I have learned from the Durable Minds training, are — What's in your control and what's out of your control? Don't take out your frustrations on other players or circumstances."

The Durable Minds training program is really valuable to a young goalie. They teach things like: What happens if you miss the puck? How do you prepare yourself for being on the ice? How do you pick yourself back up after the other team scores a goal?

Kayla is also into drama and modeling, and when they interfere with her hockey playing, Kayla has to make a critical decision because she is so passionate about everything she does in her life. "I was supposed to do something in theater in October," Kayla said. "It's called Battle Ashlandia. It has three different teams, and it's supposed to be a fundraiser. The teams compete in dancing, singing, and stuff like that, but I couldn't do it because I have hockey on the same days.

"Remembering songs really well is the best thing I do in theater, and I can memorize a song in about two days. I have done multiple plays throughout the Twin Cities, but the play I just completed "The Lion King" was through Ashland Productions, a children's theater in Maplewood. I have also done plays at the Stepping Stone and the Minneapolis Children's Theater."

"As far as modeling goes," Katie said, "Kayla has been modeling since she was six months old, and she has been doing musicals and plays since she was about four. She has done modeling for Target, commercials for Target, TCF, Build-A-Bear, Pillsbury — and she is on TV for a photo shoot. Kayla is with four modeling agencies in Minneapolis, and she has to audition for each modeling job that she pursues. She just did this commercial that comes out in November, so Kayla is very well-rounded.

"I would also like to add that we are proud East Side residents. I grew up on the East Side off of White Bear Ave., and I just want to make sure that I pay tribute to Johnson, Roseville, and OS for molding Kayla and for giving her all the help she needed. Every time that I watch her play hockey, she gets hit in the cage with pucks and then laughs about it."

"I wear a cage because I can see through the cage pretty good," Kayla said, "but I was wearing a mask with slots to see the puck a few months ago, and it was tough to see the puck. The cage had a COVID mask, and I only had two slots to look through, so last season was difficult."

There are three levels of hockey in the association Kayla plays in: squirts, peewees, and bantams. "I received some great news today" Kayla said. "Last year I was playing with the girls on a 10 U team (squirts), and at the start of this year and was asked to move up the boy's 12 U (peewees) team. I was playing goalie with the boys for about a month, and on November 12, 2021, I was recruited to play on a girl's 15 U team (bantams)."

By playing at the 15 U level, Kayla basically skipped a whole grade, which will enable her to develop faster and

play at a higher level, and with her work ethic, Kayla doesn't have a problem with that.

"Some of the girls and boys I play with can shoot the puck pretty hard," Kayla said. "Matt Dumba, who also shoots hard and plays for the Minnesota Wild, follows me on Twitter. All of it is fun! I love the theater, and I love hockey."

The top photo shows the Unbounded hockey team. The left photo is Kayla and in the right photo, Kayla is in the foreground. All three photos were taken by Cyndi Nightengale Photography.



@mn_unbounded

Happening at the Dayton's Bluff Library

FUNLAB is STEAM for school-age kids. **Saturday, December 11** from 2-4 p.m., join us for a fun drop-in session and tinker with circuitry and coding using Ozobots and Circuit Blocks. Then celebrate #HourOfCode by playing a variety of fun coding games on the computer!

STORYTIME at Dayton's Bluff Library occurs on **Thursdays at 10:30 a.m.** Join us for a special storytime on **Thursday, December 16 at 10:30 a.m.** with special guest reader, Councilmember and Library Board Chair Jane Prince! Storytimes are geared toward toddler- and preschool-aged children. We will read stories, sing songs, practice American Sign Language, and have a lot of fun.

