

# Dayton's Bluff District Forum

Volume 38, No. 1

February 2024

"The Voice of the Community"

## The Heights Redevelopment Project

[theheightssaintpaul.com](http://theheightssaintpaul.com)

The Heights is the Saint Paul Port Authority's newest and biggest redevelopment project. Located at the corner of Larpenteur and McKnight, the former Hillcrest Golf Course offers significant opportunities for both housing and light industrial development. Site remediation began in the Summer of 2023.

The Heights offers a unique urban infill opportunity on Saint Paul's Greater East Side. The approved Master Plan calls for both housing and light industrial redevelopment with a minimum of 1,000 jobs and 1,000 housing units.

The Heights social impact will be in balance with the economic benefits of redevelopment. If we're successful in meeting our sustainability goals, The Heights could be one of the first Net Zero communities in the country. As a true partner on the road to Net Zero, the

Saint Paul Port Authority is willing to work with buyers on innovative strategies to fund sustainability upgrades and installations.

Sherman Associates will be the lead housing developer for 1,000+ housing units at The Heights. Sherman's plans include housing for all ages and incomes, with a strategic mix of housing types including workforce market-rate, affordable, and deeply affordable options.

Sherman will partner with JO Companies and Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity to develop a range of housing options. Sherman will develop approximately 700 multifamily units, with JO Companies spearheading a smaller multifamily building with 110 to 230 units. In addition, Twin Cities Habitat will provide 130 to 150 affordable home ownership opportunities, including twin, triplex, fourplex, and single-family homes.

Ground breaking on the first industrial building is scheduled by mid 2024 with ground breaking on the first residential units planned for later in the year. Infrastructure and site preparation will be completed in 2025. The Heights total development completion will in 2030.

For more information visit: [theheightssaintpaul.com](http://theheightssaintpaul.com)



[theheightssaintpaul.com](http://theheightssaintpaul.com)

The Heights as it will appear from Larpenteur and McKnight.

## NOTICE

Moving into the new year, the *Forum* would like all our readers to know that we do not endorse anyone in politics. Just because we are not paid for a politician's ad does not mean we support that person.

We have had two politicians within the last year decide not to pay their outstanding ad invoices. The money that is owed to the *Forum* could pay for a month's worth of printing. This is why ads and donations mean so much to us!

Moving forward, we will require all businesses and anyone wanting to take out an ad in the paper to pay for it in full before going to print.

Ads will also run as they are submitted—whether they have typos, the coloring is off, photos are stretched, etc.

Happy Valentine's Day



Metro Transit

Concrete sidewalks, curbs and Gold Line bus lanes on Hudson Road prior to laying down asphalt for regular vehicle lanes.



Metro Transit

Earl Street Station construction on Hudson Road west of Earl St.

## Gold Line BRT Construction Update

Compiled from information provided by Metro Transit  
[metrotransit.org/gold-line-project](http://metrotransit.org/gold-line-project)

The Metro Gold Line will be a bus rapid transit (BRT) line that operates primarily within bus-only lanes. Gold Line will provide frequent, 10-15 minute, all-day service in both directions, seven days a week. The planned 10-mile route is between St. Paul and Woodbury with bus-only lanes being constructed generally north of and near Interstate 94. It will become operational in 2025.

Over the winter, Gold Line work will continue, including stations, retaining walls, noise walls, and bridges.

### Ongoing Work in Dayton's Bluff:

- \* Crews drill holes and place posts for the construction of a noise wall near the intersection of Maria Avenue and Hudson Road. Residents in the area will experience an increase in noise and vibrations during these activities.

- \* In late January, crews wrap up constructing a retaining wall between Mounds Boulevard and Maria Street.

- \* Between Earl Street and Frank Street crews continue to construct noise walls.

- \* Crews construct foundations and walls for the Earl Station at Hudson Road and Earl Street.

- \* Between Frank Street and Griffith Street, crews install noise wall posts.

- \* Bridge construction is underway at Johnson Parkway. Crews wrap up the first phase of pile driving activities. Expect intermittent closures of Johnson Parkway underneath I-94 during pile driving activities and additional noise and vibrations during this activity. Follow the posted detour route.

### Traffic Impacts in Dayton's Bluff:

- \* Maple Street pedestrian bridge remains closed through spring of 2024.

- \* Hudson Road east of Frank Street to Griffith Street remains closed this winter. Access to properties maintained from the west to Frank Street.

- \* Concrete lanes on Hudson Road are future bus-only lanes for the Gold Line route. They are closed to regular vehicle traffic, which should stay on the asphalt lanes.

This is a very complex and dynamic project so changes to this schedule could occur. For updated information on the Gold Line project, questions, comments or concerns visit [metrotransit.org/gold-line-project](http://metrotransit.org/gold-line-project), email [goldline@metrotransit.org](mailto:goldline@metrotransit.org) or call 651-602-1919.



@Dayton's Bluff District Forum

## Happening at Area Libraries

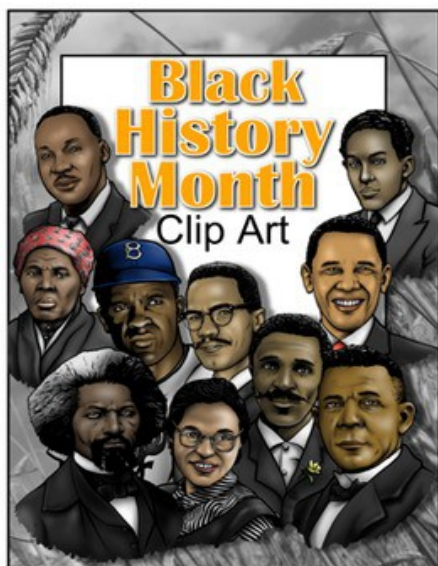
### Celebrate Black History Month with Special Events

Saint Paul Public Library and the City of Saint Paul are hosting a cultural celebration throughout February created by and for the Black and African American community. Saint Paul residents are invited to explore "African Americans in the Arts" with three events offered virtually and in-person.