Senior Lounge at the library is starting in December. Come and learn a creative skill or have a game of Cribbage with a neighbor. The activities will vary from week to week, but there will be a calm space for older adults to hang out, meet with neighbors, and enjoy each other's company **every Friday from 10:30-11:30 a.m.**

The Micro Gallery in November featured a collection curated by A. Mason of Super Mario Bros. plushies. This collection featured both Mario and Luigi along with Yoshi, a Shy Guy, a Bob-OMB, and a Chain Chomp. Come in to see the current exhibit of artwork by a local Saint Paul artist, which will be up through the end of the month. If you are interested in showing your artwork or collections, please contact Dayton's Bluff Library staff (DaytonsBluff@ci.stpaul.mn.us or 651-793-1699). Items can be no larger than 12" w X 15" d X 15" h and there are four shelves available.

All Saint Paul Public Library locations will be closed Wednesday, December 8 for staff training, Thursday, December 23 through Saturday, December 25 in observance of Christmas, and Friday, December 31 through January 1 in observance of New Year's.

Dayton's Bluff Library Hours

Mondays & Wednesdays noon to 8 p.m.
Tuesdays & Thursdays 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Fridays & Saturdays 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

The outdoor book drop is open all the time. Current hours are available online at spl.org/locations/DB/ or call 651-793-1699.



Dayton's Bluff Library

Councilmember Jane Prince (top photo) was at the library Thursday, November 18, to talk about what's going on in Ward 7.

Featured Pets of the Month

Loki Ragnar & Samhain

Mandy Okonek

This Halloween our family adopted a lab/shepherd puppy from the animal rescue group Secondhand Hounds.

Our puppy's littermates were all named after lyrics from a Steve Miller Band song, *Midnight, Lover, Joker, Toker*, etc. and we fell in love with the intense, sad puppy eyes of Midnight who is now Samhain.

When Samhain came home to Dayton's Bluff, he was eight weeks old and became acquainted with his new neighborhood by trick or treating with his family. My family wanted Samhain to grow up in a pack, so we headed north to Akeley, Minnesota, home of a giant Paul Bunyan statue, to adopt husky puppy Loki Ragnar.

Samhain and Loki became fast friends and share the joy of digging up my garden and watching the nature in Swede Hollow Park. The puppies are learning how to hop down the stairs, descending into the lower hollow and absolutely love dipping their paws in Phalen Creek. Loki is learning to find his voice, howling the ancient lament of his breed along with the horned owls at dusk. We are looking forward to a snowy winter so we can learn to Skijor through the Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary.



Mandy Okonek

Loki Ragnar is on the left, and Samhain is on the right.

Dayton's Bluff District Forum

668 Greenbrier St., St. Paul, MN 55106
hone: 651-776-0550 E-mail:
daytonsbluffdistrictforum@gmail.com

Monthly circulation: 7,000; also available online at daytons-bluffdistrictforum.org. This publication of Hopewell Communications, Inc., a nonprofit organization, is intended to provide a forum for the ideas and opinions of its readers and to be an instrument for developing community awareness and pride. Signed articles do not necessarily represent the views of the *Forum*. Material from this paper may be republished if it is attributed to the *Dayton's Bluff District Forum* and to the author, if any. Articles and letters to the editor are welcome and may be emailed to daytons-bluffdistrictforum@gmail.com, or mailed to the address above. The *Dayton's Bluff District Forum* is delivered to every home and business in the Dayton's Bluff neighborhood when the budget permits. We are currently online only. Outside this area, subscriptions cost \$15 per year and may be arranged by calling 651-776-0550.

Board of Directors: Greg Cosimini, Karin DuPaul, Jennifer Gascoigne, Sage Holben, Steve Trimble

Editor/layout: Allison Lund-Zalewski; Editorial Associate: Mark Gallagher

Staff: Mandy Okonek, Clare Howard

Next issue: February 2021. **Deadline for material: January 10, 2021.**



See You Next Spring, Queen Bumble Bee

Kathy Sidles

When it gets cold in the fall bumble bee queens, workers, and males die — but not the new queens! They find soft soil or thick leaf litter and bury themselves. Their body changes so they don't freeze. When the soil warms up in the spring they come out of the ground. They look for early spring flowers to get nectar for energy. Then they find a hole or clump of grass to make a nest in, and lay the eggs for the first set of workers.