All events are free, and all are welcome.

The first event will be on **Thursday, February 1 from Noon-1:30 p.m.** At

this virtual event, we will honor one of our Beautiful Ancestors and have a panel



discussion with a select group of Minnesota Elders. They will share some of their history in the arts as well as some words of wisdom.

On **February 15 from 12-1:30 p.m.** we are offering a mediation and yoga experience both virtually and in-person. If you would like to participate in person, you may do so at City Hall in Room 40.

Our final event will be in person at Rondo Library, 461 Dale Street North, on **Thursday, February 29, from 3-7**

**p.m.** featuring hands-on art creation where you can create a piece of art to take home. We will also celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Hip-Hop with music, and there will be artistic and informational presentations.

Visit [engagest-paul.org/black-history-month-2024](http://engagest-paul.org/black-history-month-2024) to learn more about African Americans in the

Arts and to log in.

## Winter Warming Spaces Open in St. Paul

### Open Every Night

**6 p.m.-9 a.m.**

*Ramsey County*

In preparation for the coldest winter months, Ramsey County has opened winter warming spaces in Saint Paul for residents who are experiencing homelessness.

Saint Paul Opportunity Center (Opens Nov. 15) 422 Dorothy Day Place. For single adults and couples.

Central Baptist Church (Opens Dec. 4) 420 N. Roy Street. For youth ages 14-24.

Warming gear, like hats and gloves, light snacks and hot beverages will be provided as well as free van transportation to and from the warming spaces. The free shuttle service will run from 6 p.m. to 9 a.m. each day. Ramsey County housing services and support staff will also be



answering calls and emails from 5 p.m. to 5 a.m. to help refer people to available warming spaces or extra shelter beds.

If you are in need of, or would like to refer someone to a warm space to stay at night, call 651-266-1050 or email [ColdWeatherReferrals@ramseycounty.us](mailto:ColdWeatherReferrals@ramseycounty.us).

Ramsey County staff are available from 5 p.m. to 5 a.m. to help refer people to the nearest warming space or extra available shelter beds. Additional warming space locations will be added as needed.

#### Transportation:

Ramsey County staff will operate a free shuttle service every night from 6 p.m. to 9 a.m., ensuring transportation to and from Winter Warming Space locations. People will be able to access this transportation only at the listed locations:

Route #1 shuttle stops (for single adults and couples): Saint Paul Opportunity Center, 422 Dorothy Day Place; Safe Space Shelter, 160 East Kellogg Blvd.; Listening House of Saint Paul, 421 E 7th St.; Regions Hospital, 640 Jackson St.

Route #2 shuttle stops (for youth and families): Central Baptist Church, 420 N. Roy Street; Emerald Inn, 2025 County Rd D, Maplewood.

## Friends of Swede Hollow

If you have a passion for history and preserving nature, please join us for our monthly meeting on the third Tuesday of every month.

Our meetings are held at the historic William Hamm's mansion, 668 Greenbrier St.

In the spirit of the area's past, we serve Hamm's beer along with other beverages and snacks. The meeting is **February 13** and starts at **6:30 p.m.** and is an excellent resource for park updates and events.

For more updates email [taylor672@comcast.net](mailto:taylor672@comcast.net) or call Michel at 651-442-3366.

## 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 **Friday, February 2 at 11 a.m.**

If you'd like to attend, call 651-776-0550 or email [daytonsbuffdistrictforum@gmail.com](mailto:daytonsbuffdistrictforum@gmail.com) for more information.

We are currently meeting at the Dayton's Bluff Library.

## 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 Coun-

selor. Help people understand their Medicare options.

Visit [Metroaging.org/volunteer](http://Metroaging.org/volunteer) to learn more.

## 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 a.m. and 6 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](mailto:robyn.brewin@ci.stpaul.mn.us) to ensure the meetings have not been canceled.

## 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

## New National Suicide Prevention Hotline Number

988 has been designated as the new three-digit dialing code that will route

callers to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. Text or Dial. 988 was recently launched as an alternative to calling 911.

## 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 make sure there are no wires, pipes, other hidden surprises in the designated digging area. Usually, someone checks within a day, marking the 'no-dig' area with painted lines...and everyone is safe!

## Dayton's Bluff Community Council Board of Directors Meeting

The Dayton's Bluff Community Council is inviting everyone to attend the Annual Meeting on **Monday, February 12 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.** at the East Side Enterprise Center at 804 Margaret Street.

Come meet your neighbors, share your ideas, hear from others, and elect board members. Your voice matters!

Welcome address from the Board President, remarks from other local officials, open discussion with your neighbors, and board members are on the schedule. Looking forward to seeing you and serving your neighborhood needs. All are welcome.

## Free Legal Services for Low-Income People

Call Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services at 1-888-575-2954 or go to [smrls.org](http://smrls.org)

[s.org](http://smrls.org) to see if you qualify for free legal assistance with: family law, government benefits, housing, education, seniors, and more. 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, SMRLS will provide one.

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



**THE HISTORIC  
MOUNDS  
THEATRE**

**February 9, 10, 16, 17, 23 & 24:** *Fearless 5*. Times: 7:30 p.m. Check website for more details as they become available.

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

## Chess Club

Come join us at Karibu Grocery and Deli, located at 719 Payne Ave. in St. Paul for a weekly game of chess. All levels are welcome. We play every **Wednesday from 6-9 p.m.**



# Bundle Up for Winter Carnival!

## January 25 through February 4

Visit St. Paul



The Winter Carnival is for everyone. And we mean everyone — young, old, short, tall, locals and visitors alike.