This is what I read. I imagined a new queen deciding to bury herself, and in a few minutes was underground. But when I saw a queen bumble bee burying herself this fall, there was a lot more to it.

On a walk at a Scientific and Natural Area near Hastings, I saw two queen bumble bees flying over the prairie grass. Because we had a drought this summer, there were no flowers blooming there in October in the dry, sandy soil. So I wondered what they were doing and followed them with my camera on. The bumble bees each flew to a clump of grass. I walked closer to one queen. She was burying herself for the winter in the sandy soil at the base of a clump of grass.

She seemed to be using all six legs to dig herself into the sand. I was surprised to see a male bumble bee a few inches away watching her. There is no way to tell for sure but I imagined it was her boyfriend saying goodbye to her. A few seconds later the other queen flew up from her nearby clump and came right at me. I decided she was telling me to leave her friend alone! I backed up quickly and went back to the trail.

I reported what I saw to the University of Minnesota bee researcher who taught a bumble bee ID class I took. She was interested in seeing the hole the queen was digging, so I met her there. I had placed sticks along the trail pointing to the clump of grass. The researcher checked the hole and measured the temperature of the soil for bumble bee research.

It would be fun to have "bumble bee cams", like we have eagle cams, to see what happens when queen bumble bees emerge from the ground in the spring. When they bury themselves for the winter, there might be more to it than we think.

The Xerces Society protects insects, and has tips for pollinator friendly lawns. They say to mow high and less often so clover and dandelions bloom. Also keep leaves on your yard (along edges or under trees is OK) so moth and butterfly eggs on the leaves can hatch. Also, add a log and a brush pile in which bees and butterflies can nest, shelter, and overwinter. Just like parks, the yard at your home or apartment can help bumble bees.

Xerces suggests adding a pollinator flower garden to your yard. Blue Thumb is a non-profit helping people plant pollinator gardens in the Twin Cities. If you scroll to the bottom of Blue Thumb's Lawns to Legumes web site you can find out what plants to buy, where to get them, and how to plant them. You can apply there before **February 15** for \$300 to help pay for plants. The Minnesota Legislature is giving out this money to help save the endangered rusty-patched bumble bee, our new State Bee. The garden will help other pollinators too: bluethumb.org/lawns-to-legumes/.

NOTE: My picture of the queen bumble bee last month did get a positive ID as a rusty-patched queen by experts at Bumblebee Watch.



Kathy Sidles

The top photo shows the Common Eastern Queen at the Scientific and Natural Area burying herself for the winter. The bottom photo is a Common Eastern male drinking nectar from a goldenrod flower this fall at Mounds Park.

Happy Holidays!

Edina Realty
Brad Griffith, Realtor - Edina Realty
(651) 263-2830 call or text

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 February edition of the *Forum* is January 10, 2021.



Karin DuPaul

The upper part of Swede Hollow Park was developed in the late 1980s. Next time you are at the upper park, notice how much the trees have grown since the photo was taken in the 1980s. At that time, young people came to the park almost daily and played games like kickball, volleyball, or other games and this went on for a number of months. Then winter came.

Join us!

Sunday Worship/10:30am
(Christmas Eve 2pm)
1049 Euclid St., St Paul, 55106

McVay Youth Program:
Monday/Wednesday/Friday
3:30 to 6:00pm

The McVay Youth Program offers a safe, fun place for all students in grades 5 through 12. Students spend time with their friends creating art, music, drama and receive help with their homework. The McVay Youth Partnership is staffed by experienced McVay Fellows from Hamline University.