The 138th edition of Saint Paul's jam-packed winter extravaganza, that's what. We know a thing or two about the cold here in Minnesota and the Winter Carnival showcases our favorite season in all of its glory. There's so many great ways to experience the Coolest Celebration on Earth. We are thrilled to welcome the FREE Ice Sculpture Park back to Rice Park this year, along with some new events plus those you have come to know and love.

### Through Feb. 4

- Ice Fishing Tournament (Participate digitally through the Fish-Donkey Mobile App.

### Thursday, Jan. 25

- **First Day of Winter Carnival**
- Walking Tours with CynCity Tours
- Light the Park-Kickoff to Carnival! Plus, Laser Light Show
- Multi-Block Ice Carving Competition

### Friday, Jan. 26

- Snow Park at the Fair-Snow Sculptures and More!
- Winter Carnival Memorabilia Display, Presented by St. Croix Hospice

### Saturday, Jan. 27

- Winter Carnival Puzzle Contest, Presented by PuzzleTwist
- Saintly City Cat Show
- Vulcan Reveal

- Winter Carnival Orchid Show
- Curling Open House at Frog-town Curling Club
- 2024 King Boreas Grande Day Parade
- Rock the Palace Post Parade Party
- Klondike Kate Cabaret

### Sunday, Jan. 28

- Saint Paul Winter Carnival Fire & Ice Winter Run
- Hot & Cool Classic Concert
- 33rd Annual Vulcan VS Royal Guard Food Shelf Benefit Hockey Classic

### Monday, Jan. 29

- Individual Block Ice Carving Competition, Artisan Division
- Individual Ice Carving Competition Professional Division
- Ice Carving for Kids: A cool creative collaboration between Children's Minnesota and the Saint Paul Winter Carnival

### Jan. 30 through Feb. 3

- **Jan 30:** Frozen Family Fun Night
- **Feb 1:** Rondo Night

### Friday, Feb. 2

- Winter Carnival's Day of Good
- Klondike Kate Artic Sizzle
- Saint Paul Bouncing Team Tryouts
- Cinch World's Toughest Rodeo

### Saturday, Feb. 3

- Doggie Depot
- Berners in the Park
- Kids & Family Day
- BEAR'ly Open Golf On Ice
- 101.3 KDWB Party Zone with PJ the DJ
- Vulcan Victory Torchlight Parade
- Overthrow Victory Torchlight Parade
- Overthrow of King Boreas & Fireworks
- Vulcan Victory Dance (Inter-Continental Saint Paul Riverfront)

Find more information about all the events at [wintercarnival.com/calendar/](http://wintercarnival.com/calendar/)

# Kickstart your plastic-free journey: Take the Plastic-Free Challenge

Ramsey County

Ramsey County is partnering with Hennepin County and Washington County to offer you a way to take action against plastic waste in your own life.

The Plastic-Free Challenge is a month-long effort starting Feb. 1 to reduce plastic consumption in ways that fit best with your lifestyle and have the most impact on reducing your footprint. Sign up now: [tcplasticfree.ecochallenge.org/](http://tcplasticfree.ecochallenge.org/).

Together, our actions can help protect water and wildlife, address climate change, improve our health and create a plastic-free world.



St. Paul Winter Carnival  
2023 Multi Block 2nd Place Dance of Love by Trevor Pearson, Jaime Tellez, Nick Lensing.



St. Paul Winter Carnival  
First Place House of Thune with 2023 Vulcan Krewe.



St. Paul Winter Carnival  
2023 Vulcan's Choice - Kickin' MS by MS Crackers.



# Hamm's Brewery Development Workshops

Compiled from City of Saint Paul website

With the goal of creating a new East Side anchor, the Saint Paul Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) has awarded JB Vang tentative developer status for the original Hamm's Brewery Complex.

Located in the Dayton's Bluff neighborhood, the original Hamm's Brewery Complex is a 4.8-acre property that provides the opportunity for transformative development adding jobs and housing while connecting the community to nearby businesses and amenities, such as Swede Hollow Park and the Bruce Vento Regional Trail.

Located just one mile from downtown Saint Paul and close to multiple transit lines, the site is perfectly positioned to take full advantage of Saint Paul's growth while simultaneously reflecting and preserving an important piece of its history.

JB Vang Partners invites you to an important conversation to guide the future redevelopment of the Hamm's Brewery complex. Four workshops will build on previous work by the community that identified 52 value statements, and provide recommendations to the developer, JB Vang Partners, and City of Saint Paul.

All workshops are on Wednesdays from 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. at HOPE Community Academy (720 Payne Avenue). Light refreshments will be provided.

**January 24, 2024:** Workshop I — Gathering Ideas for the Reuse of the Hamm's Brewery Complex: What is important and unique about the Hamm's Brewery complex site? What commercial uses would the community benefit from? What are the concerns about the proposed development, and what community benefits can be achieved?

**February 7, 2024:** Workshop II — Block Exercise: Explore Commercial Uses for the Hamm's Brewery Complex

**February 21, 2024:** Workshop III — Panel Discussion — Exploring Commercial Use Options

**March 6, 2024:** Workshop IV — Create Final Recommendations

Childcare will be provided by request. Please RSVP to Gretchen Nicholls at (612) 327-2149 one week in advance of each workshop to request childcare.

# Cross-Country Ski Passes Now Available

Ramsey County

Mutual Ramsey County/Saint Paul cross-country ski passes for the 2023-2024 season are now available for purchase online. Passes are required for skiers age 12 and older. Ski passes may be purchased in person at Tamarack Nature Center, Battle Creek Recreation Center, and Como Regional Park starting in December.