Mounds Park United Methodist Church
Sunday worship is live-streamed, accessible anytime at: moundsparkumc.org

Kids Corner

Vio Nikitina

Dayton's Bluff Library Children's Specialist

The Rabbit Listened by Cori Doerrfeld

THE RABBIT LISTENED



Taylor has built something amazing! Until suddenly, it all came crashing down. One by one, animals try to come and help Taylor deal with the complicated emotions that arise when things don't go right. The chicken wants to talk about it. The bear wants to yell about it. The elephant wants to remember. The hyena wants to laugh. But Taylor doesn't feel like doing that. One by one the animals leave. Only the rabbit sits quietly by Taylor's side and waits. When Taylor is ready, the rabbit listens while Taylor talks, yells, remembers, laughs, and makes plans to rebuild. This is a wonderful book to

learn about how to be a supportive friend and good listener, and it validates all the different, complicated emotions that arise during hard situations.

Winter Bird Craft

Here at the library, we engage little hands and creative minds by providing opportunities for guided and free-form crafts. One such craft was a fun paper plate bird made from construction paper, googly eyes, and colorful feathers. **Supplies:**

- Paper plate
- Scissors
- Glue
- Any other fun supplies you may have on hand: construction paper, crayons or markers, feathers, buttons, eyeballs, leaves, twigs, etc.



Instructions:

Begin with a paper plate that has been cut in half. Use the supplies you have on hand to get creative. Your bird needs eyes, a beak, some feathers or wings, and a tail. How can you make that happen? Strips of construction paper can make fun tail. Buttons can make a great pair of beady eyes. Use your senses to explore your backyard or neighborhood and collect leaves and twigs that you can use in place of feathers and feet. Let your imagination guide you and enjoy creating a fun feathered friend!

Literacy Extension:

Pair your craft with a book about birds from the library. Bring it along on a walk and try to identify birds.

I hope to see you soon at the library!



@Dayton's Bluff District Forum

Bulletin Board and the Mysterious

Gregory J. of Dayton's Bluff

Amerigo Vespucci

Forum Media Reporter

There was once a great metropolitan newspaper called the *Saint Paul Pioneer Press* that published all sorts of articles and contained many interesting features. One of those features began in 1990 and was called Bulletin Board, billed as "Our community of strangers."

BB, as it was nicknamed, had stories and photos submitted by readers. One of those readers was local resident Gregory J. of Dayton's Bluff, a handle he chose to give his neighborhood a little free publicity, to protect the innocent, and to keep adoring fans from showing up at his doorstep begging for autographs.

BB became very popular and was soon included in the *Pioneer Press* seven days a week. Its editor, Dan Kelly, received much more material than could be used. Alas, eventually the *Pioneer Press* was purchased by a hedge fund and soon became, both figuratively and literally, a much smaller newspaper. Kelly took a buyout in October 2016 and that appeared to be the end of BB.

But wait! There's more! Kelly decided to continue publishing BB online (bbonward.com/). The online version had almost unlimited space so that many more stories and photos could be included, and in color no less. And although Kelly always says that BB is not a competition, the "best" entries submitted each week are published on most Sundays in the *Pioneer Press*.

Unfortunately, readership of BB, as well the number of people submitting articles, greatly declined when it became a once a week feature. The general decline in the *Pioneer Press* didn't help either. However, Gregory J. of Dayton's Bluff, now retired himself, stuck with BB and with the help of his trusty digital camera and scanner, submits way too many entries, many of which end up in the Sunday *Pioneer Press*.

Gregory J.'s entries can be almost anything, although he generally leaves the senti-



mental and personal topics to others. His stories contain one or more photos and simple, sometimes humorous, explanations of what they are about. Thanks to parents who never threw anything away, a tendency to collect an eclectic assortment of what many people would classify as junk, and, of course, eBay, his topics are far ranging in time and space. A new category, "Neat Stuff" was created based on some of his entries.

Here are a few of Gregory J.'s submissions in no particular order: *Tom Swift* books, postcards of the interior of the St. Paul Public Library, an Embers menu circa 1970, a Marx Moonbase set from the early 1960s, Minnesota State Fair photos dating from

1958 to the present, Dippity-Do (a popular hair care product made by the now defunct Toni Co. of St. Paul), unusual advertising calendars, thermometers and cigarette lighters created by St. Paul's Brown & Bigelow Co., gargoyles on St. Mary's Church in Lowertown (I checked and they are still there), jack-o-lanterns of his own design, including one that supposedly resembles Zippy the Pinhead from the comic of the same name, the Amazing Drinking Bird, and a series of decorated trees for various holidays, both real and imaginary, using a black wrought iron tree. This produced another new BB category called "Our 'trees', ourselves." The list could go on, but it won't here.

However, being as this is December, a few of Gregory J.'s Christmas entries should be noted. His favorite is the

Sputnik tree. It is decorated with what were originally called Star of Bethlehem ornaments by the Bradford Co when they were introduced in the 1950s. But times being what they were, they came to be known as Sputnik ornaments even though they bore no resemblance to the real Russian Sputnik satellite launched in 1957. Another Christmas entry was about Twinkler ornaments, star or carousel-shaped plastic ornaments that contained a propeller that spun when hung over an old-style incandescent Christmas light. Finally there were bubble lights which date back to the 1940s but can still be purchased today. They are made to look like a candle and are lit from below by a built in light bulb. It heats the colored liquid in a glass tube which causes it to bubble, thus the name.



View From My Porch

Sage Holben

It's been a rough couple months — a bat bite while I was asleep followed by surgery on my hand and a disconcerting two and a half days in the hospital. Then a week ago, with the yard covered thickly with leaves, I took a step into a shoe size seven hole in the ground! Sixteen inches of my five-foot two-inch frame disappeared from sight — literally knee deep. What critter digs a straight-down hole 16 inches deep and nine inches wide? The property owners didn't show much concern about the bat bite or the "body snatcher" in the yard.

Then I *Zoomed* in on a city traffic department meeting and felt more dispirited. The traffic department meeting focused on the speed bumps and improvements being done in other intersections of Saint Paul, with much praise for the traffic design department in being generous with their thinking outside the box, i.e. rigorous planning book. Lucky me, I received crumbs at the end with the question, "Would neighbors like speed bumps in the Fourth and Bates intersection?" Well, yes...we've been vocal and demonstrative about that for at least fifteen years...for a possible alternative roundabout for twenty years...always receiving a "can't do" or "won't do" answer. What a silly question, I thought; but no follow up came, like: "Surprise! We have heard you! Your intersection is FINALLY getting attention to safety measures!!"

And then it dawned on me. Crumbs. I am a renter. I have been the wrong person to have been driving the push for a safer intersection. A few weeks ago, a homeowner from a block away, stopped in front of my home and began a spiel of how filthy renters are, throwing litter onto the street, not caring how much trash accumulates in their yards and sidewalks. As she once again allowed her large dog to drag its leash loose through the boulevard garden, she spilled her anger at me that renters don't care about the neighborhood or other people. Wait! I interrupted her. Remember, *I* am a renter. I work to better the neighborhood (in fact, she comes to me to get contact information of what city departments to call about problems). She ignored my words and went on with her rant until I told her to leave.

As a past District Council president/board member and land use chair, I heard too many times from city leaders: "Renters are not invested in the community...Until they own a home, they feel no neighborhood connection...We (housing and financial organizations) need to get them to buy houses...renters don't have any stake in the city..." [so much to be said about these comments!]

I was pleased the renter's referendum passed. I believe it can bring about discussions and solutions of many murky, unaddressed renter-related topics; a "yes" is not going to topple the big builder. There is so much to be said about renting versus owning. It's not all about financial wisdom or real estate investment. "Social Bias" flashes like a Las Vegas neon sign on the subject. I would like to hear from readers on this topic. Please email me at uppelto@gmail.com

Overlooking Swede Hollow Park ...