Ramsey County/Saint Paul ski passes allow access to 4 km of lighted, machine-made snow trails at the Winter Recreation Area at Battle Creek and 53 km of groomed natural snow trails at Ramsey County and Saint Paul parks.

For the use of all natural snow ski trails plus the lighted machine-made snow trails in the Battle Creek Regional Park.

Prices: Annual all-access pass:

\$80; Additional household member on annual pass: \$40; daily all-access pass: \$15; youth under 12 years: free.

### Natural snow pass

Allows use of groomed natural snow cross country ski trails throughout Ramsey County and Saint Paul. This pass does not include machine-made snow trails at Battle Creek Regional Park.

Prices: Annual natural snow pass: \$35; daily natural snow pass: \$6; youth under 12 years: free.

The Great Minnesota Ski Pass is no longer accepted on Ramsey County ski trails.

For more information, go to: [ramsey-county.us/residents/parks-recreation/programs-activities/activities/cross-country-skiing](https://ramsey-county.us/residents/parks-recreation/programs-activities/activities/cross-country-skiing)



@Dayton's Bluff District Forum

**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**

Want to write about something that interests you? We want to hear it! Submit your stories and articles to the email above.

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

**Deadline for the March issue of the Forum is February 10, 2024.**

## Recipe

### Cheesecake Bars

Sage Holben

#### Base:

- ½ cup butter or margarine
- ½ cup firmly packed brown sugar
- 1 cup flour
- ½ cup finely chopped walnuts

#### Filling:

- ¼ cup sugar
- 8 ounces package cream cheese, softened
- 2 tablespoons milk
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- ½ teaspoon vanilla
- 1 egg

Heat oven to 350 degrees F.

BASE: In a small bowl, beat butter and brown sugar until light and fluffy. Add

flour and walnuts to the creamed mixture; mix until crumbly. Reserve 1 C for topping. Press remainder into bottom of ungreased 8" or 9" square pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 9-11 minutes or until lightly browned.

FILLING: In small bowl, beat sugar and cream cheese until smooth. Add milk, lemon juice, vanilla, and egg. Beat well. Pour over the baked crust. Sprinkle with reserved crumb mixture. Bake at 350 degrees 23-27 minutes or until lightly browned. Refrigerate until firm; cut into bars. Store in refrigerator. Makes 24 bars.



# History in the Making in St. Paul

*City of St. Paul*

History is in the making in Saint Paul. We celebrated the inauguration of our first all-women City Council yesterday. Not only is this our first all-women council, but it's a majority women of color representing Saint Paul's diverse communities.

Four new and three returning councilmembers took the oath of office before an audience of 900 people at the Ordway Center for the Performing Arts with special guest speakers Mayor Melvin Carter, Lt. Governor Peggy Flanagan, and Maggie Lorenz from Wakan Tipi Awanyankapi.

Thank you to our performers from the Capital City Wind Ensemble, Progressive Baptist Church, poet Muna Abdulahi, Dao Lan Dance Studio, and the Saint Paul Fire Department and Saint Paul Police Department Color Guard, and to all the staff and volunteers who made the ceremony possible.

Congratulations to our incoming Saint Paul City Council!

*Photo to the right provided by the City of St. Paul.*



## View from My Porch

### Transitioning from 2023 to 2024

*Sage Holben*

Thursday, November 30, 2023 seems to have been the beginning of my transition into 2024. I'm hoping that the year becomes less challenging as I travel through it, though I admit to appreciating this time as a source of new stories.

On that Thursday, as I turning left on a green arrow from University Avenue to Lexington Boulevard, a driver in a Dodge Charger ran the eastbound red light and slammed into my Honda. I remember seeing a car coming toward me and then I sat, stunned, seeing a car make what I thought was a u-turn in the intersection to stop and help me. A witness told me later that it wasn't a thoughtful driver; it was the woman who hit my car. She slammed into me so hard, I was told that the Charger spun around in the intersection and then took off, not to be found. My glasses were knocked off — as were the grill and bumper of my car. I would imagine her car would have damage to the driver's front headlight, corner and side damage.

Out of this came two witnesses who were thorough, helpful to me and to giving info to the police officers; several bystanders helped pick up pieces of my car;

and the witnesses checked in on me the next day. I would like to meet with the woman who hit me; not to blame or rant. It would be great if she would choose to be accountable, but we all act in stupid or irrational ways at some point in our lives. I do know that talking can help.

I don't know if she didn't have insurance or a valid driver's license. I understand that owning a vehicle can be expensive; but it's a privilege and a responsibility that has a cost. In this case, my cost was a \$500 deductible and \$86 toward car rental; time on the phone with my State Farm insurance company, which paid almost \$5,000 in car repair, 80% of car rental cost, and some medical costs. I have some pain, but I mentally merge that with age-related pain to find the humor (and I am *very* glad to be in the habit of wearing my seatbelt).

Some lessons learned included reflecting on a phrase that I have said so often to others: 'until 'it' becomes personal, we don't fully understand the effects'. About a year ago, my neighbor was hit by another car. I didn't realize then how much the actual impact as well as seeing a car come at oneself can dramatically affect someone. Everyone, please consider the after-effects.

I am still nervous about going through intersections. Why do so many drivers think red lights and yellow lights can be treated like green lights? Why do speed limits mean so little? Why don't drivers SEE when they LOOK? Or do they even bother? Readers, PLEASE use your seatbelts. A couple bruises and a sore neck are much better to cope with than broken ribs, teeth, or a smashed face.

## Absentee Voting Open for Presidential Primary

*Ramsey County*

Ramsey County voters may choose to vote early by using an absentee ballot in advance of the presidential primary on Tuesday, March 5. Residents can cast their ballot in person or vote by mail from Jan. 19 to March 4.