Sale Pending

... is a beautiful Queen Anne Style Victorian

At 2600 finished square feet, this well maintained home can be best described as spacious, yet intimate and elegant but not pretentious. Four bedrooms, three baths, two car garage. \$439,900

Call to schedule a private showing.

**613 North Street
Upper Swede Hollow
Dayton's Bluff
Saint Paul, Minnesota**

Proudly Marketed by Brad Griffith, Realtor® - Edina Realty (651) 263-2830

mental and personal topics to others. His stories contain one or more photos and simple, sometimes humorous, explanations of what they are about. Thanks to parents who never threw anything away, a tendency to collect an eclectic assortment of what many people would classify as junk, and, of course, eBay, his topics are far ranging in time and space. A new category, "Neat Stuff" was created based on some of his entries.

Here are a few of Gregory J.'s submissions in no particular order: *Tom Swift* books, postcards of the interior of the St. Paul Public Library, an Embers menu circa 1970, a Marx Moonbase set from the early 1960s, Minnesota State Fair photos dating from

1958 to the present, Dippity-Do (a popular hair care product made by the now defunct Toni Co. of St. Paul), unusual advertising calendars, thermometers and cigarette lighters created by St. Paul's Brown & Bigelow Co., gargoyles on St. Mary's Church in Lowertown (I checked and they are still there), jack-o-lanterns of his own design, including one that supposedly resembles Zippy the Pinhead from the comic of the same name, the Amazing Drinking Bird, and a series of decorated trees for various holidays, both real and imaginary, using a black wrought iron tree. This produced another new BB category called "Our 'trees', ourselves." The list could go on, but it won't here.

However, being as this is December, a few of Gregory J.'s Christmas entries should be noted. His favorite is the

Sputnik tree. It is decorated with what were originally called Star of Bethlehem ornaments by the Bradford Co when they were introduced in the 1950s. But times being what they were, they came to be known as Sputnik ornaments even though they bore no resemblance to the real Russian Sputnik satellite launched in 1957. Another Christmas entry was about Twinkler ornaments, star or carousel-shaped plastic ornaments that contained a propeller that spun when hung over an old-style incandescent Christmas light. Finally there were bubble lights which date back to the 1940s but can still be purchased today. They are made to look like a candle and are lit from below by a built in light bulb. It heats the colored liquid in a glass tube which causes it to bubble, thus the name.

Swede Hollow Then Up the Street Part Four

Edited by Steve Trimble

For many years, Gentile Yarusso, who lived on Brunson Street, had been urged by relatives and friends to write about Swede Hollow and Railroad Island. "Do something," they all said "before it is too late." In this last of the offerings from Yarusso's 1968 booklet "Swede Hollow Then Up the Street," he ends his walk around the old neighborhoods. Instead, he makes a number of summaries about the people and how they have dealt with changing times. He offers some beliefs of the old ways and how the newer generations have begun to change the culture.

Any direct quotations from the booklet will be inside quotation marks.

"I passed the boarded fence, the entrance to the hollow, the place where I had started the story. I took one last look. We people had deserted the Hollow; we had been blind to her beauty and were deaf to the music of her rambling creek. As the creek rumbles along, now, now under dark, damp tunnel walls built some years ago "it, too must feel the quietness, the stillness, the last of Swede Hollow. Our treasured haunt is but a memory."

[This was a reference to when Phalen Creek was diverted into a large pipe, taking the Lake Phalen water into the Mississippi in the 1930s.]

"Our old fashioned people preserved the old traditions. How many times they must have looked up from their work in their gardens in the Hollow and stared at the

landscape to the west; for this was the limit of their village. Sometimes, 'up there on the street' was a promise; it overwhelmed them. Yes, they worked hard, saved, planned, and eventually met the challenge."

"Our parents tried. They made every effort to give us everything they possibly could. Some of them didn't learn the English language as well as they should, perhaps, but they did take part in community events. They were poor people, preoccupied with earning a living; some took more time than others more than others to become Americanized ... They were busy with their everyday jobs... When one considers the past history of our grandfathers and grandmothers who lived in insecurity and in a dangerous and unruly, unpredictable society in the old country, one understands how they learned to find refuge behind the walls of their homes among members of their families."