In-person voting is available at three locations:

—Ramsey County Elections —  
Plato Building: Jan. 19-Mar. 1  
Weekdays:  
8 a.m -4:30 p.m. Saturday,  
Mar. 2: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
Monday, March 4  
8 a.m.-5 p.m.

—Ramsey County Library-Roseville and Ramsey County Library-Shoreview:

Feb. 16-Mar. 1  
Weekdays: 10 a.m.-4 p.m.  
Saturday, Mar. 2: 9 a.m.-3 p.m.  
Monday, Mar. 4: 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

To vote by mail, voters can submit an online presidential primary application or a paper president primary absentee ballot application (PDF).

Selecting a ballot

Only presidential candidates from a major party will appear on the presidential primary ballot. A voter must request the ballot of the party of their choice. If a voter refuses to select a party, they will not be able to vote in the presidential primary. A voter's choice of party ballot will be recorded and is private data. However, a list of who voted in a presidential primary and the political party each voter selected will be provided to the chair of each major political party. How a voter voted on the ballot will be secret.

Additional early voting locations will be available Feb. 16 - March 4.

View additional information at: [ramseycounty.us/residents/elections-voting/voters/vote-election-day](https://ramseycounty.us/residents/elections-voting/voters/vote-election-day).

## Dayton's Bluff District Forum

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We are currently printing and distributing our newspaper quarterly. The paper is always available online at [daytonsbuffdistrictforum.org](http://daytonsbuffdistrictforum.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 [daytonsbuffdistrictforum@gmail.com](mailto:daytonsbuffdistrictforum@gmail.com), or mailed to the address above. The *Dayton's Bluff District Forum* is delivered to businesses in the Dayton's Bluff neighborhood when the budget permits. To find out where you can pick up a printed issue, send an email to the address above.

Board of Directors: Greg Cosimini, Karin DuPaul, Sage Holben, Jennifer Gascoigne, Steve Trimble  
Editor/layout: Allison Lund-Zalewski; Editorial Associate: Mark Gallagher  
Staff: Mandy Okonek

Next issue: March 2024. **Deadline for material: February 10, 2024.**



## Happening at Area Rec Centers

### Creative Play

February 2-23

@Battle Creek Rec Center

Parent led free time for tots in the Battle Creek Gym. Various toys and equipment provided. Join us for some Messy art and Fun. (Must be with child to participate).

Free

Ages 1-5

10 a.m.-noon

### Video Mania

February 3

@Battle Creek Rec Center

Learn the ins and outs of all different games, while meeting new gamers!

Free

Ages 6-17

10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

### Glow in the Dark Aurora Borealis

February 5

@Phalen Rec Center

Come explore blending as we create a mixed-media landscape featuring nature's most magnificent light show: Aurora Borealis. Just like the real Northern Lights, this project will actually glow-in-the-dark!

Fee: \$25 for residents, \$37.50 for non-residents

Ages 6 and up

6:30-8:30 p.m.

### Preschool Camp

February 6 through 27

@Battle Creek Rec Center

Camp will consist of educational activities, arts and crafts, science projects, gym, and sensory play. Snack will be provided.

Fee: \$10 for residents, \$15 for non-residents

Ages 3-5

10 a.m.-noon

### Winter Family Fun and Games!

February 8

@Duluth and Case Rec Center

Families will have fun playing outdoor winter games, making snow sculptures, sledding and enjoy some hot chocolate and cookies

Free

Ages 4 and up

6:30-7:30 p.m.

### Snowshoes and Animal Tracks

February 10

@Battle Creek Rec Center

Strap on snowshoes and enjoy a guided hike through BC Regional Park. You will look for signs of different animals along the way and enjoy some hot cocoa at he

end!

Free

Ages 6 and up

10-11:30 a.m.

### Martial Arts

February 10-24

@Battle Creek Rec Center

Students will learn about Martial Mobility, which stems from foundational martial arts movements /structure for discipline and exercises for all ages.

Fee: \$30 for residents, \$45 for non-residents

Ages 7-18

9:30-11:30 a.m.

### Valentine's Cookies and Crafts

February 12

@Duluth and Case Rec Center

Youth will have fun making Valentine's Day cookies, candies, and cards.

Free

Ages 7-15

6-7:30 p.m.

### Roblox Party

February 15, 21, 28

@Battle Creek Rec Center

During this class youth can bring their own device to play. Roblox together here at Battle Creek. make new Roblox friends both online and in person in our communities.

Free

Ages 6-17

10 a.m.-noon

### Red Cross Babysitting Class

February 19

@Battle Creek Rec Center

Babysitter's Training: This course builds on the skills in our Babysitting Basics online class with hands-on training in child safety, basic first aid, diaper changing, child handling, feeding, behavior, games and the business of babysitting. The 6-hour classroom course is designed for ages 10-15. A certificate of completion is issued at the end of the class.

Fee: \$60 for residents, \$90 for non-residents

Ages 10-15

9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

### Mindful Mondays

February 26

@Battle Creek Rec Center

Participants will learn skills by using calming techniques and to balance mental health. Meets once a month.

Free

Ages 18-plus

6-7:15 p.m.

### Themed Family Trivia Night

February 27

@Battle Creek Rec Center

Come join us for a Fun Family Fun Night of Trivia!

Free

6-30-8 p.m.

## Congratulations to East African Elementary Magnet School Principal Dr. Abdisalam Adam!

*St. Paul Public Schools*

Congratulations to East African Elementary Magnet School Principal Dr. Abdisalam Adam for being chosen by Minnesota School Board Directors of Color and Indigenous (MNSBDOCI) as a winner of their annual Lighthouse Award. Dr. Adam also serves on the Fridley Public Schools School Board.

Dr. Adam is the 2023 School Board Lighthouse winner due to being "a proven bridge-builder among communities and has special keenness for student achievement and equitable programming in schools. He has been with St. Paul Public Schools since 1997 as a teacher, community specialist and administrator."

*Photo below taken by St. Paul Public Schools*



## Safety information for extreme cold and winter weather

*Ramsey County*

### Health and safety tips

Tips for preparing for winter weather can be found on the Winter Storms & Extreme Cold webpage.

The CDC's Extreme Cold Guide provides information on preparing your home and car, dressing for and understanding wind chill, and avoiding cold-weather health emergencies.

Steps you can take to stay safe include:

- Packing an emergency kit for your car.
- Heating your home safely. Be careful with space heaters, wood stoves and fireplaces.
- Dressing warmly and us-

ing layers. Do not leave areas of the skin exposed to the cold.

- Seeking medical attention for someone experiencing hypothermia or frostbite.

### Emergency housing

If you know someone who needs help with emergency housing in the cold, please view our Housing Services and Support webpage, or call 651-266-1050.

Stay warm

If you are looking for a warm place during the day, seek out heated public facilities during their open hours.

### Warming spaces

Saint Paul locations:

- Newell Park Building - 900 Fairview Ave N., Saint Paul
- Phalen Activity Center -1530 Phalen Dr., Saint Paul
- Union Mission Gospel Twin Cities - 435 University Ave E, Saint Paul
- Central Baptist Church - 420 N. Roy St., Saint Paul



## St. Paul African American Events Throughout the Year

Steve Trimble

As most of you know, February is known as Black History Month. I decided to write about many of the events that had occurred in our city and mention their origins.

Carter G. Woodson was an African American scholar whose dedication to celebrating the historic contributions of Black people led to the establishment of Black History Month. He chose February for reasons of tradition and reform. It is commonly said that Woodson selected February to encompass the birthdays of two great Americans who played a prominent role in shaping Black history, namely Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass, whose birthdays are the 12th and the 14th, respectively. It started as a one-week celebration in February, 1976.

January 12, 1921: Stephen L. Maxwell was born in St. Paul on this day. His father, a barber, died when he was nine years old. Maxwell was raised by his mother, who was a social worker. He graduated from St. Paul Central High School in 1939 and then worked his way through Morehouse College with odd jobs and graduated in 1942. He then enlisted in the Coast Guard where he became a captain in the U. S. Naval Reserve.

At the end of WWII, Maxwell went to the St. Paul School of Law and received a degree in 1953. He was in private practice for some time and worked as a counsel for the NAACP. In 1967 he served a year as a municipal judge and made history when he was named the first African American District Judge in Minnesota history, where he served nineteen years until retiring in 1987 after presiding over hundreds of cases.

Maxwell was very involved in civic and community activities. He was an active member of the Sterling Club, an African American social group and St. Clement's Episcopal Church. He served on the board of the United Fund, as a regent at St. John's University and chaired the local Red Cross. He died on August 31, 2009.

January 14, 1938: The Hallie Q. Brown House, moved into its first permanent building in St. Paul on this day. It was started by the Hallie Q. Brown Community Center, Inc., an African American non-profit social service agency. It was named for the African American educator, educationist,



Weebly

Hallie Q. Brown House.

women's suffrage leader, and author. It was incorporated on April 1, 1929. An advisory committee met to formulate new plans for a community center to be housed at the former Central Avenue Branch of the Y.W.C.A. It moved around quite a bit and its initial home was in Union Hall at Aurora and Kent.

Myrtle Carden, an African American from Pittsburgh was hired as director, a position she held until 1949. During Carden's tenure, the institution offered tutoring, day camps for children as well as emergency food and clothing for needy

families.

Hallie Q. Brown herself often visited St. Paul and came to the Hallie Q. Brown House when it opened.

In 1972 they relocated to the Martin Luther King Center at 270 North Kent Street. and their primary service area doubled to include the entire Summit-University community. During the 1970s the organization's name was changed to the Hallie Q. Brown Community Center.

January 20, 1967: Roy Wilkins, an African American reformer and civil rights leader, was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom on this day. He was born in St. Louis, but at the age of four, went to live in St. Paul's Frogtown neighborhood after his mother died. Wilkins graduated from Mechanic Arts High School and entered the journalism school at the University of Minnesota. As a student, he served as the secretary of the local N.A.A.C.P.

After graduating, Wilkins went to Kansas City Hall, also known as The Call, and became managing editor of an African American newspaper. In 1931, he became assistant executive secretary of the national NAACP and editor of its magazine, *The Crisis*. By 1955 he was executive secretary of the NAACP and a decade later became the group's executive director, a position he held until 1977.

Wilkins helped organize the historic 1963 civil rights March on Washington, D.C. An advocate of nonviolence, he came under attack by militant groups. He answered: "the talk of winning our share is not the easy one of disengagement and flight, but the hard one of work, of short as well as long jumps, of disappointments, and of sweet success." In 1985 the city auditorium in downtown St. Paul was named in his honor.

February 25, 2010: The Heiruspecs, a hip hop band, and St. Paul Central High School announced on this day that there would be a concert to raise money for the St. Paul-based hip hop group Heiruspecs announced an event to raise money for a Scholarship with Heiruspecs hosting a large-scale concert in Central High School's auditorium. The scholarship concert featured many guests from their long history.

The group started in 1997 in the basement of Central High where Chris "Felix" Wilbourn and Sean "Twinkie Jiggles" McPherson met up with Red Freeberg's advanced recording program. Soon Heiruspecs was a group full of horns, drums, emcees, and youthful energy. After class and on the weekends Heiruspecs was filling Central's Black Box Theater and networking with the larger Minnesota music scene.