Yarusso continued to look at some of recent situations. "Hundreds and hundreds of our boys served our country in the last war and many atime are serving now in the conflict in Vietnam. I shall never forget seeing Father Pioletti visiting the many homes in the neighborhood consoling, advising parents, who had, in some cases, five and six sons in the service at one time. I remember seeing our folks attending early morning mass at St. Ambrose, sad, weary, lovingly praying for their children's return from the war."

He then explained how a new generation has emerged. "From these immigrants have come a new breed, a new generation. many of the sons and daughters of the people have children now who are attorneys, successful business men and women, teachers, school principals, coaches, politicians...It is to those that direct my statements, to this generation. I

had to satisfy myself, to tell how I personally felt. I had to speak for those who have passed away.

The author felt that things had not been just because of economics. "We believed as our folks did that someday things would be better, if not for us, for our children. I know that some people-but to very few — we were nothing but foreigners, wops, dagos." It took some time to see that "we were not intruders, not undesirables." It took some years but "we had earned the respect and attention we deserved. We are thankful, we children who came from Swede Hollow and Railroad Island we had the patience, sympathy and understanding of our teachers and social workers."

Many changes have happened. "We younger people have taken advantage of the opportunities available. Many of the young people want to be out from some authoritarian parents." I know that behind some closed doors in some families a tenacious struggle is taking place, a struggle to try to preserve the substance of the old ways... Let's face it; our children are going modern. This is as it should be. We will miss the old customs. How many children, how many parents today in time of stress, in time of danger, show affection, love of mother and god by saying 'Mamma mia' or 'Madonna mia.'"

Here are Yarusso's final words in his work: "No monuments, no plaques, or testimonials can ever repay for the leadership and love for my people shown by the director of the settlement house, Miss Eleanor Dowling. The biggest monument, however, should be erected to the poor immigrants who left the train at the Union Depot and followed my grandfather down the path along the railroad track, down to Swede Hollow then, finally — 'Up on the Street.'"



Minnesota Historical Society

Monsignor Louis F. Pioletti in his collar.



Minnesota Historical Society

Gentile Yarusso teaching gun marksmanship and safety.

Many thanks to our Friends of the Forum 2021 donors:

Maureen Anderson
Anonymous Donor
Carol Carey
Greg Cosimini
Carol Carey
Jeannie Foster
John Thompson & Mary Petrie
Joyce Maddox & Larry Meuwissen



@givemn.org/organization/Hopewell-Communications-Incorporated

We Have Three Easy Ways for You to Donate!

If you'd like to see future issues printed again, please consider donating. We have three ways for you to do so:

- Donate electronically via PayPal at: daytonsbluffdistrictforum@gmail.com
- Make checks payable to *Dayton's Bluff District Forum* and mail to: 668 Greenbrier Street, Saint Paul, MN 55106
- Donate by going to: givemn.org/organization/Hopewell-Communications-Incorporated-.

Be sure to keep up with us online in one of three ways:

- Website at daytonsbluffdistrictforum.org
- Facebook at Dayton's Bluff District Forum
- Instagram at Dayton's Bluff District Forum

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 2021. **Our goal for 2021 is \$18,000; thanks to readers like you, we've raised \$1,815 to date – will you help us reach our goal in 2021?**

Sincerely,

The Davton's Bluff District Forum

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

\$100 \$50 \$25 Another amount _____

Or give online: givemn.org/organization/Hopewell-Communications-Incorporated

Name _____ Email _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City, State, ZIP _____

Make checks payable to: *Dayton's Bluff District Forum* and mail to 668 Greenbrier St, St. Paul, MN 55106. For more information, contact 651-776-0550 or daytonsbluffdistrictforum@gmail.com.

Thank you for your support!