A few years after Heiruspecs' Central High time they were a national touring entity signed to a Sony/BMG subsidiary, and sharing stages with other groups. During this time Heiruspecs also cemented into a permanent group of six former Central students.

Heiruspecs wanted to be partnering with the Central High School Foundation, which would function as the fiscal agent for this scholarship effort. Among other things, it would provide financial assistance to recent graduates with demonstrated artistic interests pursuing post-secondary education.

March 20, 1905: Mrs. T. H. Lyles was in this day's issue of the *St. Paul Globe*.

Born before the Civil War, she grew up in Illinois. She moved to Minnesota and opened Mrs. T. H. Lyles Hair Emporium in 1880 in downtown St. Paul. It offered bathing services, sold hair products, and rented costumes. After her husband's death in 1920, she ran the mortuary he had opened.

As the president of the Minnesota Federation of Colored Women's Clubs, Lyles had addressed a group at the local St. James A. M. E. Church. The topic of the talk was "The Progress Made by the Colored Race." In spite of "the germ disease of prejudice which stands a hydra headed monster in our midst," she said, things were improving.

Some of her suggestions were in line with that of Booker T. Washington. One stream of African American thought at the time featured self-improvement as a response to racism. "Our women must teach their sons and daughters that the best help is that which comes within themselves," she said. They must "be careful of their deportment on the streets, in the cars and in all public places" and needed to combine thrift and energy with culture and achievement.

June 2, 1904: Scottie Primus Davis became the first African American woman to graduate from the University of Minnesota on this day. She was born in Kentucky and moved to Chicago with her family for several years. The Davis family arrived in St. Paul sometime in 1886. and Scottie attended St. Paul Central High, graduating in 1900 as the only African American in her class. She wrote a piece in the school's literary magazine "Thirty Years of Freedom" that extolled the progress of her race since the end of enslavement.

She was very active in the Rondo neighborhood, going to events and mixing with local leaders. After college graduation in 1904 she chose a career in education, teaching at segregated high schools in Louisville, Kentucky and Kansas City, Kansas.

In 1935, during the 1930s Depression, on her own money, Davis spent three summers at Harvard and earned a Master's Degree in Education. For most of her career she taught at Sumner High School in Kansas City teaching English and helping students in drama and other events. She was strict but was fondly remembered as the best teacher they ever had by many students. She died in 1963 at the age of eighty-one after retiring and moving to Louisville.

June 5, 1885: *The Western Appeal*, a St. Paul African American newspaper initially a six-column folio, made its debut on this day. It became the most successful African American newspaper in the city's history. It came out every Friday, containing news, editorials, advertisements, and a literary page. The paper struggled financially within a year. Two prominent St. Paul residents became the management team and provided job order printing services.

John Quincy Adams moved to St. Paul from Kentucky in 1886 to work as the editor and became the driving force behind the newspaper. Adams was a strong Republican and expressed his opinions through the paper's editorial page. The newspaper even received funding directly

from the Republican Party, which was not unusual at the time. Adams soon fully owned the *Appeal* and supervised both its business and editorial sides. The newspaper boosted the community, expressed group frustrations and often called for action.

As the Twentieth Century progressed, the *Appeal* slowly got smaller and closed its last regional office in 1913. Adams remained editor until his death in 1922. Adams's son, John Jr., took over the *Appeal* and hired Roy Wilkins, then a young graduate student, as editor. The newspaper struggled, and only lasted another year.

June 7, 1987: August Wilson, a St. Paul African American playwright, won the Pulitzer Prize for "Fences" on this day. The work was part of his series offering known as The Pittsburgh Cycle, a group of ten plays. He won a second Pulitzer in 1990 for "Piano Lesson", which was also part of the ten-play grouping. Each work is set in a different decade and depicts the comic as well as the tragic aspects of the African American experience.

Wilson came to St. Paul from his home in Pittsburgh in 1978 and first worked writing educational scripts for the Science Museum of Minnesota. He eventually quit the Museum but continued writing. He had a long association with the local Penumbra Theater which premiered many of his works.

"I think my plays offer a different way to look at Black Americans," he said in an interview. "For instance, in 'Fences' they see a garbage man, a person they don't really look at... White people find out that the content of this Black garbage man's life is affected by the same things... Recognizing that these things are as much part of his life as theirs can affect how they think about and deal with Black people in their lives."

July 9, 1902: On this day, St. Paul hosted the most important African American political event of the year--the annual meeting of the National Afro-American Council (NAAC). St. Paul lawyer Frederick McGhee organized it and hoped it would produce a more united and effective national civil rights organization. It didn't.

Those who gathered included many of the most politically active African Americans of the early 1900s. Some remain well-known today: sociologist W. E. B. DuBois, anti-lynching crusader Ida B. Wells-Barnett, T. Thomas Fortune, founder of the NAAC's predecessor, the Afro American League; and Booker T. Washington himself.

They met in the senate chambers of the State Capitol. Booker T. Washington's more conservative Tuskegee machine slyly won control of the entire convention and saw its slate of officers elected. Before the St. Paul convention, resistance to Washington amounted to little more than criticism of his approach to race problems and his seeming acquiescence to disfranchisement and segregation in the South.

The event in St. Paul united DuBois and McGhee in an alliance. In 1905 they, with Trotter and others, formed the rival Niagara Movement. It led in 1910 to the creation of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).



St. Paul Almanac

Playwright August Wilson.



MNOpedia

Mrs. T.H. Lyles

# Saint Paul Grants Over \$2.3 Million in Capital Funding to 41 Neighborhood Businesses and Organizations

City of St. Paul

More than \$2.3 million in grant funding is being invested into 41 local capital improvement projects thanks to the City of Saint Paul's Neighborhood STAR program.

A mayoral-appointed board of up to 21 members – three from each of Saint Paul's seven wards – reviewed applications and made funding recommendations to the Mayor and City Council prior to approval at the December 13 council meeting.

"These grants are an investment in the heartbeat of our diverse and vibrant neighborhoods," said Mayor Carter. "The Neighborhood STAR program not only fosters growth and innovation, but also champions the resilience of our small-, minority-, and woman-owned businesses, who are crucial contributors to our community's tapestry."

This year's Neighborhood STAR awards will leverage over \$3 million in additional capital investment in Saint Paul, and will largely support small businesses or organizations, identified as having less than \$1 million in annual revenue and/or fewer than 20 employees.

"The STAR program is so important to small businesses in Saint Paul that pay taxes in our city and sometimes just need a little help," said Terri Banaszewski, Neighborhood STAR board member and Vice President at Sunrise Bank. "Some of them have access to other capital and some do not, so Neighborhood STAR is a critical part of finishing a project or other business purpose."

For more than 25 years, the Neighborhood STAR program has used a portion of a half-cent sales tax for capital improvements in Saint Paul via an annual competitive grant round. This funding was authorized by the Minnesota State Legislature in May of 1993, and the Saint Paul City Council officially established the STAR program in 1994, which includes support for both the Neighborhood STAR

and Cultural STAR programs, which provides funding for arts and culture programs in Saint Paul.

"The STAR program is a driving force behind innovation and vital capital improvements that our neighborhoods and businesses need to thrive," said STAR board member Natalie King. "I'm thrilled about the forthcoming projects that will receive funding this year, knowing they will bring about a transformative and positive change in our community."

This change will mainly be led by businesses owned by women and minorities, with two-thirds of grants awarded to organizations led or owned by minorities and over half owned or led by women.

"The impact of the Neighborhood STAR program is profound and extends far beyond mere financial assistance; it underpins transformative community projects," says Dawn Huffman, CEO and founder of the Grand Ole Creamery, which received a STAR award to make sustainable improvements to their iconic shop on Grand Avenue, such as solar powered amenities and expanded community space.

"For Grand Ole Creamery, it means

our neighbors can gather and enjoy themselves for many years to come!"

The grant awarded to JK Movement will also have deep impact. Located in the Jimmy Lee Recreation Center across from Central High School, this nonprofit will use STAR funds to renovate specific priority areas of the gym.

"The need for us to be a safe and responsive resource for youth to define lives, futures of hope, and opportunity is critical," said JK Movement Executive Director Johnny Allen, Jr. "We must be a hub of cultural healing and excellence in our community for Black youth. These STAR funds are an investment in our young people and families. The \$50,000 [award] means more than 'basketball hoops and bleachers.' STAR funds connect community with the futures of Black youth."

"These grants highlight the businesses and organizations that make our neighborhoods special," said Erin Lewis, Neighborhood STAR Program Coordinator. "The Neighborhood STAR program is such an important resource for investing in the types of restaurants, shops, housing, programs, and community spaces that really serve the unique needs of each ward in the city."

2023 Neighborhood STAR recipients: African Development Center, African Economic Development Solutions, Al's Westside Diner, Amani Construction and Development, Awaken for Wellness, Bartholomew and Stella Enterprise LLC, Capital Deals, Complete Beverage Service Inc DBA 7th Street Event Center, CR 89 Inc., Day by Day of St. Paul, Inc., District 6 Planning Council, Doge Pizza LLC, East Side Neighborhood Development Company, Grand Old Creamery, Greater East Side/District 2 Community Council, Hmong American Partnership, The JK Movement, Joan's in the Park, Latino Economic Development Center, Life Juices, Lip Esteem, LLC, PAIKKA, Pimento Jamaican Kitchen, Plant Bar Café LLC, Premier Management, LLC, Rayz R Cuts, LLC, RealBigHuge Brewing Company dba Wabasha Brewing Company, Rice & Larpenteur Alliance, Rondo Community Land Trust, Saint Paul Development Corporation, Saint Paul Family Medical Center, Slice Pizza Lowertown LLC, Sssdude-Nutz DBA The Donut Trap, TB'z Customz Boutique, TKP LLC, Udo's African Food Store LLC, Union Park Management, Unique Early Learning Center, Urban Growler Brewing Company, LLC, Yoerg Brewing Company, and Yoni Treats LLC.



## SAINT PAUL MINNESOTA

turning our vision into reality. This green space initiative will not only enhance the environmental quality of Saint Paul but also set a precedent for other businesses to follow. It's a clear statement that business success and environmental responsibility can go hand-in-hand."

In Ward One, STAR funding will help Bradley Taylor, the owner of The Donut Tra, create something special that will benefit the whole community. His business, so far operated via vending machines, food trucks, and farmer's markets, will now include a new brick-and-mortar location, something he says will be a game changer.

"Continuing to build community in Saint Paul after living here for over a decade is beyond exciting," Thomas said. "We can't wait to continue to immerse ourselves in the community and create a space where

### Many thanks to our Friends of the Forum 2024 donors:

Stephanie Harr

Sarah Ryan

### Donations made in 2022 through Give MN that deserve recognition:

Jean Comstock

Jeanelle Foster

Andrew Barbeau

### 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 \$1,000 to produce per month. We have found a new printer and have adjusted the cost to print each 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 consider making a donation in 2024. Our goal for 2024 is \$2,500; will you help us reach our goal?**

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](http://givemn.org/organization/Hopewell-Communications-Incorporated)

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Address \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: Dayton's Bluff District Forum and mail to 1368 Minnehaha Ave. E., St. Paul, MN 55106. For more information, contact 651-776-0550 or [daytonsbuffdistrictforum@gmail.com](mailto:daytonsbuffdistrictforum@gmail.com).

Thank you for your support!

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